

Aalayna R. Green

Department of Natural Resources & Environment, Cornell University

arg267@cornell.edu | <https://aalayna-green.mystrikingly.com>

SCHOLARLY PROFILE

I study how the dual processes of state-making and race-making unfold through protected areas. I am particularly interested in the effects of these processes on security, governance, and advocacy. My empirical research focuses on the dynamics of environmental peacebuilding as evidenced through conservation projects and initiatives, specifically regarding militarized security efforts and how we can cultivate more just environmental peacebuilding endeavors.

EDUCATION

Cornell University

Ithaca, NY

Ph.D. Candidate in Natural Resources & Environment | anticipated Spring 2026

National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow, Cornell Sloan Graduate Diversity Fellowship, Graduate School Dean's Scholar, Graduate Minor in Feminist, Gender & Sexuality Studies

Dissertation Title: "How Many of Us Had to Die for That Elephant?": A Critical Environmental Justice Analysis of Conservation Violence in Chobe National Park, Botswana

Advisor: Shorna Allred (Geography, University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill)

Committee: N'Dri Assié-Lumumba (Africana Studies, Cornell University), Meredith Gore (Geographical Sciences, University of Maryland), Saida Hodžić (Feminist, Gender & Sexuality Studies, Cornell University), Mordecai Ogada (Conservation Policy, Conservation Solutions Afrika)

Michigan State University

East Lansing, MI

B.S. in Zoology (Ecology, Evolution, & Organismal Biology) | May 2021

Dean's Research Scholar (2019-2021); Undergraduate Research Ambassador (2019-2021); Dean's List (2018-2021); Magna cum laude

HONORS & AWARDS

Cornell University

NSF Graduate Research Fellowship (Awarded)	National Science Foundation	2023
--	-----------------------------	------

Michigan State University

Outstanding Academic Achievement & Promise in Zoology Award	MSU IBIO Department	2021
---	---------------------	------

BFSAA Emerging Leader Award	MSU Black Faculty, Staff & Administrators Association	2021
-----------------------------	---	------

NSF Graduate Research Fellowship (Honorable Mention)	National Science Foundation	2021
--	-----------------------------	------

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed Publications

1. **Green, A. R.** (2025). A critical environmental justice framework for the illegal wildlife trade. *Frontiers in Conservation Science - Special Issue: Advancing the Science of Environmental Justice in the International Wildlife Trade*, 6, doi: 10.3389/fcosc.2025.1535093.

2. **Green, A. R.**, Chakrabarti, S., Shivakumar, S., Hughes, C., Banerjee, S., Kinyanjui, M. W., Mbizah, M. M., Ohrens, O., & Thiemkey, A. R. (2024). Creating constellations of coexistence through connections between people in human-wildlife conflict areas. *Conservation Biology*, 38(6), e14402.
3. **Green, A. R.**, Plowman, C., Mwinyihali, R., Wieland, M., & Gore, M. L. (2024). Women and urban wildmeat trafficking in the Republic of Congo. *Biological Conservation*, 293, 110587. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biocon.2024.110587>
4. Ezell, J. M., Ajayi, B. P., Araia, M., Kim, A., Abouelrous, N., & **Green, A.** (2023). Black girls don't cry? Mental health, gender, and violence on the racialized periphery. *Qualitative Psychology*. Advanced online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1037/qup0000269>
5. **Green, A. R.** (2023). Black Indigeneity & Double Consciousness: Blackness Beyond the Other. The Hills of Hebron - Sylvia Wynter [Special Issue]. *Interviewing the Caribbean*.
6. **Green, A. R.**, Anagnostou, M., Harris, N. C., & Allred, S. B. (2023). Cool Cats & Communities: Exploring the Challenges and Successes of Community-Based Conservation for Felidae Species. *Frontiers in Conservation Science - Special Issue: Women in Human-Wildlife Dynamics*.
7. **Green, A. R.**, Murphy, A., Collison, B. R., Sánchez-Nivicela, M., Anderson, H., Morano, J. L., & Wilkinson, C. (2022). A response to Cafaro, Hansson & Götmark (2022): Shifting the Narrative from Overpopulation to Overconsumption. *Biological Conservation*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biocon.2022.109698>
8. Harris, N. C., Murphy, A., **Green, A. R.**, Gámez, S., Mwamidi, D., & Nunez-Mir, G. C. (2022). Socio-ecological gap analysis to forecast range contractions for conservation planning. *PNAS*.
9. Heinrich, W.F., Louson, E., Blommel, C., & **Green, A.R.** (2021). Who Coaches the Coaches? The Development of a Coaching Model for Experiential Learning. *Innovative Higher Education*, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10755-020-09537-3>.

