



**CAL POLY**

College of Agriculture, Food  
& Environmental Sciences

# NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT

## OVERVIEW

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*

STUDENT IMPACT



Three undergraduate degree programs provide students with a broad understanding and ability to manage the natural environment by improving the utilization and stewardship of land, water and atmospheric resources while protecting natural resources.

The environmental earth and soil sciences program provides a strong foundation for understanding the natural environment and improving the utilization and stewardship of land, water, and atmospheric resources. The core curriculum is composed of geology, geography, and soil science.

The environmental management and protection program integrates the biophysical and social/economical/political sciences. The curriculum emphasizes management and protection of ecosystem structures and processes that sustain uses of environmental resources.

Forestry and fire science prepares students for careers in the protection and management of our forest and natural resources. The program is accredited by the Society of American Foresters and the U.S. Office of Personnel Management recognizes employment as a forester with the Federal Government upon graduation.

Faculty-led field trips are an integral part of the student experience across the three programs. With more than 200 department field trips in an academic year, students gain field experience that bring the concepts of the classroom to life. Undergraduate research is another way students develop understanding and skillsets that prepare them for the professional world or further educational opportunities. It is our goal to provide students with experiences that exemplify Learn by Doing beginning day one.

## DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

### CAL POLY WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE FIRE INSTITUTE

Comprised of Cal Poly faculty, staff and students, and partnered with industry and community members, is focused on developing and evaluating methods of managing forests and designing communities in ways that reduce wildfire severity and threats to human welfare and property while maintaining environmental and community health. It is the first-of-its kinds at a California State University.

### 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.



## ON THE JOB CAREERS

Environmental consultant  
Environmental policy analyst  
Forester  
Natural resource manager

### TOP EMPLOYERS

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection  
Environmental Science Associates  
Insignia Environmental  
Tetra Tech: Consulting and Engineering Firm  
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)



## STUDENT CLUBS

Association of Environmental Professionals  
Environmental Sciences Club  
Logging Team  
Society of American Foresters  
Soil Judging Team  
Student Association for Fire Ecology  
Xi Sigma Pi

## CONNECT

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