

Rebecca Nixon
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EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Natural Resource Social Science, Purdue University, 2021
Department of Forestry and Natural Resources
Interdisciplinary Ecological Sciences and Engineering Program
Dissertation: Adaptation to social-ecological change on the Swat and Kabul Rivers of Pakistan
- M.S. Sustainable Agriculture, Iowa State University, 2017
M.C.R.P. Community and Regional Planning, Iowa State University, 2017
Department of Community and Regional Planning
Thesis: “If you have money, you have water”: Intersectional influences on women’s participation in irrigation management in Batken, Kyrgyzstan
- B.A. English, Grand Valley State University Honors College, 2011

RESEARCH

Research Interests

Natural resource decision-making, climate justice, adaptation to social-ecological change, environmental justice, mixed-methods research, interdisciplinary science

Appointments

- 2022-present Assistant Professor, Department of Geography and Spatial Sciences, University of Delaware, Newark, DE
- 2021-2022 Postdoctoral Research Associate, Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant
Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
- 2017-2021 Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Forestry and Natural Resources, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
- 2020-2021 SESYNC Graduate Student Research Fellow,
National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center, Annapolis, MD
- 2014- 2017 Graduate Research Assistant, Iowa State Community and Regional Planning Department, Ames, IA
- 2016- 2017 Graduate Teaching Assistant, Women and Gender Studies Program
Iowa State Community and Regional Planning Department, Ames, IA
- 2016 Research Fellow, Tian Shan Policy Center, American University of Central Asia, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
- 2016 Intern, Rural Development Fund, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
- 2015 Research Aide, USDA North Central Regional Plant Introduction Station, Ames, IA

Peer-reviewed Publications (*indicates corresponding author; +indicates student mentee)

1. **Nixon, R.***, Ma, Z., Khan, B., Birkenholtz, T., Ahmed, M., Lee, L. (2022) Social influence shapes adaptive water governance: Empirical evidence from northwestern Pakistan. *Ecology and Society*. In press.
2. **Nixon R.***, Carlton, J. Ma, Z. (2022) Drivers of revitalization in Great Lakes coastal communities. *Journal of Great Lakes Research*. DOI: 10.1016/j.jglr.2022.03.008
3. **Nixon, R.***, Ma, Z., Zanotti, L., Khan, B., Birkenholtz, T., Ahmed, M., Lee, L. (2022). Adaptation to social-ecological change in northwestern Pakistan: Household strategies and decision-making processes. *Environmental Management*. DOI: 10.1007/s00267-021-01583-7
4. Wang, Z.* +, **Nixon, R.**, Ma, Z., & Erwin, A., (2020). Assessing the unintended consequences in large-scale water transfers projects: A systematic literature review. *Society and Natural Resources*. DOI:10.1080/08941920.2020.1859029
5. Iles, K., Ma, Z. *, **Nixon, R.** (2020) Multi-dimensional motivations and experiences of small-scale farmers. *Society and Natural Resources*. 1-21. DOI: /10.1080/08941920.2020.1823540
6. Hawes, J. K. *, Erwin, A., McWherter, B., **Nixon, R.**, Popovici, R., Rathjen, M., & Ma, Z. (2019). A Review of Grassroots Global Governance. *Society & Natural Resources*, 32 (11), 1-3. DOI: 10.1080/08941920.2019.1602239
7. **Nixon, R. ***, Owusu, F. (2017). Choice, inclusion, and access to information: Understanding female farmers' participation in Kyrgyzstan's water-user associations. *Sustainability*, 9, 2346. DOI: 10.3390/su9122346

Manuscripts under review (*indicates corresponding author; +indicates student mentee)

8. **Nixon, R.** Carlton, S., Ma, Z. Trust and collaboration connect remediation and restoration to community revitalization. *Landscape and Urban Planning*. Under review.
9. Iles, K., **Nixon, R.*** Ma, Z., Gibson, K., Benjamin, T. Beginning farmers' motivations, challenges, and livelihood strategies in the rural landscape: Insights from agricultural communities in Indiana. *Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development*. Revise and resubmit.
10. **Nixon, R. ***, Ma, Z., Khan, B., Birkenholtz, T., Ahmed., M., Lee, L. Beyond household size: Everyday adaptation to social-ecological change across household structures in northwestern Pakistan. *Ecology and Society*. Revise and resubmit.
11. Best, K.* , Jouzi, Z. Islam, M., Kirby, T., **Nixon, R.**, Hossan, A. and Nyiawung, R. Identifying typologies of climate gentrification across the East Coast of the United States: A machine learning approach. *Urban Climate*. Revise and resubmit.