Book Chapters

10. **Green, A. R.** (2025). *Encyclopedia of Environmental Crime*, 1st ed, s.v. "Conservation Colonization". Edward Elgar Publishing.
11. **Green, A. R.** (2025). *Encyclopedia of Environmental Crime*, 1st ed, s.v. "Conservation Justice". Edward Elgar Publishing.
12. **Green, A.R.** (2025). *Encyclopedia of Environmental Crime*, 1st ed., s.v. "Feminist Political Ecology of Wildlife Crime." Edward Elgar Publishing.

Working Papers & Ongoing Research

Books

Green, A. R. *Ugly Head: Bearing Witness to the Unmasking of Conservation*. Lens & Pens Publishing.

Book Chapters

Wilkinson, C., Einstein, C., Nguyen, O., & **Green, A. R.** *Inclusive Nature*, 1st ed, s.v. "Consider This: Recreating and Professionally Working as a Minority in the Outdoors." Johns Hopkins University Press.

Academic Articles

Green, A. R. "Conservation Hegemony."

Green, A. R. "Constructing the Conservation State: Protected Areas as States-Within-States and the Contours of Sovereignty."

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Presentations

- **A.R. Green**, November 2024. *Walking the Walk: Scholar Activism within Conservation Science & Practice*. Macalester College, ENVI 485: Wildlife Conservation in the Anthropocene: An International Perspective. Remote Presentation. November 4, 2024.

- **A.R. Green**, July 2024. *“How Many of Us Had to Die for That Elephant?”: A Critical Environmental Justice Perspective of Conservation Violence in Chobe National Park, Botswana*. University of Leeds, Behavior, Ecology & Evolution Seminar. Remote Presentation. July 17, 2024.
- **A.R. Green**, September 2022. *Wild Seed: Integrating Justice & Identity within Conservation Science & Practice*. Cornell University, Organismal Biology Annual Research Symposium. Oral Presentation. September 10, 2022.
- **A.R. Green**, C. Plowman, R. Mwinyihali, M. Wieland, & M.L. Gore. June 2022. *The Gendered Dimensions of Urban Wildmeat Trafficking*. Cambridge University - Political Ecology Working Group. Remote Presentation. June 21, 2022.
- **A.R. Green**, A. Douglas, C. M. Morris, & A. M. Gonzales. April 2022. *Notes on storytelling: Wynter’s humanness beyond the classroom*. Cornell University, Digital storytelling community of practice. Center for Teaching Innovation. Remote Presentation. April 1, 2022.
- **A.R. Green**, C. Plowman, R. Mwinyihali, M. Wieland, & M.L. Gore. July 2020. *The Gendered Dimensions of Urban Wildmeat Trafficking*. Michigan State University, LB 325B Science and the Environment - Social Sciences. Remote Presentation. July 27, 2020.
- **A.R. Green**, C. Plowman, R. Mwinyihali, M. Wieland, & M.L. Gore. May 2020. *The Gendered Dimensions of Urban Wildmeat Trafficking*. Miami University of Ohio & San Diego Zoo Global, Advanced Inquiry Program. Remote Presentation. May 13, 2020.

Oral

- **A.R. Green** & S.B. Allred. February 2022. *Bridging Race, Gender & the Environment: Establishing a Black Feminist Political Ecology*. Integrative Conservation Conference. Remote Presentation. February 4, 2022.
- **A.R. Green**, C. Plowman, R. Mwinyihali, M. Wieland, & M.L. Gore. February 2020. *The Gendered Dimensions of Urban Wildmeat Trafficking*. Oral Presentation. Pathways Africa 2020 Conference. February 2020. Limuru, Kenya. February 16, 2020.

