

# TARA POZZI

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## EDUCATION

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- 2021 – 2025      **Ph.D. in Ecology**  
Designated Emphasis: Computational Social Science  
UC Davis, CA  
Dissertation: Climate adaptation governance in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta  
Advisor: Dr. Mark Lubell
- 2019 – 2021      **M.S. in Biology**  
Boise State University, ID  
Thesis: Understanding the barriers and facilitators of lidar adoption for flood risk management in the Pacific Northwest, U.S.  
Advisor: Dr. Vicken Hillis
- 2011 – 2015      **B.S. in Civil, Environmental, and Sustainable Engineering**  
School of Engineering: Santa Clara University, CA  
Thesis: Homeless garden project  
Advisor: Dr. Steven Chiesa

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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- 2025 – Present      **California Sea Grant Social Science Extension Specialist.** Principal investigator for social science research and outreach for water and environmental management issues in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, in collaboration with the Delta Stewardship Council and based at UC Davis Center for Environmental Policy and Behavior.

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Peer-reviewed Publications

- Pozzi, T.**, Lubell, M., & Rudnick, J. (2025) The network structure of environmental justice social movements: A case study in the California Delta. *Society and Natural Resources*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/08941920.2025.2534954>
- Pozzi, T.**, Lubell, M., Heikkila, T., Gerlak, A. and Rittelmeyer, P. (2024). Learning through Adaptive Management in the California Delta Science Enterprise. *Policy Studies Journal*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/psj.12581>
- Pozzi, T.**, Legg, E. \*, McCullough, S., & Lubell, M. (2024). Transformative climate change education for graduate students: developing a theory of change to increase equity in climate change science. *Environmental Education Research*, 1–21. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13504622.2024.2411310>
- Pozzi, T.** Zufall, E., Gmoser-Dasklakis, K., & Vantaggiato, F. (2024). Nascent subsystems in polycentric governance networks: The Case of Sea Level Rise Governance in the San Francisco Bay Area. *Policy Studies Journal*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/psj.12549>
- Rittelmeyer, P., Lubell, M., Hovis, M. Heikkila, T., Gerlak, A., & **Pozzi, T.** (2024). Knowledge isn't power: Learning in polycentric governance systems. *Review of Policy Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ropr.12606>
- Pozzi, T.**, & Hillis, V. (2023) Social networks impact flood risk mitigation behavior: A case study of lidar adoption in the Pacific Northwest, US. *Climate Risk Management* 41. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.crm.2023.100527>.

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### Manuscripts in Preparation

**Pozzi, T., & Lubell, M.** (2025) The Intersection of Climate adaptation barriers and climate justice in the California Delta. (*Global Environmental Change*) [In prep]

**Pozzi, T., Lubell, M., & Méndez-Barrientos, L.** (2025) Building power in polycentric governance systems. (*Public Administration Review*) [In prep]

**Pozzi, T., Denio, E.\*, & Lubell, M.** (2025) Key players in climate adaptation across urban-rural contexts in the California Delta. [In prep]

Scheetz, E., Heikkila, T., **Pozzi, T., & Lubell, M.** (2025) Finding Agreement in Collaborative Governance: Insights from California's Delta Science Enterprise. [In prep] *\*Undergraduate intern*

### Research Report (non-peer reviewed)

**Pozzi, T., Lubell, M., & Correa, L.** (2025) *The governance of climate adaptation in the California Delta*. Center for Environmental Policy and Behavior, UC Davis.  
[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1jd6lnDWFCsyMSV8irYQtk7jaVDLXpAcP/view?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1jd6lnDWFCsyMSV8irYQtk7jaVDLXpAcP/view?usp=drive_link)

**Pozzi, T. & Lubell, M.** (2023). *Evolving the monitoring enterprise to meet adaptive management needs in the California Delta*. Center for Environmental Policy and Behavior, UC Davis.

Lubell, M., **Pozzi, T.,** Heikkila, T., and Gerlak, A. (2022). *Governing the Delta Science Enterprise: Results from a Stakeholder Survey*. Center for Environmental Policy and Behavior, UC Davis.

**Pozzi, T.** (2021). Understanding the barriers and facilitators of lidar adoption for flood risk management in the Pacific Northwest, U.S. *Boise State University Theses and Dissertations*.

