Steven W. Wilcox

4835 Old Main Hill, Logan, Utah, 843422-4835
steven.wilcox@usu.edu; 1-435-797-0793; https://www.swwilcox.com

Academic Positions

Assistant Professor 2022 - Present
Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics (ARE) 2026 - Present
Department of Applied Economics (APEC) 2022 - 2026

Undergraduate Honors Advisor 2026 - Present
Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics (ARE)
Utah State University

Faculty affiliate
Berryman Institute 2025 - Present
Ecology Center, Climate Adaptation Science Program 2023 - Present
Utah State University

Faculty Fellow
Institute of Land Water and Air 2025 - 2026
Utah State University

Education

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

M.S. in Environmental Policy 2005
Bard College

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

Teaching

Utah State University

Agricultural and Resource Economics Graduate (AREG) Seminar summer 2026 - Present

APEC/ARE 6330-6331/5330-5331: Applied Econometrics fall 2025, 2026

APEC 6330/5330: Applied Econometrics fall 2023, 2024

APEC 5015: Applied Economics for Decision Making fall 2024, 2025

APEC/ARE 3012: Intro. to Natural Resource Economics spring & fall 2023, fall 2026

APEC/ARE 2010: Introduction to Microeconomics spring 2025, 2026, 2027

USU 101: University Connections AY 2025-2026

Cornell University

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

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

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

Advising

S.W. Wilcox's advising role: $^{++}$graduate committee chair; **graduate committee member; $^{\#}$undergraduate research assistant supervisor

Utah State University

$^{++}$*Logan Haviland, PhD APEC/ARE (4th year)* 2023 - Present

$^{++}$*Jesus Felix De Los Reyes, PhD APEC/ARE (4th year)* 2023 - Present

***Galen Kohlbrecher, MS LAEP* spring 2026 - Present

***Emmanuel Asare-Kyere, PhD APEC/ARE (6th year)* 2023 - Present

***Marcelo Pignatari, PhD APEC (spring 26')* 2024 - 2026

$^{\#}$*Kylie Hansen, B.S. Soils and Sustainable Land Systems (spring 25')* 2025 - 2026

$^{\#}$*Ashley Betony, B.S. Rangeland Ecology & Management (spring 24')* fall 2023 - 2024

$^{\#}$*Kalli Hull, B.S. Environmental Studies (spring 24')* fall 2023 - spring 2024

$^{++}$*Savanna Craig, M.S. APEC (spring 24')* fall 2022 - 2024

[#] *Sage Wootan, B.S. Agribusiness (spring 23')* fall 2022 - spring 2023

Cornell University

Tumenskhusel Avrimed, Honors Undergraduate Thesis fall 2020 - Spring 2021
Co-Supervision w/C.B. Barrett

Publications

Wilcox, S.W., Barrett, C.B., Jensen, N., Clark, P.E., Fava, F.P., Soto, G.E., Kahiu, N., Sun, Y., 2026."The Environmental Impacts of Scaling a Microfinancial Product: An Empirical Study of Index-Based Livestock Insurance and East African Rangelands". *Forthcoming*, *Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists*.

Wilcox, S.W., Just, D.R., Lin Lawell, C.Y.C., Gómez, M.I., Grab, H., and Yeh, D.A., 2026. "To (Rent) Bees or Not to (Rent) Bees? An Examination of the Farmer's Question", *Q Open*, Volume 6, Issue 2, qoag025. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1093/qopen/qoag025

Wilcox, S.W., Just, D.R., Grab, H., Lin Lawell, C.Y.C., Yeh, D.A., and Wootan, S., 2025. "Apple Pollination Costs and Strategies: Trends and Outlook." *Choices,* 41(1), pp.1-10. DOI: https://doi.org/10.22004/ag.econ.391415

Purevjav, A.O., Avrimed, T., Wilcox, S.W., and Barrett, C.B., 2025. "Climate Rather than Overgrazing Explains Most Rangeland Primary Productivity Change in Mongolia", *Science*, Vol 389, Issue 6766, pp. 1229-1233. DOI: https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/science.adn0005

Wilcox, S.W., Just D.R., and Ortiz-Bobea A., 2024. "The Role of Staple Food Prices in Deforestation: Evidence from Cambodia." *Land Economics*, vol. 101, no.1, pg. 89-118. DOI: https://doi.org/10.3368/le.101.1.100423-0097R

