

# Cristian Román-Palacios

## *Curriculum Vitae*



### Contact information

- o Email: [cromanpa94@email.arizona.edu](mailto:cromanpa94@email.arizona.edu)
- o Institution: University of Arizona
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### Professional appointments

- 2021 **Assistant professor of Practice**, *University of Arizona*, School of Information.
- 2021 **Staff researcher**, *University of California, Los Angeles*, PI: Dr. Aradhna Tripathi.

### Education

- 2016–2020 **Ph.D. in Ecology and Evolution**, *The University of Arizona, Tucson*, Advisor: Dr. John J. Wiens.
- 2016–2019 **MS in Ecology and Evolution**, *The University of Arizona*.
- 2011–2015 **BS in Biology**, *Universidad del Valle, Cali, Colombia*, **Highest Honors**.

### Research Interests

Evolution, Climate change, Bioinformatics, and Biostatistics

### Grants and scholarships (total funding: **\$86,750**)

16. **2021** - Early Career Fellow, Center for Diverse Leadership in Science at the University of California, Los Angeles (**\$5,000 USD**). PI: **Cristian Román-Palacios**.
15. **2020** - Robert W. Hoshaw Memorial Award (Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology - University of Arizona, Tucson) (**\$5,000 USD**). PI: **Cristian Román-Palacios**.
14. **2020** - University of Arizona, College of Science 2020 Graduate Award in Scholarship (**\$1,000 USD**). PI: **Cristian Román-Palacios**.
13. **2020** - Galileo Circle Scholarship (**\$1,000 USD**). PI: **Cristian Román-Palacios**.
12. **2018–2019** - Data Science Fellowship – The University of Arizona libraries (**\$1,000 USD**). PI: **Cristian Román-Palacios**.
11. **2018** - Systematics Research Fund (The Linnean Society and the Systematics Association) (**\$1,600 USD**). PI: **Cristian Román-Palacios**.
10. **2018** - William A Calder III Memorial Scholarship (Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology - University of Arizona, Tucson) (**\$4,200 USD**). PI: **Cristian Román-Palacios**.
9. **2018** - Society of Systematic Biologists - Evolution2018 Travel Grant (**\$500 USD**).

8. **2018** - Biodiversity Information Standards – TDWG Meeting (New Zealand) (**\$2,000 USD**). **Declined**
7. **2017** - AGA funds (American Genetics Association) towards organizing the VI Colombian meeting in evolution (**\$10,000 USD**). PI: Yherson Franchesco Molina-Henao, Diego Hernandez, Rosario Castañeda, **Cristian Román-Palacios**, Jose Julian Tavera.
6. **2017** - SSE funds (Society for the Study of Evolution) towards organizing the VI Colombian meeting in evolution (**\$6,000 USD**). PI: Yherson Franchesco Molina-Henao, Diego Hernandez, Rosario Castañeda, **Cristian Román-Palacios**, Jose Julian Tavera.
5. **2017** - SMBE funds (Society for Molecular Biology and Evolution) towards organizing the VI Colombian meeting in evolution (**\$25,000 USD**). PI: Yherson Franchesco Molina-Henao, Diego Hernandez, Rosario Castañeda, **Cristian Román-Palacios**, Jose Julian Tavera.
4. **2017-2018** - Banco de la Republica, Colombia (**\$6,000 USD**). PI: **Cristian Román-Palacios**, Ranulfo Gonzalez-Obando, Heiber Cardenas-Henao, Sergio Helap.
3. **2016** - National Science Foundation. R Methods in Macroevolution Workshop (**\$750 USD**).
2. **2015-2016** - Programa Jóvenes Investigadores e Innovadores “Virginia Gutiérrez de Pineda” (**\$7,700 USD**).
1. **2011-2016** - Awards for Outstanding Academic Achievement, School of Natural and Exact Sciences, Universidad del Valle, Colombia (**ca. \$10,000 USD**).

