

Curriculum vitae – Fiona Jane White

University education

- **2020 – 2024 University of Pavia, Italy**
PhD in Earth and Environmental Sciences
Title: Integrating ex situ seed conservation and plant translocations in the context of climate change
- **2017 – 2019 Uppsala University, Sweden**
MSc in Biology (Ecology and Conservation)
- **2004 – 2008 University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom**
BSc (Honours) 2:1 in Molecular Biology

Academic employment

- **Postdoctoral Researcher (RTDa), Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy, November 2024 – current**
Responsibilities include carrying out research; teaching on PhD, master and bachelor courses; student supervision; data collection in the field and laboratory; performing statistical analyses; and writing scientific papers. My research focuses on the topics of climate change in mountain areas and the impacts on plant ecology, functional traits (including seed traits), biodiversity, and nature conservation in collaboration with interdisciplinary and international teams.
- **Research Fellow, University of Pavia, Italy, October 2023 – October 2024**
One year contract working on the project SENTINEL – The reSponsEs of Italian mouNTaIN Ecosystems to cLimate change.

Scientific publications

- Ensslin A et al. (over 100 authors). 2026. Status and future of seed conservation of threatened plants in the post-2020 era. *Plants, People, Planet* DOI: 10.1002/ppp3.70177
- Tognela M, Porro F, Lodetti S, White FJ, Rossi G, Petraglia A, Maresca V, Rosbakh S, Mondoni A. 2025. Alpine plants with short-lived seeds have declined over the past two decades. *Alpine Botany* DOI: 10.1007/s00035-025-00346-y
- Rosbakh S, Porro F, Abeli T, Di Cecco V, Erschbamer B, Fernández-Calzado R, Jimenez-Alfaro B, Lodetti S, Lorite J, Moser D, Orsenigo S, Pauli H, Petraglia A, Rossi G, Saccone P, Stanisci A, White FJ, Winkler M, Mondoni A. 2025. Understanding long-term abundance shifts in European alpine plants through the lenses of functional seed trait ecology. *Diversity and Distributions* 31: e70047 DOI: 10.1111/ddi.70047
- White FJ, Asnaghi M, Orengo M, Abeli T, Rossi G, Mondoni A. 2025. Can 20-year-old stored seeds be used for plant translocation? An investigation of the arctic-alpine specialist *Viscaria alpina*. *Restoration Ecology* 33(7): e70096 DOI: 10.1111/rec.70096
- Godefroid S et al. (over 60 authors). 2025. Current state of plant conservation

translocations across Europe: motivations, challenges and outcomes. *Biodiversity and Conservation* 34: 769-792 DOI: 10.1007/s10531-025-03013-0

- White FJ, Mondoni A, Corli A, Shrestha BB, Rossi G, Orsenigo S. 2024. An investigation into the potential for upward range expansion in high-montane species on the roof of the world. *Plant Biology* 26(3): 390-397 DOI: 10.1111/plb.13630
- White FJ, Rosbakh S, Orsenigo S, Mondoni A. 2023. Fit for the future? Alpine plant responses to climatic stress over two decades of seed bank storage. *Biological Conservation* 286: 110267 DOI: 10.1016/j.biocon.2023.110267
- White FJ, Ensslin A, Godefroid S, Faruk A, Abeli T, Rossi G, Mondoni A. 2023. Using stored seeds for plant translocation: The seed bank perspective. *Biological Conservation* 281: 109991 DOI: 10.1016/j.biocon.2023.109991
- Pagano A, Doria E, Mondoni A, White FJ, Balestrazzi A, Macovei A. 2023. Oxidant and antioxidant profiling in *Viscaria alpina* seed populations following the temporal dynamics of an alpine climate. *Seeds* 2(3): 357-369 DOI: 10.3390/seeds2030027
- White FJ, Hay FR, Abeli T, Mondoni A. 2022. Two decades of climate change alters seed longevity in an alpine herb: implications for ex situ seed conservation. *Alpine Botany* 133: 11-20 DOI: 10.1007/s00035-022-00289-8
- Porro F, Orsenigo S, Abeli T, Mondoni A, Corli A, White FJ, Lodetti S, Tomaselli M, Petraglia A, Carbognani M, Gualmini M, Forte TGW, Erschbamer B, Nicklas L, Carnicero P, Mallaun M, Unterluggauer P, Stanisci A, Giancola C, di Martino L, Barni E, Oddi L, Morra di Cella U, Gentili R, Dellavedova R, Adorni M, Pauli H, Rossi G. 2021. Richer, greener, and more thermophilous? – a first overview of global warming induced changes in the Italian alpine plant communities within the new GLORIA ITALIA NETWORK. *Plant Biosystems - An International Journal Dealing with all Aspects of Plant Biology* 156: 307-311 DOI: 10.1080/11263504.2021.1992527

