Brett J Watson

Institute of Social and Economic Research
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Research Work Experience

Assistant Professor of Applied and Natural Resource Economics, Aug 2022 - Present
Institute of Social and Economic Research, University of Alaska Anchorage

Research Assistant Professor of Economics, Aug 2021-Aug 2022
Institute of Social and Economic Research, University of Alaska Anchorage

Post-Doctoral Research Professional, June 2017-Aug 2021
Institute of Social and Economic Research, University of Alaska Anchorage

Graduate Research Assistant, Jan 2013-May 2017
Colorado School of Mines, Projects funded by:
Resources for the Future, Critical Materials Institute, and Idaho National Laboratory

Education

Ph.D. in Mineral and Energy Economics
Dissertation Title: *Three Essays in Resource Economics and Availability.*
Colorado School of Mines, Golden, CO. May 2017

M.S. in Mineral and Energy Economics
Colorado School of Mines, Golden, CO. May 2014

BBA in Economics-Summa cum laude
Texas State University, Honors College, San Marcos, TX. May 2012

Research Interests

Resource Economics, Applied Microeconomics, Environmental Economics

Publications (Category A)

Spillover Effects: A Comparison of Course and Institutional Outcomes for Traditional and Intensive Introductory Biology. 2024.*Conditionally Accepted, Journal of Higher Education.* (with D Defeo, S Gerken, and T Tran)

Geography, Geology, and Regional Economic Development. 2022. *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management.* (with A James, B Smith, and K Berry)

Coal Demand, Market Forces, and US Coal Mine Closures. 2022.*Economic Inquiry.* (with J Linn, IA Lange).

Sovereign Wealth Funds in Theory and Practice. (with J Shogren, A James, T Retting, and S Wills). 2022. *Annual Review of Resource Economics.*

Commercial fisheries & local economies. (with M Reimer, M Guettabi, and A Haynie). 2021. *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management.*

Understanding relative metal prices and availability: Combining physical and economic perspectives. (with RG Eggert). 2020. *Journal of Industrial Ecology.*

Universal Cash and Crime. (with M Guettabi and M Reimer). *Review of Economics and Statistics.* 102.4, pp.678-689, 2020

Economics Literature on Joint Production of Minerals: A Survey. *Resources Policy*, 2017

Companions and Competitors: Joint Metal-Supply Relationships in Gold, Silver, Copper, Lead and Zinc Mines. *Resources and Energy Economics* 49, 2017, pp. 233-250

Thorium: Crustal Abundance, Joint Production, and Economic Availability, *Resources Policy* 44, 2015, pp. 81-93. (with RG Eggert, BW Dixon, and BW Carlsen)

Working Papers & Ongoing Research

Natural Disasters and Crime. (with K Berry, H Hennighausen, and J Gellman).

Capitalization of Bundled Amenities and Hazards in Home Prices: The Case of Wildfire Exposure in Southcentral Alaska. (with J Schmidt and M Berman).

Environmental Standards in Extractive Industries. (with B Loeffler).

Youth Career Aspirations In Commercial Fisheries. (with D DeFeo).

Unconditional Cash is an Interstate Migration Magnet. (with A James).

Migration Effects of State Fiscal Windfalls: Evidence from North Dakota Shale. (with A James).

Unconditional Cash and Childhood Obesity. (with M Reimer and M Guettabi).

Can We Dig It? An Empirical Study of Environmental Attitudes and Social License to Operate in Mineral Extraction.

White Papers and Policy Documents (Category B)

Critical Minerals in the Arctic: Forging the Path Forward, Wilson Center. Pre-Conference Report. 2023.

Regional Economic Effects of Energy Investments and Transition: A Review. 2022.

Potential Future of the Alaska Mining Industry. 2021.

Child Care Market Rate Survey (2020-2021) for Alaska Department of Health and Social Services.

"OPINION: On the fence about Ballot Measure 1? Here are some facts to consider." Anchorage Daily News 10/22/2020

"OPINION: How would Ballot Measure 1 Work?" Anchorage Daily News 10/21/2020

Some Context for Ballot Measure 1 2020 Oil Tax Initiative. (2020) ISER White Paper.

Transforming Introductory Biology at UAA.

Teaching & Advising

University Courses

Economics & Public Policy
Graduate Level. University of Alaska Anchorage, Fall 2022 - Present
Econometrics
Undergraduate Level. University of Alaska Anchorage, Spring 2020
Advanced Econometrics Software Lab
Graduate Level. Colorado School of Mines, Fall 2015
Econometrics Software Lab
Graduate Level. Colorado School of Mines, Spring 2015, 2016

Advising

Kylie Reese
MPP Capstone "Can Energy Transition Policies Improve Air Quality in Fairbanks, Alaska?," Class of 2024

Other Instructional Activities

Data Analytics for Public Policy
UAA CBPP Summer Academies for High School Students, June 7, 2023
Guest Lectures
Research Methods. University of Alaska Anchorage, Feb 21, 2024
Energy Transitions. Fort Lewis College & Colorado School of Mines. Mar 12, 2024

Funding

"State of Alaska Economy Monthly Newsletter" First National Bank Alaska. Principal Investigator. University of Alaska Anchorage, $17,000 renewed annually, 2020-present.

