

Roshan Puri

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EDUCATION & TRAINING

Postdoc Scholar

Center for Watershed Sciences/Sustainable Ag. Water Systems Research, USDA-ARS
Supervisor: Lucia Levers

University of California, Davis

2023 – present

Ph.D. in Economics (Fields: Environmental Economics & Applied Econometrics)

Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics

Dissertation Title: Methodological advances in benefit transfer and hedonic analysis

Advisor: Klaus Moeltner

Virginia Tech

2019 – 2023

M.A. in Data Analysis and Applied Statistics

Department of Statistics

Chair: Jennifer Van Mullekom

Virginia Tech

2022 – 2023

M.S. in Applied Economics

Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology

Advisor: Alexander Maas

University of Idaho

2017 – 2019

B.S. in Agricultural Sciences

Institute of Agricultural and Animal Science

Rampur, Nepal

2012 – 2016

EMPLOYMENT

Intern at VA811

Project: Forecasting Call Volume, Optimizing Number of Staff

Blacksburg, VA

Summer, 2023

Instructor of Record

Economics of the Food and Fiber System, Undergrad level

Virginia Tech

Fall, 2022 & Spring, 2023

Research Assistant

Advisor: Klaus Moeltner

Advisor: Alexander Maas

Virginia Tech, 2019 – 2023

University of Idaho, 2017 – 2019

Teaching Assistant

Production and Consumption Economics, Undergrad level

Applied Economic Forecasting, Grad level

Virginia Tech

Fall, 2020

Spring, 2020

PUBLICATIONS

Maas, A., **Puri, R.**, & Goemans, C. (2024). A review of residential water conservation policies and attempts to measure their effectiveness. *PLOS Water*, 3(8), e0000278

Moeltner, K., **Puri, R.**, Johnston, R. J., Besedin, E., Balukas, J. A., & Le, A. (2023). Locally-weighted meta-regression and benefit transfer. *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*, 121, 102871.

Puri, R., & Maas, A. (2020). Evaluating the sensitivity of residential water demand estimation to model specification and instrument choices. *Water Resources Research*, 56(1), e2019WR026156.

WORKING PAPERS

From fields to flyways: Public willingness to pay for migratory bird habitat restoration in California (*with Lucia Levers*)

Birdwatchers willingness to pay for grassland habitat restoration in California (*with Lucia Levers, Sonja Kolstoe, & Jerrod Penn*)

Rationing access to congested public lands: Evidence from reservation systems in U.S. national parks

Economic benefits of aquatic invasive species management in freshwater systems: A contingent valuation study (*with Lucia Levers & Amit Pradhananga*)

Regression and matching in hedonic analysis: Empirical guidance for estimator choice (*with Klaus Moeltner & Rob Johnston*)

PRESENTATIONS

Conferences

Puri, R., & Levers, L., (2025), *From Fields to Flyways: Public Willingness to Pay for Migratory Bird Habitat Restoration in California*

- Center for Watershed Sciences (CWS), Departmental Seminar Series, Winter Quarter, Feb 23, 2026, UC Davis, CA.
- *American Geophysical Union (AGU), Annual Meeting Dec 15 – Dec 19, 2025, New Orleans, Louisiana, US.

Puri, R., Levers, L., & Pradhananga, A. (2024), *Economic Valuation of Aquatic Invasive Species in Minnesota*, Universities Council on Water Resources (UCOWR), AWRA, UCOWR, NIWR Joint Water Resources Conference, Sept 29 – Oct 02, 2024, St. Louis, MO, US.

Moeltner, K., **Puri, R.**, & Johnston, R. J. (2023), *Regression and Matching in Hedonic Analysis: Empirical Guidance for Estimator Choice*, Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA), Annual Meeting, July 23 – 25, 2023, Washington, D.C

Moeltner, K., **Puri, R.**, Johnston, R. J., Besedin, E., Balukas, J., & Le, Alyssa. (2022), *Locally Weighted Meta-Regression and Benefit Transfer*, Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA), Annual Meeting, July 31 – August 2, 2022, Anaheim, California.

Puri, R., & Maas, A., (2019), *Evaluating the Sensitivity of Residential Water Demand Estimation to Model Specification and Instrument Choices*

- Western Agricultural Economics Association (WAEA), Annual Meeting June 30 – July 2, 2019, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, US.
- Universities Council on Water Resources (UCOWR), Annual Meeting June 11 – July 13, 2019, Snowbird, Utah, US.

Puri, R., Koroles, A., Lemgo, E., & Hunter, K. (2019), *Addressing Economic Water Scarcity in Rural India Through Aqua-Pay*, United Nations Association of the United States of America (UNA-USA), Solution to the Water Crisis (National Level Case Competition), June 2019.

***Puri, R.**, & Maas, A., (2019), *Financing and Funding Urban Water Services: The State of, and Barriers to, Integrated Management*, Urban Water Innovation Network, Annual Meeting July 30 – August 1, 2018, Fort Collins, Colorado, US.

GRANTS

USDA NIFA AFRI (2025/2026). Farmland transitions under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act: Farmer decisions, water constraints, and land repurposing in California. **PI.** Amount requested: ~\$650,000 (*pending*).

HONORS AND AWARDS

- VA811 Fellowship (\$3500), Department of Statistics, Virginia Tech, Summer, 2023
- Cunningham Fellowship (\$7500), Graduate School, Virginia Tech, Summer, 2023
- Travel Awards (\$700), AAEA & Graduate and Professional Student Senate, Virginia Tech, June, 2023
- Paul J. Driscoll Fellowship (\$777.47), College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, Virginia Tech, Summer, 2022
- Ralph G. Kline Fellowship (\$1365), College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, Virginia Tech, Summer, 2021
- Graduate Student Tuition Waiver, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, Virginia Tech, 2019 – 2023
- Travel Awards (\$700), Graduate and Professional Student Association & Department of AERS, University of Idaho, June, 2019
- 1st Place at Solution to Water Crisis (University and National Level), UNA-USA Case Competition, University of Idaho, March & June, 2019

*indicates poster presentation

- University Leadership Award (~ \$600) Graduate and Professional Student Association, University of Idaho, 2018 – 2019
- Graduate Student Tuition Waiver, Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology, University of Idaho, 2017 – 2019
- Full Merit Government Scholarship, Institute of Agricultural and Animal Science, Tribhuvan University, Rampur, Nepal, 2012 – 2016

SKILLS

Programming: R, STATA, MATLAB, Python, ArcGIS Pro, Remote Sensing, Google Earth Engine, LaTeX
Languages: English (Fluent), Nepali (Native)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

- Journal Referee
 - Journal of Environmental Economics and Management (JEEM)*
 - Water Resources Research (WRR)*
 - Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics (JARE)*
 - Water Resources and Economics (WRE)*
- Abstract Submission Reviewer
 - Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (AERE)*
- President, Graduate Student Association at Department of AAEC, Virginia Tech, 2021–2022
- Graduate Student Representative for Department of AAEC, Graduate Student Assembly, Virginia Tech, 2020–2021
- Program Committee Member, Graduate and Professional Students Association, University of Idaho, 2018–2019
- Senator for Department of AERS, Graduate and Professional Students Association, University of Idaho, 2017–2018

[References will be provided upon request.]