



CV: BIBIANA VILÁ

Date of birth: 02-Dec-1961. Argentinean.

Divorced. Two sons: Francisco (age 22), Jerónimo (age 18)

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Current position:

Researcher. National Research Council (CONICET). Category: Principal (senior) (permanent position).

President and Director of VICAM (Vicuñas, Camélidos y Ambiente Research Team).

Part-time Professor National University of Luján, Buenos Aires.

Scientific Coordinator of the Advisory Commission on Biodiversity and Sustainability in the Ministry of Science in Argentina (ad honorem).

National Research Council (CONICET) Representative, in the Secretary of Environment Commission for the Sustainable Development of Mountain Areas of Argentina. (ad honorem)

Vice president of SOLAE (Sociedad Latinoamericana de Etnobiología) Latinoamerican Society of Ethnobiologists. (ad honorem)

Focal point in Argentina of OWSD (Organization of Women in Science in the Developing World)-TWAS, Trieste. (ad honorem)

Member of CEC, TILCEPA and GECS in IUCN.

Degrees.

1980/1985 - Biologist - Zoology - Sciences Faculty. University of Buenos Aires. Argentina.

1985/1990 - PhD. Doctor in Biological Sciences. Thesis: Vicuñas behaviour during the reproductive season. Approved with 10 (Sobresaliente). Highest mark in Argentina. University of Buenos Aires.

1990/1993 - Post-doc academic visitor in "Wildlife Conservation Research Unit", Department of Zoology, Oxford University (Supported by British Council, W.H. Hudson Scholarship (British Embassy) and CONICET).

1994. Associated Researcher in Biology Department, University of Cordoba, Spain.

Spanish native speaker.

Previous work and past achievements

1986-1990: Three successive grants/fellowship (86-88: two initial grants, 88-90 doctoral



grant) from CONICET (National Research Council-Argentina) for research on vicuñas ecology and behaviour.

1990-1993: Post doctoral academic visitor in "Wildlife Conservation Research Unit" Zoology Dep. Oxford, UK.

1994-1996: Postdoctoral fellowship from CONICET.

1996-2003: CONICET Member of the "Scientific Research Permanent Staff" (CIC) "Holistic approach to the conservation of vicuñas". Cat: assistant.

2001-2005: Responsible in Argentina of Partner 6 (University of Luján) in the INCO-DEV (European Commission) project "Sustainable economic utilization of Wild South American Camelids: Strategies for improving rural productivity in pastoral communities in Latin America" (acron: MACS). ICA4-2001- 1004). Macaulay Institute, UK.

2003- 2007: Member of the CONICET. Category: Adjunto

2007-2013: Member of the CONICET: Category: Independent Researcher.

2013-actual: Member of the CONICET: Category Principal (senior)

Journal Referee: Small Ruminant Research, Biological Conservation, Journal of Arid Environments, Ecología Austral, Mastozoología Neotropical, Mundo Agrario (UNLP).

Academic-scientific reviewer for CONICET, FONTAR, FONCYT (three institutions of the ministry of science and technology), IUCN, CITES (cop 2000, cop 2002, proposals regarding vicuñas from Bolivia, Chile and Argentina), TRAFFIC, Fish & Wildlife Service USA (RIN 1018-AE04 Reclassification of certain vicuña populations from Endangered to Threatened with a Special Rule), FBBVA Spain. Member of boards and committees for doctoral thesis in the Universities of Cordoba, Tucuman, Buenos Aires, Luján, La Pampa.

Prizes

1988 - Argentinean Society of Mammalogists Annual Prize for young researcher (under 35) "Mother-offspring relationship in vicuñas".

1998 - Publication of "Environmental Education in Adobe Schools" as the prize for the competition of research papers. University of Luján. Argentina.

2000 - First Prize for Research in Social Sciences: Science and Technology Meeting, University of Luján. Holistic Research Project in North-Western Argentina: Camelids and their herders.

2005 - Selection and publication of the paper MACS-Argentina: Sustainable use of vicuñas in the First Congress of Successful Cases on Sustainable Development. California & Veracruz Universities.

2005 - The TV program "Cosechando vicuñas" (Harvesting vicuñas) based on our work won the Conservationist values price in the International TELENATURA competition (Spain).

2006. Finalist in Rolex Awards for Initiative.

2007. Argentinean Secretary of Environment and Sustainable Development Prize for Initiatives in Environmental Education.

2007. Associated Award Whitley Fund for Nature (UK)

2007. L'Oreal women in science for life sciences in Argentina first mention.

2012. VICAM finalist in Equator Prize. UNEP.

2012. "Veterinarian world" prize to "multidisciplinary contribution to the progress of the relationship between animals and humans" being the first time this prize is granted to a non



veterinary professional.

2013. VICAM. First Prize Award "Innovation for the Environment", FARN Environment and Natural Resources Foundation.

Training of research students

Supervision of undergraduate thesis (4 finished)

- 1) 1995. South American camelids: Their sustainable use (in Spanish). Student: Andrea Ruscitti. University of Buenos Aires. Prize to academic excellence for the best undergraduate thesis in agronomic sciences.
- 2) 1997. Behavioural aspects of vicuñas and alpacas in the Ulla-Ulla National Reserve (in Spanish). Student: Teresa Tarifa. Faculty of Sciences La Paz, Bolivia University.
- 3) 1997: The vicuña in the Laguna Pozuelos basin area: Behavioural studies during dry and wet seasons and importance to local communities (in Spanish). Student: Nadine Renaudeau d' Arc. University of Buenos Aires.
- 4) 2010. Vicuñas habitat use in a pastoral community, Suripugio, Jujuy. Student: Verónica Rojo. (co supervised). University of Lujan.

