

# EMILY BURCHFIELD

Assistant Professor ◊ Department of Environment and Society  
Utah State University ◊ 5215 Old Main Hill ◊ Logan, UT 84322-5215  
(435)797.4089 ◊ [emily.burchfield@usu.edu](mailto:emily.burchfield@usu.edu) ◊ [eburchfield.github.io](https://github.com/eburchfield)

## RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

---

Food and water security, geospatial programming and analysis

## APPOINTMENTS

---

<b>Utah State University</b> Assistant Professor of Geospatial Analysis Department of Environment and Society Quinney College of Natural Resources, Utah State University Faculty Associate, Ecology Center, Utah State University Faculty Associate, Climate Adaptation Science Program, Utah State University	<i>August 2017 - present</i>
--	------------------------------

## EDUCATION

---

<b>Vanderbilt University</b> Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering Graduate Fellow at the Vanderbilt Institute for Energy and Environment	<i>May 2017</i>
<b>University of Louvain, Belgium</b> M.A. in Economics Grande Distinction	<i>July 2012</i>
<b>Clemson University</b> B.A. in Economics Magna Cum Laude, Calhoun Honors College, Phi Beta Kappa	<i>May 2010</i>
<b>University of Louvain, Belgium</b> (dual-degree with Clemson) B.S. in Economics and Management Transatlantic Exchange in Economics Scholar	<i>May 2010</i>

## PUBLICATIONS

---

Tozier-de-la-Poterie, A., **Burchfield, E.**, Carrico, A. (2018). The implications of group norms for adaptation in collectively-managed agricultural systems: evidence from Sri Lankan Paddy farmers. *Ecology and Society*. 23(3):21. <https://doi.org/10.5751/ES-10175-230321> (IF 2.8)

**Burchfield, E.**, Williams, N., Carrico, A. (2018). Rescaling drought mitigation in rural Sri Lanka. *Regional Environmental Change*. 18(8): 1-14. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10113-018-1374-y> (IF 2.872)

**Burchfield, E.**, Tozier-de-la-Poterie, A. (2018). Determinants of crop diversification in rice-dominated Sri Lankan agricultural systems. *Journal of Rural Studies*. 61, 206-215. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jrurstud.2018.05.010> (IF 2.38)

Nay, J., **Burchfield, E.**, Gilligan, J. (2018). A machine-learning approach to forecasting remotely sensed vegetation health, *International Journal of Remote Sensing*. 39(6), 1800-1816. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01431161.2017.1410296> (IF 1.724)

Nelson, K., **Burchfield, E.** (2017). Effects of the structure of water rights on agricultural production during drought: A spatiotemporal analysis of California's Central Valley. *Water Resources Research*. 53(10), 8923 - 8309. <https://doi.org/10.1002/2017WR020666> (IF 4.397)

**Burchfield, E.**, Gilligan, J. (2016). Agricultural adaptation to drought in the Sri Lankan dry zone. *Applied Geography*. 77, 92-100. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apgeog.2016.10.003> (IF 2.565)

**Burchfield, E.**, Nay, J., Gilligan, J. (2016). Application of machine learning to prediction of vegetation health. *International Archives of the Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing and Spatial Information Sciences*. XLI-B2, 465-469, [doi:10.5194/isprs-archives-XLI-B2-465-2016](https://doi.org/10.5194/isprs-archives-XLI-B2-465-2016)

**Burchfield, E.**, Gilligan, J. (2016). Dynamics of individual and collective agricultural adaptation to water scarcity. *Winter Simulation Conference 2016 Proceedings*. Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=2807452>

Gunda, T., Benneyworth, L., **Burchfield, E.** (2015). Exploring water indices and associated parameters: A case study approach, *Water Policy*, 17(1), 98 - 111. <https://doi.org/10.2166/wp.2014.022> (IF 1.144)

Nwosu, O., Hennessey, E., **Burchfield, E.**, Barnes, S., Brinkley-Rubenstein, L., and Shields, S. (2013). Faculty and Student Experiences as a Model for the Academy in Action. In Barnes, S. L., Brinkley-Rubenstein, L., Doykos, B., and Martin, N. (Eds). *Academics in Action! A Model for Community-Engaged Research, Teaching, and Service*.

