Cal Poly’s Natural Resources Management and Environmental Sciences Department prepares passionate leaders who drive change in sustainability and stewardship of the environment and restoration of land resources related to soil, water, forests, range and wildlife.

**MAJORS**

**ENVIRONMENTAL EARTH AND SOIL SCIENCES**
- Concentrations:
  - Geology
  - Hydrology

**ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND PROTECTION**
- Concentrations:
  - Watershed Management and Hydrology
  - Wildlife Biology

**FOREST AND FIRE SCIENCES**
- Concentrations:
  - Watershed Management and Hydrology
  - Wildland Fire and Fuels Management
  - Wildlife Biology

**MINORS**

- Environmental Soil Science
- Fire Ecology and Wildlife Hazard Planning
- Geographic Information Systems
- Indigenous Studies in Natural Resources and the Environment
- Land Rehabilitation and Restoration Ecology
- Rangeland Resources
- Water Science

**GRADUATE PROGRAM**

- Master of Science in Environmental Science and Management with Specializations in:
  - Environmental Policy or Sustainability
  - Forest Science
  - Hydrology
  - Soil Science

"I have never met such passionate professors who are eager to take you to soil pits and show you all the interesting processes soil has to offer. Their enthusiasm for the subject, and their students, allows students to become more interested and excited about the subject."

**ANNA BUECHELER, environmental earth and soil sciences major**
Three undergraduate degree programs provide students with a broad understanding of and the ability to manage the natural environment; improve the utilization and stewardship of land, water and atmospheric resources; and protect and manage forests and natural resources. Within environmental earth and soil sciences, students have the opportunity to expand their knowledge of geology and geography, as well as apply soil management practices in order to promote sustainable agriculture. Between testing pH samples and taking cultures on different types of soils, students exemplify the Learn By Doing motto from day one.

Forestry and fire Science is one of the department’s new and upcoming majors. Focusing on the effects of wildfires on the environment and applying prevention measures and techniques to national forests, students in this major have the opportunity to impact all of California and beyond.

Faculty-led field trips provide another avenue to innovatively teach students. Students taking silviculture, seismology, geomorphology, applied geophysics, watershed management and structural geology have traveled to the Santa Ynez Mountains, Sierra Nevada, San Andreas fault zone, Transverse Ranges, the Carrizo Plain, Pallett Creek in the San Gabriel Mountains, San Emigdio Mountains, Elkhorn Plain and Lake Isabella.

DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

THE URBAN FOREST ECOSYSTEMS INSTITUTE

This program addresses the increasing need for improved management of the urban forests in California. The institute features online resources for tree selection, identification and care; tree health; urban wood use; and urban forest management.

SWANTON PACIFIC RANCH

Students have the unique opportunity to partner in research at the 3,200-acre forest at Swanton Pacific Ranch in Santa Cruz County. This distinctive living laboratory provides students with Learn by Doing opportunities that are second-to-none. Working hand-in-hand with expert faculty, students study the methods of resource conservation applied through sustainable management techniques.