

# Matthew Braaksma

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Environment and Resource Economics · Land Use Economics · Development Economics

## EDUCATION

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### University of Minnesota

Doctor of Philosophy: Applied Economics

Twin Cities, MN

Aug 2022 – Present

### San Diego State University

Master of Arts: Economics

San Diego, CA

Aug 2020 – May 2022

### Eastern Washington University

Bachelor of Arts: Business Administration

Minor: Economics, Visual Communication Design

Cheney, WA

Sept 2013 – June 2017

## SKILLS

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### Languages and Tools

*Proficient:* Python, R, Bash, Python GIS

*Intermediate:* Git, LaTeX

## CURRENT RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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### University of Minnesota

*Research Assistant, Supervised by Dr. Justin Johnson*

Twin Cities, MN

June 2024 – Present

- Developed “A Framework for Measuring African Ecosystem Services Impacts from Land-Related Policies” with collaborators from the European Commission Joint Research Centre, and Wageningen University & Research.
- Contributed to the development of an integrated modeling framework combining a computable general equilibrium (CGE) model with spatially explicit ecosystem service models to evaluate the economic and ecological consequences of land use change in Kenya.
- Utilized Python and geospatial tools (SEALS, InVEST) to simulate land allocations, analyze ecosystem service outcomes, and assess policy impacts aligned with Kenya’s climate and biodiversity goals.

### NatCap TEEMs (The Earth-Economy Modelers)

*Student Member*

Twin Cities, MN

August 2022 – Present

- Contribute to collaborative research improving Earth-Economy models that integrate ecological, climate, and economic data.
- Support efforts to align economic systems with environmental stewardship to inform sustainable development policy.

## RESEARCH

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### Working Papers

Dave, Dhaval, Yang Liang, Catherine Maclean, Joseph Sabia, and Matthew Braaksma. “Can Anti-Vaping Policies Curb Drinking Externalities? Evidence from E-Cigarette Taxation and Traffic Fatalities”. No. w30670. *National Bureau of Economic Research*, 2022.

### Publications

McWay, Ryan, and Matthew Braaksma. 2025. “The Political Consequences of Resource Scarcity: Targeted Spending in a Water-Stressed Democracy. A Replication Study of Mahadevan and Shenoy (Journal of Public Economics, 2023)”. *World Development Perspectives* 39: 100707. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.wdp.2025.100707>

**Conference Presentations** “A Framework for Measuring African Ecosystem Services Impacts from Land-Related Policies.” 28th Annual Conference on Global Economic Analysis: “Accelerating Economic Transformation, Resilience, Diversification, and Job Creation.” Global Trade Analysis Project (GTAP), Kigali, Rwanda, June 25–27, 2025.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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**University of Minnesota** Twin Cities, MN  
*Teaching Assistant* Spring 2025  
*APEC 3002: Managerial Economics* Dr. Frances Homans

- Designed and led labs focused on applying economic models to real-world contexts.
- Developed a memo-based assignment on ecosystem services to connect theory with practice.

**University of Minnesota** Twin Cities, MN  
*Teaching Assistant, PhD-level* Spring 2024  
*APEC 8213: Econometric Analysis III* Dr. Paul Glewwe  
*APEC 8214: Econometric Analysis IV* Dr. Marc Bellemare

- Led R-based labs to help students develop fluency in estimation, diagnostics, and presentation.
- Assisted students in applying econometric methods through problem sets and coding support.

**University of Minnesota** Twin Cities, MN  
*Teaching Assistant, PhD-level* Fall 2023  
*APEC 8001: Applied Microeconomic Analysis of Consumer Choice and Consumer Demand* Dr. Paul Glewwe  
*APEC 8002: Applied Microeconomic Analysis of Production and Choice Under Uncertainty* Dr. Rodney Smith

- Created recitation slides and guided discussion sections to clarify core theoretical concepts.
- Provided detailed feedback on assignments to support student mastery of technical material.

## RECOGNITIONS

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**Teaching Assistant Award for Graduate Classes**  
*University of Minnesota, Applied Economics* 2023–2024

**Graduate Fellowship**  
*University of Minnesota, Applied Economics* 2022

**Presidential Graduate Research Fellowship**  
*San Diego State University* 2020

**McCuen Endowed Economics Scholarship**  
*San Diego State University* 2020

**Transfer Achievement Scholarship**  
*Eastern Washington University* 2013