## PAPERS UNDER REVIEW

---

**Burchfield, E.**, Touma, D., Stiefel, M., Zhu, R., Krapu, C. Nay, J. (2018). Crop yield response to water availability in the U.S. over the past thirty years. Under review at *Agricultural and Forest Meteorology* (IF: 4.461)

**Burchfield, E.**, Matthews-Pennanen, N., Stoeber, J., Lant, C. (2018). Projected changes in yields of rainfed maize, soybeans, wheat and cotton in the Central United States under climate and technological change. Under review at *Climatic Change* (IF: 3.344)

**Burchfield, E.**, Nelson, K. Spangler, K. (2019). The impact of agricultural diversification on U.S. crop production. Submitted to *Agriculture, Ecosystems, and Environment* (IF: 4.099)

## GRANTS

---

Under review: "Understanding the Role of Landscape Diversity in Agricultural System Function" (PI, \$308,493.40) 2019-2021  
NSF GSS

Under review: "Agent-based Modeling of Human Spatial Behavior in Natural Areas" (Co-PI, \$398,416) 2019-2021  
NSF GSS

"Resilience of agricultural systems to climate stress" (PI, \$42,498) 2018-2020  
Utah Agricultural Experiment Station

"Finding Balance: Diversity and Agricultural Production" (PI, \$19,938) 2018-2019  
Utah State University Research Catalyst Grant

"Local Water Conservation Research and Education Needs" (Co-PI, \$19,401) 2018-2019  
Utah State University Extension Grants Program

"Data-driven drought effect estimation" (PI, \$25,000 for travel and stipends) 2016-2017  
[National Socio-environmental Synthesis Center \(SESYNC\)](#) Graduate Pursuit

American Institute for Sri Lankan Studies Dissertation Planning Grant (PI, \$4,500) 2015

## TEACHING

---

- GEOG 3800: Data Visualization** *Fall 2018*  
Undergraduate course at USU. An introduction to data science and data visualization.
- ENVS 2000: Natural Resources Professional Orientation** *Fall 2018*  
Undergraduate introduction to QCNR, ENVS, and USU.
- GEOG 49/6950: Geospatial Analysis** *Spring 2018*  
Advanced undergraduate and graduate course at USU. R programming and spatial analysis.
- Vanderbilt Programs for Talented Youth** *June 2015, 2016*  
Developed and taught geospatial analysis to gifted middle and high school students.
- Certificate in College Teaching** *May 2014*  
Vanderbilt University Center for Teaching

## STUDENT ADVISING

---

Cody Edwards (MS, Ecology, *In progress*)  
Britta Schumacher (MS, Ecology *In progress*)  
Stan Rhodes (PhD, Environment and Society, *In progress*)  
Kaitlyn Spangler (PhD, Environment and Society, *In progress*)

## STUDENT COMMITTEES

---

Yajie Li (PhD, Environment and Society, *In progress*)  
Morgan Christman (MS, Biology, *In progress*)  
Jenna Keeton (MS, Watershed Sciences, *In progress*)  
Neil Matthews-Pennanen (MS, Environment and Society, 2017)  
Hongchao Zhang (PhD, Environment and Society), *In progress*  
Emily Wilkins (PhD, Environment and Society), *In progress*

## SPECIAL TRAINING

---

- AAAS Catalyzing Advocacy in Science and Engineering workshop** *April 2016*  
Washington DC, USA  
*Workshop on science for policy and policy for science hosted by AAAS.*
- Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Workshop in Sustainable Development** *April 2016*  
Columbia University, New York, USA  
*Attendee and presenter*
- Borlaug Summer Institute on Global Food Security** *June 2014*  
Purdue University, USA  
*Attendee and presenter at intensive two-week workshop on global food and water security*
- NSF Summer Seminar on STS, Environmental Sociology and Policy** *May 2014*  
Vanderbilt University, USA
- Belgian Technical Cooperation Training Program and Certification** *June 2011*  
Brussels, Belgium  
*Two-week workshop on international development policy with focus on global climate change.*
- Global Climate Change: Risk and Management, Summer Course** *July 2008*  
University of Oxford, UK  
*Summer study at Oxford on climate science and policy at St. Peter's College, Oxford.*

