Santa Cruz-Watsonville





PRESENTS:

DURAN FIACK

WHS SCIENTIST IN RESIDENCE, 2013-2014



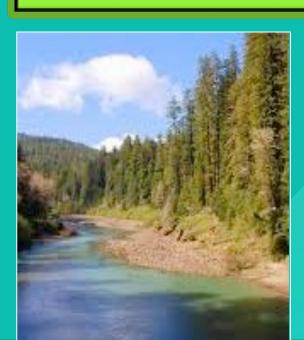
I spend a lot of time outdoors. Here I am above Donner Lake in the Sierra Nevada mountain range.

The earth's natural environment provides important ecological services and natural resources that are critical for the human economy. Determining how we regulate our impacts on the environment and manage the use of natural resources is difficult. Many people value the environment and natural resources for different reasons.

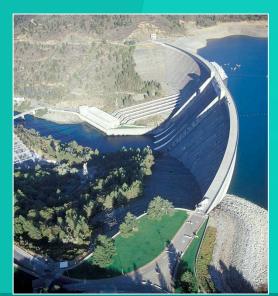
> Freshwater is a good example of how diverse interest groups can often be in conflict over the management of a scarce natural resource

Some stuff about me:

- **@ Age:** 28
- Where I grew up: Woodland, California
- **High School:** Woodland High School
- Favorite subjects in high school: English
- College (undergraduate): Sacramento State University
- Some of my favorite things: Surfing, movies, and reading are my three favorite things!
- Something weird about me: I have a pet cat named Sid Vicious, and I take her for walks along the beach.
- What I think or do when I get frustrated: I will call a friend to talk about what's going on. Sometimes I'll take a few minutes to write down a list of all the things in my life that I am grateful for, this allows me to focus on the positive things I have and the problems seem much less significant.



Water provides beauty to the natural environment



Water is important for urban development



Water is important for recreation



Water is important for agriculture



Water provides habitat for wildlife



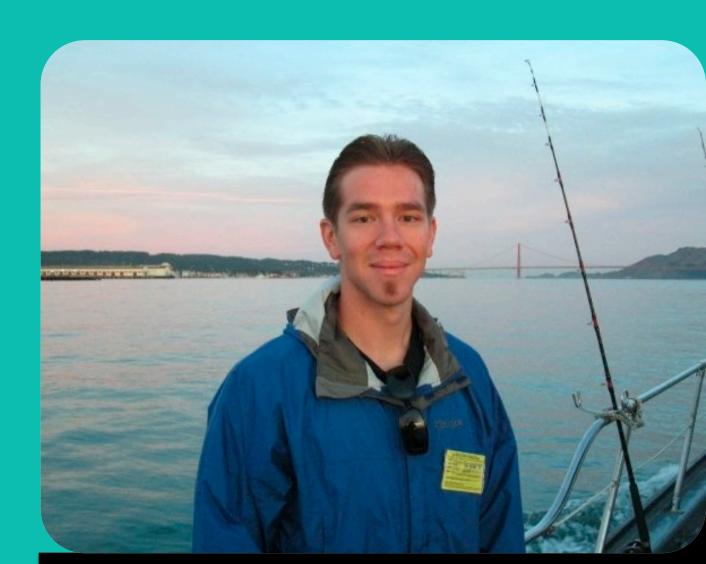
Water provides opportunities for education

Clean freshwater is required for the survival of all living species. Water also plays an important role in supporting the human economy and many people have an interest in how we manage our freshwater resources.

What I study

apply theories and concepts from New Institutional Economics and Political Science to address questions related to resource management and environmental governance in the U.S. In particular, am interested in the role that the public, interest groups and government institutions at the federal, state and local levels play in the development of laws and policies to manage natural resources, such as water, and provide environmental regulation. Through my research, I hope to improve our understanding of the mechanisms that produce particular policy outcomes by investigating the development of environmental laws and policies, the practice of environmental politics and policy decision-making, and environmental governance institutions.

As a SCWIBLES Fellow, I look forward to working with students to discover new interests and unexplored passions with the intention to give hope and strength through leadership and unity.



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