Extension Factsheets, Technical Reports and Other Publications

1. **Nixon, R. (2016)**. Women's roles in water user associations in Batken: exploring participation in irrigation management and access to capital. *Central Asian Policy Review*. 2 (3).

Grants, Fellowships, and Scholarships

2020	SESYNC Graduate Student Research Fellowship, National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center \$2,000
2018	Purdue University D. Woods Thomas Memorial International Support Fund \$1,000
2018	U.S. Borlaug Summer Institute on Global Food Security Fellowship
2017	Purdue University A. H. Ismail Interdisciplinary Program Doctoral Research

	Travel Award.\$1,000
2017	Purdue University Andrews Environmental Travel Grant \$1,500
2016	Iowa State University Agricultural Property Rights Association Scholarship \$1,000
2015	Iowa State University International Studies in Sustainable Livelihoods Graduate Student Travel Award \$4,000
2015	Iowa State University Global Funding for Graduate Students and Postdocs \$1,000

Invited presentations and lectures

2022	Nixon, R. Revitalization in AOCs – State of Science for Measuring Success. Invited Moderator, 2022 Annual Great Lakes Areas of Concern Conference.
2022	Nixon, R. Human Dimensions of Remediation and Restoration on the Great Lakes. Invited Lecture, Human Dimensions of Natural Resource Management (FNR375), Purdue University.
2022	Nixon, R. Climate Justice Issues in the Midwest. Invited Panelist, 11th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Diversity Awareness Week: Exploring Environmental Justice, Purdue University.
2022	Nixon, R. Community Partnerships working towards Environmental Justice. Invited Moderator, 11th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Diversity Awareness Week: Exploring Environmental Justice, Purdue University.
2021	Nixon, R. Hindsight2020 Global Panel. Invited Panelist. Ecological Sciences and Engineering Annual Symposium, Purdue University.
2021	Nixon, R. Beyond household size: Diversification, access to capital, and adaptation to social-ecological change across household structures in northwestern Pakistan. Building Sustainable Communities meeting, Purdue University.
2021	Nixon, R. Field data collection panel discussion. Invited panelist, Department of Forestry and Natural Resources Data IQ meeting, Purdue University.
2020	Nixon, R. An introduction to literature reviews. Invited lecture, Research Methods for Natural Resources Social Science, Purdue University
2019	Nixon, R. Examining climate change adaptation through social science research methods. Invited lecture, Ecological Sciences and Engineering Graduate Student Colloquium, Purdue University
2016	Nixon, R. Considerations for cross-cultural research methods. Invited lecture, Introduction to Analytical Methods for Planning, Iowa State University.
2015	Nixon, R., Dankbar, H., LaMastra, L. PlanDSM policy recommendations from the Environmental Group Outreach. Invited talk to the City of Des Moines MPO.

Paper Presentations (*indicates presenter; +indicates student mentee)

1. **Nixon, R.***, Carlton, J., Ma, Z. 2022. Collaborations and community revitalization in Great Lakes Areas of Concern. Paper presented at the Joint Aquatic Sciences Meeting, Grand Rapids, MI.
2. **Nixon, R.***, Carlton, J., Ma, Z. 2022. Pathways to revitalization in waterfront communities: A case study of Great Lakes Areas of Concern. Paper presented at the American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, virtual conference.
3. Washer, E.*+, **Nixon, R.**, Ma, Z. 2021. Lessons learned from the academic literature for Bt

cotton policy development in India. Poster presented at the Center for the Environment Environmental Research Expo, Purdue University.