## PAPER PRESENTATIONS

---

*Spatiotemporal dynamics of yield-response to climate extremes*, presented at the American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA, April 2018.

*Agricultural response to changes in water availability and temperature in the coterminous U.S.*, presented at the American Geophysical Union Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA, December 2017.

*Application of machine learning to the prediction of vegetation health*, presented at the International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing in Prague, Czech Republic, July 2016.

*Agricultural adaptation in the Sri Lankan Dry Zone*, presented at the IPWSD Workshop at Columbia University, NY, April 2016.

*Application of machine learning to big environmental datasets to predict vegetation health*, presented at the Association for American Geographers Annual Meeting in San Francisco, CA, April 2016. Session organizer, “Human-Environment Interactions: Linking Remote Sensing and the Social Sciences”

*The application of PCA for the identification of adaptive agricultural systems in the tropics*, presented at the Workshop on the Use of Remote Sensing for Decision-Making in Agricultural and Water Management in Colombo, Sri Lanka, August 2015.

*Institutions and imagery: Mapping water management in rural Sri Lanka*, presented at the Association of American Geographers Conference in Chicago, IL, April 2015.

*ADAPT-SL: Agricultural Decision Making and Adaptation to Precipitation Trends in Sri Lanka*, presented at the National Science Foundation Water, Sustainability and Climate PI meeting in Washington, D.C., February 2015.

*Patterns of meteorological and agricultural drought in Sri Lankan agricultural areas*, presented at the Gordon Research Seminar on Science, Technology and Policy, in Waterville Valley, NH, August 2014.

*Resettlement and coloniality in the Mahaweli Ganga Watershed*, presented at the Annual Dimensions of Political Ecology Conference on Nature/Society in Lexington, KY, February 2013.

## POSTER PRESENTATIONS

---

*Using R-INLA to understand institutional moderators of drought*, presented at the **useR!** Conference in Brussels, Belgium, July 2017.

*Dynamics of collective and individual agricultural adaptation to water scarcity*, presented at the American Geophysical Union Conference in San Francisco, CA, December 2016.

*Agricultural adaptation to water scarcity in the Sri Lankan dry zone: A comparison of two water management regimes*, presented at the National Science Foundation Water, Sustainability and Climate PI meeting in Washington, D.C., February 2015.

*Mapping water management: A case study from Sri Lanka*, presented at the American Geophysical Union Annual Conference in San Francisco, CA, December 2014.

*Patterns of meteorological and agricultural drought in the Sri Lankan Dry Zone*, presented at the Gordon Research Conference on Science, Technology and Policy in Waterville Valley, NH, August 2014.

*Patterns of agricultural drought in Sri Lankan paddy fields: Spatiotemporal image analysis*, presented at the Borlaug Summer Institute on Global Food Security, Lafayette, IN, June 2014.

## HONORS AND AWARDS

---

University Graduate Fellowship, Vanderbilt University	<i>2012 - 2016</i>
Martin Luther King Award for Service Excellence, Clemson University	<i>2009</i>
Duckenfield Scholarship, University of Oxford	<i>2008</i>

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

---

American Association of Geographers  
American Geophysical Union

## TECHNICAL STRENGTHS

---

<b>Statistical Software</b>	R, MATLAB
<b>Computer Languages</b>	Python
<b>Other Software</b>	ArcGIS, QGIS/GRASS, Google Earth Engine

## LANGUAGE PROFICIENCIES

---

<b>English</b>	Native Speaker
<b>French</b>	Fluent Written and Spoken