# Melissa Chapman

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• http://milliechapman.info

milliechapman

#### **Education**

2018 - 2023	Ph.D., UC Berkeley Environmental Science, Policy, and Management.				
	Dissertation: From individual decisions to international agreements: Address-				
	ing biodiversity loss in an age of algorithms				

2010 – 2014 **B.Sc. Yale University** Ecology and evolutionary biology.

Thesis: Assessing patterns of malaria risk: Environmental and social determinants of endemicity across Burkina Faso and Kenya.

## **Positions**

2023-present	National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis (NCEAS) Director's Postdoctoral Fellow
	Climate Change AI (CCAI) Core team
2022 - 2023	■ International Institute of Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) Visiting Research Scholar
2021 - 2023	■ Data Intensive Social Science Lab Teaching Fellow
2020 - 2023	Resources Legacy Fund Lead scientific writer for California's Pathways to 30x30 Initiative
2015 - 2018	Woodwell Climate Research Center Research Assistant II

### **Peer-reviewed Publications**

[Google Scholar] | [ORCID]

#### Peer-reviewed articles

- Chapman, M., Goldstein, B., Schell, C., Brashares, J. S., Carter, N. H., Ellis-Soto, D., Faxon, H. O., Goldstein, J. E., Halpern, B. S., Longdon, J., Norman, K. E., O'Rourke, D., Scoville, C., Xu, L., & Boettiger, C. (2024). Biodiversity monitoring for a just planetary future. Science. ♣ https://doi.org/10.1126/science.adh8874
- Jung, M., Alagador, D. A., **Chapman**, M., Hermoso, V., Kujala, H., O'Connor, L., Schinegger, R., Verburg, P., & Visconti, P. (2024). An assessment of the state of conservation planning in Europe. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B*. 
  Phttps://doi.org/0.1098/rstb.2023.0015
- Oestreich, W., Mckenna, M., Go, M., **Chapman**, **M.**, & Oliver, R. (2024). Listening to animal behavior to understand changing ecosystems. *Trends in Ecology and Evolution*. 

   https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tree.2024.06.007
- Oliver, R., Chapman, M., Ellis-Soto, D., Brum-Bastos, V., Cagnacci, F., Long, J., Loretto, M.-C., Patchett, R., & Rutz, C. (2024). Access to human mobility data is essential for building a sustainable future. *Cell Reports Sustainability*.

   https://doi.org/10.1016/j.crsus.2024.10007

- Oliver, R., Chapman, M., Emery, N., Gillespie, L., Gownaris, N., Leiker, S., Nisi, A., Ayers, D., Breckheimer, I., Blondin, H., Hoffman, A., Pagniello, C., Raisle, M., & Zimmerman, N. (2024). Opening a conversation on responsible environmental data science in the age of generative AI. *Environmental Data Science*.

   https://doi.org/10.1017/eds.2024.12
- 6 Sprenkle-Hyppolite, S., Griscom, B., Griffey, V., Munshi, E., & **Chapman**, M. (2024). Expert-informed leakage-free global carbon dioxide removal potential of trees in agriculture. (In press at Carbon Balance and Management).
- 7 Chapman, M., Boettiger, C., & Brashares, J. S. (2023). Leveraging private lands to meet 2030 biodiversity targets in the United States. *Conservation Science and Practice*.

  § https://doi.org/0.1111/csp2.12897
- 8 Chapman, M., Xu, L., Lapeyrolerie, M., & Boettiger, C. (2023). Bridging adaptive management and reinforcement learning for more robust decisions. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B.* & https://doi.org/10.1098/rstb.2022.0195
- 9 Hasting, Z., Chapman, M., Ocloo, X., Stenger, K., & Hunt, L. (2023). Trends in agroforestry research over four decades \*co-first author. *Elementa: Science of the Anthropocene*. https://doi.org/10.1525/elementa.2022.0015
- Kurz, D., Middleton, A. D., **Chapman**, M., Van Houtan, K. S., Wilkinson, C., Withey, L., & Brashares, J. (2023). Including rural america in academic conservation science. Frontiers in Conservation Science. https://doi.org/10.3389/fcosc.2023.1227227/full
- Moravek, J., Andrews, L. R., Serota, M. W., Dorcy, J. A., **Chapman**, **M.**, Wilkinson, C. E., Parker-Shames, P., Van Scoyoc, A., Verta, G., & Brashares, J. S. (2023). Centering 30x30 conservation initiatives on freshwater ecosystems. Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment. § https://doi.org/10.1002/fee.2573
- Scoville, C., Faxon, H., **Chapman**, **M.**, & et al. (2023). Environment, society and machine learning. *Handbook on the Sociology of Machine Learning*.