Soto, G.E., Wilcox, S.W., Clark, P. E., Fava, F. P., Jensen, N., Kahiu, N., Liao, C., Porter, B., Sun, Y., and Barrett, C.B., 2024. "Mapping Rangeland Health Indicators in East Africa from 2000 to 2022", *Earth System Science Data*, vol. 16, no. 11, pg. 5375-5404. DOI: https://doi.org/10.5194/essd-2023-217

Working Papers

"Using Humor and Interactive Software to Teach Econometric Concepts: A Case Study in Using The Simpsons to Teach about Correlation vs. Causation", with Jesus Felix De Los Reyes, and Logan Haviland. Revise and resubmit, *Applied Economics Education and Extension*

"Is the Policy Enough? Adoption and Impacts of Tiered Water Pricing in Utah, 1980 - 2022", with Savanna Craig (lead author), and Kalli Hull. Under review

"An Empirical Analysis of World Uranium Demand", with Edgar E. Cabrera Jr. (lead author), Dita Chowdury, Lingzia (Alan) Cui, Liam J. Daly, Lin H. Hlaing, Jacob Holifield, Miles Y. Huh, Isaballa A.H. Laine, Cynthia (Ziyu) Liao, Matthew Martinez, Michael A. Meneses, Winston Park, Danill Rakov, Henry Sun, Chenrui Wang, Tong Wu, Ishita L. Yadav, Sung Min Yoon, Hongyu Zhao, and C-Y. Cynthia Lin Lawell. Under review

"Mapping dynamic exposure to Bonneville Basin pluvial dust in North America, 1998-2024", with Logan Haviland (lead author), Sherzod Akhundjanov, Kylie Hansen, and Wei Zhang. Under review

"Pollination, Production, and Profits.", with Heather Grab, David R. Just, C.-Y. Cynthia Lin Lawell, and Miguel I. Gómez. Under review

"Disentangling the Net: Testing the Production Effects of a Fisheries Cash Transfer Program in Mexico", with Jesus Felix De Los Reyes (lead author).

"Regional air quality in the Intermountain West: Dust vs. Smoke", with Logan Haviland (lead author), Sherzod Akhundjanov, Kylie Hansen, and Wei Zhang.

Works in Progress

"Long Run Trends in East African Rangeland Quality.", 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.

"A dynamic model of farmer pollination resource decision-making", with Heather Grab, David R. Just, C.-Y. Cynthia Lin Lawell, and Miguel I. Gómez.

"Exposure to Bonneville Basin Dust: An Empirical study of Necessary versus Sufficient conditions in the past, present, and future.", with Logan Haviland (lead author), Sherzod Akhundjanov, Kylie Hansen, and Wei Zhang.

"Rainfall governs year-to-year rangeland productivity, but warming governs its multi-decadal decline", with Avralt-Od Purevjav (lead author).

"Teaching about Transboundary Environmental Challenges: An Approach to Teaching about Transboundary Air Pollution with Data Visualizations and Classroom Assessment Techniques," with Logan Haviland (lead author), Sherzod Akhundjanov.

"Climate Impacts on Fish Catch and Fishing Effort: An Application to Mexico's Fisheries Sector," with Jesus Felix De Los Reyes (lead author)

Grants

- April 2025 – June 2025: Institute for Land Water and Air (ILWA) Impact Grant ($13,318). "The Impact of Bonneville Basin Pluvial Dust Sources on Local Air Quality in the Intermountain West, 1998-2023" Principal Investigator: **Steven W. Wilcox**. Co-PI: Christopher C. Brown. Co-PI: Sherzod Akhundjanov, Wei Zhang. PhD student: Logan Haviland.
- May 2023 – May 2025: Utah Agricultural Experiment Station Seed Grant ($46,128.52). "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." Principal Investigator: **Steven W. Wilcox**. Co-PI: Christopher C. Brown.
- January 2021 – January 2022: Environmental Impacts of Agricultural Intensification, CGIAR-Standing Panel on Impact Assessment (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**.
- January 2020 – January 2021: Environmental Impacts of Agricultural Intensification, CGIAR-Standing Panel on Impact Assessment (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**.
- January 2019 – January 2022: 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**.
- January 2019 – January 2022: 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**.
- May 2018 – May 2022: 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.
- May 2017 – May 2019: 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 ($^{++}$ S.W. Wilcox as presenter; ** S.W. Wilcox as coauthor)

