ANA YOKO YKEUTI MEIGA

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RESEARCH & INTERESTS: Movement Ecology, Spatial Ecology, Biodiversity Conservation

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy, Interdisciplinary Ecology, University of Florida, USA — Expected December 2026
Dissertation: Movement Ecology and Conservation Strategies for the Giant Anteater in the Brazilian Savanna. **Advisor:** Dr. Denis Valle

Master of Science, Biological Diversity and Conservation, Federal University of São Carlos, Brazil — 2012
Thesis: Mammals and the regeneration of the *Attalea dubia* palm in an area of the Atlantic Forest in the southwestern region of the State of São Paulo, Brazil. **Advisor:** Dr. Alexander V. Christianini

Bachelor of Science, Biology, Centro Universitário Filadélfia, Brazil — 2008
Thesis: Survey of the Mammalian Fauna of the São Francisco State Park, Paraná State. **Advisor:** Dr. Mario Orsi

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS & BOOK CHAPTERS (N = 14)

- Montanarin, A., Antunes, A.C., Baccaro, F., Nelson, B.W., Alvarenga, G.C., Fonseca, C.R., Carvalho, N., Barlow, J., Barnett, A.A., Martins, A., Lopes, C., **Meiga, A.Y.Y.**, et al. (2026). Jaguars in their largest stronghold: spatial distribution of a generalist apex predator. *Biodiversity and Conservation*. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10531-026-03461-2
- **Meiga, A.Y.Y.**, Prist, P.R., Amaro, B., Arrais, R.C., de Brito, M.R.M., Campanha, R., Costa, D., Galiano, I., Mangini, P.R., Mamede, L., Maranhão, L., Medolago, C., Moreira, T., Oliveira, R., Pereira, C.S., Pires, A., Sousa, H., Valsecchi, J. & Abra, F. (2026). First insights into the movement patterns of maned wolf with sarcoptic mange. *Wildlife Biology*. https://doi.org/10.1002/wlb3.01771
- Massara, R.L., Santos, P.M., Stumpp, R., Costa, A.S., Rodrigues, J.R., **Meiga, A.Y.Y.**, Solar, R.R.C., Neves, M.M., Dornas, T. & Paglia, A. (2026). Can a top predator persist after one of the world's largest mining dam failures? Occupancy dynamics of the neotropical otter in Brazil's Paraopeba River. *Ecology and Evolution*. https://doi.org/10.1002/ece3.73366
- **Meiga, A.Y.Y.**, Desbiez, A.L.J., Dornas, R.A.P., Attias, N., Giroux, A. & Valle, D. (2026). Giant anteaters on the move: native habitat selection and behavioral responses to land use change. *Movement Ecology*. https://doi.org/10.1186/s40462-025-00616-8
- Brandão, M.V., Ferreira, K.S., Dornas, T.T., Maioli, L.U., Barros, J.G., Aires, C.C. & **Meiga, A.Y.Y.** (2024). New and unusual records of *Glironia venusta* (Didelphimorphia, Didelphidae) in Brazil. *Acta Amazonica*. https://doi.org/10.1515/mammalia-2024-0038
- Valle, D., Rifai, S., Carrero, G. & **Meiga, A.Y.Y.** (2023). An automated procedure to determine construction year of roads using a least-cost path and a before–after control–impact approach. *Remote Sensing in Ecology and Conservation*. https://doi.org/10.1002/rse2.376
- Machado, C.A.L., Valle, D., Horta, M.C., **Meiga, A.Y.Y.** & Sevá, A.D.P. (2023). Patterns and drivers of human visceral leishmaniasis in Pernambuco (Brazil) from 2007 to 2018. *PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases*. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pntd.0011108
- Antunes, A.C., Montanarin, A., Gräbin, D.M., Monteiro, E.C. S., Pinho, F.F.P., Alvarenga, G.C., Ahumada, J., Wallace, R.B., Ramalho, E.E., Barnett, A.P.A., Bager, A., Keuroghlian, A.M.C.L.A., Giroux, A., Herrera, A.M., Correa,

A.P.A., **Meiga, A.Y.Y.**, et al. (2022). Amazonia Camtrap: A dataset of mammal, bird, and reptile species recorded with camera traps in the Amazon forest. *Ecology*. https://doi.org/10.1002/ecy.3738

