

# Noah E Creany

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## Research

### Protected Area Conservation & Management

Broadly, my research aims to inform recreation management in protected area settings through the lens of social-ecological systems.

- Recreation Ecology
- Human Dimensions of Wildland Recreation
- Visitor Use Management & Monitoring

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## Experience

### ORISE-USFS Postdoctoral Research Fellowship

*USFS Social Science and Economics Fellowship for Recreation on Public Lands*

Fort Collins, CO

2024-2025

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## Education

### Utah State University

*PhD, Ecology*

Logan, UT

2020-2024

- Research Assistant/Instructor of Record
- Dissertation: *Shifting Paradigms in Recreation and Parks and Protected Areas: Advancing Social-Ecological Systems Frameworks in Park and Protected Area Management*
- **Major Professor:** Dr. Christopher A. Monz, **Supervising Committee:** Dr. Mark Brunson, Dr. Wayne Freimund, Dr. Sarah Klain, Dr. Patrick Singleton.

### Utah State University

*M.Sc. Recreation Resource Management*

Logan, UT

2019

- Thesis: *Kudos & KOMs: The Effect of Strava Use on Evaluations of Social and Managerial Conditions, Perceptions of Ecological Impacts, and Mountain Bike Spatial Behavior*
- Research Assistant/Teaching Assistant

### Pennsylvania State University

*B.S. Community, Environment & Development*

University Park, PA

2012

- Focus: Rural Sociology, International Development & Agribusiness

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## Funded Research

### Rocky Mountain National Park Day Use Visitor Access Monitoring (2025)

- \$15,000 (Rocky Mountain Conservancy)

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## Awards

Rocky Mountain Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (CESU)

- Student Researcher (Honorable Mention) (2023)

Utah State University Quinney College of Natural Resources

- Doctoral Student Researcher of the Year (2023)

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## Peer-Reviewed Articles

- Van Deursen, J., **Creany, N.**, Monz, C. A., Freimund, & (2025). *Classifications Of Recreation Specialization*. Journal of Park and Recreation Administration. doi: 10.18666/JPra-2025-12883.
- Minehart, K., Antonio, A. D., **Creany, N.**, Monz, C., & Gutzwiller, K. (2024). *Predicting Trail Condition Using Random Forest Models in Urban-Proximate Nature Reserves*. **mine**. doi: 10.1016/j.envc.2024.100937.
- Van Deursen, J., **Creany, N.**, Smith, B., Freimund, W., Avgar, T., & Monz, C. A. (2024). *Recreation specialization: Resource selection functions as a predictive tool for protected area recreation management*. Applied Geography. doi: 10.1016/j.apgeog.2024.103276.
- **Creany, N.**, Monz, C., Esser, S. (2024). *Understanding Visitor Attitudes towards the Timed-Entry Reservation System in Rocky Mountain National Park*. Journal of Outdoor Recreation and Tourism. doi: 10.1016/j.jort.2024.100736 .
- Tomczyk, A., Ewertowski, M., **Creany, N.**, Ancin-Murguzur, J.A., Monz, C. (2023). *The Application of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Surveys and GIS to the Analysis and Monitoring of Recreational Trail Conditions*. International Journal of Applied Earth Observation and Geoinformation<sup>1</sup>. doi: 10.1016/j.jag.2023.103474
- Smith, J.W., Miller, A.B., Spornbauer, B.S., **Creany, N.**, Richards, J.C., Meyer, C., Nesbitt, J., Rempel, W., Wilkins, E. (2021). *Motivations and Spatial Behavior of OHV Recreationists: A Case-Study from Central Utah (USA)*. Journal of Outdoor Recreation and Tourism. doi: 10.1016/j.jort.2021.100426
- **Creany, N.**, Monz, C. A., D'Antonio, A., Sisneros-Kidd, A., Wilkins, E. J., Nesbitt, J., & Mitrovich, M. (2021). *Estimating trail use and visitor spatial distribution using mobile device data: An example from the nature reserve of orange county, California USA*. Environmental Challenges<sup>1</sup>. doi: 10.1016/j.envc.2021.100171
- Wesstrom, S., Monz, C., **Creany, N.**, Miller, A., D'Antonio, A. *The Effect of a Vehicle Diversion Traffic Management Strategy on Spatio-Temporal Park Use: A Study in Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado*. Journal of Park and Recreation Administration. doi: 10.18666/JPra-2021-10746
- Monz, C., **Creany, N.**, Nesbitt, J., & Mitrovich, M. (2020). Research Note | *Mobile Device Data Analysis to Determine the Demographics of Park Visitors*. Journal of Park and Recreation Administration. doi: 10.18666/JPra-2020-10541

