Steven W. Wilcox

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Academic Positions

Assistant Professor 2022-Present
Department of Applied Economics, Utah State University

Education

Cornell University 2022
Ph.D. in Applied Economics and Management

Bard College 2005
M.S. in Environmental Policy

Utah State University 2002
B.A. *cum laude* in American Studies, Spanish, Geology

Research Interests

Environmental and Natural Resource Economics
Agricultural and Development Economics
Food, Agriculture, Food Security, Land & Resource Use, Conservation and Policy
Remote Sensing Applications in Applied Economics

Working Papers

"The Role of Staple Food Prices in Deforestation: Evidence from Cambodia and the Global Staple Food Price Shocks of 2008.", with David R. Just, Ariel Ortiz-Bobea. *under review*

"Mapping Rangeland Health Indicators in East Africa from 2000 to 2020", with Gerardo E. Soto (lead author), Christopher B. Barrett, Patrick E. Clark, Francesco P. Fava, Nathaniel D. Jensen, Njoki Kahiu, Chuan Liao, Benjamin Porter, Ying Sun. *under review*

"To (rent) bees or not to (rent) bees? An examination of the farmer's question", with Miguel I. Gómez, Heather Grab, David R. Just, C.-Y. Cynthia Lin Lawell.

"The Environmental Impacts of Microfinance: An Empirical Study of Index-Based Livestock Insurance and East African Rangelands", with Christopher B. Barrett, Patrick E. Clark, Francesco P. Fava, Nathaniel D. Jensen, Njoki Kahiu, Benjamin Porter, Gerardo E. Soto, Ying Sun.

"Disentangling Drivers of Rangeland Degradation in Mongolia: Herd Size Versus Climate Over 1985-2022", with Avralt-Od Purevjav (lead author), Tumenkhusel Avrimed, and Christopher B. Barrett.

Works in Progress

"Farm-level Pollination Supply and Demand and Optimal Pollination Strategy: An Empirical Study of New York Apple Farmers", with Bryan N. Danforth, Heather Grab, David R. Just, C.-Y. Cynthia Lin Lawell, and Maria Van Dyke.

"Long Run Trends in East African Rangeland Quality.", Gerardo E. Soto (lead author), with Christopher B. Barrett, Patrick E. Clark, Francesco P. Fava, Nathaniel D. Jensen, Njoki Kahiu, Chuan Liao, Benjamin Porter, Ying Sun.

"The Great Salt Lake, Air Quality, and Public Health: An Empirical Study of a Declining Great Salt Lake and Heath Outcomes in Utah, 1985-2022", with Christopher C. Brown.

Grants

- 2023 – The Great Salt Lake, Air Quality, and Public Health: An Empirical Study of a Declining Great Salt Lake and Health Outcomes in Utah, 1985-2022. ($46,128.52). Principal Investigator: **Steven W. Wilcox**. Co-PI: Christopher C. Brown.
- 2021 – Environmental Impacts of Agricultural Intensification, CGIAR-Standing Panel on Impact Assessment-emLab (Phase II, $76,679). "Rangeland Health and Index-Based Livestock Insurance: Innovations in Measurement and Evalation." Principal Investigator: Christopher B. Barrett. Co-Principal Investigators: Ying Sun, Nathaniel D. Jensen. Collaborators: Patrick E. Clark, Francesco P. Fava, Njoki Kahiu, Chuan Liao, Diba Galgallo, Oscar Naibei, Gerardo E. Soto, and **Steven W. Wilcox**.
- 2020 – Environmental Impacts of Agricultural Intensification, CGIAR-Standing Panel on Impact Assessment-emLab (Phase I, $127,799). "Rangeland Health and Index-Based Livestock Insurance: Innovations in Measurement and Evalation." Principal Investigator: Christopher B. Barrett. Co-Principal Investigators: Ying Sun, Nathaniel D. Jensen. Collaborators: Patrick E. Clark, Francesco P. Fava, Njoki Kahiu, Chuan Liao, Diba Galgallo, Oscar Naibei, Gerardo E. Soto, and **Steven W. Wilcox**.

- 2019 – Engaged Cornell Supplemental Academic Venture Fund Grant ($10,000). "Sustainable Agricultural Pollination Resource Investment and Management for New York Apple Farmers." Principal Investigator: David R. Just. Co-Principal Investigators: Bryan N. Danforth, Miguel I. Gómez, and C.-Y. Cynthia Lin Lawell. Collaborators: Heather Grab, Craig Kahlke, Maria van Dyke, and **Steven W. Wilcox**.

- 2019 – Academic Venture Fund (AVF) Award, Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future ($101,327). "Sustainable Agricultural Pollination Resource Investment and Management for New York Apple Farmers." Principal Investigator: David R. Just. Co-Principal Investigators: Bryan N. Danforth, Miguel I. Gómez, and C.-Y. Cynthia Lin Lawell. Collaborators: Heather Grab, Craig Kahlke, Maria van Dyke, and **Steven W. Wilcox**.

- 2018 – Sustainable Biodiversity Fund Grant, Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future ($7,600). "Optimal Investment in a Pollination Resource Stock Under Uncertainty". Principal Investigator: **Steven W. Wilcox**. Collaborators: David R. Just, C.-Y. Cynthia Lin Lawell, Miguel I. Gómez.

- 2017 – Richard Bradfield Research Award ($3,500), College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Cornell University. Principal Investigator: **Steven W. Wilcox**. Collaborators: David R. Just and Ariel Ortiz-Bobea.

Presentations

"*The Role of Staple Food Prices in Deforestation: Evidence from Cambodia and the Global Staple Food Price Shocks of 2008.*"
2019: Development and SEERE seminars at Cornell University (February, March, and April); Global Food Symposium, University of Göettingen – April 2020 (canceled due to covid-19).
2020: Development Seminar at Cornell University (September); NEUDC (November).
2021: Utah State University (March);
2022: Cornell graduate seminar (November); University of Utah (February); Utah State University (February).

