

CAL POLY

College of Agriculture, Food
& Environmental Sciences

NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES Department



FACT SHEET

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.

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.

Students have the unique opportunity to live and learn at the 3,800-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.

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.

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES: Environmental Earth and Soil Sciences; Environmental Management and Protection; Forestry and Natural Resources

GRADUATE PROGRAMS: Master of Science in Forestry Sciences; Master of Science in Agriculture, with a specialization in Soil Science

CONCENTRATIONS: Geology; Watershed Management and Hydrology; Wildlife Fire and Fuels Management

MINORS: Geographic Information Systems; Geology; Indigenous Studies in Natural Resources and the Environment; Land Rehabilitation; Rangeland Resources; Soil Science; Water Science

DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS



Student Teams

The Logging Team brings together students interested in practicing traditional forestry field skills and timber sports. Students on the Soil Judging Team describe, classify and interpret soils as a professional soil scientist.

\$52,500

Mean salary of a soil science major within one year of graduation.

Student Clubs

The department's six clubs include the Association of Environmental Professionals; Geology Club; Student Association for Fire Ecology; student chapter of the Society of American Foresters; and Environmental Sciences Club. Xi Sigma Pi, a national forestry-natural resources honor society, has a Cal Poly chapter.

3,800 Acres

The 3,200-acre Swanton Pacific Ranch and the 600-acre Valencia property are composed of majestic redwood and Douglas-fir forests, lush riverine ecosystems, and expansive coastal grassland overlooking Monterey Bay and the Pacific Ocean. Students live and learn on this working range, developing career skills, learning current technologies and conducting diverse research projects.

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.

The Coastal Resources Institute

This institute provides students and faculty from a variety of disciplines the opportunity to work together. Research is conducted, and management strategies for the coastal area are developed with cooperation from a network of the colleges at Cal Poly.

CONNECT

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