

AARON J. ENRIQUEZ
Postdoctoral Fellow
Department of Economics, University of Alaska Anchorage

CONTACT INFORMATION

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OVERVIEW

- Research fields include natural resource and environmental economics, nonmarket valuation, bioeconomic analysis, dynamic optimization, and behavioral economics.
- Experience conducting bioeconomic analysis from start to finish, including building combined ecological-economic models, parameterizing the models by applying econometric methods to existing or original data, and conducting sensitivity analysis.
- Experience conducting primary stated and revealed preference nonmarket valuation projects from start to finish, including survey pretesting (e.g., focus groups), survey design and administration, and econometric analysis.
- Proficient in the use of programming and mathematical/statistical software: R, Mathematica, MATLAB, Stata, QGIS, ArcGIS, LaTeX, Microsoft Excel, Qualtrics.

EDUCATION

- University of Wyoming** **Laramie, WY**
- » **PhD, Economics** **May 2021**
College of Business
Dissertation: [Bioeconomic Analysis and Nonmarket Valuation of Grizzly Bears in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem](#)
Committee: Dr. David Finnoff (*chair*), Dr. Stephen Newbold (*co-chair*), Dr. Jason Shogren, Dr. David Aadland, Dr. Carlos Martínez del Rio
 - » **MS, Economics, Environment and Natural Resources** **August 2017**
College of Business, Haub School of Environment & Natural Resources
 - » **BS, Biology, Honors Program (*summa cum laude*)** **August 2015**
College of Arts & Sciences
 - » **BS, Economics (*summa cum laude*)** **August 2015**
College of Business

RESEARCH POSITIONS

- University of Alaska Anchorage** **Anchorage, AK**
- » **Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Economics** **July 2021 - present**
Supervisor: Dr. Kevin Berry
Experience:
 - **Project 1:** Analyzing how agencies can manage competing salmon fisheries (e.g., commercial and personal use) to maximize social net benefits across residents of Southcentral Alaska.
 - Estimating how residents' demand for fishing trips adjusts given changes in management and conditions.
 - **Project 2:** Analyzing how perceived risk influences people's self protection actions against tick-transmitted diseases in Staten Island, New York.

- U.S. National Park Service** **Fort Collins, CO**
- » **Research Assistant, Social Science Program** **October 2020 - July 2021**

Supervisor: Dr. Leslie Richardson

Experience:

- **Task 1:** Developed R code that calls on the ArcGIS Online server to automate the calculation of visitors' round-trip travel distances and times from their home zip codes to any national park location following the nearest roads.
- **Task 2:** Used a travel cost model to determine the economic value of bear viewing in Yellowstone. Linked this to a model of bear sightings to predict how the viewing value per bear would change given changes in the number of bears.

University of Wyoming

Laramie, WY

» **Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Economics**

August 2015 - May 2021

Supervisors: Dr. David Finnoff, Dr. Rob Godby

Experience:

- **Project 1:** Used net present value analysis to determine the feasibility of extracting rare earth elements out of coal ash generated at Wyoming power stations.
 - Worked closely with geologists from the School of Energy Resources and parameterized the analysis using geological data.
 - Conducted extensive sensitivity analysis over key economic variables (e.g., operating costs, rare earth prices).
- **Project 2:** Used experiments to determine Wyoming residents' preferences for alternative wind energy sources in Wyoming.
 - Pretested a survey using focus groups.
 - Designed a series of economic experiments to elicit people's tradeoffs across major categories of impacts from potential future wind energy developments: economic, viewshed, wildlife, and climate.
 - Administered the survey using Qualtrics.

» **PhD Candidate, Department of Economics**

May 2018 - May 2021

Supervisors: Dr. David Finnoff, Dr. Stephen Newbold

Experience:

- **Project 1:** Built a bioeconomic model in which an agency chooses how to manage grizzly bears over time by balance damages and benefits to competing stakeholders.
 - Collected data from multiple agencies and grizzly bear experts.
 - Parameterized social benefits and damages as a function of grizzly bear population size and other key variables of interest, including climate and resource abundance. To do so, employed various econometric techniques (e.g., count model and ordinary least squares regressions).
- **Project 2:** Quantified people's values for grizzly bears in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem using a nonmarket valuation survey.
 - Pretested the survey using focus groups and interviews with key stakeholders.
 - Designed trip-recall questions used to estimate a travel cost model.
 - Designed two choice experiments used to estimate people's willingness to pay for grizzly bear-related conditions both inside and outside the national parks of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.
 - Administered the survey to roughly 2,400 participants using Qualtrics.
 - Cleaned and analyzed the survey data in R. Calculated summary statistics. Used a range of econometric techniques, including Poisson, negative binomial, conditional logit, and mixed logit regressions.

» **Research Aide, Haub School of Environment & Natural Resources**

June - August 2017

Supervisor: Dr. Jo Albers

Experience:

- Facilitated writing a grant proposal (“Small scale aquaculture as a livelihood alternative with marine conservation benefits in coastal communities in Chile”).
- Obtained fieldwork experience in Southern Chile (April 2018). Participated in stakeholder interviews with artisanal fishers, members of fisher organizations, and employees of government organizations. All interviews were conducted in Spanish.

