


Lucie THEL

PERSONAL INFORMATION

19th August 1995 (28 years old)

56 chemin de Flad, 81000 Albi (France)

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EDUCATION

10/2018 - 09/2021

Ph.D. in Ecology (defense: 30th November 2021), [Claude Bernard University](#) (France)

09/2017 - 07/2018

M.Sc. in Ecology, [Paul Sabatier University](#) (France)

09/2015 - 07/2018

Engineer in Environment Management, French Grande Ecole: [Ecole Nationale Supérieure Agronomique de Toulouse](#) (graduate engineering school in agricultural science) (France)

09/2013 - 06/2015

Prep School in Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Earth Sciences, [Lycée Général et Technologique Agricole des Sciences Vertes](#) (France)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCES

02/2023 - present

Post-doctoral Researcher, [Nelson Mandela University](#) & [Wildlife Ecology Lab](#), George (South Africa)

Subject: Exploring and deciphering the intrinsic costs associated with living in small fenced reserves to inform management and conservation policies in lions (*Panthera leo*)

Supervisor: Jan Venter (WEL George)

10/2021 - 11/2022

Temporary Teaching and Research Assistant, [Paul Sabatier University](#) and [Evolution et Diversité Biologique Lab](#) (France)

Subject: Effect of Major Histocompatibility Complex diversity and dissimilarity between partners on mate choice in the black-legged kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*)

Supervisor: Sarah Leclaire (EDB Toulouse)

10/2018 - 09/2021

Ph.D. candidate, [Claude Bernard University](#) and [Biométrie et Biologie Evolutive Lab](#) (France)

Subject: Phenology of births in ungulates, insights on its measurements and its ecological determinants

Supervisors: Christophe Bonenfant (LBBE Lyon) and Simon Chamailhé-Jammes (CEFE Montpellier)

02/2018 - 07/2018

M.Sc. research internship - 2nd year, [Savoie Mont Blanc University](#) and [Ecologie Alpine Lab](#) (France)

Subject: Effect of temperature and temporal variation in hiking pressure on the circadian activity pattern of Alpine chamois (*Rupicapra rupicapra*)

Supervisors: Anne Loison (LECA Le Bourget du Lac), Mathieu Garel (OFB Grenoble) and Pascal Marchand (OFB Montpellier)

06/2017 - 08/2017

M.Sc. research internship - 1st year, [Ecole Nationale Supérieure Agronomique de Toulouse](#) and [Lajuma Research Centre](#) (South Africa)

Subject: Influence of weather and time of the day on the activity and behaviour of the yellow-spotted rock hyrax (*Heterohyrax brucei*), and its role in seeds dispersal

Supervisors: Birthe Linden (LRC Louis Trichardt) and Annie Ouin (ENSAT Toulouse)

TEACHING EXPERIENCES

02/2024-present

Co-supervision (3 master's student):

- *Phenotypic variations of chacma baboons (Papio ursinus) in Southern African biomes*
- *Giants of the savannah: unravelling the impact of elephant (Loxodonta Africana) preferences on woody vegetation*
- *Territorial behaviour of African lions (Panthera leo) in Kruger National Park, South Africa*

02/2023-present

Co-supervision (2 PhD students, 1 master's student):

- *Influence of primary production on the phenology of African ungulates across aridity gradients in Sub-Saharan Africa (PhD)*
- *Rivals, territories and resources: what are the intrinsic costs to African lions contained in small, fenced reserves? (PhD, 02/2023-12/2023)*
- *Evaluating the impact of dehorning on the behavioral ecology of the white rhinoceros (masters)*

03/2023-11/2023 (9 months)

Co-supervision (3 honours students):

- *The impact of African elephants (Loxodonta africana) on the woody vegetation structure and species composition in Madikwe Game Reserve*
- *The diet of black backed jackal (Lupulella mesomelas) in Welgevonden Game Reserve*
- *Using camera traps to determine Chacma baboon (Papio ursinus) responses to predation*

06/2023 (2 weeks)

African Field Course for Camera Trap Studies, [Kruger National Park](#) (South Africa):

- Teaching: Introduction to R
- Technical support: during lectures on camera trap analyses and for individual projects

