



CVB News

New Year, New Students!



We kicked off 2024 with our newest cohort of study abroad students from Stony Brook University, University of Albany, NYU, and the University of Antananarivo. The group joined us at CVB to conduct independent anthropological and ecological research in and around Ranomafana National Park. Their research topics, ranging from an analysis of local elder care practices and children's perceptions of nature to frog vocalizations and chameleon hunting tactics, showed a tremendous amount of dedication and curiosity. The application deadline for our [Summer in Madagascar](#) program is coming up, so be sure to share the [program information](#) with your network, including any interested friends and students!

Building a Data Crucible



Have you ever wondered where the 30+ years of data collected at CVB goes? Our data management team has been hard at work developing a "data crucible" — a digital repository of all sorts of media, data, and primary records dating back to the 1980s. As the team continues building out the infrastructure for the data crucible in the coming months and years, we will be making these historical and current datasets accessible to registered users and able to be easily filtered and analyzed for the very first time. Among the datasets currently being cleaned and digitally preserved are decades of behavioral studies on the Milne-Edwards sifaka groups in Ranomafana National Park, extensive climatological data, and comprehensive genomic data on local biodiversity.

Insights from Ivohiboro

We're continuing our monthly *Spotlight on Ivohiboro Protected Area* with more updates on the ongoing research taking place at this unique site in southwestern Madagascar:



Dr. Edmund Basham joined the expedition to the Ivohiboro Protected Area to survey the forest canopy for reptiles and amphibians: "I use ropes and a harness to ascend the trees during the night when frogs are active and reptiles are easier to catch. In the canopy at night I found many incredible sleeping chameleons (e.g. *Calumma nasutum* and *C. oshaungnessyi*), snakes out hunting (e.g. *Comsophis infralineatus*), and nocturnal leaf-tailed geckos running across trunks and branches (e.g. *Uroplatus malahelo*). Working with Matteo Masotti of Stony Brook University and with the help of brilliant local assistants Michele and Denis we collected important ecological data which will help us understand how the community may be affected by climate change, as dry periods like the one we sampled through become more likely in future."

Dr. Andrzej Kepel and Aleksandra Lange from the Polish Society for Nature Conservation

"Salamandra" study the bats within the caves of Ivohiboro Protected Area. The team found a group of the Madagascan fruit bat *Eidolon dupreanum* high up on a cliff—the first confirmed sighting of this species in the area. Two other species, *Triaenops menamena* and *Myotis goudotii*, were found in the largest cave in Ivohiboro, sitting at an altitude of 1,400 meters above sea level. Finding a population of *T. menamena* here shifts the known range and altitude of occurrence for this species, which is typically found at around 500 meters above sea level!



Photos courtesy of Edmund Basham and Andrzej Kepel respectively

In case you missed it...



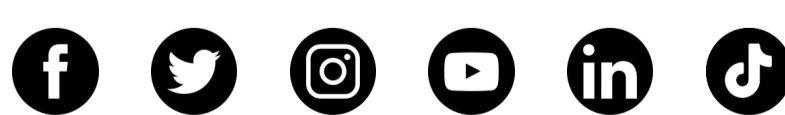
mammal watching

Be sure to check out the new podcast from [Mammal Watching](#), featuring and interview with CVB Founder and Executive director Dr. Patricia Wright. Show hosts Jon Hall & Charles Foley discuss Patricia's dedication to the lemurs of Madagascar and the importance of integrated conservation. Available to [stream on the Mammal Watching website](#) or any podcast platform!

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Study Abroad at CVB

2022 Annual Report



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