

Quentin D. Read

Using big open data to understand how humans influence the natural world

SESYNC
1 Park Place, Suite 300
Annapolis, MD 21401 USA

Email: qread@sesync.org
Website/Blog: quentinread.com
GitHub, StackOverflow: [qdread](#)

Professional appointments

- 2019-present **National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center**, Annapolis, MD
Data scientist (50% time); Postdoctoral fellow (50% time)
- 2018-present **National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center**, Annapolis, MD
Postdoctoral fellowship: “Food waste and the environment”
Mentor: Dr. Mary Muth (RTI International, Research Triangle Park, NC)
- 2016-2018 **Michigan State University**, East Lansing, MI
Postdoctoral researcher, Department of Forestry; Ecology, Evolutionary Biology, & Behavior Program
“Intraspecific trait variation and community structure at a continental scale”
Advisors: Dr. Phoebe Zarnetske (MSU) and Dr. Sydne Record (Bryn Mawr College)

Education

- 2011-2016 **University of Tennessee**, Knoxville, TN
Ph.D., Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
Dissertation: “Individual variation in plant traits drives species interactions, ecosystem functioning, and responses to global change”
Advisor: Dr. Nathan Sanders
Short courses: Boreal Forest Ecology (Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences) and Fundamentals of Ecosystem Ecology (Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies)
- 2005-2009 **University of North Carolina**, Chapel Hill, NC
B.S. with highest distinction, Environmental Science

Skills

Data processing, visualizing, and analysis in R, including tidyverse and Rmarkdown
Bayesian modeling with Stan and JAGS
Spatial analysis and modeling with GDAL and GIS libraries in R
Working knowledge of Python
High-performance parallel computing using Linux server
Using GitHub for version control and remote collaborations
Synthesizing data and theory, both in ecology and beyond
Fluent in spoken and written German; communicate effectively in spoken and written Spanish

Grants

- | | | |
|------|--|-----------|
| 2019 | “Connecting local, regional, and continental scale drivers to biodiversity across NEON through the lens of intraspecific trait variation and disturbance.” NSF Macrosystems Biology, NEON-Enabled Science (senior personnel) | \$536,800 |
|------|--|-----------|

Publications

OA = open access

* = first author is an undergraduate whom I mentored

- 2019 Muth, M. K., C. Birney, A. Cuéllar, S. M. Finn, M. Freeman, J. N. Galloway, I. Gee, J. A. Gephart, K. Jones, L. Low, E. Meyer, **Q. D. Read**, T. Smith, K. A. Weitz, and S. Zoubek. 2019. A systems approach to assessing environmental and economic effects of food loss and waste interventions in the United States. *Science of the Total Environment* 685:1240-1254. DOI: 10.1016/j.scitotenv.2019.06.230. (OA)
- 2019 Zarnetske, P. L., **Q. D. Read**, S. Record, K. Gaddis, S. Pau, M. Hobi, S. L. Malone, J. K. Costanza, K. M. Dahlin, A. Latimer, A. M. Wilson, J. M. Grady, S. Ollinger, A. O. Finley. 2019. Towards connecting biodiversity and geodiversity across scales with satellite remote sensing. *Global Ecology and Biogeography*. DOI: 10.1111/geb.12887. (OA)
- 2019 Henning, J. A., **Q. D. Read**, N. J. Sanders, and A. T. Classen. 2019. Fungal colonization of plant roots is resistant to nitrogen addition and resilient to dominant species losses. *Ecosphere*. DOI: 10.1002/ecs2.2640. (OA)
- 2018 Grady, J. M., **Q. D. Read**, S. Record, P. L. Zarnetske., B. Baiser, K. Thorne, and J. Belmaker. 2018. Size, niches, and the latitudinal diversity gradient. *Teaching Issues and Experiments in Ecology*, Vol. 14, Figure Set 1. http://tiee.esa.org/vol/v14/issues/figure_sets/grady/abstract.html (OA)
- 2018 **Read, Q. D.**, J. M. Grady, P. L. Zarnetske, S. Record, B. Baiser, J. Belmaker, M.-N. Tuanmu, A. Strecker, L. Beaudrot, and K. M. Thibault. 2018. Among-species overlap in rodent body size distributions predicts species richness along a temperature gradient. *Ecography*. DOI: 10.1111/ecog.03641 (OA)
- 2018 **Read, Q. D.**, B. Baiser, J. M. Grady, P. L. Zarnetske, S. Record, and J. Belmaker. 2018. Tropical bird species have less variable body sizes. *Biology Letters* 20170453. DOI: 10.1098/rsbl.2017.0453
- 2018 **Read, Q. D.**, J. A. Henning, A. T. Classen, and N. J. Sanders. 2018. Aboveground resilience to species loss but belowground resistance to nitrogen addition in a montane plant community. *Journal of Plant Ecology*. DOI: 10.1093/jpe/rtx015
- 2018 Welshofer, K. B., P. L. Zarnetske, N. K. Lany, and **Q. D. Read**. 2018. Short-term responses to warming vary between native vs. exotic species and with latitude in an early successional plant community. *Oecologia*. DOI: 10.1007/s00442-018-4111-9
- 2017 **Read, Q. D.**, J. A. Henning, and N. J. Sanders. 2017. Intraspecific variation in traits reduces ability of trait-based models to predict community structure. *Journal of Vegetation Science*. DOI: 10.1111/jvs.12555
- 2017 Hendershot, J. N.*, **Q. D. Read**, J. A. Henning, N. J. Sanders, and A. T. Classen. 2017. Consistently inconsistent drivers of patterns of microbial diversity and abundance at macroecological scales. *Ecology*. DOI: 10.1002/ecy.1829 (OA)
- 2017 Butler, E. E., A. Datta, ..., **Q. D. Read**, ..., and P. B. Reich. 2017. Mapping local and global variability in plant trait distributions. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. DOI:10.1073/pnas.1708984114
- 2016 **Read, Q. D.**, S. M. Hoban, M. B. Eppinga, J. A. Schweitzer, and J. K. Bailey. 2016. Accounting for the nested nature of genetic variation across levels of organization improves our understanding of biodiversity and community ecology. *Oikos* 125:895-904. DOI: 10.1111/oik.02760 *Editor's Choice*.