### Awards

4. **2021** - Early Career Fellow, Center for Diverse Leadership in Science at the University of California, Los Angeles.
3. **2020** - University of Arizona, College of Science 2020 Graduate Award in Scholarship. **"For impressive contributions to the literature (over 20 papers on a range of topics, many first authored)"** among more than 1,000 graduate students in 20 departments.
2. **2015** - Best national score in the Colombian education exam. Biology section (Icfes Saber-Pro).
1. **2011-2016** - Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement, School of Natural and Exact Sciences, Universidad del Valle. I only paid student fees throughout college.

### Publications

29. **Cristian Román-Palacios**, April M. Wright, and Josef C. Uyeda (2021). treedata.table: A wrapper for data.table that enables fast manipulation of large phylogenetic trees matched to data. PeerJ, 9: e12450.
28. Xiao-Yu, Zhu, Shi-Yang Wu, S. Y., Yi-Juao Liu, Chris R. Reardon, **Cristian Román-Palacios**, Zheng Li, Zhu-Qing He. A new species of whip spider, *Weygoldtia hainanensis* sp. nov., from Hainan, China (Arachnida: Amblypygi: Charinidae). Zootaxa, 5082(1), 65-76.
27. Xiao-Yu Zhu, Yi-Jiao, Liu, Yun, Bai, **Cristian Román-Palacios**, Zheng Li, Zhu-Qing He. *Goniurosaurus chengzheng* sp. nov., a new species of Leopard Gecko from Guangxi, China (Squamata: Eublepharidae). Zootaxa 996(3), 540-554, doi:10.11646/zootaxa.4996.3.8.
26. **Cristian Román-Palacios**, Cesar A. Medina, Shing H. Zhan, Michael S. Barker. Animal chromosome counts reveal similar range of chromosome numbers but with less polyploidy in animals compared to flowering plants. **Journal of Evolutionary Biology**, doi:10.1111/jeb.13884.
25. Robert N Ulrich, Maxence Guillermic, Julia Campbell, Abbas Hakim, Rachel Han, Shayleen Singh, Justin D Stewart, **Cristian Román-Palacios**, Hannah M Carroll, Ilian DeCorte, Rosaleen E

- Gilmore, Whitney Doss, Aradhna Tripathi, Justin B Ries, Robert A Eagle. 2021. Patterns of element incorporation in calcium carbonate biominerals recapitulate phylogeny for a diverse range of marine calcifiers. **Frontiers in Earth Science, section Geochemistry**, doi:10.3389/feart.2021.641760.
24. Tania Hernandez-Hernandez\*, Elizabeth C. Miller\*, **Cristian Román-Palacios\***, and John J. Wiens\*. 2021. Speciation across the Tree of Life. **Biological Reviews**, doi:10.1111/brv.12698.  
\*Equal contribution
  23. Elizabeth C. Miller\*, and **Cristian Román-Palacios\***. 2021. Evolutionary time explains the global distribution of freshwater fish diversity. **Global Ecology and Biogeography**, 30:749–763, doi:10.1111/geb.13253.  
\*Equal contribution
  22. Xiao-Yu Zhu, Guang-Yu Chen, **Cristian Román-Palacios**, Zheng Li, Zhu-Qing He. 2020. *Goniurosaurus gezhi*, a new gecko species from Guangxi, China (Squamata: Sauria: Eublepharidae). **Zootaxa**, 4852:211–222.