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## Manuscripts In Preparation

- **Creany, N.**, Monz, C. - *Walk this Way: Intensive Visitor-use Management Strategies for High-use Urban-Proximate Park and Protected Areas*. Target Journal: Journal of Outdoor Recreation and Tourism
- **Creany, N.**, Monz, C. - *Developing a Social-Ecological, Systems Thinking approach to Recreation and Protected Area Management*. Target Journal: Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment.
- **Creany, N.**, Monz, C., Freimund, W., - *Leveraging crowd-sourced data for Recreation Use Monitoring: An Application and Evaluation of Strava Metro in urban-proximate Park and Protected Areas*. Target Journal: Journal of Outdoor Recreation and Tourism.

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<sup>1</sup>Open-Access

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## Presentations

### 2024

- **Creany, N.** *Elucidating the Social-Ecological Interactions of Direct Trail Management Strategies on Resource Conditions and Visitor Experience and Behavior: Evidence from the Urban-Proximate Protected Areas in Coastal California.* (2024, September). 12th International Conference on Monitoring and Management of Visitors in Recreational and Protected Areas. Camp Reinsehlen, Schneverdingen (Germany).
- **Creany, N.** *The Timed-Entry Permit System (TEPS) in Rocky Mountain National Park: A Multi-Year Study of the effects on the Visitor Experience and Visitor Evaluations.* (2024, March). Rocky Mountain National Park Biennial Research Conference. Estes Park, CO

### 2023

- **Creany, N.** *Contemporary Applications of Managed-Access Reservation Systems: Visitor & Management Perspectives from Acadia, Arches, and Rocky Mountain National Parks.* (2023, June) International Symposium on Society and Resource Management (IASNR). Portland, ME.

### 2022

- **Creany, N.** *Reservation for Bear Lake at 10am, party of four: A look into the RMNP Timed Entry Permit System from 2020 to 2021.* (2022, March) Presented at Rocky Mountain National Park Biennial Research Conference. Virtual Conference.

### 2021

- Ancin-Murguzur, F.J., Monz, C., **Creany, N.**, Munoz, L., D'Antonio, A., Sisneros-Kidd, A., Tomczyk, A., Ewertowski, M. *Recreation and tourism monitoring under increased pressure: practical tools and approaches for sustainable management.* (2021, August) Presented at Monitoring and Management of Visitors in Recreation and Protected Areas (MMV10). Virtual Conference.

### 2020

- **Creany, N.**, Wesstrom, S. *The Effect of a Vehicle Diversion on Spatio-temporal Park Use: A Study in Rocky Mountain National Park.* (2020, March). Presented at the Rocky Mountain National Park Research Conference. Estes Park, CO.
- Monz, C., Sisneros-Kidd, A., D'Antonio, A., **Creany, N.** *Orange County Recreation Management Project Update.* (2020, February) Presented to Park Managers and Project Partners. Irvine, CA.

### 2019

- Monz, C., Singleton, P., **Creany, N.**, Wesstrom, S. *Bear Lake Road Traffic Study* (2019, April) Presented at Rocky Mountain National Park. Estes Park, CO.

