



## Natalia Rossi

Country Manager  
WCS Cuba

Natalia oversees all of the work happening in Cuba, from office to field work.

**Education:** Four years of college. Six more years of schooling to get a PhD to become a country manager.

## About me

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I have worked with local governmental and non-governmental organizations to promote biodiversity conservation in Cuba. I have been involved in coastal and crocodile conservation in Cuba since 2009. Since then, I have carried out conservation projects in Cuba in collaboration with WCS, Columbia University, the American Museum of Natural History, and several local stakeholders. I have also led numerous expeditions, facilitated workshops, and assisted other types of academic exchanges between the USA and Cuba. As country manager, I lead the development of WCS Cuba program to help strengthen Cuba's protected areas management, conserve the country's outstanding coral reefs, and promote sustainable fisheries. Importantly, within the program, I collaborate in efforts to conserve and manage Cuban crocodiles.

## Typical Day

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In the office, I plan and write projects, follow up on existing projects, and analyze and write up research results. My favorite part of office work is to witness my colleague's efforts and dedication to conservation. It never ceases to inspire and amaze me! In the field, everything is fast-paced and exciting. With teams of researchers, rangers and protected area managers, we go deep into remote areas to map and monitor species and ecosystems. One of the most exciting parts of the fieldwork is to go underwater, diving or snorkeling, to assess coral reefs. The field is the place where we witness firsthand the incredible biodiversity, but also their threats.

## Fun Facts

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**Bingeworthy Show:** Downton Abbey and BBC Planet Earth

**Favorite Influencer:** Angelica Menchaca and Sangeeta Mangubhai

**Favorite Meme:** Drake memes

**Hobby:** Drawing and hiking



WCS  
Education

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