4. **Nixon, R.***, Ma, Z., Khan, B., Birkenholtz, T. and Lee, L. 2021. Beyond household size: Diversification, access to capital, and adaptation to social-ecological change across household structures in northwestern Pakistan. Paper presented at the International Symposium on Society and Resource Management, virtual conference.
5. **Nixon, R.***, Ma, Z., Khan, B. 2020. Livelihood strategies, adaptation, and household structure in northwestern Pakistan. Paper presented at the International Symposium on Society and Resource Management, virtual conference.
6. **Nixon, R.***, Hawes, J., Ma, Z., Khan, B. 2020. Value tradeoffs in adaptation decision-making. Paper presented at the American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, virtual conference.
7. Hawes, J. *, Ma, Z., Burnham, M., **Nixon, R.** 2020. Adaptation across contexts: Value tradeoffs as a lens for learning from adaptation. Paper presented at the American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, virtual conference.
8. **Nixon, R.***, Ma, Z., Khan, B. 2019. Value tradeoffs in adaptation decision-making along the Swat and Kabul Rivers of Pakistan. Paper presented at the West Lakes Division of the American Association of Geographers 2019 Annual Meeting, Cedar Falls, IA.
9. **Nixon, R.***, Hawes, J., Ma, Z., Khan, B. 2019. The role of values and tradeoffs in adaptation decision making along the Swat and Kabul rivers of Pakistan. Paper presented at the Sustainability and Development Conference, Ann Arbor, MI.
10. Hawes, J. *, **Nixon, R.**, Ma, Z. 2019. Tradeoffs in Adaptation Decision Making: Testing a new analytical lens in the Eastern Snake Plain of Idaho. Paper presented at the Sustainability and Development Conference, Ann Arbor, MI.
11. **Nixon, R.***, Hawes, J. 2019. Multi-scalar tradeoffs in adaptation decision making in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan and the Eastern Snake River Plain, Idaho. Paper presented at the International Symposium on Society and Resource Management, Oshkosh, WI.
12. **Nixon, R.***, Ma, Z., Khan, B., Lee, L. 2019. Adaptation, transformation, and the associated tradeoffs in river-based livelihoods in northern Pakistan. Paper presented at the American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Washington, DC.
13. Wang, Z. * +, Ma, Z. **Nixon, R.** 2019. Water Rights and Local Justice: A case study of the South-to-North Water Transfer Project in Shaanxi, China. Paper presented at the American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Washington, DC.
14. **Nixon, R.***, Ma, Z., Khan, B., Lee, L. 2018. River-based livelihood tradeoffs and the associated equity implications for sustainable development along the Swat and Kabul Rivers of Pakistan. Paper presented at the Sustainability and Development Conference, Ann Arbor, MI.
15. **Nixon, R.***, Ma, Z. 2018. Adaptation and tradeoffs in river-based livelihood strategies in the Swat Valley, Pakistan. Paper presented at the American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA.
16. **Nixon, R.*** 2016. Women's roles in water user associations in southern Kyrgyzstan: Exploring participation in irrigation management and access to capital. Paper presented at the Central Eurasian Studies Society Annual Conference, Princeton, New Jersey.

Awards and Honors

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| 2021 | Graduate Student Spotlight, College of Agriculture, Purdue University |
| 2019 | Third place, Doctoral Oral Paper Competition, West Lakes Division of the American Association of Geographers 2019 Annual Meeting, Cedar Falls, IA |

- 2018 First place, U.S. Borlaug Summer Institute on Global Food Security Student Project Presentation
- 2017 First place, Masters Student Division, Sustainable Agriculture Research Symposium Poster Competition, Iowa State University
- 2016 Second place, Graduate Student Division, Borlaug Poster Session, Iowa State University
- 2016 Second place, Student Poster Competition, Iowa Chapter American Planning Association

TEACHING AND MENTORING

Courses taught

Purdue University

- 2020 Introduction to Environmental Policy (undergraduate), Co-instructor.
- 2018 Research Methods for Natural Resources Social Science (graduate), Co-instructor.