Posters

- **A. R. Green**, C. Plowman, R. Mwinyihali, & M.L. Gore. October 2019. *Exploring the gendered dimensions of urban bushmeat trafficking*. Poster Presentation. Princeton University Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Scholars Program. October 2019. Princeton, New Jersey. October 5, 2019.
- **A. R. Green** & C. Sponarski. August 2019. *Utilizing Infographics to Communicate Impeding Wildlife Diseases to the Public*. Poster Presentation. REU ANEW Symposium 2019. August 2019. Orono, Maine. University of Maine. August 1, 2019.

Alternative Platform Presentations

- **A.R. Green**, C. Plowman, R. Mwinyihali, M. Wieland, & M.L. Gore. June 2020. *Wildmeat & Women: Evaluating Women within Urban Wildmeat Trafficking*. Twitter Presentation. Society for Conservation Biology Social Science Working Group Twitter Conference 2020. June 2020.

Panels

- **Invited Panelist**. Wildlife Media Panel. September 2024. Black Mammalogists Week 2024. Remote. September 19, 2024.
- **Invited Panelist**. Diaspora & Intersectionality in Conservation. May 2022. Black Mammalogists Week 2022. Remote. May 5, 2022

TEACHING & MENTORSHIP EXPERIENCE

Einaudi Center Global Impact

Fellowship

Contributed to the development of the Global Studies program through the Mario Einaudi International Studies Center	Cornell	Fellow	Spring 2024
---	---------	--------	-------------

Hans Bethe House Graduate Resident Fellow

Served as a residential advisor to Cornell’s West Campus undergraduate students in a learning-where-you-live community.	Cornell	Residential Fellow	Fall 2023 - present
---	---------	--------------------	---------------------

Environmental Justice & Policy

A mixed undergraduate and graduate course on environmental justice and policy with a community partnership project with Ithaca Flood Mitigation and Southside Community Center.	Cornell	Teaching Assistant	Spring 2023
---	---------	--------------------	-------------

Environmental Justice & Anti-Racist Approaches in Ecology, Environmental Science & Conservation*

Mixed undergraduate and graduate seminar building upon the DEIJ in EESC reading group (Spring 2022)	Cornell	Co-Instructor	Fall 2022
---	---------	---------------	-----------

Diversity, Equity Inclusion & Justice in Ecology, Environmental Science & Conservation (EESC) Reading Group*

Graduate and faculty DEIJ reading group for the Department of Natural Resources & the Environment	Cornell	Co-Organizer	Spring 2022
---	---------	--------------	-------------

Laidlaw Scholars Program

Advised three undergraduate students for the duration of the Laidlaw Scholars program	Cornell	Graduate Student Mentor	May 2022- May 2024
---	---------	-------------------------	--------------------

**Indicates a newly developed course/workshop*

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES

Penned SciCom Articles

2024

1. **Green, A.R.** (2024). [Op-Ed: Black lives matter in Africa’s national parks too](#). *Environmental Health News*. August 7, 2024.

2023

2. Ezell, J., & **Green, A. R.** (2023). [Support for Israel or Palestine in the current conflict falls along racial lines | Guest Commentary](#). *The Baltimore Sun*. December 14, 2023.

2021

3. **Green, A.R.** (2021). [Aalayna Green: Reclaiming My Time](#). *MSU College of Natural Science: NatSci Profiles*. February 25, 2021.

SciCom Article Features

2021

1. Greenfield, B. (2021). [Why young people of color are leading the fight to save planet Earth](#). *Yahoo!Life*. April 21, 2021.
2. Hernandez, B.A. (2021). [Why do animators keep turning people of color into animals? Mic](#). March 10, 2021.
3. Hui, K. (2021). [What Will Earth Look Like in 2121? 10 Young Leaders Give Their Predictions](#). *Inverse: Future Earth 2021*. April 22, 2021.
4. Ramirez, R. (2021). [30 Ways to Live More Sustainably - and Fight Climate Change in the Process](#). *Self: Health*. April 22, 2021.

