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ABOUT ME

I am a professional field geologist & an ecohydrologist with 11 years' of experience in groundwater aguifer and ecohydrology, management. groundwater resource vulnerability mapping, with a regional foci on arid, semi-arid and forested ecosystems. I am a passionate researcher and work at the intersection of Groundwater Dependent Indigenous Ecosystems, (native) communities and geocognitive mental models to address water security & related risks. My aim is to deconstruct science & bridge gaps that exist between field realties and policy for effective management of common pool resource. My overall goal is to work with less privileged communities and work towards using my research rigour to help communities take ecologically sound paths in restoring their ecosystems.

RENIE THOMAS

ECO-HYDROGEOLOGIST | REFLECTIVE PRACTITIONER

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

▲ Sep 2012 – present

PRINCIPAL GEOLOGIST | Founder

RT's Geological and Environmental (RTGeoEnviron) Consultancy & Research, Pune

May 2018 - Sep 2018

APPLIED FRESHWATER SCIENTIST - Consultant

The Nature Conservancy (TNC), New Delhi

Iul 2015 - Apr 2018

Sr. RESEARCHER (Water & Ecology) - Consultant

Watershed Organisation Trust (WOTR) - Centre for Resilience Studies (W-CReS),

Sep 2014 - Jun 2015

PROJECT OFFICER (Geology) - Consultant

Urdhvam Environmental Technologies Pvt. Ltd., Pune

Mar 2013 - Jan 2014

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE (Water) - Consultant

Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), New Delhi

Oct 2011 - Mar 2013

WATERSHED PROJECT COORDINATOR (Eco-Hydrogeology) - Consultant

Initiatives of Change, India (IofC) - Grampari, Satara

Feb 2011 - Jul 2011

HYDROGEOLOGIST - Consultant

Watershed Organisation Trust (WOTR), Ahmednagar

Oct 2010 - Jan 2011

ASSISTANT QUALITY MANAGER & LABORATORY TECHNICIAN

Accurate Metallurgical Laboratory, Pune

EDUCATION

Apr 2018

ADVANCES IN AQUIFER CHARACTERIZATION & PARAMETER ESTIMATION (Course)

Anna University, Chennai and Freie Universität, Berlin

Jul 2017

SUMMER SCHOOL FOR FUTURE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT LEADERS

Indian Institute of Management (IIM- Udaipur) and the Sanford School of Public Policy at Duke University, USA

FIELD HYDROLOGY (Course)

Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE), Bengaluru

June 2015

INTERDISCIPLINARY SUMMER SCHOOL IN WATER AND SOCIETY

Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE), Bengaluru

2011 - 2012

PG DIPLOMA: SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND NATURE CONSERVATION

Ecological Society, Pune

2008 - 2010

MASTER OF SCIENCE - GEOLOGY

Fergusson College, University of Pune

2005 - 2008

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE - GEOLOGY (Hons.)

Fergusson College, University of Pune

2003 – 2005

1993 - 2003

HIGHER SECONDARY CERTIFICATE

St. Vincent's high School and Junior College (Science), Pune

SECONDARY SCHOOL CERTIFICATE

St. Francis De Sales High School, Pune







RENIE THOMAS

SYSTEMS THINKER | RESEARCHER

SKILLS

WORK

AQUIFER MAPPING
RESEARCH
SCIENCE
COMMUNICATION
WATER QUALITY
DATA ANALYSIS
EIA & RISK ANALYSIS
GIS / RS

RESEARCH INTEREST

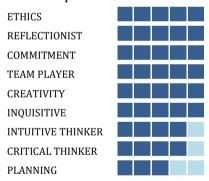
- **Ecology**, Hydrogeology
- Geo-cognition
- Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem
- Isotope hydrology
- Physical Volcanology & Disaster Mitigation

TRAITS

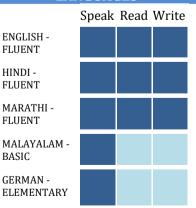
PERSONALITY TYPE:

The Mediator (INFP-T)

ROLE: Diplomat



LANGUAGES



FEATURED PUBLICATIONS

Bajaj, K., **Thomas, R.**, Yadav, A., Datye, A., Chakraborty, S., (2019). Hydrological linkages between different water resources from two contrasting ecosystems of western peninsular India: A stable isotope perspective, Isotopes in Environmental & Health Studies, Volume 55, Issue 6, pp. 1 – 18. https://doi.org/10.1080/10256016.2019.1666121

Thomas, R., Duraisamy, V., (2018). Hydrogeological delineation of groundwater vulnerability to droughts in semi-arid areas of western Ahmednagar district, Egpt. Jrn. Remote Sensing & Space Sciences. Volume 21, Issue 2, pp. 121 - 137. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ejrs.2016.11.008

Buono, J., **Thomas, R.,** Kulkarni, H., Mahamuni, K., Karandikar, M., Ghate, K., Kulkarni, K., Mahesh, N., Ambrale, D., More, A., (2015). Ecohydrologic description of Springs in the North Western Ghats, Maharashtra, Journal of Ecological Society, Vol. 28, pp. 8 – 24. http://dx.doi.org/10.54081/JES.024/02

NON-PEERED REVIEWED

Krishnaswamy, J., Bunyan, M., Solomon, D., Duraisamy, V., Bazaz, A., **Thomas, R.,** (+9 co-authors from African region) (2019). Changing ecosystem services are increasing people's vulnerability in semi-arid regions: an ASSAR cross-regional insight (Report)

PRESENTATION/POSTER

Misquitta, K., **Thomas, R.,** (2021). Moral Geology: Making model villages and model aquifers in western India, Envirolab Conference on 'Placing': New engagements with the 'Environment', University of Pennsylvania, Department of Anthropology.

Thomas, R., Bendapudi, R., Yadav, A., Chemburkar, S., (2018). Adaptation or Maladaptation: Case of farm ponds converted into storage tanks in Maharashtra - Implications for groundwater governance, 5th Adaptations Futures, Cape Town

Mascarenhas, K., **Thomas, R.**, Bazaz, A., (2018). Identifying changing groundwater regimes and ecosystem services of groundwater recharge for a rapidly urbanizing watershed in Bengaluru, India, 5th Adaptations Futures, Cape Town

Thomas, R., Thakur, G., Duraisamy, V., (2016). Ecohydrological status of natural springs in Akole and Sangamner blocks of Ahmednagar district and their significance to environmental flows, 19th International River Symposium, New Delhi

Buono, J., **Thomas, R.,** (2013). Lateritic springs: A threatened resource, Conference on Policy for Conservation and Management of Rocky Plateau Biodiversity, Pune

PROJECTS

List of projects/studies (Academic & Professional) till date – Click here

HOBBIES

Trekking, collecting mineral oddities, reading, cycling, swimming, photography, cooking, drawing, observing animal behaviour and science blogging.