2026:

November: Invited talk GSL Dust Working Group, Salt Lake City, University of Utah, "*Mapping dynamic exposure to Bonneville Basin Dust, 1998-2024*"**

July: AAEA Summer Conference, "*Disentangling the Net: Testing the Production Effects of a Fisheries Cash Transfer Program in Mexico*"**

June: WAEA Summer Conference, "*Disentangling the Net: Testing the Production Effects of a Fisheries Cash Transfer Program in Mexico*"**

June: WAEA Summer Conference, "*Identifying the Causal Contribution of Pluvial Dust to Local PM2.5: A Particle-Hours Exposure Framework for the Bonneville Basin*"**

April: Invited Talk, Colloquium of the Department of Environment and Society, USU, "*Identifying the Causal Contribution of Pluvial Dust to Local PM2.5: A Particle-Hours Exposure Framework for the Bonneville Basin*"$^{++}$

2025:

December: CEAR-MRIC Behavioral Insurance Workshop, Nairobi, Kenya: "*The Environmental Impacts of Microfinance: An Empirical Study of Index-Based Livestock Insurance and East African Rangelands*"**

December: USU Fall Student Research Symposium (FSRS), "*Disentangling the Net: Testing the Production Effects of a Fisheries Cash Transfer Program in Mexico*"**

December: USU Fall Student Research Symposium (FSRS), "*Identifying the Causal Contribution of Pluvial Dust to Local PM2.5: A Particle-Hours Exposure Framework for the Bonneville Basin*"**

November: National research consulting company (NRCC), Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia: "*Climate Rather than Overgrazing Explains Most Rangeland Primary Productivity Change in Mongolia*"**

May: AERE summer conference; Albuquerque, NM: "*Adoption and Efficacy of Tiered Water Pricing: Evidence From Utah*"**

March: Colorado State University; For Collins, CO: "*Adoption and Efficacy of Tiered Water Pricing: Evidence From Utah*"**

2024:

August: Invited paper, SPIA pre-conference at the International Conference of Agricultural Economists; New Delhi, India:"*The Environmental Impacts of Microfinance: An Empirical Study of Index-Based Livestock Insurance and East African Rangelands*"**

March: Invited presentation, USU Ecology Center Incubator Lunch; Logan, Utah: "*Distentangling Drivers of Rangeland Degradation in Mongolia: Herd Size Versus Climate Over 1984-2023.*"++

March: USU CAAS Graduate Student Symposium; Logan, Utah: "*Adoption and Efficacy of Tiered Water Pricing: Evidence from Utah.*"**

2023:

October: Invited seminar; University of Bologna, Italy: "*Disentangling Drivers of Rangeland Degradation in Mongolia: Herd Size Versus Climate Over 1985-2022*"**

July: AAEA summer conference; Washington D.C.: "*Disentangling Drivers of Rangeland Degradation in Mongolia: Herd Size Versus Climate Over 1985-2022*"**

July: AAEA summer conference; Washington, D.C.: *"To (Rent) Bees or Not to (Rent) Bees? An Examination of the Farmer's Question"*++

July: WAEA-CAES summer conference in Whistler, B.C., Canada and AAEA summer conference in Washington D.C:"*The Environmental Impacts of Microfinance: An Empirical Study of Index-Based Livestock Insurance and East African Rangelands*"++

June: AERE summer conference; Portland, Maine: *"To (Rent) Bees or Not to (Rent) Bees? An Examination of the Farmer's Question"*++

June: AERE summer conference; Portland, Maine: "*Disentangling Drivers of Rangeland Degradation in Mongolia: Herd Size Versus Climate Over 1985-2022*"**

February: Mongolian Economic Association; Ulaanbaattar, Mongolia: "*Disentangling Drivers of Rangeland Degradation in Mongolia: Herd Size Versus Climate Over 1985-2022*"**

2022:

July: NC-1034 multi-state project; Anaheim, California: "*The Environmental Impacts of Microfinance: An Empirical Study of Index-Based Livestock Insurance and East African Rangelands*"++

April: Invited seminar at Texas A&M University: "*The Environmental Impacts of Microfinance: An Empirical Study of Index-Based Livestock Insurance and East African Rangelands*"**