» **Undergraduate Research Fellow****June - August 2013***Wyoming EPSCoR, National Science Foundation***Hours:** 30 per week**Supervisor:** Dr. Stephen Herbert**REFEREED JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS**

1. **AJ Enriquez** and DC Finnoff. (2021) Managing mortality of multi-use megafauna. *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management* 107: 102441. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jeem.2021.102441>.
2. DA Bagdonas, **AJ Enriquez**, KA Coddington, DC Finnoff, JF McLaughlin, MD Basilian, EH Phillips, and TL McCling. (2022) Rare earth element resource evaluation of coal byproducts: A case study from the Powder River Basin, Wyoming. *Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews* 158: 112148. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rser.2022.112148>.

PAPERS IN PREPARATION

1. **AJ Enriquez**, BT Gilbert, and LH Thunström. The pain of paying with other people’s money. Invited for revision and resubmission at *Review of Behavioral Economics*.
2. LA Richardson and **AJ Enriquez**. The economic value of wildlife tourism and implications of marginal population changes. Submitted at *Human Dimensions of Wildlife*.
3. **AJ Enriquez** and K Berry. Perceived risk: What ticks people off? In preparation for submission.
4. **AJ Enriquez**, SC Newbold, and DC Finnoff. Characterizing the conservation culture for charismatic critters. In preparation for submission.
5. AJ Marchal, **AJ Enriquez**, MD Ehmke, and CA Camargo, Jr. Free riding toward personal protection: Relating parental cooperation behavior to vaccine hesitancy. In preparation for submission.

IN-PROGRESS SURVEY PROJECTS

- » Consumers’ willingness to pay for ugly produce
Collaborators: AJ Enriquez, C Grebitus, MH Kalaitzandonakes, Y Liu, G Tione, M Vecchi
Survey Administration: Forthcoming (Summer 2022)
Sample Size: 1,200
- » Couples’ preferences for spending each other’s money on necessities and indulgences
Collaborators: AJ Enriquez, BT Gilbert, LH Thunström
Survey Administration: November - December 2021
Sample Size: 1,200
- » Preferences for wind energy in Wyoming
Collaborators: AJ Enriquez, RW Godby
Survey Administration: December 2020 - March, 2021
Sample Size: 405

- » Nonmarket valuation of grizzly bears in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem
Collaborators: AJ Enriquez, DC Finnoff, SC Newbold
Survey Administration: December 2020 - January 2021
Sample Size: 2,479

PRESENTATIONS

- » **Association of Environmental and Resource Economists Summer Conference** **Miami, FL** **June 2022**
Presenter: Characterizing the conservation culture for charismatic critters.
- » **Institute of Social and Economic Research Seminar** **Anchorage, AK** **November 2021**
Presenter: Grizzlies in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem: Bioeconomic analysis and nonmarket valuation.
- » **BIOECON XXII Annual Conference** **Jackson, WY** **September 2021**
Presenter: The economic value of wildlife tourism and implications of marginal population changes.
- » **University of Wyoming-Colorado State University Graduate Student Symposium** **Laramie, WY** **April 2019**
Presenter: Bioeconomic grizzly bear management.
- » **International Institute of Fisheries Economics & Trade Biennial Conference** **Seattle, WA** **July 2018**
Presenter: From the shore or from the water? Enforcement of resource rights under discrete enforcement technologies.
- » **Geological Society of America Annual Meeting** **Denver, CO** **September 2016**
Presenter: Economic feasibility of rare earth element extraction from Wyoming coal ash/char.

TEACHING POSITIONS *(full teaching summaries and evaluations available [here](#))*

University of Wyoming

- » **Temporary Lecturer, Department of Economics** **Laramie, WY**
July - August 2019
Instructor of record: Principles of Microeconomics (ECON 1020)
Delivery: 3-credit online course (summer session)
Size: 41 students
Instructor quality: 4.35/5
Selected feedback:
 - “The online videos were very clear and helpful, it is the best online class I’ve taken so far.”
 - “The lay out from quizzes to assignments to excels was very smooth and all had something to do with each other. I believe this was one of the better taught courses I have taken while here at UW, I think many students would benefit from this course taught by this instructor.”
- » **Temporary Lecturer, Haub School of Environment & Natural Resources** **January 2019**
Instructor of record: ENR Topics: Mini Microeconomics (ENR 4890)
Delivery: 1-credit online course (J-term)
Size: 6 students
Instructor quality: 4.67/5
Sample video: [click here](#)
- » **Temporary Lecturer, Department of Economics** **August - December 2018**
Instructor of record: Principles of Microeconomics (ECON 1020/AGEC 1020)
Delivery: 3-credit on-campus course (fall semester)
Size: 123 students
Instructor quality: 4.52/5 (department mean: 3.95/5)

Selected feedback:

- “Aaron is one of my favorite professors. I have been here for four years and never have I had a professor that is so good at explaining course material and attentive to his class.”
- “His ability has allowed me to understand Microeconomics. He can connect everything to real world, and that helps me out most. A lot of teachers cannot do that, and if they figured out how to do it, I would be a much better student. Great guy, great professor, and I wish he taught more classes because I wouldn't hesitate to enroll in them.”
- “The use of excel and introduction to the program R. I gained a lot of experience in excel and it's actually helped me find a job after school.”