  21. **Cristian Román-Palacios\***, Yherson F. Molina\*, and Michael S. Barker. 2020. Polyploidy increases overall diversity despite higher turnover than diploids in the Brassicaceae. **Proceedings of the Royal Society of London**, 287:20200962.  
\*Equal contribution
  20. **Cristian Román-Palacios**, and John J. Wiens. 2020. Recent responses to climate change reveal the drivers of species extinction and survival. **Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America**, 117:4211–4217.  
\*\*Recommended in **Faculty Opinions** (former **Faculty1000**).  
\*\*Featured in stories on several news and science related sites. These include news outlets in the U.S. (e.g. **CNN, USA Today, CBS News, Yahoo News, AOL, MSN, Fox News, New York Post, New York Daily News, Arizona Daily Star [with interview], Miami Herald, Kansas City Star, Indianapolis Star, Sacramento Bee, Charlotte Observer, and Detroit Free Press, Salt Lake Tribune**), and other countries including the United Kingdom (**Daily Mail, The Independent, The London Economic, The Irish Sun, Metro**), India (**Tribune India, India Times Post, Outlook India, The Week, Canindia, ProKerala**), Australia (**10Daily**), France (**Slate, Free, Futura-Science**), Italy (**Galileo**), Spain (**La Vanguardia**), Sweden (**ETC**), Poland (**Polish Press Agency**), Russia (**Life**), Slovenia (**Delo**), Bulgaria (**Novinite**), Brazil (**Galileu**), and Latin America (**infosurhoy**). Featured on science websites including **Popular Science** (with interview), **Wildlife.org** (with interview), **Futurity, IFL Science, ZME Science, SciTech Daily, Muy Interesante** (Spain), and the **NSF News** site. Interview for the climate magazine **The Grist**. Interview on podcast **The Climate Pod**. TV interview on **KVOA (Tucson; lead story)**. Radio interview on **BBC World Service**.
  19. **Cristian Román-Palacios**, Joshua Scholl, and John J. Wiens. 2019. Evolution of diet across the animal Tree of Life. **Evolution Letters**, 4:339–347.  
\*\*Featured in a news story in **Science**, and other science-related websites (**phys.org, Science Daily, and UA News**). Newspaper column in **Södermanlands Nyheter**. Radio interview on **Arizona Science**.
  18. Andreas Meyer, **Cristian Román-Palacios**, and John J. Wiens. 2018. BAMM gives misleading results in simulated and empirical datasets. **Evolution**, 72:2257–2266.
  17. Alfonso N. Garcia-Aldrete, Nancy S. Carrejo, Julian Mendivil, Nadia Calderón, Oscar Saenz, Jefferson Panche, **Cristian Román-Palacios**, and Ranulfo Obando-Obando. 2018. Checklist of 'Psocoptera' (Psocodea) of Colombia and identification key to families. **Dugesiana**, 25:77–103.
  16. **Cristian Román-Palacios**, and John J. Wiens. 2018. The Tortoise and the Finch: testing for island effects on diversification using two iconic Galápagos radiations. **Journal of Biogeography**, 45:1701–1702.

