

Department of Applied Economics 1994 Buford Avenue St. Paul, MN, 55108, USA

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## *MARGINAL MEMOS*

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Editor: Sadie Brendalen

### Announcements

#### August 26- Online Agricultural and Resource Economics Seminar

The seminar will be held on Wednesdays at 11 am Central US time.

The seminar this week will be held on August 26, 2020. Yu Na Lee, University of Guelph, will present, "Does an Aversion to Price Risk Drive Migration? Evidence from Rural Ethiopia"

If you would like to register, see the OARES website [here](#), and make sure to sign up with your institutional address. The OARES website includes a schedule of forthcoming talks as well.

#### Congratulations to our award winners!

A number of our graduate students were recognized at this year's AAEA meeting! Gabriella Sorg took home the Outstanding Master's Thesis Award and Katherine Wilts took home both the Anthony Grano Scholarship and 1st place in the Graduate Student Extension Competition. A link to the 2020 awards is [available here](#). Congratulations, students!

#### CFANS Mentor Program

The CFANS Mentor Program is now accepting applications. As a mentor, you will share valuable career knowledge with your mentee, connect with your mentee during monthly meetings virtually/in-person, provide feedback on your mentee's career outlook and resume, and if possible, host your mentee at your workplace for a half-day job shadow. Apply online by September 28th.

[Apply online](#)

## Jobs

### Regional Economist: Department of Agriculture, Juneau, AK

This position is with the Alaska Region, Deputy Regional Forester - Resources, Ecosystem Planning & Budget staff.

The position serves as the regional economist providing economic advice and analysis to support national forests, resource programs, and professional staff for the Alaska Region and has a duty station of Juneau, Alaska. The successful candidate: Prepares reports required by the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) related to Tongass National Forest timber supply and demand. Provides economic advice, analysis, and reports focusing on the natural resource sectors of Alaska's economy including timber, tourism, fisheries, and minerals. Provides economic and social science analysis and guidance to support national forest planning and projects as required by National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Provides advice and program development support regarding ecosystem services valuation. Perform other duties as assigned.

[Apply online](#)

### Postdoctoral Scholar: NOAA, California

The University of California, Santa Cruz, in collaboration with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Services, seeks a Postdoctoral Scholar in Socio-economic Analysis. The postdoctoral scholar will work in partnership with two other postdoctoral scholars, one focused on ecosystem modeling and another on management strategy evaluation. The project involves a multidisciplinary team of federal and academic collaborators from UC Santa Cruz, NOAA Fisheries Science Centers (Northwest, Southwest, and Pacific Islands), and CSIRO (Australia) and is part of the Future Seas Project (<https://future-seas.com/>). The Postdoctoral scholar will conduct ecosystem modeling to assess performance of current and alternative management strategies for coastal pelagic species (CPS) in the California Current under a changing climate, shifting forage species composition, and varying predator populations. The Postdoctoral Scholar in Socio-economic Analysis will be responsible for a) working collaboratively with other researchers in multiple disciplines to develop a socio-economic model of the CPS fleet for integration to the MSE framework, c) assisting with production and interpretation of socio-economic analysis for MSE scenarios, d) communication of socio-economic analysis results in the form of written manuscripts and oral presentations.

TO APPLY: Submit as a single PDF: (1) a letter of application that addresses how you meet the basic and preferred qualifications, (2) a curriculum vitae, (3) one to three representative publications, and (4) names and contact information of three references. Applications can be sent directly to Stephen Stohs ([Stephen.Stohs@noaa.gov](mailto:Stephen.Stohs@noaa.gov)) and Desiree Tommasi ([detommas@ucsc.edu](mailto:detommas@ucsc.edu)). Please specify in your email that you are applying for the Socioeconomic Analysis position.