"Cross-Jurisdiction Comparison of Mining and Oil and Gas Laws." Co-Principal Investigator. State of Alaska. University of Alaska Anchorage, $250,000. 2022-2024.

"Career Aspirations and Fisheries Shocks." Co-Principal Investigator. State of Alaska. University of Alaska Anchorage, $250,000. 2022-2024.

"FY24 Child Care Market Price Survey." Principal Investigator. State of Alaska. University of Alaska Anchorage, $89,000. 2023-2024.

"The Impacts of Federal and State Fisheries Limitation Programs on Gulf of Alaska Villages." Principal Investigator. Sealaska Corporation. University of Alaska Anchorage, $23,379.00. 2023-2024

"Cash Transfers & Strategic Migration." Co-Principal Investigator. Cash Transfer Lab. University of Alaska Anchorage, $19,019.00. 2023-2024.

"EPI-EMA. Local Economic Impacts of Renewable and Non-renewable Energy Capital." Co-Principal Investigator. Idaho National Lab. University of Alaska Anchorage, 34,000.00. 2022.

"Economic and Social Impacts of Alaska Mining Industry". Principal Investigator. Council of Alaska Producers. University of Alaska Anchorage, $15,000. 2021.

"Potential for Futures of Alaska Mining Industry" Co-Principal Investigator. Power the Future. University of Alaska Anchorage, $54,139. 2021.

"ISER Fisheries Research" Principal Investigator. UA Foundation donation from US Seafoods. University of Alaska Anchorage, $25,000. 2021.

"FY21 Child Care Market Price Survey." Co-Investigator. State of Alaska. University of Alaska Anchorage, $69,000. 2023-2024

"Navigating the New Arctic: Arctic Urban Risks and Adaptations (AURA)". Co-Investigator. National Science Foundation. University of Alaska Anchorage, $75,000 of $1,100,000. 2019-2023.

"The Welfare Implications of an Unconditional and Universal Cash Transfer: Evidence from Alaska." The Economic Security Project. Co-Investigator. University of Alaska Anchorage, $75,000. 2018-2019.

Presentations

Academic Conferences and Seminars (Category B)

2024 Cash Transfer Lab, Virtual, May
2023 Alaska's 21st Century Economy, Anchorage, Alaska, Jun
2022 Cash Transfer Lab, Virtual, Dec
2021 ISER Research Seminar, Anchorage, Alaska, Mar
2018 CU Annual Environmental and Resource Economics Workshop, Vail, CO, Sep; International Institute of Fisheries Economics & Trade Conference, Seattle, WA, Jul; Colorado School of Mines, Seminar, Golden, CO, Jan
2017 Institute of Social and Economic Research, Seminar, Anchorage, AK, Oct; Resource for the Future, Seminar, Washington DC, Apr; Colorado School of Mines, Department Seminar, Golden, CO, Mar; Critical Materials Institute, Winter Meeting, Golden, CO, Feb;
2016 University of Colorado, Annual Environmental and Resource Economics Workshop, Vail, Co, Sep; North Carolina State University, Camp Resources, Wilmington, NC, Aug; Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (AERE), Summer Conference, Breckenridge, CO, June; National Renewable Energy Laboratory, Front-range Energy Camp, Golden, CO, May; Critical Materials Institute, Winter Meeting, Golden, CO, Feb

2015 Colorado School of Mines, Department Seminar, Golden, CO, Dec; University of Colorado, Front-range Energy Camp, Boulder, CO, May; Colorado School of Mines, Department Seminar, Golden, CO, April

2014 Texas State University, Department of Finance and Economics Faculty Seminar Series, San Marcos, TX, Aug; Society of Mining Engineers Critical Minerals Conference, Denver, CO, Aug; CEER Conference on Earth and Energy Research, Golden, CO, Mar

Community Presentations (Service Activity)

2024 FNBA OneSolutions Summit (panelist and presenter), Jan; "Commercial Fisheries Economic Impacts in Alaska" - Alaska Forum on the Environment, Feb; "Commercial Fisheries Economic Impacts in Alaska" - Alaska Forum on the Environment, Feb; ISER Research Seminar, Feb; Economics After Hours, Mar; Child Care Advisory Task Force, Apr; Cash Transfer Lab, Virtual, May