   https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780197653609.013.8
- Ellis-Soto, D., **Chapman**, M., & Locke, D. (2023). Uneven biodiversity sampling across redlined urban areas in the united states. *Nature Human Behavior (In press)*.

   https://doi.org/10.1038/s41562-023-01688-5
- Montealegre-Mora, F., Laperolerie, M., Chapman, M., Keller, A., & Boettiger, C. (2023). Pretty darn good control: When are approximate solutions better than approximate models? *Bulletin of Mathematical Biology*. Ahttps://doi.org/10.1007/s11538-023-01198-5
- Calhoun, K. L., **Chapman**, M., Tubbesing, C., McInturff, A., Gaynor, K. M., Van Scoyoc, A., Wilkinson, C. E., Parker-Shames, P., Kurz, D., & Brashares, J. (2022). Spatial overlap of wildfire and biodiversity in california highlights gap in non-conifer fire research and management. *Diversity and Distributions*, 28(3), 529–541.

  Phttps://doi.org/10.1111/ddi.13394
- Chapman, M., Wiltshire, S., Baur, P., Bowles, T., Carlisle, L., Castillo, F., Esquivel, K., Gennet, S., Iles, A., Karp, D. et al. (2022). Social-ecological feedbacks drive tipping points in farming system diversification. *One Earth*, 5(3), 283–292.

  Phttps://doi.org/10.1016/j.oneear.2022.02.007
- Dowd, S., **Chapman**, M., Koehn, L. E., & Hoagland, P. (2022). The economic tradeoffs and ecological impacts associated with a potential mesopelagic fishery in the california current. *Ecological Applications*, e2578. https://doi.org/10.1002/eap.2578

- Lapeyrolerie, M., **Chapman**, M., Norman, K. E., & Boettiger, C. (2022). Deep reinforcement learning for conservation decisions. *Methods in Ecology and Evolution*. 

  https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2106.08272
- Estein, C., Chapman, M., Schell, C., Lowy, N., & Gerson, J. (2022). Demystifying the graduate school application process. *Bulletin of the Ecological Society of America*.

   https://doi.org/10.1002/bes2.2029
- Chapman, M., Oestreich, W. K., Frawley, T. H., Boettiger, C., Diver, S., Santos, B. S., Scoville, C., Armstrong, K., Blondin, H., Chand, K. et al. (2021). Promoting equity in the use of algorithms for high-seas conservation. *One Earth*, 4(6), 790–794.

  https://doi.org/10.1016/j.oneear.2021.05.011
- Chapman, M., Scoville, C., Lapeyrolerie, M., & Boettiger, C. (2021). Power and accountability in reinforcement learning applications to environmental policy. The Thirty-Sixth Annual Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS 2021). Ahrtps://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2205.10911
- Kitzes, J., Blake, R., Bombaci, S., **Chapman**, M., Duran, S. M., Huang, T., Joseph, M. B., Lapp, S., Marconi, S., Oestreich, W. K. et al. (2021). Expanding neon biodiversity surveys with new instrumentation and machine learning approaches. *Ecosphere*, 12(11), e03795.

  https://doi.org/10.1002/ecs2.3795
- Nagy, R. C., Balch, J. K., Bissell, E. K., Cattau, M. E., Glenn, N. F., Halpern, B. S., Ilangakoon, N., Johnson, B., Joseph, M. B., **Chapman**, **M.** et al. (2021). Harnessing the neon data revolution to advance open environmental science with a diverse and data-capable community. *Ecosphere*, 12(12), e03833. https://doi.org/10.1002/ecs2.3833
- Ordway, E. M., Elmore, A. J., Kolstoe, S., Quinn, J. E., Swanwick, R., Cattau, M., Taillie, D., Guinn, S. M., Chadwick, K. D., **Chapman**, **M.** et al. (2021). Leveraging the neon airborne observation platform for socio-environmental systems research. *Ecosphere*, 12(6), e03640. https://doi.org/10.1002/ecs2.3640
- Roe, S., Streck, C., Beach, R., Busch, J., Chapman, M., Daioglou, V., Deppermann, A., Doelman, J., Emmet-Booth, J., Engelmann, J. et al. (2021). Land-based measures to mitigate climate change: Potential and feasibility by country. *Global Change Biology*, 27(23), 6025–6058. Ahttps://doi.org/10.1111/gcb.15873
- Scoville, C., **Chapman**, M., Amironesei, R., & Boettiger, C. (2021). Algorithmic conservation in a changing climate. *Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability*, 51, 30–35. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cosust.2021.01.009
- Chapman, M., Walker, W. S., Cook-Patton, S. C., Ellis, P. W., Farina, M., Griscom, B. W., & Baccini, A. (2020). Large climate mitigation potential from adding trees to agricultural lands. *Global Change Biology*, 26(8), 4357–4365.