**\*\*Highlighted as Editor's Choice.**

15. **Cristian Román-Palacios**, Rosario Castañeda, and Jose Julian Tavera. 2018. When did *Anolis* lizards diverge? A comparison of multiple dating strategies. **Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution**, 127:655-668.
14. **Cristian Román-Palacios**, Jakob Damgaard, Cheng, Lanna, Felipe Ferraz Figueiredo Moreira, Tom A. Weir, and Herbert Zettle. 2018. Molecular phylogeny of sea skaters and their freshwater relatives (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Gerridae: Halobatinae). **Journal of Insect Systematics and Evolution**, 51:139-240.
13. **Cristian Román-Palacios**, and Alejandro Valencia-Zuleta. 2018. On the Data Deficient amphibians from Colombia. **Revista de Biología Tropical**, 66:1272-1281.
12. **Cristian Román-Palacios**, Yherson Franchesco Molina-Henao, and Ranulfo Gonzalez-Obando. 2017. On the divergence of Psocidae (Psocodea, Psocomorpha): Fossils or biogeography. **Boletín del Museo de Entomología de la Universidad del Valle**, 17:37-46.
11. **Cristian Román-P**, Sara Fernández-Garzón, Alejandro Valencia-Zuleta, Andrés F. Jaramillo-Martínez, and Ronald A. Viáfara-Vega. 2017. Lista anotada de la herpetofauna del departamento del Quindío, Colombia. **Biota Colombiana**, 18:251-281.
10. **Cristian Román-Palacios**, Sara Fernandez-Garzon, Jenny Johana Gallo-Franco, Alan Giraldo-Lopez, Monica Hernandez-Lopez, Jun Ishida-Castañeda, and Wilmar Bolivar-Garcia. 2017. Uso de microhábitat por anuros en un fragmento de bosque seco intervenido del Magdalena medio, Guarinocito, Colombia. **Boletín Científico Centro De Museos Museo De Historia Natural**, 20:181-196.
9. **Cristian Román-Palacios**, and Cesar Román Valencia. 2017. Dieta y reproducción de *Bryconamericus caucanus* (Characiformes: Characidae) en La Venada, Río Quindío, Colombia. **Revista MVZ Córdoba**, 2:1-17.
8. **Cristian Román-Palacios**, Alfonso Neri García-Aldrete, and Ranulfo Gonzalez Obando. 2016. Historical biogeography of Thyrsophorini psocids and description of a new Neotropical species of *Thyrsopsocopsis* (Psocodea: Psocomorpha: Psocidae). **European Journal of Entomology**, 194:1-16.
7. **Cristian Roman-Palacios**, Ranulfo Obando-Gonzalez, and Alfonso Neri Aldrete. 2016. Uncovering the diversity of the neotropical genus *Elaphopsocus* ('Psocoptera': Psocidae: Amphigerontiinae): from one to ten species. **Zootaxa**, 4162:373-380.
6. **Cristian Román-Palacios**, and Alfonso N. García Aldrete. 2015. A new Neotropical genus of Blastini (Psocodea:'Psocoptera': Psocidae: Amphigerontiinae). **Zootaxa**, 4000:392-396.
5. Daniela Moraga Lopez, and **Cristian Román-Palacios**. 2015. Information criteria on multi-model selection of parametric regression: Biological applications. **Revista Comunicaciones en Estadística**, 8:45-57.
4. **Cristian Román-Palacios**, Ranulfo Gonzalez Obando, and Alfonso N. Garcia Aldrete. 2015. The genus *Elaphopsocus* Roesler (Psocodea:'Psocoptera': Psocidae) with six new species from Brazil and Colombia. **Zootaxa**, 3957:151-168.
3. **Cristian Román-Palacios**, and Cesar Román Valencia. 2015. Hábitos tróficos de dos especies sintópicas de carácidos en una quebrada de alta montaña en los Andes de Colombia. **Revista Mexicana de Biodiversidad**, 86:1-7.
2. **Cristian Román-Palacios**, Alfonso N. García Aldrete, and Ranulfo Gonzalez-Obando. 2014. *Elaphopsocoides*, a new genus of Psocidae (Psocodea: 'Psocoptera') from Valle del Cauca, Colombia. **Zootaxa**, 3873:93-100.
1. **Cristian Román-Palacios**, Cesar Román Valencia, and Donald C. Taphorn. 2014. Trophic and reproductive ecology of a neotropical characid fish *Hemibrycon brevispini* (Teleostei: Characiformes). **Caldasia**, 36:289-304.

## In preparation, submitted, and preprints

5. **Cristian Román-Palacios**, Daniela Moraga-Lopez, and John J. Wiens. 2020 (positive reviews at Ecology Letters). Explaining the paradox of freshwater biodiversity.
4. Chinmay Hemant Joshi, **Cristian Román-Palacios**, and John J. Wiens. 2020 (submitted, Evolution). Haplodiploidy and the evolution of eusociality in insects.
3. **Cristian Román-Palacios**, Hannah M. Carroll, Alexandra J. Arnold, Randy J. Flores, Sierra V. Petersen, Karen A. McKinnon, and Aradhna Tripati. 2021 (positive reviews at Geochemistry, Geophysics, Geosystems). A bayesian linear mixed model on the calibration of the 'clumped isotope' paleothermometer. Preprint available: <https://www.essoar.org/doi/10.1002/essoar.10507995.1>
2. Valentina Sarria-Rodríguez, Ranulfo Gonzalez-Obando, Nelson Rivera, Heiber Cardenas-Henao and **Cristian Román-Palacios**. 2020 (Under Review). Holarctic lineages cannot not inform diversity and evolution in Tropics – the barklice family Psocidae as a case study. Under review in (**Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution**).
1. **Cristian Román-Palacios**, and Alejandro Valencia-Zuleta. 2020 (submitted). Hybridization increases species richness by triggering diversification rates in a global radiation of passerine birds (target journal **Evolution**).