- Prist, P.R., Cirino, W.D., Lupinetti, A., **Meiga, A.Y.Y.**, Alberici, V., Calaboni, A., Maffei, F., Magioli, M., Medolago, C., Pagotto, T., Giacon, O., Abra, F.D. & Ferraz, K.M.P.M.B. (2021). Terrestrial vertebrate fauna of Assis State Forest: a cerrado remnant in the state of São Paulo, Brazil. *Revista do Instituto Florestal*. https://doi.org/10.24278/2178-5031.202133208
- Prist, P.R., **Meiga, A.Y.Y.**, Camilo, A.R., Mozerle, H., Bione, C.B.C., Orsini, V., Coutinho, R., Bolzan, A., Papi, B., Hipolito, R. & Dornas, R.A.P. (2020). Mammals of medium and large size. In R.A.P. Dornas & S.G. Rolim (Eds.), *Fauna de vertebrados do entorno da Estrada de Ferro Carajás* (pp. 5–212). Belo Horizonte: Rupestre. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/350974584
- **Meiga, A.Y.Y.** & Christianini, A.V. (2020). Potential impact of mammal defaunation on the early regeneration of a large-seeded palm in the Brazilian Atlantic Forest. *Neotropical Biology and Conservation*. https://doi.org/10.3897/neotropical.15.e54017
- Alves, R.C.R., Bejarano, B.R., Puertas, V., Bocchiglieri, F.H., Barbosa, A., Chiarello, A.L.S., Paglia, A.G., Pereira, A., Moreira, A.A., Souza, A.F., Pellegrin, A.C., Gatica, A., Medeiro, A., Pereira, A.Z., Braz, A.D., Yanosky, G., Valenzuela, A., Bertassoni, A.E.J., Prado, A., Nava, A.S.V., Rocha, A.F.D., Bovo, A., Bager, A.A.A., Cravino, A., **Meiga, A.Y.Y.**, et al. (2020). Neotropical alien mammals: A dataset of occurrence and abundance of alien mammals in the Neotropics. *Ecology*. https://doi.org/10.1002/ecy.3115
- Santos, P.M.B., Chiarello, A., Paglia, A.G., Moreira, A.P., Souza, A., Abba, A.C., Paviolo, A.M., Gatica, A., Medeiro, A., Costa, A.Z., Gallina, A.N., Yanosky, A.G., Jesus, A.A., Bertassoni, A., Rocha, A., Bovo, A., Bager, A.A.A., Mol, A., Martensen, A.C., Faustino, A.C., Lopes, A.C., Percequillo, A.M.C., Vogliotti, A.R., Keuroghlian, A., **Meiga, A.Y.Y.**, et al. (2019). Neotropical xenarthrans: A dataset of occurrence of xenarthran species in the Neotropics. *Ecology*. https://doi.org/10.1002/ecy.2663
- **Meiga, A.Y.Y.** & Christianini, A.V. (2015). Changes in seed predation of *Attalea dubia* along a gradient of Atlantic Forest disturbance in Brazil. *Palms*, 59, 135–144. https://palms.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/vol59n3p135-144.pdf

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

- **Meiga, A.Y.Y.**, Desbiez, A.L.J., Dornas, R.A.P., Giroux, A., Bruna, E.M., Bertassoni, A., Attias, N., Hull, V., Soresini, G., Alves, M.H. & Valle, D. (*under review*). Beyond deforestation: the impact of agricultural intensification on a flagship mammal species.

SKILLS

Data Analysis: Quantitative analysis of animal movement data, including home range estimation (AKDE), Habitat Selection (SSF/RSF), Hidden Markov Models (HMMs), and Trajectory Analysis (NSD, revisitation). Proficient in movement ecology workflows using `ctmm`, `amt`, `recurse`

Programming & GIS: Advanced R programming: `Tidyverse`. Spatial data manipulation using R packages `sf` and `terra`. Reproducible workflows with `Quarto`/`R Markdown`. Version control with `GitHub`

Field Skills: Camera trap, GPS telemetry data, mammal track identification

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Graduate Assistant, University of Florida, School of Natural Resources and Environment. 2022–Present

- Research on animal movement patterns, wildlife behavior, and conservation efforts in a changing world
- Instructor of Record for Environmental Science Lab

Biologist, Amplo Engenharia e Gestão Ltda (Medium-sized company in the environmental consulting segment), Belo Horizonte, Brazil. 2016–2022

- Coordinator for the Biodiversity Monitoring Program's river otter and capybara to assess the impacts of Dam rupture, and Road Ecology Program to mitigate wildlife roadkill along railroad, Brazil
- Member of mammal monitoring projects, field work activities and elaboration of technical proposal projects and technical reports