  Phttps://doi.org/10.1111/gcb.15121
- Griscom, B. W., Busch, J., Cook-Patton, S. C., Ellis, P. W., Funk, J., Leavitt, S. M., Lomax, G., Turner, W. R., **Chapman**, **M.** et al. (2020). National mitigation potential from natural climate solutions in the tropics. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B*, 375(1794), 20190126. Articles https://doi.org/10.1098/rstb.2019.0126
- Oestreich, W. K., Chapman, M., & Crowder, L. B. (2020). A comparative analysis of dynamic management in marine and terrestrial systems. Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment, 18(9), 496–504. https://doi.org/10.1002/fee.2243
- Samndong, R. A., Bush, G., Vatn, A., & **Chapman**, M. (2018). Institutional analysis of causes of deforestation in redd+ pilot sites in the equateur province: Implication for redd+

- in the democratic republic of congo. Land Use Policy, 76, 664–674. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.landusepol.2018.02.048
- Cunningham, C., Chen, W. C., Shorten, A., McClurkin, M., Choezom, T., Schmidt, C. P., Chu, V., Bozik, A., Best, C., **Chapman**, **M.** et al. (2014). Impaired consciousness in partial seizures is bimodally distributed. *Neurology*, 82(19), 1736–1744.

  Phttps://doi.org/10.12122FWNL.00000000000000404
- Galvin, B. D., Li, Z., Villemaine, E., Poole, C. B., **Chapman**, **M.**, Pollastri, M. P., Wyatt, P. G., & Carlow, C. K. (2014). A target repurposing approach identifies n-myristoyltransferase as a new candidate drug target in filarial nematodes. *PLoS neglected tropical diseases*, 8(9), e3145. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pntd.0003145

# White papers

1 Xu, L., Rolf, E., Beery, S., Bennett, J. R., Berger-Wolf, T., Birch, T., Bondi-Kelly, E., Brashares, J., Chapman, M., Corso, A. et al. (2023). Reflections from the workshop on AI-assisted decision making for conservation. & https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2307.08774

#### In review

- 1 Chapman, M., & Faxon, H. (n.d.). The colonial infrastructures of contemporary conservation data (workshop manuscript).
- Chapman, M., Jung, M., Boettiger, C., Ringwald, L., Leclère, D., Gusti, M., Augustynczik, A., & Visconti, P. (n.d.). Meeting European conservation and restoration targets under future land-use demands (in review). https://doi.org/10.31219/osf.io/ynqfx
- 3 Ellis-Soto, D., Chapman, M., & Koltz, A. (n.d.). Addressing data disparities is critical for biodiversity assessments and conservation policies in the United States (in review).
- 4 Hulkund, N., Oliver, R., **Chapman**, M., & Beery, S. (n.d.). Data sharing policies and considerations must influence machine learning research directions in ecological applications (in review).
- Locke, D., Ellis-Soto, D., & **Chapman**, **M.** (n.d.). Historic residential segregation impacts biodiversity data availability disparately across the tree of life (in review).

  Phttps://doi.org/10.32942/X2D04V
- 6 Scoville, C., Amironesei, R., Xu, L., & Chapman, M. (n.d.). Participation and contestability in dynamic natural resource management (workshop manuscript).

#### **Selected Presentations**

- 2024 Chapman, M. Can AI help us make more informed conservation decisions? Aspen Global Change Institute (AGCI), AI and Biodiversity Workshop, Invited Talk
  - Chapman, M. Addressing the social and political dimensions of biodiversity data.

    North American Congress for Conservation Biology (NACCB), Vancouver 2024
  - Chapman, M & Faxon, H. The colonial infrastructures of contemporary biodiversity data. Data Justice Workshop, Barcelona 2024
  - Chapman, M & Faxon, H. The colonial infrastructures of contemporary biodiversity data. World Biodiversity Forum, Davos 2024
  - Chapman, M. Do biodiversity data biases risk entrenching social inequity into policy strategies? Resources for the Future (Invited talk)

