

Curriculum Vitae

Dr. Christian Kiffner

Business address

Junior research group "Human-wildlife conflicts in agricultural landscapes"
Leibniz-Zentrum für Agrarlandschaftsforschung (ZALF)
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Guest affiliation

Since 06/02/2019

Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Department of Human Behavior, Ecology and Culture, Leipzig, Germany
Project: "Hadza behavioral ecology: distribution and density of wildlife species"
Research linking the movement of human hunter gatherers, hunting returns and the distribution and density of wildlife species

Main research areas

- Human-wildlife coexistence: integrating human attitudes, perceptions and behavior with wildlife behavior; evidence-based and integrated assessments of mitigation methods to reduce problematic interactions between humans and wildlife
- Assessing the effectiveness of conservation management: testing the suitability of wildlife population trends and wildlife behavior as indicators of conservation effectiveness

Professional experience

Research associate

Since 01/12/2020

Junior research group „Human-wildlife conflicts in agricultural landscapes“ Leibniz-Zentrum für Agrarlandschaftsforschung (ZALF), Germany
Project: "Human wildlife conflicts & coexistence in agricultural landscapes".
Research on African swine fever and the spatio-temporal distribution of wild boar, and frameworks and case studies of human-wildlife coexistence

- SFS Professor**
01/01/2018 – 30/11/2020
The School For Field Studies (SFS), Center For Wildlife Management Studies, Karatu, Tanzania
Project: "Status and effectiveness of wildlife conservation in northern Tanzania"
Research was focusing on: wildlife monitoring and population trends across a protected area network; investigating the effect of human disturbance on wildlife behavior; assessing the patterns and correlates of human-wildlife interactions; evaluating the cost-effectiveness of technical solutions to mitigate human-wildlife interactions; controlling tick parasitism on livestock; assessing local ecological knowledge, attitudes and practices regarding zoonotic diseases and wildlife
Teaching US undergraduate students in "Techniques of wildlife management" and "Directed research" and multiple Summer courses
- SFS Associate professor**
01/09/2016 – 31/12/2017
- Lecturer**
01/09/2011 – 30/08/2016
- Deputy Centre Director**
01/01/2020 – 30/11/2020
01/01/2018 – 31/01/2019
01/02/2014 – 31/05/2016
The School For Field Studies, Center For Wildlife Management Studies, Karatu, Tanzania
Tasks: General oversight of staff, moderating formal work meetings, coordinating program logistics incl. scheduling, and representing the center at formal stakeholder events
- Postdoc**
01/02/2011 – 31/7/2011
University of California, Department of Wildlife, Fish and Conservation Biology, Davis, USA
Project: "Wildlife conservation the Katavi ecosystem"
Research on wildlife population trends and illegal hunting of wildlife
- Research associate**
01/07/2010 – 31/01/2011
Institute for Wildlife Biology Göttingen & Dresden e.V., Göttingen, Germany
Project: "Space use of red deer in Germany"
Research on GPS-collared red deer in multiple study areas in Germany
- Research associate**
01/01/2007 – 30/06/2010
Büsgen-Institut, Department for Forest Zoology and Nature Conservation, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Germany.
Project: "Surveillance of tick-parasitized voles, mice and roe deer in Germany: Arboviral infection rates in relation to population densities and host characteristics"
Research on tick parasitism on wildlife; dissection of rodents; virus detection from biological samples; modelling the distribution of tick-borne encephalitis virus
- Research associate**
15/08/2006 – 31/12/2006
Research Institute of Forest Ecology and Forestry, Rhineland-Palatinate, Trippstadt, Germany
Project: "Habitat use and population estimation of wild boar"
Field work on the distribution of wild boar signs, lab-work to isolate DNA and genotype samples

Education

- Doctor of Forest Sciences** 2007 – 2010
Georg-August Universität Göttingen, Germany
Thesis title: "Surveillance of tick-parasitized voles, mice and roe deer in Germany: Arboviral infection rates in relation to population densities and host characteristics"
- Master of Science** 2004 – 2006
Tropical and International Forestry, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Germany
Thesis title: "The Use of a playback survey to estimate African lion (*Panthera leo*) and spotted hyaena (*Crocuta crocuta*) densities: methodological aspects and implications for the management of lions"
- Semester, Master of Science course** 2005
International Nature Conservation, Lincoln University, New Zealand (Grades: A; A; A-)
- Bachelor of Science** 2000 – 2004
Forestry Science and Forest Ecology, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Germany
Thesis title: "Local distribution and frequency patterns of free-living antelope species with special regard to the impala antelope"
- A-levels (Abitur)** 1990 – 1999
Thomas-Mann-Schule Lübeck, Germany

Academic services

- Handling editor** 2021 – present
Oecologia: Terrestrial Vertebrate Ecology
- Review editor** 2021 – present
Frontiers in Conservation Science, special section: "Human-Wildlife Dynamics"
- Book editor** 2020 – 2021
Springer Ecological Studies Series
"Tarangire: Human wildlife coexistence in a fragmented ecosystem"
- Guest editor** 2020 – 2021
Conservation Science and Practice, special section: "Methods for integrated assessment of human-wildlife interactions and coexistence in agricultural landscapes"
- Guest editor** 2018 – 2020
Conservation Biology, special section: "Challenges of and solutions to human-wildlife conflicts in agricultural landscapes"
- Reviewer of articles** 2007 – present
145 peer reviews:
<https://publons.com/researcher/1220210/christian-kiffner/metrics/>

Memberships in professional societies

- Since 2017: American Society of Mammalogists
- Since 2015: Society for Conservation Biology
- Since 2004: Deutscher Forstverein e. V.