"To (rent) bees or not (to rent) bees? An examination of the farmer's question".
2019: Atkinson Center and Dyson School Seminars at Cornell University (April, October).
2020: Food Studies International Conference (October); CURB - Innovative Perspectives on the Environment Symposium (October).
2021: SEERE seminar at Cornell University (April).
2022: Cornell University (June)
2023: AERE summer conference (June), Portland, Maine.
2023: AAEA summer conference (July), Washtington D.C.

"*The Environmental Impacts of Microfinance: An Empirical Study of Index-Based Livestock Insurance and East African Rangelands*".
2020: CGIAR-SPIA-USCB-emLab – Workshop on Environmental Impacts of Agricultural Intensification, with Chris Barrett and Nathan Jensen (August).
2021: Development seminar at Cornell University (April, October).
2022: Development seminar at Cornell University (March); NC-1034 multi-state project at Anaheim, CA (August); CGIAR-SPIA webinar (invited talk on 'Lessons Learned').
2023: WAEA-CAES summer conference (July), Whistler, B.C.

Teaching and Advising

Utah State University

APEC 3012: Introduction to Natural Resource and Regional Economics — Spring, Fall 2023

APEC 5330/6330: Applied Econometrics — Fall 2023

Cornell University

Research Supervision for 5 Undergraduate RAs — Spring 2020 to Spring 2022

Honors Undergraduate Thesis Co-Supervision — Fall 2020 - Spring 2021
Thesis Co-Supervisor with Professor Christopher B. Barrett

AEM 4500 / ECON 4810: Resource Economics — Spring Semester 2019
Teaching Assistant for Professor Cynthia Lin Lawell

AEM 2350: Introduction to the Economics of Development — Fall Semester 2016, 2018
Teaching Assistant for Professor Steve Kyle

AEM 2300: International Trade and Finance — Spring Semester 2018
Teaching Assistant for Professor David R. Lee

Awards and Honors

- 2018-2022 – Research Fellow, David R. Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future, Cornell University.
- 2020 – Dyson Graduate Student Outstanding Engaged Research Award, Cornell University.

- 2003-2005 – Bard Center for Environmental Policy Fellowship, Bard College.
- 2001 – N.A. Pederson and Alice Tippets Scholarships, Utah State University.

Media Citations

"Dyson celebrates 2020 faculty, staff, and student award recipients". *Dyson Business Feed.* 22 June 2020.

"2022 SPIA Webinar Series: Supporting the Design of Rigorous Impact Evluations of CGIAR Innoviation". *CGIAR-SPIA webinar series: webinar #14: Environmental and long-term impacts of Index Based Livestock Insurance.* 18 May 2022

Professional Service

Sustainable Biodiversity Fund Award reviewer, Atkinson Center, Cornell University 2019

STAARS Fellowship application reviewer, Cornell University, 2018-2022

NEUDC submission reviewer, Cornell University 2018

Member, Technical Advisory Committee, Jordan River Commission, Utah 2011-2015

Other Work Experience

Research Assistant for Professor Christopher B. Barrett Summer 2020 to Spring 2022

Research Assistant for Professor David R. Just Fall 2019, 2021, Spring 2020

Graduate Research Associate 5/2018 to 7/2022

Cornell University Think-tank for Resources, Energy, and the Environment:
Science and Policy-related Economic Analysis and Research (TREESPEAR)

Research Assistant for Professor Jennifer Ifft Fall 2017

State Wetland Restoration Specialist 1/2013 to 7/2015

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Salt Lake City, Utah
Duties: Provide lead technical assistance to field offices throughout Utah for the Wetland Reserve Program as a member of the NRCS-Utah State Resources Staff.

Spanish Translator 1/2007 to 2/2007

Intermountain West Joint Venture, Salt Lake City, Utah and Nayarit, Mexico
Duties: Provide translation services in Utah and Mexico for a workshop on avian survey protocols, conservation planning, and monitoring for the Marismas Nacionales, Nayarit, Mexico.

Habitat Biologist 7/2006 to 1/2013

USDA-NRCS and Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (UDWR), Ogden and Price, Utah
Duties: Provide technical conservation planning and habitat restoration assistance to NRCS field offices regarding wildlife and habitat, coordinate additional assistance from the UDWR.

Forestry Technician multiple seasons, 2002-2003, 2005

USDA-Forest Service (USDA-FS) and Montana State University (MSU)
Duties: Carry out forest stand surveys for research on aspen regeneration in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (for USDA-FS and MSU), and as a part of the USDA-FS Forest Inventory and Analysis Program (FIA). Field locations in Wyoming, Montana, and Nevada.

Research Intern 7/2004 to 12/2004

Proyecto Campanario, San Jose and Osa Peninsula, Costa Rica
Duties: Implement an economic feasibility analysis for a proposed private trail system in the buffer zones of national parks and protected lands in the Osa Peninsula.

Code, Computers, etc.

I do the majority of my coding in R and Matlab, I often use spatial and remote sensing platforms like Google Earth Engine, and I sometimes make use if high performance computing clusters.

Languages

Spanish (fluent speaking and writing); English (native speaker).

For Fun

When not working or studying, here are some of things I enjoy doing for fun and sanity: spending time with my immediate-family (wife Sasha, kids Axel and Wren) and extended families; anything to do with climbing (bouldering, trad and sport climbing, mountaineering); anything to do with skiing (telemark, backcountry, skate skiing); backpacking; fly-fishing; music (studying, playing, writing); reading and writing; gardening and construction work.