# **Selected Presentations (continued)**

- Chapman, M. From individual decisions to international agreements: addressing biodiversity loss in the age of algorithms. *Oregon State University (Invited Seminar)*
- Chapman, M. From individual decisions to international agreements: addressing biodiversity loss in the age of algorithms. National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis (Invited Roundtable Seminar)
- Chapman, M. From data to decisions: toward a just and sustainable planetary future in the age of AI. University of Oregon (Invited Seminar)
- Chapman, M. From individual decisions to international agreements: addressing biodiversity loss in the age of algorithms. Stony Brook University (Invited Seminar)
- Chapman, M. AI is transforming the way we confront climate change and biodiversity loss. GreenBiz Sustainability Conference (Invited keynote panel)
- 2023 Chapman, M. AI for equitable climate action. GLOCAL Innovation Grant Kick-off (invited keynote speaker)
  - Chapman, M. Human histories shape the biodiversity data that decide our future. GEO BON Conference, Montreal 2023)
  - Chapman, M. From individual decisions to international agreements: Addressing biodiversity loss in an age of algorithms. *University of California Santa Barbara* (invited departmental seminar)
  - Chapman, M. Addressing biodiversity loss in an age of algorithms. *International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (invited seminar)*.
  - Chapman, M. From individual decisions to international agreements: Addressing biodiversity loss in an age of algorithms. *University of California Berkeley (Wildlife seminar)*
- 2022 Chapman, M, Jung, M., and Visconti, P.. Multiscale prioritization of conservation and restoration measures to meet 2030 biodiversity targets in the EU. *IIASA Summer Symposium* [Slides]
  - **Chapman, M**, Boettiger, C, and Brashares, J. Potential contributions of private lands to U.S. 2030 biodiversity targets. ESA 2022 [Slides]
  - Chapman, M. Climate mitigation and biodiversity contributions of land conservation and management (as part of a panel on "Ecologists Perspectives on COP26") ESA 2022. [Slides]
  - Chapman, M. Governing AI Applications To Monitoring and Managing Our Global Environmental Commons. AAAI/ACM conference on Artificial Intelligence, Ethics, and Society (AIES 2022). [Slides]
- 2021 Chapman, M., Schell, C., Brashares, J. "30x30: The New Conservation". Breakthroughs Magazine Virtual Series. [Recording]
  - Chapman, M.. Pathways to 30x30: Accelerating Conservation of California's Nature. California Biodiversity Network Bioinformatics and Conservation Planning round table.
  - Chapman, M., Boettiger, C. From data to decisions: Algorithms, power, and effective ocean management. UN FAO global forum on AI for a digital blue Planet. [Recording]
- 2020 Chapman, M. Large climate mitigation from adding trees to agricultural lands. The Nature Conservancy Seminar Series (Invited Talk).
  - Chapman, M. Large climate mitigation from adding trees to agricultural lands. Woodwell Climate Research Center Friday Seminar Series (Invited Talk).

# **Selected Presentations (continued)**

- Chapman, M., et al. Tipping points in diversified farming systems. Ecological Society of America 2020 Meeting. Contributed Talk. [Recording]
- 2018 Chapman, M., and Walker, W. (2018). A Global Analysis of Woody Aboveground Carbon Storage in Crop and Pasture lands. AGU Fall Meeting. (Presentation)

# **Working Groups and Assessments**

- 2024-2025 USGS North American Biodiversity and Climate Assessment (Chapter Lead Author)
  - NSF/NCEAS Biodiversity Data & Conservation Science working group
  - 2024 Data Justice Workshop (Invited paper/presentation)
    - Resources for the Future: Climate Change and Natural Capital Workshop
- 2022-2024 Ethics and Practices of Algorithmic Conservation Reading Group (link) Co-founder/organizer
  - 2023 Environmental Data Science Innovation Summit (ESIIL)
- 2023, 2024 Environmental Data Science Summit (NCEAS)
  - 2022 AI-Assisted Decision-Making for Conservation (Harvard Center for Research on Computing and Society)
- 2019-2021 Ecological Forecasting Initiative Student Working Group Co-chair and Co-founder
  - 2021 UC Berkeley Data and Environment Working Group Co-founder
    - Bioinformatics and Community Science Round Table steering committee, California Biodiversity Network
    - Culturally Relevant Education in Environmental Data Science (CREEDS) Workshop
  - 2020 SESYNC Cyberinfrastructure Summer Institute
    - NIMBioS Adaptive Management Tutorial
    - People, Land, and Ecosystems: Leveraging NEON for Socio-Environmental Synthesis
  - 2019 National Ecological Observation Network (NEON) Science Summit
    - Advancing Integrated Process-Based Modeling of Socio-Environmental Systems (SESYNC)
    - Graduate Student Workshop on Socio-Environmental Synthesis (SESYNC)
    - Ecological Forecasting Initiative Summer Course
  - 2017 Mathematical Ecology Working Group: Woods Hole, MA

