Andrew Earle

Email: earleand@msu.edu
Webpage: www.andrewearle.com

Employment

2023 –   Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, East Carolina University

Education

Ph.D.   Economics, Michigan State University, dual major in Environmental Science & Policy

M.A.   Economics, Michigan State University

B.S.   Mathematical-Economics, University of Pittsburgh

Fields

Primary: Applied Microeconomics, Environmental Economics
Secondary: Public Economics, Urban Economics, Industrial Organization

Research Interests

Climate impacts, non-market valuation, recreation demand, local economic impacts, congestion, time use

Job Market Paper

"Visiting 'America's Best Idea': Demand for the US National Park System" (Job Market Paper)

Abstract: The U.S. National Park System protects some of the world's most spectacular resources and attracts 300 million visits each year, generating surplus for visitors and supporting local economies. I create a versatile and unified framework to analyze demand for U.S. national parks. Combining nationally representative surveys with park-level visitor counts, I estimate a discrete-choice model of visitation from 2005 through 2019. The model controls for changing travel costs and inter-park substitution while permitting the use of causal inference techniques. I apply the framework to analyze how long-run average temperatures and short-run temperature shocks impact demand. Visiting a park generates the most surplus when temperatures fall between 70°F and 85°F. Relative to this ideal range, visiting when the average high temperature is 30°F reduces willingness to pay by $503 per-trip. Visiting when the average high temperature is 95°F reduces willingness to pay by just $107. Positive temperature shocks increase willingness to pay when temperatures are less than 80°F and have no discernible impact at warmer temperatures. The results provide insight to the welfare impacts of climate change, and the framework is broadly applicable to management challenges facing the national parks.

Works in Progress

"Willingness to Pay to Avoid Crowding on Public Beaches," with Frank Lupi, Caroline Tompson, and Roger von Haefen

"Causal Inference, High-Frequency Data, and the Recreational Value of Water Quality," with Hyunjung Kim

"Weather and College Student Achievement," with Raghav Rakesh

Presentations

2023:   Midwest Economic Association, Association of Environmental and Resource Economists Annual Meeting, Social Cost of Water Pollution Workshop, Southern Economic Association
2022:   Southern Economic Association, MSU Economics Applied Micro Seminar, National Park Service Social Sciences Team, Camp Resources, UM-MSU Environmental and Energy Economics Day, MSU Economics Grad Student Seminar
2021:   Property and Environment Research Center (PERC), MSU Economics Red Cedar Conference

Grants, Fellowships, and Awards
Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Michigan State University, 2023
Graduate Fellow, Property and Environment Research Center (PERC), Bozeman, MT, 2021
Peter Schmidt Award for Best First Year PhD Student, Michigan State University, 2019
Environmental Science and Public Policy Fellow, Michigan State University, 2018
Asher Isaacs Prize for Best Graduating Economics Major, University of Pittsburgh, 2018
Rahangdale Research Grant, University of Pittsburgh, 2017
Brackenridge Research Fellow, University of Pittsburgh, 2017

Referee Service
American Journal of Agricultural Economics, Land Economics, PNAS, Environmental Economics and Policy Studies

Teaching Experience
Instructor, Principles of Microeconomics, East Carolina University
Instructor, Introduction to Microeconomics, Michigan State University, Summers 2020 and 2022
Teaching Assistant, Michigan State University – Public Economics, Senior Seminar in Public Finance, Senior Seminar in Sports Economics, International Economics, Introduction to Econometric Methods, Intermediate Microeconomics, First year PhD Microeconomics, Intermediate Macroeconomics
Co-Instructor, Microeconomics Preliminary Exam Preparation, Michigan State University, 2021

Professional Service
President, Economics Graduate Student Organization, Michigan State University, 2021 - 2022
Instructor, Microeconomics Preliminary Exam Prep, Michigan State University, 2021
Board Member, Economics Graduate Student Organization, Michigan State University, 2020 - 2021

Technical Skills
R, Python, Stata, MATLAB, ArcGIS