- 2016 Van Nuland, M. E., R. C. Wooliver, A. A. Pfennigwerth, **Q. D. Read**, I. M. Ware, L. Mueller, J. A. Fordyce, J. A. Schweitzer, and J. K. Bailey. 2016. Plant-soil feedbacks: connecting ecosystem ecology and evolution. *Functional Ecology*. DOI: 10.1111/1365-2435.12690
- 2016 Yoon, S. A.* and **Q. D. Read**. 2016. Consequences of exotic host use: impacts on Lepidoptera and a test of the ecological trap hypothesis. *Oecologia*. DOI: 10.1007/s00442-016-3560-2
- 2015 Schussler, E. E., **Q. D. Read**, G. Marbach-Ad, K. Miller, and M. Ferzli. 2015. Preparing biology graduate teaching assistants for their roles as instructors: an assessment of institutional approaches. *CBE-Life Sciences Education* 14:1-11. DOI: 10.1187/cbe.14-11-0196 (OA)
- 2014 **Read, Q. D.**, L. C. Moorhead, N. G. Swenson, J. K. Bailey, and N. J. Sanders. 2014. Convergent effects of elevation on functional leaf traits within and among species. *Functional Ecology* 28:37-45. DOI: 10.1111/1365-2435.12162 *nominated for the British Ecological Society's Haldane Prize for Young Investigators*
- 2013 Gorman, C. E., **Q. D. Read**, M. E. Van Nuland, and others. 2013. Species identity influences belowground arthropod assemblages via functional traits. *Annals of Botany Plants* plt049. DOI: 10.1093/aobpla/plt049 *Editor's Choice*. (OA)
- 2013 Van Nuland, M. E., E. N. Haag, J. A. Bryant, **Q. D. Read**, and others. 2013. Fire promotes pollinator visitation: implications for ameliorating declines of pollination services. *PloS One* 8:e79853. DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0079853 (OA)
- 2012 Clark, J. S., B. D. Soltoff, A. S. Powell, and **Q. D. Read**. 2012. Evidence from individual inference for high-dimensional coexistence: long term experiments on recruitment response. *PLoS One* 7:e30050. DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0030050 (OA)

In review/revision/accepted

- Read, Q. D.**, S. Brown, A. D. Cuéllar, S. M. Finn, J. A. Gephart, L. T. Marston, E. Meyer, K. A. Weitz, and M. K. Muth. Assessing the environmental impacts of halving food loss and waste along the food supply chain. In review.
- Read, Q. D.**, P. L. Zarnetske, S. Record, J. M. Grady, A. M. Wilson, A. O. Finley, A. Latimer, J. K. Costanza, K. Gaddis, K. M. Dahlin, M. Hobi, S. Ollinger, S. Malone, and S. Pau. Beyond counts and averages: relating geodiversity to dimensions of biodiversity. In revision.
- Record, S., K. M. Dahlin, P. L. Zarnetske, **Q. D. Read**, S. L. Malone, K. Gaddis, J. M. Grady, J. Costanza, M. Hobi, A. Latimer, S. Pau, A. M. Wilson, A. O. Finley, and S. Ollinger. Remote sensing of geodiversity and biodiversity. Book chapter *in* Remote Sensing of Biodiversity: Using spectral signals to understand the biology and biodiversity of plants, communities, ecosystems and the tree of life. J. Cavender-Bares, J. Gamon, and P. Townsend, eds. Accepted.