# Fellowships and Grants

- 2023 NCEAS Director's Postdoc Fellowship, National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis (approx. \$140,000)
  - Peccei Award, International Institute of Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) (approx. \$7,000)
  - Moore Foundation, (research funding written into larger grant) (approx. \$7,000)

## Fellowships and Grants (continued)

- Departmental Research Fellowship, University of California Berkeley (\$17,000)
- 2022 International Institute of Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) Summer Fellowship, Funded through the National Academy of Science (\$7,000)
  - Data Science Teaching Fellowship, Funded through the UC Berkeley Social Science Data-Lab (\$5,000)
  - Artificial Intelligence, Ethics, and Society (AIES-22) Conference Student Award, Funded through the National Science Foundation (\$1500)
  - Environmental Data Science Summit travel grant (\$800), NCEAS (delayed to 2023 due to COVID)
- 2021 SESYNC Graduate Student Pursuit: Co- PI (project link) (approx. \$35,000)
- Berkeley Center For Technology, Society, and Policy Fellowship (project link) (\$4,000)
- 2018 NSF National Research Traineeship Environment and Society: Data sciences for the 21st Century (\$32,000)
  - NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program Honorable Mention.
- 2014 Foreign Language Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship: Kiswahili (\$35,000 over two awards)

## **Teaching and Mentoring**

Mentor & Co-organizer

Co-organizer

Data Science Fellow & Instructor

Graduate Student Instructor

Graduate Student Mentor

Guest Lectures

Climate Change AI In-Person Summer School (2023)

Climate Change AI Virtual Summer School (2023, 2024)

UC Berkeley Social Science Data Lab; (1) Data wrangling (2) Deep learning in Python (3) Introduction to R, and (4) Data visualization (2022-2023)

UC Berkeley; ESPM 157: Data Science for Global Change Ecology (2020)

UC Berkeley; Fung Fellowship Conservation and Technology Course (2022)

UC Santa Barbara; Data Science (2023)

- Stanford University; Introduction to conservation planning and practice (2023)
- University of California Santa Barbara; Introduction to Remote Sensing (2023)
- Stanford University; Introduction to conservation planning and practice (2022)
- Trinity College; U.S. Environmental Policy, Partisanship, and the Global Climate Crisis (2022)
- UC Berkeley; Conservation and Technology (2022)
- Middlebury Institute of International Studies; International Marine Science and Policy (2022)
- Middlebury Institute of International Studies; Ecological Analysis (2022)

Research Mentor

Undergraduate Research Apprentice Program (URAP) (2020-2022)

# Teaching and Mentoring (continued)

Undergraduate Honors Thesis Program (2019-2022)

Technical Mentor | IPAM; Public Policy Course (2017)

Undergraduate Instructor | Yale University; Physics I (2014)

Yale University; Organic Chemistry II (2013)

## **Policy Documents and Briefs**

2024 Land protection and restoration tools to effectively meet 2030 conservation targets in the United States, USDA Internal Brief [PDF available upon request]

- Conserving California: Advancing Science in Support of 30x30, Scientific Writer and Facilitator [PDF]
- California's Pathways to 30x30: Conserving Freshwater Ecosystems, Legislative Summary; Lead Scientific Writer [PDF]
- California's Pathways to 30x30: Expanding Access to Nature, Legislative Summary; Contributing Scientific Writer [PDF available upon request]
- California's Pathways to 30x30: Working Lands and Other Effective Conservation Measures (OECMs), Legislative Summary; Contributing Scientific Writer [PDF available upon request]
- California's Pathways to 30x30: Partnering with California Native American Tribes, Legislative Summary; Contributing Scientific Writer [PDF available upon request]
- 2021 Advancing 30x30 and Protecting Biodiversity, Lead Scientific Writer [PDF]
- 2018 Prioritizing Areas for Reforestation of Private Lands in the Brazilian Amazon. Policy Brief. [PDF]
- Analysis of National Circumstances in the Context of REDD+ and Identification of REDD+ Abatement Levers in Papua New Guinea Report produced by the Wildlife Conservation Society. [PDF]

#### **Professional Service and Outreach**

2024	Climate	Change A	AI Innovation	Grants Chair

- Session organizer at World Biodiversity Forum
- Session organizer at North American Convention for Conservation Biology
- 2023-2024 Climate Change AI Core Team
  - 2022 Graduate Programs Committee student representative (ESPM, UC Berkeley)
- 2021-2022 Graduate Admission Committee student representative (ESPM, UC Berkeley)
- 2018-2021 UC Berkeley Graduate Student Association (GSA)
- 2019-2021 Letters to a Pre-scientist: Volunteer
- 2018-2021 Bay Area Scientists in Schools (BASIS): Instructor