## Non peer-reviewed publications

4. **Cristian Román-Palacios**. 2019. Five tips for nailing your US-based graduate-school applications. **Nature**, 10.1038/d41586-019-00845-z
3. **Cristian Román-Palacios**. 2017. P-valores, alpha y beta: ¿Cuanto nos equivocamos en Biología?. **Boletín del Posgrado en Ciencias Biología. Universidad del Valle**, 3:24-26.
2. **Cristian Román-Palacios**. 2016. ¿Conservan las áreas protegidas la biodiversidad en Colombia?. **Boletín del Posgrado en Ciencias Biología. Universidad del Valle**, 2:79-82.
1. **Cristian Román-Palacios**, and Daniela Moraga Lopez. 2015. Rebuilding the evolutionary and ecological history of the sea skaters *Halobates* spp. (Heteroptera: Gerridae). **PeerJ Preprints**, 3:e1416.

## Media coverage

2. **Nature Index**. March 2020. *Gemma Conroy*: Front line scientists call for mental health support in the wake of catastrophic ecosystem loss.
1. **Forbes science**. February 2020. *Andrew J. Wright* Global South Science (to be published online).

## Invited talks

6. **University of California, Los Angeles**. 2021. Introduction to R and ggplot2.
5. **University of California, Los Angeles**. 2021. Introduction to biostatistics.
4. **Universidad del Valle, Colombia**. 2019. Narrando historias a través del Arbol de la Vida: Sistemática, Macroevolución y cambio climático.
3. **Universidad del Quindío, Colombia**. 2019. Diversificación en islas, evolución de la dieta y cambio climático.
2. **Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Colombia**. 2019. Narrando historias a través del Arbol de la Vida: Sistemática, Macroevolución y cambio climático.
1. **Universidad del Valle, Colombia**. 2019. Sistemática, diversificación en islas y extinciones en gradientes altitudinales.

## Software

4. **2019.** BTOpenNLP. Building and Training models for openNLP. <https://github.com/cromanpa94/BTOpenNLP>
3. **2019.** treedata.table. Phylogenetic data manipulation using data.table. <https://github.com/ropensci/treedata.table>
2. **2019.** rBT. An R Wrapper for BayesTraits <https://github.com/cromanpa94/rBT>
1. **2017.** rPhylota. An R package <https://github.com/cromanpa94/rPHYLOTA>

## Participation in conferences

8. **1er Congreso Latinoamericano de Evolucion.** 2021. Integrante comite científico: Filogenia y Biogeografía.
7. **Botany.** 2020. Lightning talk (presented by **Michael S. Barker**): Animal chromosome counts reveal similar range of chromosome numbers but with less polyploidy in animals compared to flowering plants.
6. **Evolution meeting, Montpellier (France).** 2018. Poster: On the interplay between diversification rates, hybridization, geography, and sexual selection: a case study with Corvid birds.
5. **Congreso de la Sociedad Colombiana de Entomología, Cali (Colombia).** 2018. Plenary Talk: Taxonomía y sistemática de Psocidos neotropicales.
4. **Anolis symposium.** 2018. (presented by **Rosario Castañeda**. When did *Anolis* lizards diverge? A comparison of multiple dating strategies.
3. **Origins of Adaptive Radiation, Waimea (USA).** 2018. Poster: The Tortoise and the Finch: testing for island effects on diversification using two iconic Galápagos radiations.
2. **Colombian National conference on Evolution, Cali (Colombia).** 2017. Main organizer.
1. **National conference on Evolution, Armenia (Colombia).** 2015. Poster: Diversification histories in parasitic and free-living lice (Psocodea).

## Teaching experience

12. **2021-Fall** - Introduction to Data Mining and Discovery (INFO-523). The University of Arizona.
11. **2021-Fall** - Introduction to Machine Learning (INFO-521). Co-taught with Dr. Clayton Morrison. The University of Arizona.
10. **2020-Fall** - Marine Biology (ECOL-170). The University of Arizona.
9. **2020-Summer** - Genetics (ECOL-320). The University of Arizona.
8. **2020-Spring** - Introductory Biology (ECOL-182L). The University of Arizona.
7. **2019-Fall** - Marine Biology (ECOL-170). The University of Arizona.
6. **2019-Spring** - Introductory Biology (ECOL-182L). The University of Arizona.
5. **2018-Fall** - Marine Biology (ECOL-170). The University of Arizona.
4. **2018-Spring** - Introductory Biology (ECOL-182L). The University of Arizona.
3. **2017-Fall** - Marine Biology (ECOL-170). The University of Arizona.

