

## ABOUT THE AUTHORS

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**LUIS FERNANDO ABITIA.** Research Assistant and Academic Assistant to the Office of the Provost at El Colegio de la Frontera Norte. His research topic is water resource management and policy in the U.S.-Mexico border region and environmental policy analysis. He holds a Master's degree in Integral Environmental Management from El Colegio de la Frontera Norte and has lectured for the Masters Program in Sustainable Development at the Center for Technical and Higher Learning (CETyS) in Baja California.

**GUSTAVO ALANIS ORTEGA.** Gustavo Alanis Ortega is President of the Mexican Center for Environmental Law (CEMDA) and Professor of Environmental Law at the Universidad Iberoamericana in Mexico City since January 1994. He holds a Master's degree in International Law from the American University, Washington College of Law in Washington D.C.

**CESAR CANTÚ AYALA.** César Cantú is Professor-Researcher at the Autonomous University of Nuevo León (UANL), School of Forest Sciences. He is a member of the National System of Researchers, level I, from the National Council on Science and Technology (CONACYT). He holds a rer nat doctorate specializing in Zoology from the University of Vienna, School of Natural and Formal Sciences, in Austria and spent a sabbatical with Dr. Michael Scott, at the University of Idaho, US. Since 2007, he is acting President of the Committee on Natural Protected Areas, State Forest Council of Nuevo León; and President of the Commission on Natural Protected Areas of the Flora and Fauna Wildlife Advisory Board in Nuevo León

since 1994. He was Chairman of the UANL School of Forest Sciences from 1993 through 1996, and advisor on natural protected areas for the State Governments of Nuevo León, Tamaulipas, Durango and Coahuila from 2000 to 2007. His research includes determining criteria for establishing protected areas, and conservation gaps and omissions in Mexico at multiple scales.

**LYNDSAY CARLISLE.** Lyndsay Carlisle is a candidate in her third year for a Bachelor's Degree in Urban Studies and Planning at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). She wrote this impact essay as a Summer Intern in 2007 at the National Institute of Ecology (INE) in Mexico City. Currently, she is working between MIT and Lawrence, Massachusetts with the MIT@Lawrence Program as a part of a practicum class which emphasizes hands-on learning and community-institutional partnership. She is working with the City of Lawrence, a community-based organization, and other MIT students and faculty to generate research for the Lawrence Neighborhood Revitalization Plan, which will in turn be part of an application for a Community Development Block Grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

**JOSÉ LUIS CASTRO RUIZ.** He is a Professor-Researcher at the Northeast Regional General Office of El Colegio de la Frontera Norte in Monterrey, Nuevo León. He holds a PhD in Regional and Urban Planning from the University of Southern California in Los Angeles, California, and he is a member of the National System of Researchers. His research areas and interests include urban development in the U.S.-Mexico border, urban public works and urban water management in the region, as well as cross-border management of this resource. He has published several works in English and in Spanish on the topics mentioned above. In his professional career, he has been Director of the Department of Urban and Environmental Studies, Provost and General Director of Academic Affairs at El Colegio de la Frontera Norte in Monterrey, Nuevo León. He has also worked as a consultant for various government levels in Mexico and the United States.

**ANA CÓRDOVA.** Director General for Research on Ecological Land-Use Planning and Ecosystems Conservation at the National Institute of Ecology, the research branch of the federal Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources in Mexico. Prior to this position she worked as a consultant for the Commission for Environmental Cooperation of North America and The Nature Conservancy; as Director of the Center of Environmental Quality at the Technological Institute of Monterrey in Chihuahua; and as a technical analyst at the General Directorate of Rural Development of the State Government of Chihuahua, Mexico, among other positions. She holds a bachelor's degree in Biology from Harvard University and a Master's and Doctoral degree in Natural Resource Policy and Management from Cornell

University. Her research and professional interests include land-use planning, collaborative natural resource management, conflict management, urban sustainability, solid waste management, and alternative technologies.

**CARLOS A. DE LA PARRA.** A Research Professor at El Colegio de la Frontera Norte (El COLEF) since 1986, is currently the Provost at this institution. He holds a PhD in Environmental Planning from the University of Michigan, with 18 years experience in the field of sustainable development, water resource and environmental management, and environmental public policy in the U.S.-Mexico Border. First Director of the Decentralized System for Sewage Treatment and Water Reuse in Urban Areas (SIDETRAN), known today as Ecoparque at El COLEF, from 1986 to 1994. From 2002-2006 he worked at the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT), first as the Federal Regional Officer in Baja California and then as Ministry Representative in the United States during his tenure as Minister at the Mexican Embassy in Washington, D.C.

