

Matthew Braaksma

braak014@umn.edu · [Website](#) · [Github](#) · [LinkedIn](#)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Environment and Resource Economics · Land Use Economics · Development Economics

EDUCATION

University of Minnesota Twin Cities, MN
Doctor of Philosophy: Applied Economics Aug 2022 – Present

San Diego State University San Diego, CA
Master of Arts: Economics Aug 2020 – May 2022

Eastern Washington University Cheney, WA
Bachelor of Arts: Business Administration Sept 2013 – June 2017
Minor: Economics, Visual Communication Design

SKILLS

Languages and Tools

Proficient: Python, R, Bash, Python GIS

Intermediate: Git, LaTeX

CURRENT RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of Minnesota Twin Cities, MN
Research Assistant, Supervised by Dr. Justin Johnson 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) Twin Cities, MN
Student Member 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

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

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

University of Minnesota	Twin Cities, MN
<i>Teaching Assistant, PhD-level</i>	Spring 2024
<i>APEC 8213: Econometric Analysis III</i>	Dr. Paul Glewwe
<i>APEC 8214: Econometric Analysis IV</i>	Dr. Marc Bellemare
University of Minnesota	Twin Cities, MN
<i>Teaching Assistant, PhD-level</i>	Fall 2023
<i>APEC 8001: Applied Microeconomic Analysis of Consumer Choice and Consumer Demand</i>	Dr. Paul Glewwe
<i>APEC 8002: Applied Microeconomic Analysis of Production and Choice Under Uncertainty</i>	Dr. Rodney Smith

RECOGNITIONS

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