Environmental Consultant, Amplo Engenharia e Gestão Ltda (Medium-sized company in the environmental consulting segment), Belo Horizonte, Brazil. 2014–2016

- Consultant for the "Expansion of the Carajás Railroad" project. Monitoring medium and large mammals, wildlife collision, and conducting animal rescue operations

Trainee, EarthCorps (International nonprofit organization), Seattle, USA. 2013

- Volunteer team management, intercultural communication, and environmental education

Scientist, EcosLazer (Partnership between private institutions), Itu, Brazil. 2013

- Field coordinator for river otter conservation, data management, report writing, and field logistics

Scientist, EarthWatch Institute (International nonprofit organization), Curitiba, Brazil. 2012

- Member of the technical staff of medium and large mammal monitoring
- Environmental education and engagement of national and international volunteers

Volunteer Vacation Internship, Embrapa Pantanal (Large research institution), Corumbá, Brazil. 2008

- Research on the ecology of mammals in the Pantanal biome. Fieldwork with GPS telemetry of large and medium mammals

Volunteer Vacation Internship, Klabin (Large private company), Telêmaco Borba, Brazil. 2007

- Monitoring and maintenance of the Ecological Park

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Assistantship from Tropical Conservation and Development - University of Florida, United States of America ($11,750) 2026

Best poster presentation: "Carrying the burden: unraveling the role of parental care on the behavior of giant anteaters" – School of Natural Resources and Environment Research Symposium, University of Florida, United States of America ($500) 2025

Scholarship to participate in the Animal Space Use and Movement Analysis in R - Online professional training course, Smithsonian Institution, United States of America ($500) 2025

Travel Grant, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, University of Florida, United States of America ($250) 2025

Travel Grant, School of Natural Resources and Environment, University of Florida, United States of America ($250) 2025

Tropical Conservation and Development Conference Travel Grant, University of Florida, United States of America ($400) 2025

Selected to participate in Quantitative Modeling in Biology workshop, Organismal Systems Modeling Network, United States of America 2025

Doris and Earl Lowe and Verna Lowe Scholarship for the 2024-2025 academic year - College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, University of Florida, United States of America ($4,000) 2024

Robin E. Nadeau Ecology Graduate Research Award - School of Natural Resources and Environment, University of Florida, United States of America ($4,000) 2024

Best oral presentation (1st place): “Impacts of converting pastures to soybean plantation on the movement of giant anteaters in the Brazilian Savanna (Cerrado)” - School of Forest Fisheries and Geomatics Sciences Graduate Students Symposium, University of Florida, United States of America ($100) 2024

Selected to Participate in AniMove Workshop – School at the Max Planck Institute of Animal Behavior in Radolfzell, Germany 2024

Best poster presentation: “Impact of land use and land cover change on a threatened species: a case study on giant anteaters in the Brazilian Savanna (Cerrado)” – Tropical Conservation and Development Fieldwork Festival, University of Florida, United States of America 2024

Selected as a consortium student to attend the Climate Adaptation Science Retreat - Southeast Climate Adaptation Science Center, Albemarle peninsula, North Carolina, United States of America 2023

Travel Grant from The Wildlife Society, Kentucky, United States of America ($500) 2023

Best poster presentation: “The influence of land use and land cover (LULC) on the behavioral states and activity budgets of giant anteaters (*Myrmecophaga tridactyla*) in the Cerrado region” – School of Natural Resources and Environment Research Symposium, University of Florida, United States of America ($500) 2023

Tropical Conservation and Development Field Research Grant from the Maxwell/Hanrahan Foundation, University of Florida, United States of America ($2,500) 2023

PhD Scholarship - Latin American/Caribbean scholarship, and School of Natural Resources and Environment, University of Florida, United States of America ($100,000) 2022-2026

Master’s Scholarship - Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior (CAPES), São Paulo, Brazil ($17,000) 2010-2011

Undergraduate Research Scholarship - Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico (CNPq), Londrina, Brazil ($3,500) 2006-2007

PROFESSIONAL TALKS

Tropical Conservation and Development Program Seminar - “Movement ecology and conservation of the threatened giant anteater in the Brazilian Savanna” - University of Florida, USA 2025

Movement Ecology of Animals Gordon Research Conference - “Impacts of converting pastures to soybean plantation on the movement of giant anteaters” - Ventura, California, USA 2025

Webinar: “In Search of Insectivores - “Protecting the Giant Anteater” - Invited as guest speaker by Natural Habitats Adventures, USA 2024