Lakhina, S.J., Kocher, S., Lebeda, B., Gerber-Chavez, L., Kwok, A., Stannard, D., & **Pozzi, T.** (2021). Wildfire preparedness and evacuation planning in a pandemic: Case studies from California and Colorado. *CONVERGE COVID-19 Working Group for Public Health and Social Science Research*. Wonder Labs, California. [https://www.wonder-labs.org/uploads/6/4/2/1/6421555/wildfire-pandemic\\_interface\\_2021\\_report.pdf](https://www.wonder-labs.org/uploads/6/4/2/1/6421555/wildfire-pandemic_interface_2021_report.pdf)

Ruwe, C., **Pozzi, T., & Miller, J.** (2015). Homeless garden project. *Civil, Environmental, and Sustainable Engineering Senior Theses*, 34. [https://scholarcommons.scu.edu/ceng\\_senior/34](https://scholarcommons.scu.edu/ceng_senior/34)

### Other Science and Policy Products

**Pozzi, T.** (2025) *Delta Adaptation Survey Interactive Website*. [https://tarapozzi.shinyapps.io/delta\\_adaptation/](https://tarapozzi.shinyapps.io/delta_adaptation/)

**Pozzi, T., Lubell, M., & Rudnick, J.** (2024) Leveraging Partnerships in the Environmental Justice Movement: A Case Study in the California Delta. Research Brief.  
[https://tarapozzi.github.io/publications/ej/2024\\_005\\_ej\\_networks/EJ\\_Networks\\_Brief.pdf](https://tarapozzi.github.io/publications/ej/2024_005_ej_networks/EJ_Networks_Brief.pdf)

**Pozzi, T., & Heikkila, T.** (2024) *Governance of Adaptive Management Information Sheet*.

**Pozzi, T., & Lubell, M.** (2023). *Uncovering the role of science governance in the Sacramento - San Joaquin Delta*. Delta Breeze.

**Pozzi, T.,** Hillis, V., Glenn, N., & Enterkine, J. (2021). *Knowing more, losing less through investment in High-Quality Mapping Idaho* [White paper]. Boise State University.

**Pozzi, T.,** & Hillis, V. (2021). *Mapping for resilience: A story about using lidar to address Idaho's challenges* [ArcGIS Storymap]. Boise State University.  
<https://boisestate.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Cascade/index.html?appid=63fc0118b554441589d7793e1c38ff1d>

**Pozzi, T.,** Hillis, V., Glenn, N., & Enterkine, J. (2021). Assessing and promoting the use of lidar for hazard management in Idaho via collaborative research and outreach. *CTP Monthly Collaboration*.

**Pozzi, T.** (2021). LiDART. *Anthroposphere*.

## **GRANTS**

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2022 – 2024 Lead Investigator. Proposal title: Mapping the adaptation governance network of the Delta. Delta Science Fellowship, Delta Science Program and CA Sea Grant - \$150,684

## **RESEARCH**

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2022 – 2025 Lead Investigator. Mixed-methods study on the climate adaptation governance network of the Sacramento – San Joaquin Delta, under the direction of Dr. Mark Lubell and Lindsay Correa. Funded by CA Sea Grant and the Delta Science Program.

2022 – 2025 Researcher. Design and implement study for measuring the factors that influence students to conduct research with awareness of diversity, equity, and inclusion in a climate change context, under direction of Dr. Mark Lubell and Dr. Sarah McCullough. Funded by UC Davis Feminist Research Institute.

2021 – 2025 Researcher. Lead survey data analysis, paper writing, and science communication of Delta Science Enterprise survey. Provide mentorship and guidance to other researchers on project team, under direction of Dr. Mark Lubell, Dr. Tanya Heikkila, and Dr. Andrea Gerlak. Funded in part by Delta Science Program.

2022 Researcher. Data analysis and report write-up of a long-term monitoring needs assessment for the Collaborative Adaptive Management Team, under the direction of Dr. Mark Lubell, Dr. Louise Conrad, and Bruce DiGennaro. Funded by the Delta Science Program.

2021 Researcher. Investigate the state of wildfire technology and wildfire response during COVID-19 in the American west, under direction of Dr. Shefali Lakhina. Funded by Wonder Labs.

2019-2021 Lead Investigator. Mixed-methods empirical study on lidar adoption for flood risk management in the Pacific Northwest. Social-ecological science approach to understand the relative effect of individual and collective factors of decision-making, under direction of Dr. Vicken Hillis, Dr. Nancy Glenn, and Josh Enterkine. Funded by the Department of Homeland Security.

