

Sara Nawaz, PhD

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Squamish, British Columbia, Canada

Interdisciplinary social scientist researching societal dimensions of novel climate and environmental technologies via quantitative and qualitative methods. ~10 years of research and work experience on climate change, environment, governance, and social impacts.

Professional experience

2023—present	Director of Research , Institute for Carbon Removal Law and Policy, American University, Washington, DC
2021—2023	Postdoctoral Fellow , Institute for Science, Innovation and Society, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK
2021—2023	Postdoctoral Fellow , Institute for Resources, Environment and Sustainability (IRES), UBC, Vancouver, BC, Canada
2022	Expert Governance Reviewer , Frontier Climate
2017—2021	Research Assistant (various appointments), UBC, Vancouver, BC, Canada
2016—2017	Independent Social-environmental Consultant , Washington, DC
2014—2016	Social impact Assessment Consultant , Environmental Resources Management, Washington, DC
2013—2014	Research Analyst , World Resources Institute, Washington, DC
2013	Research Assistant , Oxford Martin Commission, Oxford, UK

Education

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) , Resources, Environment, and Sustainability University of British Columbia (UBC), Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada	2017—2021
Master of Philosophy (MPhil) , Development Studies University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom	2011—2013
Bachelor of Arts (BA) with high honors, major: Economics, minor: Public Policy Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Pennsylvania	2007—2011

Publications

- Nawaz, S.**, Satterfield, T., and St-Laurent, G. P. (Accepted) Public evaluations of four approaches to ocean-based carbon dioxide removal. *Climate Policy*.
- Satterfield, T., **Nawaz, S.** and St-Laurent, G. P. (2023) Exploring public acceptability of direct air carbon capture with storage: climate urgency, moral hazards and perceptions of the 'whole versus the parts.' *Climatic Change*, 176(14). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10584-023-03483-7>
- Nawaz, S.**, Satterfield, T. & Phurisamban, R. (2022) Does 'precision' matter? A Q study of public interpretations of gene editing in agriculture. *Science, Technology and Human Values*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/01622439221112460>

- Nawaz, S., & Satterfield, T.** (2022.) On the nature of naturalness? Theorizing ‘nature’ for the study of public perceptions of novel genomic technologies in agriculture and conservation. *Environmental Science and Policy*, 136, 291-303.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envsci.2022.06.008>
- Nawaz, S., & Satterfield, T.** (2022). Climate solution or corporate co-optation? US and Canadian publics’ views on agricultural gene editing. *PloS ONE*, 17(3 March), e0265635.
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0265635>
- Hagerman, S., Satterfield, T., **Nawaz, S.**, St-Laurent, G. P., Kozak, R., & Gregory, R. (2021). Social comfort zones for transformative conservation decisions in a changing climate. *Conservation Biology*, 35(6), 1932–1943. <https://doi.org/10.1111/cobi.13759>
- Gregory, R., Kozak, R., Peterson St-Laurent, G., **Nawaz, S.**, Satterfield, T., & Hagerman, S. (2021). Under pressure: conservation choices and the threat of species extinction. *Climatic Change*, 166(1–2), 1–21. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10584-021-03102-3>
- Nawaz, S.**, Satterfield, T., & Hagerman, S. (2021). From seed to sequence: Dematerialization and the battle to (re)define genetic resources. *Global Environmental Change*, 68, 102260.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gloenvcha.2021.102260>
- Nawaz, S.**, & Kandlikar, M. (2021). Drawing lines in the sand? Paths forward for triggering regulation of gene-edited crops. *Science and Public Policy*, 48(2), 246–256.
<https://doi.org/10.1093/scipol/scab014>
- Nawaz, S.**, Klassen, S., & Lyon, A. (2020). Tensions at the boundary: Rearticulating ‘organic’ plant breeding in the age of gene editing. *Elementa: Science of the Anthropocene*, 8(1), 34.
<https://doi.org/10.1525/elementa.429>

Academic service

I have served as a reviewer for the *Journal of Environmental Management*, *Agriculture and Human Values*, and *Elementa: Science of the Anthropocene*.

Committee member, IRES Director Search Committee, UBC	March—May 2022
Co-president, IRES Student Society, UBC	July 2018—June 2019
Co-Leader, Oxford Global Food Security Forum, University of Oxford	June 2012—June 2013
Organizer, Women in Development Forum, University of Oxford	Feb. 2013
Writing Associate, The Writing Center, Swarthmore College	Sept. 2008—May 2011

Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

Freda Pagani Outstanding Thesis Award for UBC IRES (2022)
 Nominee for Social Sciences, UBC, CGS/ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Award (2022)
 UBC Four-Year Fellowship (2017-21) & UBC International Tuition Award (2017-21)
 ERM Service Excellence Award (2015)
 ERM Star Award (2015)
 Oxford Department of International Development Fieldwork Award (2012)
 Swarthmore Lucretia Mott Graduate Fellowship (2011—2013)
 Swarthmore Foundation Grant (2011)
 Swarthmore College Writing Associate Fellowship (2008—2011)
 Swarthmore College Quadir Summer Research Fellowship (2009)

Conference presentations and guest lectures

- “Survey design with analysis in mind.” Co-led with Erika Gavenus. Resources, Environment and Sustainability (RES) 504 seminar: Survey Design in Interdisciplinary Environmental Research. Vancouver, BC. October 2022.
- “Testing the waters: Expert imaginaries of marine CDR.” Earth Systems Governance 2022 Conference, Toronto/online. October 2022.
- “Engineering carbon removal: New technologies and social considerations.” RES 520 seminar: Climate Change: Science, Technology and Sustainable Development. Online. March 2022.
- “Rearticulating ‘organic plant breeding’ in the age of gene editing?” Co-presented with Susanna Klassen. Organic Seed Grower’s Conference. Online. February 2022
- “Social comfort zones in a transforming climate.” American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting. Online. April 2021.
- “Beyond naturalness? Social dimensions of gene editing in agriculture.” Institute for Resources, Environment and Sustainability Student Symposium. Online. April 2021.
- “Beyond ‘precision’: A Q-method study on public perceptions of gene editing and gene drives for agriculture.” Conference on Gene Editing in Agriculture and Food. Online. October 2020.
- “Owning seeds, owning sequences?” RES 507 seminar: Human Technological Systems. Vancouver, BC. February 2020.
- “From seed to sequence: Making sense of debates over the dematerialization of agricultural genetic resources.” Canadian Anthropology Association/American Anthropology Association Annual Meeting. Vancouver, BC. November 2019.

Languages | Spanish (Working proficiency).

Software | R, Qualtrics, NVivo.