**EXEQUIEL EZCURRA.** Exequiel Ezcurra holds a PhD in Science; he is a researcher and ecologist by profession and a teacher by vocation. Exequiel has dedicated his life to conservation, particularly of the deserts in Mexico and the Gulf of California. He has contributed to the knowledge and conservation of nature through his work in research, public service, information campaigns, museography and scientific cinematography. Recently, he was President of the National Institute of Ecology and he is the current Director of the Biodiversity Research Center of the Californias and Provost for the San Diego Natural History Museum. Throughout his career, he has written and edited over 100 publications and has received many awards for his work, such as the Conservation Biology Award from the Society for Conservation Biology in 1994 and the Pew Fellowship in 2006 (the foremost award worldwide for marine conservation).

**PAUL GANSTER.** Paul Ganster is Professor of History, Director of the Institute for Regional Studies of the Californias, and Associate Director of the Office of International Programs at San Diego State University. He is author of more than fifty papers, book chapters, and edited works on policy issues on the U.S.-Mexican border region, border environmental issues, Latin American social history, and comparative border studies. He is co-author with David Lorey of *The U.S.-Mexican Border into the Twenty-First Century* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2008). He has been a Fulbright Lecturer in Costa Rica and consultant on programmatic development for the United States Information Agency at universities in Mexico, Bolivia, Costa Rica, and Ecuador. Ganster has also been a visiting professor at the Autonomous University of Baja California, School of Economics in Tijuana, Mexico. He earned his B.A. from Yale University and his Ph.D. from UCLA. He

is chair of the Good Neighbor Environmental Board, a federal panel that advises the president and congress on environmental issues along the U.S.-Mexico border, and the Committee on Binational Regional Opportunities (COBRO) of the San Diego Association of Governments. Dr. Gangster is also chair of the Management Committee for the Southwest Consortium for Environmental Research and Policy (SCERP) and a member of the Environment and Health Committee of the Border Trade Alliance.

**MARY KELLY.** Mary Kelly is a Senior Attorney and Co-Director of the Land, Water and Wildlife Program at Environmental Defense. Environmental Defense is a national organization in the United States that combines law, science and economics to find cost-effective and lasting solutions to our most pressing environmental problems. Environmental Defense's Texas office, located in Austin, was established in 1990. Ms. Kelly has almost 20 years of experience as an environmental lawyer in Texas, having worked in private practice and the not-for-profit sector. She manages major Environmental Defense projects to protect and restore habitat, rivers and coastal deltas across the U.S. Ms. Kelly joined Environmental Defense in October 2002, following 11 years as Executive Director of the Texas Center for Policy Studies. Earlier in her career, she was a partner at Henry, Kelly & Lowerre and other firms, representing citizens and local governments in a wide variety of environmental matters. She is a frequent speaker at state and national legal conferences.

**PATRICIA KOLEFF.** Patricia Koleff joined the National Commission for the Knowledge and Use of Biodiversity (Conabio) in 1994. Since September of 2003 she has been Director of Analysis and Priorities at Conabio, leading programs such as the coordination of the Second Country Study, analysis of conservation gaps and omissions, invasive exotic species, repatriation of collections data from abroad, as well as providing information and advice to various sectors through the National Information System on Biodiversity. She has also worked at Conabio as Assistant Director of Biotic Inventories (1996 to 1999) and External Services and Analysis Coordinator (2002-2003). She earned her Bachelor's in Biology and her Master's degree at UNAM, where she also served as faculty in the biology undergraduate program at the Zaragoza School for Higher Learning and the Certificate in Compared Biology at the School of Sciences. She has taught several courses on use and management of biodiversity information, in Mexico and in other countries in Latin America. She earned her doctorate on beta-diversity patterns at Sheffield University, United Kingdom. She has participated in over 40 national and international conferences and has published over 25 research and popular science papers as well as book chapters. She is a member of the National System of Researchers, level I, since 2003. Her research focuses on biodiversity information

management, and macroecological spatial patterns and processes of biological diversity, its determinants and implications for conservation.

**ANDRÉS LIRA-NORIEGA.** Andrés Lira-Noriega earned his Bachelor's degree in Biology and Master's in Science degree at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), School of Sciences, Mexico City. He has specialized in the description and analysis of species diversity at multiple spatial scales. He is interested in factors that determine species richness at local and regional levels as well as the evaluation and assessment of beta-diversity, as related to ecological niche theory. He has participated in various national and international conferences and has published over five research and popular science papers. He currently works at the National Commission for the Knowledge and Use of Biodiversity (Conabio) in the analysis of conservation gaps and omissions, as well as an Analyst for the Second Country Study, an evaluation of the status of biodiversity knowledge in Mexico, its conservation and loss, sustainable use and relationship with human wellbeing.

**RURIK LIST.** Rurik List is Associate Researcher at the Ecology Institute of the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM). He holds a doctorate in ecology from Oxford University, England. In 1989 he started working on conservation of North American grassland carnivores, with the black-footed ferret. Since 1994 he has been studying grasslands and their conservation in northeastern Chihuahua, particularly on the prairie dog ecosystem and other carnivores and endangered species typical of this ecosystem.