» **Temporary Lecturer, Haub School of Env. & Nat. Res. December 2017 - January 2018****Instructor of record:** ENR Topics: Mini Microeconomics (ENR 4890)**Delivery:** 1-credit online course (J-term)**Size:** 19 students**Instructor quality:** 4.09/5**Selected feedback:**

- “The videos were very clear about what the topics were and how to go through the problems. I absolutely loved them. They made the online course process so much easier. This is by far the best online course that I have taken.”
- “This course was phenomenal. I have learned to hate online courses because the professor is usually largely unhelpful and material unclear. Aaron's presentation of the material made his expectations crystal clear and his assignments were totally doable and very clear as well. I would definitely take a course from him again. He did an amazing job.”

FEDERAL POSITIONS**U.S. Forest Service****Cody, WY**» **Forestry Tech (General)****May - August 2012**» **Forestry Aid (General)****July - August 2011****Series/Grade:** GS-0462-2/1 (Student Temporary Experience Program)**Organization:** Rocky Mountain Region, Region 2, Shoshone National Forest**Address:** Cody Interagency Dispatch Center, 2501 Wright Bros Drive, Cody, WY 82414**Role:** Wildland Fire Initial Attack Dispatcher**Hours:** 40 per week**Supervisors:** Nicholas Janota & Cathy Hutton (307-578-5740)**FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, & SCHOLARSHIPS****University of Wyoming**» **Carlton R. Barkhurst Dissertation Fellowship****Spring 2021****Amount:** \$9,351» **Research Enhancement Grant, Biodiversity Institute****Spring 2020****Project:** Valuing grizzly bear conservation and viewing in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem**Authors:** Aaron Enriquez (PI) and Dr. David Finnoff (faculty advisor)**Amount:** \$9,023» **John Tschirhart Graduate Scholarship in Bioeconomics****Spring 2020****Department of Economics****Project:** Grizzly bear management in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem**Amount:** \$9,600» **Student Research & Creative Activities Grant****Spring 2019**

Haub School of Environment & Natural Resources

Project: Economic valuation of grizzly bears

Authors: Aaron Enriquez (PI), Dr. Stephen Newbold, and Dr. David Finnoff

Amount: \$1,000

- » **Dick and Lynne Cheney Study-Abroad Grant** **Fall 2016**
Destination: Tenerife, Spain (for a grad. course on international environmental assessment)
Amount: \$600

Experimental Economics Section, Agricultural & Applied Economics Association

- » **EXECON Winter School Scholar** **Spring 2020**
Description: Received a full-tuition scholarship to attend the Winter School in Survey Design and Experimental Methods in Applied and Agricultural Economics
Amount: \$1,950

Rocky Mountain Power

- » **Graduate Scholarship in Regulatory Economics**
Amount: \$1,500 **Fall 2019**
Amount: \$2,000 **Spring 2017**
Amount: \$2,000 **Fall 2015 - Spring 2016**

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- » **Programming:** R
- » **Statistical/Mathematical Software:** Mathematica, MATLAB, Stata
- » **GIS:** QGIS, ArcGIS Pro, ArcGIS Online
- » **Survey:** Qualtrics
- » **Others:** LaTeX, Microsoft Office (Word, PowerPoint, and Excel)

AWARDS

University of Wyoming

- » **Attilio & Hedy Bedont Outstanding Graduate Student Award** **April 2018, April 2020**
College of Business
- » **Best Graduate Student Teaching Award, Department of Economics** **April 2019**
- » **Top 20 Outstanding Graduate, College of Arts & Sciences** **May 2015**
- » **John S. Bugas Theory Award - Microeconomics, Department of Economics** **April 2015**
- » **M. Clare Mundell Outstanding Senior Award, College of Business** **April 2015**
- » **Dean's Award to Outstanding Seniors, College of Business** **April 2015**

SERVICE & LEADERSHIP

- » **Journal Reviewer, Forest Science** **2020**
- » **Crisis Counselor, Crisis Text Line** **October 2017 - August 2019**
Hours: 34 hours of training, 200 hours of crisis counseling
- » **Team Captain, Men's Club Soccer, University of Wyoming** **Fall 2018**

MEMBERSHIP

- » *American Economic Association* **September 2019 - present**
- » *Association of Environmental and Resource Economists* **July 2018 - present**
- » *The Honor Society of Phi Beta Kappa* **March 2015 - present**

REFERENCES

Dr. Kevin Berry (*postdoc supervisor*)

Associate Professor, Department of Economics
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Dr. Stephen Newbold (*PhD committee co-chair*)

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