## **RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE**

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2015 - 2016 Assistant Engineer at Schaaf & Wheeler, San Francisco, CA. Duties included: providing technical assistance to a wide variety of storm water-related projects, conducting third party design reviews to ensure development projects are in compliance with regional storm water

regulations, developing hydrology and hydraulic analysis and reports, and modeling complex storm drain systems for municipalities. Proficient in ArcGIS, AutoCAD, HEC-HMS/RAS/SSP, MIKE URBAN, and Microsoft Office

2013 – 2015 Engineering Intern at Santa Clara Valley Water District, San Clara, CA. Project management for a \$200M water treatment plant retrofit project. Duties included: organizing and tracking current and/or proposed designs for the project through continual communication between all project reviewers and consultants, researching alternative sustainability methods such as alternative sludge disposal options and renewable energy sources, implementing the hydraulic analysis program H2ONet to analyze various design elements in the project, and orchestrating technical meetings between the District engineers and Rinconada Water Treatment Plant operations staff to make decisions on aspects of the project.

2012 – 2013 Event Planning and Marketing Assistant at the Santa Clara University's Food and Agribusiness Institute. Managed the Institute's website and created the bi-annual newsletter. Prepared for events by completing food orders, facility order, photography, and promotion of the event.

## **SERVICE**

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### Applied

2023 Facilitator. Adaptive Management Forum Day 2.  
2023 Advisory Board member. Adaptive Management Forum.  
2022 Facilitator. Advancing Interdisciplinary Research Workshop.

### Academic

2024 – Present Journal reviewer for *Policy Studies Journal* and *Ecology and Society*  
2024 - Present UC Davis Environmental Science Mentorship Program  
2024 Evolution and Ecology Mentorship Program  
2022 - Present Davis R Users' Group coordinator at UC Davis.  
2022 - 2023 Co-chair. Ecology Graduate Student Association at UC Davis.  
2021 Member and facilitator for Ecology Symposium. Ecology Graduate Student Association at UC Davis.  
2021 Editor and contributor for student paper, Brickyard. Ecology Graduate Student Association at UC Davis.  
2021 Member and facilitator. Ecological Research Association Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force  
2020 Organizer. GRFP Review Group

## **PRESENTATIONS**

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### Applied Talks

**Pozzi, T.** (2025) "From science to policy: Social science integration from an environmental governance perspective." Presented for: Bay-Delta Social Science Community of Practice (in-person).

**Pozzi, T.** (2024) "Delta Adaptation Governance." Presented for: Early Career Leadership Workshop (in-person).

**Pozzi, T.,** Lubell, M., and Correa, L. (2024) "Mapping the Adaptation Governance Network of the Delta: A Mixed-Methods Approach." Presented for: CA Department of Water Resources Climate Matrix (in-person).

**Pozzi, T.,** Lubell, M., and Correa, L. (2024) “Initial insights into the governance of climate adaptation planning in the Delta.” Presented for: Delta Stewardship Council’s Delta Adapts Program (virtual).

**Pozzi, T.,** Lubell, M., and Correa, L. (2023) “Initial insights into the governance of climate adaptation planning in the Delta.” Presented for: Interagency Adaptive Management Integration Team (virtual).

**Pozzi, T., &** Lubell, M. (2023) “A social science perspective on the monitoring enterprise.” Presented for: Collaborative Adaptive Management Team (virtual).

Lubell, M., & **Pozzi, T.** (2023) “Summary of Science Governance Research”. Presented for: Delta Stewardship Council Meeting (in-person).

**Pozzi, T.** (2021) “State of lidar adoption in Idaho”. Elevation Technical Working Group Monthly Meeting (virtual).

**Pozzi, T.** (2020) “Current State of Lidar in Flood Risk Management in Idaho”. Webinar (virtual).

#### Conference Activity

**Pozzi, T.,** Denio, E., and Lubell, M. (2025) “Network Differences Across Urban-Rural Adaptation Contexts in the California Delta.” Sunbelt (in-person).

**Pozzi, T.** and Lubell, M. (2025) “Who gets to adapt to climate change? Unpacking justice challenges in a complex governance system.” Midwest Political Science Association (in-person).

**Pozzi, T.,** Lubell, M., and Rudnick, J. (2025) “The Network Structure of Environmental Justice Social Movements: A Case Study in the California Delta.” Midwest Political Science Association (in-person).

**Pozzi, T.,** Lubell, M., and Correa, L. (2024) “Mapping the Adaptation Governance Network of the Delta: A Mixed-Methods Approach.” Bay-Delta Science Conference (in-person).