## Agricultural Economist: Natural Resources Conservation Service, Bozeman, MT

This position provides staff leadership for the economic phases of natural resource planning activities through the analysis of data. This includes conducting presentations of material relating to economics and overall natural resources planning. You will participate in the formulation, analysis and implementation of group resource conservation plans. This includes preparing or assisting with plans, reports, and supporting documents which deal with economics. You will estimate benefits of planned works of improvement. This involves working closely with the project coordinator to convert structural costs to average annual costs and to determine average annual costs of operation and maintenance. You will participate in planning and environmental evaluation and is responsible for the development of economic and social impacts for various natural resource projects and conservation programs.

[Apply online](#)

## Economist: National Older Worker Career Center

The National Older Worker Career Center is seeking an Economist to perform economic investigations for conservation planning, programs, and other related duties.

The economist is responsible for collecting and analyzing economic data for installation, maintenance, and management of conservation practices; coordinating maintenance of state and county cost lists that include cost-shared practices, maintenance of conservation practices, and costs for providing conservation technical assistance.

The economist will conduct Economic analyses of planning activities needed to appraise conservation planning alternatives.

[Apply online](#)

## Sustainability Forecasting Fellow: UMN

The Natural Capital Project and the University of Minnesota's Department of Applied Economics seeks a research fellow to work with an interdisciplinary collaborative research team to assess the degree to which current and future sustainability standards can lead to improved environmental, economic and social outcomes and to identify how these standards can be better designed to help society meet future demand while sustaining ecosystem services and biodiversity.

The project is an innovative, forward-looking academic-NGO-private sector collaboration between eight partners, including the University of Minnesota, the global membership

association for credible sustainability standards, ISEAL, three global standard setting organizations and three corporate buyers of sugarcane, rubber and oil palm. The effort represents the first steps to connect commodity standards, reduce commodity impacts on the environment, and help governments and brands target sustainability investments. Sustainability forecasting methods will leverage predictive models that translate producer-level actions into predictions of landscape-scale environmental and social impacts that will be used to evaluate the outcomes of alternative scenarios of land use policy and climate change. Results of these analyses will be used to assess the 'business case' of partner strategies and to inform future standard design and procurement decisions. Additionally, data and models will be integrated into a 'real-time' decision support tool based on GeoDesign principles and then applied with stakeholders to design future standards and corporate sourcing strategies and assess the impacts of implementation.

The fellow will collaborate with a diverse team of academic, NGO and private sector professionals to investigate 1) how Voluntary Sustainability Standards (VSS) can help society achieve conservation and Sustainable Development Goals, 2) how VSS could be made even more impactful by building adaptability into standard design and criteria, and 3) where future VSS adoption efforts should be prioritized and targeted. The developed scientific methodology will be transferable to a wide range of commodities and regions and allow for any number of alternative policy scenarios.

This is a 24-month position that can begin as early as August 15, 2020 and is based in St. Paul, Minnesota with mentors Dr. Derric Pennington, Dr. Tim Smith, Len Kne, Dr. Justin Johnson and Dr. Steve Polasky.

TO APPLY: Applications must be submitted online at <https://humanresources.umn.edu/jobs> (search for job opening 336739). Include a cover letter, curriculum vitae, names, addresses and email contact information for two professional references. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

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## Departmental Publications

Boland, Michael A., Brian C. Briggeman, Keri Jacobs, Phil Kenkel, Gregory McKee, and John L. Park. 2020. "Research Priorities for Agricultural Cooperatives and Their Farmer-Members." *Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy*, August, Early View. <https://doi-org.ezp3.lib.umn.edu/10.1002/aapp.13068>

Buhl-Wiggers, Julie, Jason Kerwin, Juan Sebastián Muñoz, Jeffrey Smith, and Rebecca Thornton. 2020. "Some Children Left Behind: Variation in the Effects of an Educational Intervention." IZA DP No. 13598. Bonn, Germany: IZA - Institute of Labor Economics. <http://ftp.iza.org/dp13598.pdf>.

Tuck, Brigid A., Scott A. Chazdon, Catherine M. Rasmussen, and Hannah J. Bohn. 2020.

“Measuring the Economic Benefit of Extension Leadership Programs: McLeod for Tomorrow.” *Journal of Extension* 58 (4): #v58-4a2. Available [online](#).



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# APPLIED ECONOMICS

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