2. **2017-Spring** - Introductory Biology (ECOL-182L). The University of Arizona.

1. **2016-Fall** - Introductory Biology (ECOL-182L). The University of Arizona.

### Academic outreach

- 2018–2019 Data carpentry workshop helper. Tucson, AZ
- 2018 Judge at local science fair. Davis Bilingual Magnet Elementary. Tucson, AZ
- 2018 Data Science Ambassador for The University of Arizona
- 2018 Ecology and Evolutionary Biology stand (Science city). Tucson Festival of books. The University of Arizona.
- 2018 Judge at local science fair. Sam Hughes Elementary School. Tucson, AZ.
- 2017 Speaker at the Graduate School Information Session organized for ICETEX (Colombia). University of Arizona.

### Political outreach

- 2020 Keynote speaker at **Congressman Raúl M. Grijalva's** Youth Advisory Council, March 2020

### Participation in committees

- 2021 Marshall Foundation/Maria Teresa Velez fellowship committee. The University of Arizona
- 2021 Admissions committee - MS in Data Science, School of Information. The University of Arizona
- 2020 College of Science race and climate committee. The university of Arizona
- 2017–2018 College of Science Climate Committee. Rep. for the Ecology and Evolutionary Biology department. The university of Arizona

### Advised students

- 2018 **Valentina Sarria Rodriguez**. Undergraduate thesis. Systematics and Evolution of Neotropical Psocidae. Universidad del Valle, Colombia/ **Honorable mention**

### Professional service

- 2021 **EntomoBrasilis (1 manuscript)** *Reviewer*
- 2020 **Journal of Insect Biodiversity (1 manuscript)** *Reviewer*
- 2020 **EntomoBrasilis (2 manuscripts)** *Reviewer*
- 2019 **Mammal Review (1 manuscript)** *Reviewer*
- 2019 **Annals of Botany (1 manuscript)** *Reviewer*
- 2019 **American Journal of Botany (1 manuscript)** *Reviewer*
- 2019 **Amphibia-Reptilia (1 manuscript)** *Reviewer*
- 2018 **Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution (1 manuscript)** *Reviewer*
- 2018–2019 **International Journal of Tropical Biology and Conservation (3 manuscripts)** *Reviewer*
- 2017–2019 **Biota Colombiana (2 manuscripts)** *Reviewer*
- 2017–2019 **EntomoBrasilis (1 manuscripts)** *Reviewer*

### Languages

Spanish **Native**

English **Fluent**  
Portuguese **Basic**

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## Courses and Internships

- 2019 Nantucket phylogeny developoR workshop. Co-taught by April Wright, Josef Uyeda, Klaus Schliep, Claudia Solís-Lemus, and Liam Revell
- 2017 Sanderson's Lab, University of Arizona. Project: Plant height and rates of molecular evolution from transcriptomic data in legumes.
- 2016 Barker's Lab, University of Arizona. Project: Ploidy and diversification in Brassicaceae.
- 2016 Wiens' Lab, University of Arizona. Project: Evolution of diet across the animal Tree of Life.
- 2016 Phylogenetic Comparative Methods (Co-taught by Liam Revell [UMASS], Michael Alfaro [UCLA], Luke Harmon [Udaho], and Ricardo Betancur [University of Puerto Rico]). Puerto Rico.
- 2015 Zaldívar-Riverón Lab, IB, UNAM, México D.F., México.
- 2015 Garcia-Aldrete Lab, IB, UNAM, México D.F., México
- 2014 Bioinformática y Genómica Computacional, CorpoGen, Bogotá, Colombia.

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## References

- 2 **Aradhna Tripathi** ([atripathi@g.ucla.edu](mailto:atripathi@g.ucla.edu))  
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Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, The University of Arizona  
Tucson, Arizona, USA
- 3 **Michael S. Barker** ([msbarker@email.arizona.edu](mailto:msbarker@email.arizona.edu))  
Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, The University of Arizona  
Tucson, Arizona, USA
- 4 **Rosemary Gillespie** ([gillespie@berkeley.edu](mailto:gillespie@berkeley.edu))  
Department of Environmental Science, Policy, and Management  
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