2020

5. Drake, M. (2020). [Black community members share how others can help in the fight against racism](#). *Oakland Press*. June 9, 2020

Podcasts

1. Agents of Change in Environmental Justice: [Aalayna Green on how race and gender intersect with conservation](#)
2. Crystals, Clits & Climate: [S3E8: Intersectional Conservationism with Aalayna Green](#)
3. EarthEcho International: [STEMExplore Virtual Career Connection - Conservation Criminology](#)
4. Breaking Green Ceilings: [Episode 37: Investigating Gender Dimensions in Wildmeat Trafficking](#)
5. The SciFiles Podcast: [Episode 13, Season 4: Aalayna Green about Gender Roles in Wildlife Crime](#)

FELLOWSHIPS & SCHOLARSHIPS

Doctoral Fellowship & Assistantships

Survival International Human Rights & Environmental Justice Fellow	2024 - present
National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (\$159,000 + tuition + fees)	2023 - present
Hans Bethe House Graduate Resident Fellow (~\$10,000 + housing)	2023-present
Cornell Sloan Graduate Diversity Fellowship	2021 - present
Columbia University Agents of Change in Environmental Justice Fellow (\$1500)	2024 - 2025
Einaudi Center Global Impact Graduate Fellowship (\$1000)	2024
Cornell Reppy Institute Graduate Fellow (\$300)	2023

Research

Cornell University

Cornell Atkinson Sustainable Biodiversity Fund (\$3000)	2025
Cornell Atkinson Sustainable Biodiversity Fund (\$7000)	2024
James P. Lassoie Global Conservation Travel Fund (\$1000)	2022
Abraham & Henrietta Brettschneider Oxford Exchange Grant (\$4000)	2022
<i>Michigan State University</i>	
College of Natural Science Undergraduate Research Support Scholarship (\$1000)	2021
Larry D. Fowler Endowment Undergraduate Research Stipend (\$3500)	2020
College of Natural Science Undergraduate Research Support Scholarship (\$1000)	2019

Travel

Cornell University

Cornell Graduate School Research Travel Grant (\$1880)	2024
Cornell Einaudi Research Travel Grant for Graduate Students (\$2000)	2023
Michael Latham Travel Grant (\$500)	2022

Michigan State University

MSU Department of Integrative Biology Travel Support (\$400)	2020
Undergraduate Research Conference Travel Support (\$300)	2020

Professional Development

Cornell University

Society for the Humanities Dissertation Writing Groups (\$250)	2024-2025
Cornell CALS Alumni Association Award (\$700)	2024
Cornell CALS Alumni Association Award (\$400)	2023

Michigan State University

Thomas & Mary Krigas Endowed Award (\$4000)	2020-2021
MSU College of Natural Science Dean's Research Scholar (\$4500)	2019-2021
Capital Campaign CNS Faculty/Staff Distinguished Endowed Scholarship (\$3000)	2019-2020
Active Minds Mental Health Advocate Award (\$1000)	2019
Michigan Competitive Scholarship (\$3000)	2019

Community Development

Cornell Institute for African Development Community Grant **(\$10,000)**

2024-2025

SERVICE

Professional Societies

Frontiers in Conservation Science	Reviewer	2025 - present
Animal Conservation	Reviewer	2024 - present
Society for the Study of Social Problems	Member	2024 - present
Biological Conservation	Reviewer	2023- present

Academic Institutions

Cornell University

DNRE DEI Council	Graduate Student Co-Chair	June 2022 - June 2023
DNRE Graduate Student Association	DEI Officer	June 2022 - June 2023

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Radical Environmental Justice Workshop	<i>Hamilton College</i> Hamilton, NY	June 2025
NextGen Professors Program	<i>Cornell University</i> Ithaca, NY	October 2024 - present
Feminist Theory Workshop	<i>Duke University</i> Durham, NC	March 2024
Militarized Landscapes Workshop	<i>Boise State University</i> Boise, ID	October 2023