Teaching

- Free University of Bozen-Bolzano courses taught:
 - Statistical methods for agricultural and environmental research for PhD students in the Faculty of Agriculture, Environmental and Food Sciences.
 - Grassland and alpine vegetation ecology and management, previously Applied botany, in the master's degree Environmental Management of Mountain Areas (EMMA).
 - Plant biodiversity and environmental impact assessment in the bachelor's degree Food and Enogastronomy Sciences.
- University of Pavia courses taught in the master's degree Agri-food sustainability:
 - Experimental activities in the field
 - Systematic botany applied to crops

Student supervision

- Co-supervisor of PhD student, Margherita Tognola at the University of Pavia, co-supervision started 2024 - 2026. PhD title: A functional trait approach to study 'losers' and 'winners' of climate change in European alpine plant communities
- Co-supervisor of five master and four bachelor students' theses

Oral presentations at international conferences

- Ecosystem Restoration and Ecosystem Functions Recovery Under Climate Change one-day conference. Hosted by Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy. December 2025.
 - From seed banks to summits: restoring an alpine plant species under climate change
- 15th Biennial International Society for Seed Science Conference/ Seed Ecology VIII. Hosted by Kings Park, Perth, Australia. September 2025.
 - Can 20 year old stored seeds be used for plant translocation? An investigation in the arctic-alpine specialist *Viscaria alpina*
- 3rd International Conference of Young Botanists. Hosted by University of Genoa, Italy. February 2025.
 - Can 20 year old stored seeds be used for plant translocation? An investigation in the arctic-alpine specialist *Viscaria alpina*
- 2nd International Conference of Young Botanists. Hosted by Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy. February 2023.
 - Using stored seeds for plant translocation: the seed bank perspective.
- Seed Ecology VII. Hosted by University of Oviedo, Gijón, Spain. September 2022.
 - Fit for the future: alpine plant responses to climatic stress after 20 years of seed bank conservation.
- 1st International Plant Translocation Conference. Hosted by Roma Tre University, Italy. June 2022.
 - Using banked seeds for plant translocation: the practicalities and challenges.
- 13th Triennial Meeting of the International Society for Seed Science. Hosted by Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, UK (online). August 2021.
 - Seed longevity changes under natural warming: a case study in the arctic-alpine species *Silene suecica* (Lodd.) Greuter and Burdet (Caryophyllaceae).

Poster presentations at international conferences

- 15th Biennial International Society for Seed Science Conference/ Seed Ecology VIII. Hosted by Kings Park, Perth, Australia. September 2025.
 - Genetic diversity and seed traits of endemic species in the eastern European Alps.
- New Phytologist Next Generation Scientists 2023. Hosted by National University of Singapore, Singapore. July 2023.

- Using stored seeds for plant translocation: the seed bank perspective.

Funding awarded

- Passed first application round of Young Researchers grant funded by the Cariplo Foundation, Italy. Application was withdrawn as I received a position at the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano. Project title: A new approach using functional traits to predict alpine plant responses to climate change. June 2024.
- Interdisciplinary residency, Oak Spring Garden Foundation, Virginia, USA. Fully paid residency including \$2,000 USD individual grant. March – April 2024.
- Fully funded position to attend the New Phytologist Next Generation Scientists 2023 conference from the New Phytologist Foundation, including a travel grant. July 2023.
- Erasmus Traineeship Scholarship awarded for MSc degree project. November 2018 – January 2019.

Professional affiliations

- Associate Editor for Plant Ecology journal, since 2025
- Member of the International Society for Seed Science
- Member of European COST Action group CA18201 - An integrated approach to conservation of threatened plants for the 21st Century.

Updated April 2026.