March: Development seminar at Cornell University: "*The Environmental Impacts of Microfinance: An Empirical Study of Index-Based Livestock Insurance and East African Rangelands*"++

April: SEERE seminar at Cornell University: *"To (Rent) Bees or Not to (Rent) Bees? An Examination of the Farmer's Question"*++

February: Invited talks at Utah State University and the University of Utah: "*The Role of Staple Food Prices in Deforestation: Evidence from Cambodia*"++

2021:

October: Development seminar at Cornell University: "*The Environmental Impacts of Microfinance: An Empirical Study of Index-Based Livestock Insurance and East African Rangelands*"++

April: Development seminar at Cornell University: "*The Environmental Impacts of Microfinance: An Empirical Study of Index-Based Livestock Insurance and East African Rangelands*"++

April: SEERE seminar at Cornell University: *"To (Rent) Bees or Not to (Rent) Bees? An Examination of the Farmer's Question"*++

November: SEERE seminar at Cornell University: "*The Role of Staple Food Prices in Deforestation: Evidence from Cambodia*"++

2020:

August: CGIAR-SPIA-USCB-emLab; workshop on Environmental Impacts of Agricultural Intensification: "*The Environmental Impacts of Microfinance: An Empirical Study of Index-Based Livestock Insurance and East African Rangelands*"++

November: Northeastern Universities Development Consortium Annual Conference: "*The Role of Staple Food Prices in Deforestation: Evidence from Cambodia*"++

October: Food Studies International Conference and CURB - Innovative Perspectives on the Environment Symposium: *"To (Rent) Bees or Not to (Rent) Bees? An Examination of the Farmer's Question"*++

September: Development seminar at Cornell University: "*The Role of Staple Food Prices in Deforestation: Evidence from Cambodia*"++

2019:

October: SEERE seminar at Cornell University: *"To (Rent) Bees or Not to (Rent) Bees? An Examination of the Farmer's Question"*++

April: Atkinson Center seminar at Cornell University: *"To (Rent) Bees or Not to (Rent) Bees? An Examination of the Farmer's Question"*++

March: SEERE seminar at Cornell University: "*The Role of Staple Food Prices in Deforestation: Evidence from Cambodia*"++

February: Development seminar at Cornell University: "*The Role of Staple Food Prices in Deforestation: Evidence from Cambodia*"++

Professional Service

Utah State University

APEC/ARE undergraduate honors advisor	2026-Present
APEC/ARE undergraduate and graduate curriculum committees	2023-Present
Berryman Institute faculty affiliate	2025-Present
Ecology Center and CAS program faculty affiliate	2023-Present
QANR scholarship review committee	spring 2026
Institute for Land Water and Air faculty fellow	2025-2026
CAAS Research Advisory Committee	2023-2025

Other professional service

Topic Area Leader in Environmental Economics and Policy, AAEA Summer Conference	2027-2029
Farm-level data reports for New York apple growers	2023-2024
Sustainable Biodiversity Fund Award reviewer, Atkinson Center, Cornell University	2019
STAARS Fellowship application reviewer, Cornell University,	2018-2022
Member, Technical Advisory Committee, Jordan River Commission, Utah	2011-2015

Manuscript reviewer for: Applied Economics Policy and Perspective; World Development; Environmental and Resource Economics; Land Economics; Applied Geography; PLOS Climate; Environment and Development Economics; AAEA, WAEA, NEUDC conference paper submissions.

Awards and Honors

- 2025-2026 – Faculty Fellow, Institute for Land Water and Air, Utah State University.
- 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

"Warming climate, not herd size, is biggest threat to rangelands", *Tom Fleischman, Cornell Chronicle, September 18, 2025.*

"Where Numbers Meet Nature: USU Grad Uses Applied Economics to Conserve Natural Resources", *Shelby Ruud Jarman, Utah State Today, December 19, 2024.*

"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

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

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, but also code in Matlab and Stata, and I frequently use spatial and remote sensing data platforms like Google Earth Engine (javascript, python colab), and high performance computing clusters.

Languages

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

For Fun

When not working, for fun and sanity I enjoy: spending time with family; anything to do with climbing (bouldering, trad and sport climbing, mountaineering); anything to do with skiing (telemark, backcountry, skate); backpacking; fly-fishing; music (studying, playing, writing); reading & writing; gardening and construction.