

Vivek Thapa
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EDUCATION

North Central Texas College (NCTC) **May 2014**

Took several courses in computer science to strengthen skills.

Doctor of Philosophy in Environmental Science **December 2010**

University of North Texas (UNT)

PhD Dissertation: *Habitat Fragmentation by land-use change: one-horned rhinoceros of Nepal and red-cockaded woodpecker of Texas*

Master of Science in Environmental Science **December 2005**

University of North Texas

Master Thesis: *Analysis of One-horned rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros unicornis*) habitat at the Chitwan National Park, Nepal*

Master of Science in Botany **June 1997**

Tribhuvan University (TU) – Nepal

Special Paper (Ecology) in lieu of thesis: *Assessing water pollution near industrial site in Balaju Textile area*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant **Fall 2002, 2010**

Biology Department, University of North Texas

- Taught principles of biology to freshmen, juniors, sophomores and seniors and sometimes to post – baccalaureates.
- Taught animal and plant phylum through lectures followed by slide and demo observations. Dissection of animals was integral part of the class.
- Used current technological methods such as PowerPoint's, relevant news abstracts etc. to promote student learning.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant

Summer 2007, Spring 2008 and Summer 2008

Geography and Environmental Science Department, University of North Texas

- Worked for National Science Foundation (NSF) funded Biocomplexity Project – this was bulk of my dissertation work.
- Collected quantitative and qualitative data such as GPS, roads/streets, hydrology, census etc using government agency websites such as USGS, USDA etc.
- Conducted geospatial analysis using geographic information systems, remote sensing, landscape ecology and land-use model to study impacts of developments (residential, commercial, industrial) on the habitats of vulnerable red-cockaded woodpecker (Southeast Texas).
- Interacted with local, state and federal conservation agencies for data collection and exchange.
- Write and publish reports as a thesis or journal article.

Ongoing Research:

Use of Landsat 8 to identify browse, forbs, and grass species pertaining to White-Tailed Deer in Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge, North Central Texas

Expected Outcome: A detailed map of resource distribution i.e. composition and configuration of different habitat patches especially pertaining to the deer will be obtained. A variety of data layers and the results will be provided to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Medical representative

July 1998 – March 1999

Knoll Pharmaceutical, Insulin Division

- As a sole representative of the company, I travelled entire Nepal marketing products.
- Doctor visits were essential part of the work and to promote products.
- Presented reports at cycle meetings in Calcutta, India every three months.

All American Surveying

GIS Manager

Feb 2015 – Feb 2016

- Work with historical and current survey data of six North Central Texas Counties. Data is collected over the period of more than 20 years and counting.
- Create GIS shapefiles from AutoCAD files and export to ArcMap for visual display and further analysis.
- Hyperlink parcel shapefiles of each county using a common field type from the table to create a single final map of six counties.
- Divide above map based on 923 subdivisions. Perform query on the attribute table by using 'Select By Attributes' to group parcels belonging to a particular subdivision. Symbolize giving different colors to create variety of thematic maps to indicate number of jobs completed in a subdivision.

NEPAL FIELD SCHOOL COORDINATOR/TEAM LEADER

August 2007 –

January 2008

University of North Texas

- Worked with major advisor and Study Abroad Center of UNT to plan and organize Nepal Field School. And wrote a proposal to CHARN Scholarship (\$5,000) aimed to obtain funds to minimize trip costs for participating students including myself.
- Meticulously planned 21-day trip (flew to Nepal on December 17 and returned January 8th, 2008) such as air tickets to hotel rentals to the type of lecture and field trips on specific day and time.
- Worked collaboratively with faculties and students of TU, officials from Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (Nepal) and National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC, Nepal) to organize lectures and field trips.
- Contacted personnel of Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation to request for free admission and to conduct various studies that ranged from wildlife management, grassland modeling to floodplain hydrology in one of the well renowned national park of Nepal.

PAPER AND POSTER PRESENTATION

- Presented research work titled ‘*Analysis of One-horned rhinoceros (Rhinoceros unicornis) habitat at the Chitwan National Park, Nepal*’. University of Alicante, Spain. 2006.
- Presented progress work of research titled “Use of potential development and habitat suitability index models to observe the impacts of development on the suitable habitats of the red-cockaded woodpecker in a region near Big Thicket National Preserve, Texas” to Dr. Acevedo and his students.
- Poster presentation of ‘*Analysis of One-horned rhinoceros (Rhinoceros unicornis) habitat at the Chitwan National Park, Nepal*’. Graduate Research Day, University of North Texas. 2006.

COMPUTER SKILLS AND COMPETENCES

- Strong skills in Carlson AutoCAD (used in land surveying), GIS, image classification, geo-referencing with topographic maps and image processing software (ArcGIS Pro, ArcGIS ArcInfo 10x, 9x, QGIS, ERDAS IMAGINE 9.3 and FRAGSTATS 3.2 and 3.3. Some ENVI).
- Strong command of Microsoft Office Tools (Word, Excel, and PowerPoint)
- Operating systems: DOS, Windows 98, 2000, XP, Window Vista, End Note
- These skills were acquired through my academics, research, volunteer, and work experience.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- Fluent in Hindi, English and Nepali.

GRANT

- TPEG = Texas Education Grant Recipient from 2003 – 2010.
- NSF Biocomplexity Grant = 2007 – 2009.

PUBLICATIONS

- An analysis of the habitat of the Greater One-Horned Rhinoceros *Rhinoceros unicornis* (Mammalia: Perissodactyla: Rhinocerotidae) at the Chitwan National Park, Nepal. V. Thapa, M.F. Acevedo, and K.P. Limbu. September 26, 2014. *Journal of Threatened Taxa*. Vol. 6 (10). Pp 6313 – 6325.

- Habitat quantity and quality of red-cockaded woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*) in a human-dominated landscape near the Big Thicket National Park, Texas. V. Thapa and M.F. Acevedo. January 26, 2016. *Journal of Threatened Taxa*. Vol. 8 (1). Pp 8309-8322.
- Use of Landsat 8 (OLI) to identify suitable habitats for White-Tailed Deer in Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge, North Central Texas (Ongoing). V. Thapa.