2023 US Department of Energy - Alaska Pacific University, Feb; Economics After Hours, Feb; Alaska Forum on the Environment, Anchorage, Feb; Invited testimony, Alaska State Senate Finance Committee "Status of the Alaska Economy", Mar 16; Guest Speaker, Meet Alaska, Anchorage; Invited testimony, Alaska State House Resources Committee: "Economic Potential of Alaska's Mineral Industry," Apr 17; Invited Speaker, Alaska Miners Association meeting, Apr; Velocity Alaska Lunch and Learn, Apr; Alaska's 21st Century Economy, Jun; Russian Jack Rotary Club, Aug; Critical Minerals Symposium - Colorado School of Mines & Payne Institute for Public Policy, Sep; Alaska Miners Association Convention, Anchorage, Nov. Resource Development Council of Alaska Convention, November 15th; Alaska Municipal League, Dec

2022 Velocity/ The Alliance, Anchorage, Mar. Alaska Young Professionals Summit, Anchorage, Apr. Faculty Research And Creative Activity Seminar (FRACAS), Oct; Economic Justice Policy Advocates Conference (EJPAC), Virtual, Oct

2021 ISER at 60, Dec; Community Meeting on Hazards, Whitehorse, YT, Setp; ISER External Seminar, Mar

2019 REAP Speaker Series, Anchorage, AK, April

Media

Internet

East Anchorage Book Club Podcast. (July 24, 2023).
Alaska Beacon. (July 19, 2023).
"As Willow project decision nears, Alaska ponders ties to oil." Roll Call. (February 15, 2023).
"Alaska's Changing Arctic: Oil Economy". International Arctic Research Center. (January 24, 2023).
"Alaska oil and gas lease sale draws one bid," Lloyd's List. (January 4, 2023).
"Cook Inlet Lease Sales." E&E News. (December 29, 2022).
"Anchorage Housing and Inflation." Alaska Landmine. (June 21, 2021).

Newspaper

"MAKing It: Meet the crew connecting Alaska to the world.âĂİ ADN. May 16, 2024.
Background Interview - Maya Shimizu Harris, Casper Star-Tribune, Wyoming. (Nov 2, 2023)
"Short term rentals and Housing in Anchorage". ADN. (June 13, 2023).
Background Interview. ADN. (May 13, 2022).
Background Interview. Forbes Advisor. (May 12, 2022).
Background Interview. Juneau Empire. (March 9, 2022).
"Chicago poised to create one of the nationâĂŹs largest âĂŸguaranteed basic incomeâĂŹ programs." Washington Post. (October 25, 2021).
"Historic Bristol Bay, Alaska salmon fishery dealing with latest challenge: COVID-19." Fairbanks Daily News-miner. (Sep 1, 2020)

Radio

"Can $500 a month make a dent in Seattle-area poverty?" - Monica Nickelsburg, KUOW Soundside. (April 08, 2024)
"People could only own one short-term rental unit in Alaska under new House bill" âĂŞ Lex Treinen, Alaska Public Media. (May 8, 2023).
"State sales or income tax? As Alaska lawmakers consider proposals, economists weigh in" âĂŞ Lex Treinen, Alaska Public Media. (April 25, 2023).
"Protest against oil drilling in Alaska." ARD. (March 8, 2023).
"Cook Inlet Lease Sales" - Sabine Poux, KDLL. (January 4, 2023).
"Critical Materials", Talk of Alaska - Alaska Public Media. (October 4, 2022).
AK Public Media. (August 22, 2022).
"Could rising timber prices aid the Tongass transition to second-growth logging?" KCAW. (April 29, 2021).

TV

"Impact of the Alaska PFD" Alaska's News Source. (October 13, 2021).

Other Activities

Referee: Marine Resource Econ, Economic Inquiry, Journal of Cleaner Production Critical Raw Materials, MRS Energy & Sustainability, Economic Inquiry, J of the European Economic Association (JEEA), Energy Journal, Resources Policy, J of the Association of Env and Res Economists (JAERE), J of Env Economics and Management (JEEM)

Workshop/Session Organizer: Alaska's 21 Centery Economy Workshop, Anchorage, Alaska (June 16-17, 2023); Critical Minerals in the Arctic: Forging the Path Forward, Wilson Center, Washington DC (July 12-13, 2023); Conference abstract reviewer for: Western Agricultural Economics Association (2018).

Affiliations: Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (AERE). American Economics Association (AEA). International Institute of Fisheries Economics & Trade (IIFET).

Board and Association Memberships: Child Care Cost Study: Advisory Committee (2023-2024).

Computer Software

R, Stata, Latex, GAMS/MPSGE, ArcGIS/ArcMap, working knowledge of HTML/CSS, Matlab, Eviews.