

RENUKA KULKARNI

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Career Objective

I'm passionate about integrating science with journalism, historical research, and past and present socio-cultural-ecological networks to dispel misinformation and lack of information around current environmental problems. I hope to continue to be a scientist & a science journalist, since one cannot exist without the other

Additional Skills

Research
Creative & academic writing
Editing
Archival documentation

Work Experience

Dec, 2021 - present
Mongabay India

Editorial Coordinator

Role involves assisting and coordinating with the managing editor and program coordinator of Mongabay India to ensure a smooth workflow and efficient teamwork. Production & editing of book reviews

June 2019 - Dec, 2021

Freelance writer and editor

Articles published in *The Wire*, *Research Matters* and *Connect@IISc*. Edited & published two books: *The Secret Life of Conservationists* – compiled by Jessie Panazzolo (Oct 2021) and *How To Conserve Conservationists* (2nd edition) – Jessie Panazzolo (Sept 2021)

Dec, 2018 - May, 2019
Ashoka Trust for
Research in Ecology
& Environment,
Bengaluru

Science writer

Involved in producing popular articles for publication in print and online and conducting interviews with ATREE researchers to help them “tell a story”

Feb - Nov, 2018
Archives, National
Centre for Biological
Sciences, Bengaluru

Research Assistant

Responsibilities included developing and editing finding aids for the archival collections, setting up the NCBS Archives facility for the public, and creating biographical profiles of previous NCBS scientists like Obaid Siddiqi, K S Krishnan and Ravi Sankaran

June - Sept, 2017
NICE lab, National
Centre for Biological
Sciences, Bengaluru

Intern

Worked with Dr Shannon Olsson on two research projects, involving a series of chemical and behavioural analyses. Published as co-author on one study

June, 2015 - Sept, 2016
The Times of India,
Pune

Copy editor

Editions – Nashik and Aurangabad. Responsibilities included editing and rewriting of news reports, designing graphics and page designing

Education

June, 2019- present
Rhodes University,
South Africa

PhD scholar (part-time, not in attendance)

Thesis title: A Political Ecology History of Invasive Plants in Pune, India: Introductions, Discourses & Presence since the 19th Century

2015 - 2017
Abasaheb Garware
college,
University of Pune

M.Sc Biodiversity

CGPA – 7.3

2014 - 2015
Times School of
Journalism, New Delhi

PG diploma in Journalism & Mass communication

Graduated first class

2011 - 2014
Fergusson college,
University of Pune

B.Sc. (hons.) Zoology

CGPA – 8.4

Awards & certifications

2017

Participant – 7th Annual Science Journalism workshop, NCBS, Bengaluru

Best Poster – Young Ecologists Talk & Interact (YETI)