**EDUARDO MORALES.** Coordinator of Information and External Services at the National Commission for the Knowledge and Use of Biodiversity (Conabio). He earned his Bachelor's degree and PhD in Science at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), and he is a member of the National System of Researchers. His research interests are population ecology and biodiversity conservation. He has worked as an Associate Professor at the Ecology Institute at UNAM and the National Polytechnic Institute, Mexico. At Conabio he is the data manager of the National Information System on Biodiversity and provides technical information and data to various system users such as the government, academia and non-government organizations working on topics related to biodiversity.

**HÉCTOR MOYA MORENO.** He is the Head of the Community Ecology Department at the National Institute of Ecology (INE). Before joining INE, he worked as Technical Evaluation Liaison for the Office of Wildlife, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (2006) and as professor / researcher at the University of the Sea, in Puerto Escondido, Oaxaca, during 2002-2003. He holds a Master's in Science from the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM). He is

interested on the effects of habitat structure, food availability on bird community assembly and structure, and the evaluation of temperate forests in the Trans-Mexican Volcanic Belt.

**EDUARDO PETERS.** He is a Biologist and PhD Candidate in Ecology by the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM). He has worked on several projects in natural resource ecology, conservation, sustainable management and restoration, with emphasis on the Mexico's arid regions. His interest in teaching and science education has lead him to lecture at several universities and publish diverse writings on biodiversity and environmental conservation. Since 2001 he works at the National Institute of Ecology and is the current Director of Ecosystem Conservation.

**HUGO RIEMANN.** He earned a doctorate in Ecology from the Ecology Institute of the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM). He is a Professor/Researcher at the Department of Urban and Environmental Studies, El Colegio de la Frontera Norte, since 1992. He is a member of the National System of Researchers. His main lines of research are related to conservation, ecology and biogeography of arid regions. He has worked on the distribution and status of endemic flora in the Baja California Peninsula and the development of new conservation proposals based on the integration of biotic and cultural resources. He teaches graduate courses in Conservation Biology and Multivariate Statistics.

**JUAN MANUEL RODRÍGUEZ ESTEVES.** He is the Director of the Department of Urban and Environmental Studies at El Colegio de la Frontera Norte. He holds a PhD in Social Sciences specializing in Social Anthropology, from the Center for Research and Higher Learning in Social Anthropology (CIESAS Western Unit). In recent years, he has studied environmental border issues and most recently the anthropology of disasters, with special emphasis in the U.S.-Mexico border region.

**OSCAR ROMO.** He is the Director of the Coastal Training Program National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) located at the Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve, Imperial Beach, California, US. Since 2000 he is a professor at the University of California San Diego Division of Urban Studies and Planning where he teaches sustainable development and global urban systems. He has over 30 years of teaching experience at universities in Mexico, Spain, and the United States where he earned his Master's degree in computer science and is currently pursuing a doctorate degree. In 1995 he was elected and has remained member of the National Advisory Council for Sustainable Development of the Ministry of the Environmet and Natural Resources in Mexico. He was member of the Advisory Council of the Commission for Border Ecological Cooperation from its start in 1995 to 2004. He has been a delegate to the UN Sustainable Develop-

ment Commission; in 2003 he was named member of the Citizens' Forum of the International Boundary and Water Commission. Last April he was distinguished as "Environmentalist of the Year" by the Environmental Protection Agency of the US.

**PABLO URIBE MALAGAMBA.** Pablo Uribe is the Northeastern representative for the Mexican Center for Environmental Law. He has a law degree from the Universidad Iberoamericana in Mexico City.

**TANIA URQUIZA-HAAS.** Tania helps coordinate the Analysis of Conservation Gaps and Omissions and the Second Country Study, at the National Commission for the Knowledge and Use of Biodiversity (Conabio). She earned her Bachelor's degree in Biology at the School of Sciences, National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), and her PhD in Ecology at the University of East Anglia in the United Kingdom. Her research has focused on evaluating the effects that human disruptions have on the composition and structure of biotic communities in tropical rainforests. She has participated in various national and international conferences and has published three research and educational papers.

**D. RICK VAN SCHOIK.** Managing Director of the Southwest Consortium for Environmental Research and Policy (CIPAS/SCERP) Since 1998 he has been the first and only Executive Director of CIPAS/SCERP and is a Professor of Environmental Security at the International Security and Conflict Resolution Program, Sand Diego State University, US. He has a demonstrated capacity to manage and develop funding proposals for multidisciplinary, binational environmental research on ecological issues, water resources, energy and public health such as thre multi-year, multimillion contract with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) of the United States. He earned his Master's in Science at San Diego Stae University, and bachelor's degree in oceanography and engineering at the United States Naval Academy. He serves in the Advisory Board of several organizations for environmental education, transportation and energy. Rick has written and edited several chapters of the SCERP monography series and has published papers in research journals, professional and general interest magazines.

