






PERSONAL INFORMATION

Polona Pengal



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POSITION

Research Associate at Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia

WORK EXPERIENCE

6 Dec 2009–Present

Marine Fisheries Scientist

Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia, Ljubljana (Slovenia)

- Leading the National Fisheries Resources Monitoring Program
- Leading the National By-Catch and Discard Program according to the DCF
- Slovenian representative at SOLEMON project, actively participating in the field survey
- Slovenian representative at the GFCM and AdriaMed Working Groups on Small Pelagic Fish
- Slovenian representative for the MSFD Descriptor 3
- Leading and participating in research projects

10 Jul 2012–21 Jul 2012

Working Menthor

Marine Biology Station Piran, National Institute of Biology, Piran (Slovenia)

As a guest I participated in a summer school organized by the Marine Biology Station in 2012. My job was to provide guidance to a group of Dutch students working on a research topic: Estimation of a spawning stock biomass of anchovy.

Jul 2007–Apr 2008

Laboratory Assistant

Marine Biology Station Piran, National Institute of Biology, Piran (Slovenia)

- screening of benthos samples- stingray stomach content determination

Feb 2008–Jul 2009

Lifeguard

Atlantis Vodno mesto

Sep 2008–Dec 2008

Volunteer Fish Scientist

Global Vision International, Mahahual (Mexico)

- fish determination
- underwater visual census- teaching English to local residents

Apr 2008–Aug 2009

Lifeguard

BTC City Vodno mesto Atlantis, Ljubljana (Slovenia)

I was working as a lifeguard at the Atlantis swimming pool complex.

Sep 2006–Jun 2007

Technical Assistant

Elementary School Janko Kersnik

I worked as a technical assistant for the practical exercises at the classes of Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

19 Jan 2015–23 Jan 2015

STECF Independent Fisheries Expert

European Commission, STECF, Rome (Italy)

As an independent expert I attended the Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF) meeting on EWG 14 19 on Mediterranean Assessments - Part 2.

Oct 2008–Sep 2013

Professional Doctorate, Doctor of Biology

EQF level 8

University of Ljubljana, Biotechnical Faculty, Ljubljana (Slovenia)

- Freshwater and Marine Ecology
- Freshwater and Marine Conservation
- Fish Farming

14 Jun 2010–18 Jun 2010

ICES Training Course on Stock Assessment Introduction

ICES, Copenhagen (Denmark)

Stock Assessment

26 Jan 2015–30 Jan 2015

R course Introduction

FAO AdriaMed Project, Rome (Italy)

I attended a week long introduction course on the use of R - a free software environment for statistical computing and graphics.

27 Sep 2010–30 Sep 2010

Workshop on Daily Egg Production Method

FAO AdriaMed Project, Kotor (Montenegro)

- stock assessment of anchovy by the use of the Daily Egg Production Method
- sampling requirements and processing, results analysis

Jul 2008–Jul 2008

Conservation Biologist

Croatian Biology Society, Rovinj (Croatia)

- Nature Conservation
- Human Dimensions in Conservation Biology

Sep 2001–18 Jun 2007

Graduate of Biology

EQF level 6

University of Ljubljana, Biotechnical Faculty, Biology Department, Ljubljana (Slovenia)

- Taxonomy and Ecology- Biology Exploration and Research

PERSONAL SKILLS

Mother tongue(s)

Slovenian

Other language(s)

UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
Listening	Reading	Spoken interaction	Spoken production	

English	C1	C2	B2	B2	B2
IELTS - IELTS - International English Language Testing System T.E.F.L. - Teaching English as a Foreign Language					
Croatian	B2	B2	B1	A2	B1
Italian	A2	A2	A1	A1	A1

Levels: A1 and A2: Basic user - B1 and B2: Independent user - C1 and C2: Proficient user
Common European Framework of Reference for Languages

Communication skills

I am an extroverted person who quickly connects to people and likes to work in a team. The vast majority of my communication skills I gained through my involvement in international working groups, attendance of training courses and work at international field surveys. I also worked as a teacher of English language to children with learning problems and I regularly hold presentations both in my mother tongue and in English at different meetings, working groups, etc.

Organisational / managerial skills

I have good experience with organizing field work mostly because I enjoy it and because I always try to improve on the experience by including the attending staff in the preparatory phase and the performance analysis after the work has been done. I am a resourceful person who quickly finds a solution to any problem. To do that I like to consult my colleagues for their suggestions and comments because I believe a different perspective can give new ideas and the solution that suits everybody is the best.

I led a 3-year project which required extensive field sampling with a team of more than 10 people. In addition the project had to be coordinated with a partner Institute and a Mariculture Operations at which the project was taking place.

I am currently leading a project where I lead 4 people and several other tasks where I have to coordinate 3 - 5 people. I also participate on a project which involves 3 institutions and more than 20 people.

Job-related skills

Lifeguarding, Electrofishing, Rescue Diver, Coral Reef Research Diver, Underwater Photography Diver, Marine Biology, Research, Ecology, Fisheries, Fish, Biology, Sampling, Field Work, Aquaculture, Coastal, Science, Environmental Science, Environmental Awareness

I have a broad biological background, but ever since the start of my postgraduate study I have been specializing in aquatic ecology, conservation and management. From 2010 to 2013 I led and worked extensively on the project "Determining biological and ecological characteristics and seasonal dynamics of certain commercially important fish species in the Portorož Fisheries Reserve" which was also my PhD thesis completed in September 2013. A large part of my work represents organizing and conducting field trips for collecting fisheries by-catch and discard samples. My other tasks include attending international coordination meetings for stock assessment and otolith reading and taking part in preparation of National Fisheries Programs and Reports to the national Ministry and European Commission. To further my knowledge of aquatic biology I attended multiple training courses during my graduate study (see the sections on Academic Information and Work Experience) and I continue to do so. During my work at the FRIS I attended the following courses: Electro-fishing training, Basic Security in the Field, ICES Stock Assessment Course and Daily egg production method for the appraisal of small pelagic fisheries resources in the Adriatic Sea.

Computer skills

- proficient user of office suite
- good command of electronic communication
- basic user of GIS software

Other skills

Martial Arts, Inline Hockey, Softball, Diving, Fishing, Guitar

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Projects

Determining biological and ecological characteristics and seasonal dynamics of certain commercially important fish species in the Portorož Fisheries Reserve | 6/2010 - 9/2013
Technical properties of purse seines targeting small pelagic species in the Adriatic Sea and

impact of their use on marine environment | 3/2014 - 3/2015

Preliminary survey of ichtioplankton in the Slovenian Coastal Sea for the purpose of developing The protocol for sampling | 5/2014 - 10/2014

Developing the expert opinion on habitat conservation of huchen populations in the Central Savea River. | 10/2014

Honours and awards

Courses

- School of Conservation Biology**
- Marine Conservation Expedition in Mexico**
- Introduction to R**
- Daily Egg Production Method**

- ICES Stock Assesment**
- Electrofishing**

Certifications