**Pozzi, T.,** Lubell, M., and Correa, L. (2024) “Initial insights in overcoming barriers to equitable adaptation in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.” State of the Estuary (in-person). *Best Student Poster Award: Runner up*

**Pozzi, T.,** Lubell, M., and Rudnick, J. (2024). “Leveraging Partnerships in the Environmental Justice Movement: A Case Study in the California Delta.” Conference on Policy Process Research (in-person).

**Pozzi, T.,** Lubell, M., and Correa, L. (2024) “Initial insights in overcoming barriers to equitable adaptation in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.” UC Davis CAES Symposium (in-person).

**Pozzi, T.,** and Lubell, M. (2024) “Strategies to overcome barriers to equitable adaptation planning in the California Delta.” Midwest Political Science Association (in-person).

**Pozzi, T.,** Lubell, M., Heikkila, T., and Gerlak, A. (2023) Learning through Adaptive Management in the California Delta Science Enterprise. Midwest Political Science Association (virtual).

**Pozzi, T. &** Zufall, E. (2023) “Nascent subsystems in polycentric governance networks: The Case of Sea Level Rise Governance in the San Francisco Bay Area”. Conference on Policy Process Research (in person).

**Pozzi, T.** (2021) “Mapping for resilience: A storymap about using lidar to address Idaho’s Challenges”. University of Idaho GIS Day (virtual).

**Pozzi, T.** (2020) “Technology Adoption in Flood Risk Management: A Case Study in Idaho”. Natural Hazards Workshop (virtual).

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**Pozzi, T.** (2020) "Technology Adoption in Flood Risk Management: A Case Study in Idaho". International Symposium on Society and Resource Management (virtual).

**Pozzi, T.** (2020) "Lidar uptake in Pacific Northwest". 3-Minute Thesis Competition Finals (in-person).

**Pozzi, T.** (2020) "Lidar uptake in Pacific Northwest". Biological Science Graduate Student Proposal Showcase (in-person).

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

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2024	Just-In-Time Teaching, UC Davis Center for Teaching Effectiveness
2023	Public Scholars for the Future Program, UC Davis Office of Public Scholarship and Engagement
2022	Asking Different Questions, UC Davis Feminist Research Institute

## **TEACHING AND MENTORING**

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### Teaching

2025	Teaching assistant. The Policy Process, UC Davis.
2025	Teaching assistant. Environmental Governance, UC Davis.
2022, 2024	Instructor. R Data Analysis and Visualization (R-DAVIS), UC Davis
2021	Grader. Public Lands Governance, UC Davis.

### Guest Lecture

2024	Lecture titled "Collaboration and Equity in Environmental Governance and Policy." Guest lecture for a class on Principles of Ecology at American River College (Sacramento, CA).
2023	Lecture titled "Power and Equity in Environmental Governance: A Case Study in the California Delta." Guest lecture for a class on EJ and Resilience at BOKU University (Vienna, Austria).

### Undergraduate Interns

2024 - 2025	Isabella Gonzales (BS Environmental Science and Policy 2025)
2024 - 2025	Nicholas Dunagan (BS Environmental Science and Policy 2025)
2024	Emma Mele (BS Environmental Science and Policy 2024).
2023 - 2025	Toby Jacob (BS Environmental Science and Policy 2027).
2023 - 2025	Emily Denio (BS Environmental Policy and Planning 2025).
2023	Eden Winniford (BS Environmental Science and Policy 2023).
2022 - 2023	Elaina Legg (BS Communication and Psychology 2023).
2020	Graduate student mentor. Vertically Integrated Project, Boise State University.

## **AWARDS & HONORS**

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2025 Sunbelt Student Travel Award - \$500

2025 UC Davis Library Graduate Student Prize - \$1,000

2024 Henry A. Jastro Research Fellowship - \$2,700

2023 Henry A. Jastro Research Fellowship - \$3,000

2023 Public Scholars for the Future - \$1,000

2022 Henry A. Jastro Research Fellowship - \$3,000

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2021 Weather-ready research instrument and data publication by the Natural Hazards Center - \$2,500

2020 Boise State University Graduate College Conference Presentation Award by Boise State University - \$500

#### **CERTIFICATES**

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2021	Institutional Review Board Certification in Social and Behavioral Responsible Conduct of Research
2021	CONVERGE Disaster Training Modules, Natural Hazards Center: Social Vulnerability and Disasters, Disaster Mental Health.

#### **AFFILIATIONS**

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2025 - Present Member, International Network for Social Network Analysis

2023 - Present Member, Midwest Political Science Association

2022 - Present Member, American Society of Adaptation Professionals

2020 Member, International Association of Society and Natural Resources