Iowa State University

- 2016-2017 Introduction to Women Studies (undergraduate), Instructor.
- 2015 World Cities and Globalization (undergraduate), Teaching Assistant.
- 2015 Community and Regional Planning Field Travel (undergraduate), Teaching Assistant.

Student supervision

Purdue University

- 2022-present Isabella Foster, undergraduate research assistant
- 2021-present Haley Hartenstine, graduate research assistant
- 2018-present Emilie Washer, undergraduate research assistant
- 2019-2021 Angela Guo, undergraduate research assistant
- 2019-2021 Marly Beck, undergraduate research assistant
- 2018-2020 Zelin Wang, visiting scholar
- 2018-2019 Kasha Halbleib, undergraduate research assistant
- 2017-2019 Priyanka Shankar, undergraduate research assistant
- 2017-2018 Austin Sheetz, undergraduate research assistant

American University of Central Asia

- 2016 Elita Bakirova, undergraduate research assistant
- 2016 Meerim Baktybaeva, undergraduate research assistant
- 2016 Almaz Zhaparov undergraduate research assistant

SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

Professional Organizations

- 2021-present Membership and Awards Committee, International Association for Society and Natural Resources (IASNR).
Responsibilities: Support recruitment of new members, welcome new members, create and facilitate association's awards program
- 2017- 2020 Member, Student Affairs Committee, International Association for Society

and Natural Resources (IASNR).

Responsibilities: Support planning and execution of annual student professional development seminar at IASNR annual meeting (ISSRM)

Departmental and Academic Programs

2018-2019 Lab coordinator, Human Dimensions Lab, Department of Forestry and Natural Resources, Purdue University.

Responsibilities: Coordinate lab meetings, workshops, visiting speakers, and undergraduate staff.

2017-2019 Graduate student peer mentor, Department of Forestry and Natural Resources, Purdue University.

Responsibilities: Meet with new graduate students, connect them with campus resources, assist in class registration.

2017-2019 Graduate student peer mentor, Interdisciplinary Ecological Sciences and Engineering, Purdue University.

Responsibilities: Meet with new graduate students, connect them with campus resources, assist in class registration.

2015 Project lead, PlanDSM Environmental Group Outreach, Iowa State University Community and Regional Planning Studio.

Responsibilities: Lead team of 4 graduate students in data collection, analysis and presentation of citizens' perceptions of environmental issues in the city of Des Moines, Iowa.

2015-2016 Co-president, ISU Sustainable Agriculture Student Association.

Responsibilities: Oversee and coordinate workshops, community garden, and outreach for graduate student organization.

Conference organizing

2022 Session co-chair, American Association of Geographers 2022 Annual Meeting. Climate gentrification: Emerging themes and methods.

2018-2019 Co-chair, Ecological Sciences and Engineering Symposium.

Responsibilities: Oversee and facilitate the planning, design, and implementation of an annual symposium for interdisciplinary environmental scholars, includes oversight of a budget exceeding \$18,000.

Reviewer for Academic Journals

Environmental Management

Environmental Science and Policy

Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development

Journal of Great Lakes Research

Guest Editor of Academic Journals

Everyday Adaptations to Climate Change, *Ecology and Society*. Guest editors: Agrawal, A., Nixon, R., Ghimire, R., Tebboth, M., Juhola, S., Castro, B., Ayodele-Olajire, D., Liao, C., Erbaugh, J. In progress.

Reviewer for Regional, National, and International Funding Agencies

National Institute of Food and Agriculture, United States Department of Agriculture

PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC MEMBERSHIPS

American Association of Geographers

International Association for Society and Natural Resources

TRAINING AND CERTIFICATIONS

2021	Safe Zone certification, LGBTQ Center, Purdue University.
2021	Bystander training, Asian Americans Advancing Justice.
2020	Grant writing workshop, Center for the Environment, Purdue University.
2020	Social media and research workshop, Center for the Environment, Purdue University.
2018, 2019	NVivo workshop. Libraries and School of Information Studies, Purdue University.
2017	Grant writing workshop. The Graduate School, Purdue University.
2017	Automated content analysis short course. Department of Forestry and Natural Resources, Purdue University