



**UF** Center for  
Latin American Studies  
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

  
Tropical Conservation &  
Development Program

*Join us for Tropilunch!!*

## **Strengthening collaborations with local partners in the Isiboro Secure Indigenous Territory and National Park (TIPNIS, Bolivia) through the TCD Field Research Grant, Practicum, and Practitioners Experience Program**

By Andrea Baudoin  
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**February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017**  
**12:45 - 1:45pm**  
**Grinter 376**

**Content:** The Bolivian Constitution of 2009 recognizes the right of indigenous peoples to define their autonomy at municipal or territorial level. Indigenous autonomy constitutes a privileged space for indigenous peoples to enact their own development models, providing a unique opportunity to enhance grassroots development. However, the implementation of pluralistic political organization is slow and there are still numerous socio-environmental conflicts involving vulnerable indigenous populations in Bolivia. Recently, a road project that would bisect the Isiboro Sécure Indigenous Territory and National Park (TIPNIS), has generated tensions between the government and the indigenous that collectively own the territory. The aim of my doctoral research is to contribute to the understanding of both indigenous people and the State's conceptions of autonomy, particularly in what pertains to natural resource governance. In this presentation, I discuss how I have used TCD support to conduct preliminary research but also to strengthen collaborations with local partners in Bolivia.

**Biography:** Andrea is a second year PhD student in Interdisciplinary Ecology, jointly funded by the TCD program and the School for Natural Resources and Environment (SNRE). She has a Master's degree in compared agriculture and rural development (AgroParisTech, France) and a bachelors' degree in agronomic engineering (AgroParisTech and University of São Paulo, Brazil). She has conducted research on family farming, commercialization systems and public policy in Bolivia and Ecuador with NGOs and international research institutes (such as Agronomists and Veterinarians without Borders AVSF, the Research Center on Labor and Agrarian Development CEDLA, or the Research Institute for Development IRD). She is also interested in education and has taught at the Graduate School of Development Sciences (CIDES-UMSA) and the Carmen Pampa Peasant Academic Unit (UACP-UCB) in Bolivia. Her current research interests focus on indigenous autonomy, natural resource governance and socio-environmental conflicts.

*Tropilunch is a weekly seminar run by graduate students from the Tropical Conservation and Development (TCD) Program. It provides a forum for a range of discussions and presentations related to TCD work and research. Students are provided with an opportunity to present and discuss their research projects with peers and faculty. In addition, discussion sessions on issues of current interest are also held. Visiting scholars and conservation practitioners also participate when available. It is held every Tuesday at 12:45 p.m. in Grinter 376.*

*\*Tropilunch presentations are recorded weekly and can be found on [TCD's YouTube Channel!](#)\**