Teaching and curriculum development

- 2018 Designed graduate teaching module: “Using NEON data to test macroecological hypotheses”
- 2017 Co-instructor of record, Metacommunity Ecology, MSU
- 2016 Graduate teaching assistant, Models in Biology , UT-Knoxville
- 2015-2016 Graduate teaching assistant, Conservation Biology, UT-Knoxville
- 2015 Designed and led workshop on graphing with R and ggplot2

- 2015 Guest lecture (led a mock trial), Conservation Biology, UT-Knoxville
- 2014 Designed and led workshops on advanced topics in statistics with R
- 2013-2014 Member of panel developing and reforming curriculum of undergraduate introductory biology courses, UT-Knoxville
- 2013 Guest lecture on climate change and communities, General Ecology, UT-Knoxville
- 2012-2014 Graduate teaching assistant, General Ecology, UT-Knoxville
- 2012 Guest lecture on biogeochemistry, General Ecology, UT-Knoxville
- 2011-2012 Graduate teaching assistant, Introduction to Biodiversity, UT-Knoxville

Mentoring

- 2017-2018 Mentored 4 undergraduates through Summer Research Opportunities Program and High Performance Computing Center, MSU
- 2012-2015 Mentored 8 undergraduate field and lab assistants, Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory
- 2013-2015 Mentored 3 undergraduate lab assistants, UT-Knoxville

Honors and awards

- | | | |
|------|---|--------|
| 2015 | University of Tennessee Science Alliance graduate award | \$3000 |
| 2015 | NSF travel grant to deliver biology education seminar at Notre Dame | \$500 |
| 2014 | Outstanding Outreach and Community Service award, UT-Knoxville Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology | |
| 2013 | Dr. Jean H. Langenheim Endowed Graduate Fellowship in the Ecology and Evolution of Plants, Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory | \$6000 |
| 2013 | UTK Graduate Student Senate travel award | \$500 |
| 2013 | Honorable Mention, National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship | |
| 2012 | Dr. Lee R. G. Snyder Memorial Fellowship, Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory | \$700 |

Invited talks

- 2018 “Food waste impacts on biodiversity.” Commission on Environmental Cooperation Food Loss and Waste Measurement Experts Group Meeting, Arlington, VA
- 2017 “Intraspecific variation and community assembly.” National Ecological Observatory Network, Boulder, CO (talk co-delivered with John Grady)
- 2016 “Individual variation in organismal traits: predicting patterns in space and time from local to global scales.” Michigan State University Department of Forestry, Hanover Forest Science Seminar Series, East Lansing, MI
- 2015 “C3UBE undergraduate biology curriculum reform.” University of Notre Dame, Biology Education Seminar, Notre Dame, IN
- 2014 “Roots, leaves, and soils facing global change.” Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory Seminar, Gothic, CO
- 2014 “Plant traits & interactions altered by warming at different elevations.” Oak Ridge

Conference presentations

- 2019 **Read, Q. D.**, J. A. Gephart, A. D. Cuéllar, ... and M. K. Muth. “Which supply chain stages should we target to reduce food loss and waste and benefit the environment?” Ecological Society of America-United States Society for Ecological Economics, Louisville, KY
- 2018 **Read, Q. D.**, S. Record, K. M. Dahlin, P. L. Zarnetske, and others. “Measuring geodiversity to explain biodiversity: what is the effect of spatial grain and spatial 'consciousness?'” US-International Association of Landscape Ecology, Chicago, IL
- 2017 **Read, Q. D.**, J. M. Grady, P. L. Zarnetske, S. Record, and others. “Intraspecific variation reflects drivers of rodent community assembly across the National Ecological Observatory Network.” Ecological Society of America, Portland, OR
- 2017 “Challenges and opportunities for investigating ecological communities across space and time: insights from coordinated research networks.” Organized Oral Session, Ecological Society of America, Portland, OR (served as co-organizer of session).
- 2016 **Read, Q. D.**, N. J. Sanders, and A. T. Classen. “A globally replicated experiment shows that long-term environmental filters constrain plant response to increased temperature and loss of foundation species.” Ecological Society of America, Baltimore, MD

Reviewer experience

- 2019 Review panelist, SESYNC immersion postdoctoral fellowship program
- Peer reviewer for the following journals: *Molecular Ecology*, *Energies*, *Nature Climate Change*, *Journal of Biogeography*, *Oikos*, *Ecological Applications*, *Ecology*, *Journal of Ecology*, *Global Ecology and Biogeography*, *Plant Ecology*, *Ecological Monographs*, *Ecology Letters*, *Annals of Botany Plants*, *Methods in Ecology and Evolution*, *Ecography*, *Biotropica*, *Functional Ecology* (3 times), *Journal of Plant Ecology*, *PeerJ* (2 times), *Ecology and Evolution*, *PLoS One* (2 times), *Ecosphere*, *New Phytologist* (2 times), *Global Change Biology* (3 times)

Public outreach

- 2018 Organized event and gave presentation on citizen science opportunities, MSU Science Festival
- 2017 Gave public research talk, MSU Biology On Tap
- 2014 Organized Darwin Day, student-run science education event at University of Tennessee
- 2013 Coordinated advertising for Darwin Day
- 2012 Discussed my research and assisted 7th-grade students with climate change research projects