10/2021 - 08/2022

Temporary Teaching and Research Assistant, Paul Sabatier University (France):

- Tutorials and examination in **statistics** (B.Sc. and M.Sc., 54 hours)
- Tutorials and examination in **population dynamics** (B.Sc., 48 hours)
- Tutorials in **general ecology** (B.Sc., 10 hours)
- **Internship referee, report and oral examinations** in various subjects in biology and ecology (M.Sc., 15 hours)

10/2018 - 09/2021

Ph.D. candidate, Claude Bernard University (France):

- Tutorials in **biostatistics** and **bioinformatics** (B.Sc., 6 hours)
- Tutorials and examination in **digital culture** (B.Sc., 38 hours)
- **Supervision** of two students (B.Sc., 1.5 month):
 - o *Analysis of the phenology of births in three species of African ungulates: topi, kongoni and Grant's gazelle*
 - o *Quality of image classification by citizen scientists: the example of Snapshot Serengeti Program*

GRANTS AND AWARDS

2023: Post graduate research grant of Nelson Mandela University (100000ZAR), South Africa

02/2023 - 12/2024: National Research Foundation post-doctoral bursary from Prof. Jan Venter's "Game of Thrones" project (200000ZAR), South Africa

20/05/2021: Best poster prize of Décryp'thèse student conference of the doctoral school E2M2 (300€), France

06/2020: Outreach funding of Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique to develop an awareness-rising workshop for children (impacts of climate change on African wildlife) (300€), France

05/12/2018: Prize of the Polytechnic National Institute of Toulouse for an exceptional training path (200€), France

10/2018 - 10/2021: Ministerial scholarship from the competitive exam of the doctoral school E2M2 to support a Ph.D. at Claude Bernard University (63684€), France

06/2017 - 08/2017: Mouv'box mobility grant of Toulouse Universities to support an internship at Lajuma Research Centre (1000€), South Africa

06/2017 - 08/2017: International mobility grant of Midi-Pyrénées region to support an internship at Lajuma Research Centre (840€), South Africa

06/2017 - 08/2017: Mobility grant of the Polytechnic National Institute of Toulouse to support an internship at Lajuma Research Centre (800€), South Africa

SCIENTIFIC OUTREACH AND MEDIA COVERAGE

12/12/2023: Déclic, outreach action (virtual) at Louis Rascol high school in Pins Justaret (France)

12/12/2022: Déclic, outreach action at Jean-Pierre Vernant high school in Pins Justaret (France)

01/12/2022: Comptoir des sciences, virtual outreach meeting with children at Jeanne Couvry primary school in Gargenville (France)

30/09/2022: European Researchers' Night in Toulouse (France)

24/06/2022: Scientific outreach actions for children at Aubrac primary school in Albi (France)

10/12/2021, 17/12/2021 and 11/01/2022: Scientific outreach actions for children at Saut du Sabo secondary school in Saint Juéry (France)

05/10/2021 - 02/01/2022: Scientific outreach actions for the general public at the “Fête de la Science” (steering committee and speaker) in Lyon (France)

28/08/2021: Scientific outreach action for the general public at the “Conférences embarquées du CNRS” in Lyon (France)

05/05/2021: Media interview for the publication of an outreach article in *Le Progrès* newspaper: “Les naissances auront-elles toujours lieu au printemps ?” (Lyon, France)

08/04/2021: Scientific outreach action for graduate students at the “BARCamp” (share your Ph.D. experience event) in Lyon (France)

02/10/2020 - 12/10/2020: Scientific outreach actions for the general public at the “Fête de la Science” (steering committee and speaker) in Lyon (France)

29/08/2020: Scientific outreach action for the general public at the “Conférences embarquées du CNRS” in Lyon (France)

10/06/2020: Publication of an outreach article in *Pop’Sciences* journal of Lyon Universities: “Changements climatiques et dates de naissance” (Lyon, France)

05/10/2019: Scientific outreach for the general public at “Fête de la Science” (speaker) in Lyon (France)

SKILLS AND LANGUAGES

Computer skills: R, Office, Mark, Aardwolf

Field work:

- Carried out in France: **telemetric monitoring** for the evaluation of reproductive success in roe deer (Chizé, 11/11/2018 - 21/11/2018 and 10/11/2020 - 17/11/2020), roe deer **net capture** for scientific monitoring (Fabas, 10/02/2022), **acoustic replay** to study vigilance behaviour in roe deer (Hauteville, 01/09/2021)
- Carried out in South Africa: behavioural **scan sampling**, **camera trapping** and **feces analysis** of the yellow-spotted rock hyrax (mount Lajuma, 06/2017 - 08/2017); **camera trap servicing** In APNR (06/02/2023 – 08/02/2023); **camera trap servicing** (Associate Private Nature Reserve, 06/02/2023 – 08/02/2023); lion **captures** for GPS collars and biological sampling (Pilanesberg, 17/02/2023 – 25/02/2023); demographic survey for **spatial explicit capture-recapture analysis** (Marakele and Marataba, 06/2023)

Languages: French (mother tongue), English (fluent), Spanish (beginner knowledge)

SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

Published

Thel L., Garel M., Marchand P., Bourgoïn G., Loison A. (2024). Too hot or too disturbed? Temperatures more than hikers affect circadian activity of females in northern chamois. *Animal Behaviour* 210: 347-367 (doi: 10.1016/j.anbehav.2024.01.010).

Thel L., Chamaillé-Jammes S. & Bonenfant C. (2022). How to describe and measure phenology? An investigation on the diversity of metrics using phenology of births in large herbivores. *Oikos* 4: e08917 (doi: 10.1111/oik.08917).

Thel L., Chamaillé-Jammes S., Keurinck L., Catala M., Packer C., Huebner S., Bonenfant C. (2021). Can citizen science analysis of camera trap data be used to study reproduction? Lessons from Snapshot Serengeti program. *Wildlife Biology* 2: wlb-00833 (doi: doi.org/10.2981/wlb.00833).

In preparation

Thel L.*, Stols D.*, Orth S., Venter J.¹, Fritz H.¹. Elephants reduce vegetation diversity and affect tree diameter and height allometric relationships in a small fenced reserve.

Thel L., Hatch S. A., Blanchard P., Leclaire S. Do Major Histocompatibility Complex diversity and dissimilarity influence partner change in black-legged kittiwakes?

Thel L., Bonenfant C. & Chamaillé-Jammes S. Does timing of birth affect foal and mare survival in wild plains zebras?

* first authors, ¹ last authors

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

21/11/2023 - 22/11/2023: Research project presentation at the [Lion Management Forum Meeting](#) (Marakele National Park, South Africa): Conservation and management implications of lion demography and sociality in open vs fenced reserves

11/09/2023 - 14/09/2023: Oral presentation at the annual meeting of the [South African Wildlife Management Association](#) (Golden Gate National Park, South Africa): Combining camera trapping and citizen science to study reproduction in large antelopes: a difficult wedding

23/07/2023 - 27/07/2023: Oral presentation at the [International Conference for Conservation Biology](#) (Kigali, Rwanda): Combining camera trapping and citizen science to study reproduction in large antelopes: a difficult wedding

23/07/2023 - 27/07/2023: Poster presentation at the [International Conference for Conservation Biology](#) (Kigali, Rwanda): Does timing of birth affect foal and mare survival in wild plains zebras?

27/06/2022: Invited talk at [Comportement et Ecologie de la Faune Sauvage Lab](#), Toulouse (France): **Mesure et causes écologiques de la phénologie des naissances chez les grands mammifères herbivores**

01/11/2021 - 05/11/2021: Poster presentation at [The Wildlife Society Annual Conference](#), virtual: **Does timing of birth affect foal and mare survival in wild plains zebras?**

02/08/2021-06/08/2021: Poster presentation at the [Annual Meeting of the Ecological Society of America](#), virtual: **How to describe and measure phenology?**

01/07/2021: Invited talk at [Institut Pluridisciplinaire Hubert Curien](#), Strasbourg (France): **Phenology of births in large herbivores: methods, causes and consequences**

20/05/2021: Poster presentation at [Décryp'thèse Student Conference](#), virtual: **Combining camera trapping and citizen science to study reproduction: a difficult wedding**