The Wildlife Society Conference – Oral Presentation: “The influence of land use and land cover on the movement behavior of giant anteaters in the Cerrado, Brazil” – Louisville, Kentucky, USA 2023

Webinar - “Furthering Education for EarthCorps Alumni”. Invited as guest speaker - EarthCorps, USA 2023

School of Forest, Fisheries and Geomatics Sciences Graduate Student Symposium - Oral Research Presentation: “On the movement of Giant Anteater” - University of Florida, USA 2023

Road Ecology Brazil - Iberoamerican Congress on Biodiversity and Road Infrastructure. Poster Research Presentation: “Movement of tarantulas on a Brazilian railroad”, Brazil 2016

Congress of Mastozoology - The construction of mastozoology in Brazil. Poster Presentation: “Predation of *Attalea dubia* (Arecaceae) seeds by small mammals and invertebrates in a fragment of Atlantic Forest and pasture”, Brazil 2010

Brazilian Congress of Mastozoology. Poster Presentation: “Survey of the mammals of the Mata São Francisco State Park, state of Paraná”, Brazil 2008

LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

Panelist, Critical Thinking in Science: Discussion about Grad School and Career for Undergraduate Students, University of Florida 2026

Conference Volunteer, The Power of Connections: Harvesting Lessons and Strengthening Coalitions for Amazonian Conservation, University of Florida 2026

Workshop Organizer, Introduction to Continuous-Time Movement Modeling for Animal Tracking Data, with Dr. Christen Fleming, University of Florida 2025

Seminar Organizer, Biology or Bias: Challenges in Animal Tracking Data, with Dr. Christen Fleming, University of Florida 2025

Webinar Organizer and Host, Global Pathways: Unlocking Career & Research Opportunities for International Students and Professionals, The Wildlife Society 2025

Orientation Organizer, Orientation for New Graduate Students, School of Natural Resources and Environment, University of Florida, Gainesville 2025

Facilitator, Alachua County Climate Summit, Santa Fe College, Gainesville 2024

Volunteer and Panelist, Professional Development Workshop to mentor undergraduate students about grad school, University of Florida, Gainesville 2024

Organizer and Moderator, How to Prepare for your Qualifying Exam, University of Florida, Gainesville 2024

Brazil Engagement Chair, The Wildlife Society Latin American and Caribbean Working Group (TWS LACWG) - fostering collaboration and addressing critical issues in the region related to wildlife and conservation 2024

Coordinator and Member, Tropical Conservation & Development Program (TCD) Student Group, University of Florida, Gainesville 2024

Panelist, Environmental Science Alliance, undergraduate student group, University of Florida, Gainesville 2024

Committee Member, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences Teaching and Advising Awards Committee, University of Florida, Gainesville 2024

Organizer and Moderator, School of Natural Resources and Environment, Alumni Panel Discussion, University of Florida, Gainesville 2024

Committee Member, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences Teaching and Advising Awards Committee, University of Florida, Gainesville 2023

Organizer and Moderator, How to Prepare for your Qualifying Exam, University of Florida, Gainesville 2023

Organizer, School of Natural Research and Environment Research Symposium, University of Florida, Gainesville 2023

Member and Organizer, Helicopter Science Student Committee. Just International Science: Reimagining Collaborations. International Center, University of Florida: workshops on fieldwork in international settings 2023

Interdisciplinary Ecology Connector, School for Natural Resources and Environment, University of Florida: select, small group of Interdisciplinary Ecology graduate students who assist new graduate students 2023

SERVICE AS REVIEWER

***Ad hoc* referee**, *Conservation Biology* (1) 2026

***Ad hoc* referee**, *Frontiers in Conservation Science* (1) 2026

***Ad hoc* referee**, *Brazilian Journal of Mammalogy* (1) 2025

***Ad hoc* referee**, *Floram* (1) 2021

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record, Environmental Science Lab (EVS 3000L), School of Natural Resources and Environment, University of Florida 2025

Curriculum development, Just International Science: Advancing Ethical and Equitable Research, co-developed, University of Florida 2025

Participant, "Preparing Future Faculty". The Graduate School, Office of Postdoctoral Affairs and Center for Teaching Excellence, University of Florida 2025

Participant, "TA Passport to great teaching", University of Florida 2025

Teacher, Colégio Arcanjo (Private high school), São Miguel Arcanjo, Brazil: Biology teacher for high school and elementary school 2009

LANGUAGES: English (fluent), Portuguese (native)