Supervision of postgraduate thesis

- 1) 2006: Master thesis: Sustainable development of indigenous communities based on the use of wild vicuñas. Student: Ana Wawrzyk. International University of Andalucía Universidad (La Rábida). I Master in Conservation Biology.
- 2) 2008: PhD thesis Wild Vicuñas ethoecological studies on habitat use for sustainable management in the Laguna de Pozuelos MAB Biosphere Reserve. Student: Yanina Arzamendia. National University of Cordoba (Argentina).
- 3) 2008 PhD thesis: Spatial ecology, grazing and interactions with livestock of vicuñas in the Laguna Blanca Reserve. Student: Mariela Borgnia. National University of Lujan.
- 4) 2013 PhD thesis: Environment and Cultural diversity: Complex problems in the didactic of the environmental sciences. María Maimone. National University of Lujan.

Publications (total number 82):

Type of publication	Number	Comments
Books	9	One as editor, eight as author some of them for general public.
Chapters	6	In books with peer review
Chapters	13	In proceedings books with editorial committee.
Refereed papers	32	Most of them in international journals with IF>1.0
Divulagation of science & Environmental Education	22	Most of them in Spanish
TOTAL	82	

2010-2013 Papers list.

Arzamendia Y., Bonacic C. & Vilá B. 2010. Behavioral and physiological consequences of capture for shearing vicuñas in Argentina. Applied Animal Behaviour Science 125, 163-170.



- Borgnia M, Vilá BL. & Cassini MH. 2010. Foraging ecology of vicuñas (*Vicugna vicugna*) in dry Argentinean Puna. *Small Ruminant Research*. 88 (1), 44-53.
- Marcoppido, G., Parreño, V. & Vilá, B. 2010. First serological survey of antibodies against pathogenic viruses in a wild vicuña (*Vicugna vicugna*) population in the Argentinean Andean altiplano. *Journal of Wildlife Diseases*. 46 (2), 608-614.
- Vilá B., Wawrzyk A. & Arzamendia Y. 2010. El manejo de vicuñas silvestres (*Vicugna vicugna*) en Jujuy (Argentina): Un análisis de la experiencia del proyecto MACS, en Cieneguillas. *Revista Latinoamericana de Conservación*. 1 (1) 38-52.
- Arzamendia Y. & Vilá B. 2012. Effects of Capture, Shearing and Release on the Ecology and Behavior of Wild Vicuña. *Journal of Wildlife Management*, 76(1): 54-64
- Rojó V., Arzamendia Y. & Vilá B. 2012. Uso del hábitat por vicuñas (*Vicugna vicugna*) en un sistema agropastoril en Suripujio, Jujuy. *Mastozoología Neotropical*. 19 (1):127-138.
- Arzamendia Y, Neder, L E, Marcoppido G, Ortiz F, Arce de Hamity M, Lamas H & Vilá B. 2012. Effect of the prevalence of ectoparasites in the behavioral patterns of wild vicuñas (*Vicugna vicugna*). *Journal of Camelid Science*, 5: 105-117
- Wawrzyk A. & Vilá B. 2013. Dinámica del pastoreo en dos comunidades (Lagunillas del Farallón y Suripujio) de la puna de Jujuy, Argentina. *Chungara*, 45 (2). 349-362.
- Yacobaccio H. & Vilá B. 2013. La domesticación de los camélidos andinos como proceso de interacción humana y animal. *Intersecciones en Antropología*, 14. 227-238.
- Wawrzyk A. & Vilá B. 2013. Analysis of the perception of the wild vicuña by children and teenagers in the Andean altiplano of Argentina. *Journal of Ecological Anthropology*, 16 (1), in press.
- Vilá B.L. 2014. Aspectos etnozoológicas de los camélidos andinos'. *Etnoecología*. Mexico. In press.

Congresses.

Participation in Congresses:

Member of 6 international congresses scientific committees, Responsible of the organization of 12 symposia and / or Roundtables on camelids and Environmental Education, 32 special lectures and more than 100 oral presentations as author or co-author.

TEACHING

Environmental Education activities

Creation of "The Puna or Altiplano environment regionalized courses" for teachers and locals. Since 1995 more than 20 courses were run in several andean communities including: Tilcara, Abrapampa, La Quiaca, Santa Catalina (Jujuy Province Argentina), El Peñon, Antofagasta de la Sierra (Catamarca Province Argentina), San Antonio de los Cobres (Salta Province Argentina), Arica (First region Chile). More than 300 teachers were trained in environmental education concepts, methodology and didactics.

Some pictures chaku captures of wild vicuñas



Herding vicuñas into the corral



Captured vicuñas in the funnel



Vicuñas trapped in the corral



Bibi taking vicuña out of the corral





Marking vicuñas



Local shearing vicuñas



Back to nature

Post capture studies: Bibi, Yanina and a local peasant