### 2018

- Monz, C., Sisneros-Kidd, A., **Creany, N.**, Shoenleber, C. *Orange County Recreation Management Project Update* (2018, December) Presented to Park Managers and Project Partners. Irvine, CA.
- **Creany, N.** *Spatial and Behavioral Patterns of Strava Mountain Bike Users.* (2018, June) Presented at the 2018 International Symposium on Society and Resource Management. Snowbird, UT.

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## Natural Resource & Technical Reports

- Graham, R., **Creany, N.**, & Monz, C. (2021). Spatial Behavior of Backcountry Anglers and Hikers in Rocky Mountain National Park (p. 26) [Natural Resource Report]. National Park Service.
- Sisneros-Kidd, A., D'Antonio, A. L., **Creany, N.**, Monz, C. A., & Shoenleber, C. (2019). Recreation Use and Human Valuation on the Nature Reserve of Orange County, California (p. 52). Orange County, California: Utah State University.

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## Professional Affiliations

- Ecological Society of America (2022-)
- Recreation Ecology Research Network (2019-)

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## Professional Service

### **Associate Editor - Journal of Outdoor Recreation & Tourism. 2025-Present**

Manage and referee the peer review process for submitted manuscripts, ensuring the standard for high-quality research, robustness, and relevance of publications.

### **Journal Peer Reviewer-Journal of Park and Recreation Administration. 2021-Present**

Provided peer review for manuscripts related to mobile device data for recreation use estimation.

### **Journal Peer Reviewer- Biodiversity and Conservation. 2021-Present**

Provided peer review for manuscripts related to recreation ecology for protected area management.

### **Journal Peer Reviewer-Landscape and Urban Planning. 2021-Present**

Provided peer review for manuscripts related to Park and Protected Area Planning and Management.

### **Review Workshop Facilitator IPBES. 2021**

Assisted in organizing and collecting comments from a North American panel of Reviewers for the International Panel on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) Values Assessment Report.

### **Sustainable Trail Design & Monitoring Webinar. Great Basin Institute. 2020**

Delivered Webinar to Great Basin Institute/Nevada Conservation Corps AmeriCorps crew leaders on Sustainable Trail Design, Recreation Ecology, and GIS analysis and trail design tools.

### **Emergency Medical Fund Liaison & Treasurer. Graduate Student Council. 2019-2021**

Oversee budget for USU College of Natural Resources Graduate Student Emergency Medical Fund Scholarship which provides financial assistance to graduate students.

### **Volunteer-Nordic United. 2017-Present**

Volunteer trail groomer for Nordic trails in Logan, UT and assisted with preparation and organization of a backcountry ski-mountaineering race. Nordic United advocates for human-powered winter recreation on the Cache National Forest.

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## Teaching Experience

### **Instructor of Record**

- NR 6580: Data Analysis and Programming for Natural Resource Management. Spring-2024
- ENVS 4500: Wildland Recreation Behavior- Recreation Resource Management. Fall-2022
- ENVS 4500: Wildland Recreation Behavior- Recreation Resource Management. Fall-2021
- ENVS 4500: Wildland Recreation Behavior- Recreation Resource Management. Fall-2020

### **Teaching Assistant**

- ENVS 3300: Fundamentals of Recreation Resource Management. Fall-2018

### **Guest Lecturer**

- Presented a lecture to a graduate-level Active Transportation on recreation ecology in protected area management.(2023).
- Presented a field-based lecture on Recreation Ecology Theory and Monitoring to an Undergraduate/Graduate Disturbance Ecology Class. (2021/2022).
- Presented a lecture on the topics of Technology, Risk, and Social Media in the context of Recreation to a 4th year class of undergraduates. (2019).
- Presented a lecture on Technology, Risk, and Social media with examples from my own original research illustrating changes in recreation behavior and challenges for management. (2018).

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## Technical Skills

- **Programming Languages:** Python, R, ArcPy, SAS
- **Software:** Google Cloud Compute, Google Earth Engine, ArcMap/ArcGIS, QGIS, Adobe CC, LaTeX, Microsoft Office