

Gina Gilson

(+1) 520-626-4393 | ggilson@arizona.edu

EDUCATION

University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom

January 2021-present

Doctor of Philosophy Candidate: Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment, School of Geography and the Environment

Thesis: *Understanding the evolution of informal water markets in Eastern Africa*

Expected thesis submission: January 2024

University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom

September 2018

Master of Science: Biodiversity, Conservation and Management

Dissertation: *Funding flows for freshwater: the role of philanthropy in market-based freshwater conservation*

Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska

May 2014

Bachelor of Science: Biology & Environmental Science with Spanish Minor; Magna Cum Laude

RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

NEWAVE Next Water Governance, Early Stage Researcher 12

January 2021-December 2023

Joint position as Early Stage Researcher (ESR) and PhD student as part of NEWAVE, a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Innovative Training Network, funded by the EU Research and Innovation Programme Horizon 2020. Serving as the student leader of the Work Package on Patterns of Water Governance.

Independent Research Consultant

November 2018-December 2020

- **University of Oxford Philomathia Researcher (England, April 2019-December 2020):** Research consultant on environmental markets and governance for a book project addressing the future of commons pool resources (by Dr Dustin Garrick). Gained experience with database management and systematic literature review techniques.
- **National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (USA, April 2019-December 2020):** Lead consultant for third-party evaluation on the effectiveness of the Columbia Basin Water Transactions Program. Synthesised data on drivers, barriers and trends. Used R programming to create an interactive web application for data visualisation.
- **Global Water Partnership (Sweden, August 2019-July 2020):** Supported the Technical Advisory Committee and the Dutch Government's Valuing Water Initiative.
- **The Nature Conservancy-Oxford Partnership (USA and England, November 2018- February 2019).** Served as researcher and project manager to develop an agenda-setting paper on incentive-based water management, identifying theories of change for scaling up promising water allocation policies.
- **Water Policy, Economics and Governance Network (Canada, November 2018- January 2019)**
Consultant: Developed a briefing paper on water governance innovation in the Columbia River Basin funded by the Social Science and Humanities Research Council (Canada) Water Policy, Economics and Governance Network.

Utah Valley University, Capitol Reef Field Station Site Manager

May 2015-June 2017

Served as the Co-PI on an NSF Planning Grant and coordinated a conference on University-National Park field station partnerships while serving as site manager. Primary duties were to manage a backcountry facility, including water treatment, solar electrical system, and basic maintenance. Led educational activities about conservation, sustainability, natural history, and astronomy. Acted as liaison between the national park and university.

Creighton University Environmental Researcher

2012-2014

Conducted an independent research project funded by NASA Nebraska to map the distribution of mud algae along a tidal river on Sapelo Island, Georgia. Worked with a team on tributary surveys, including water sampling and analysis.

PUBLICATIONS

Articles

- Garrick D, Balasubramanya S, Beresford M, Wutich A, **Gilson G**, Jorgensen I, Brozović N, Cox M, Dai X, Erfurth S and Rimšaitė R (2023) A systems perspective on water markets: barriers, bright spots, and building blocks for the next generation. *Environmental Research Letters*, 18(3), p.031001.
- **Gilson G**, Garrick D (2021) How philanthropy enables collective action: lessons from conservation in the Colorado River Basin. *Conservation and Society* 19(3): 190.
- Garrick D, Iseman T, **Gilson G**, Brozovic N, O'Donnell E, Matthews N, Miralles-Wilhelm F, Wight C, Young, W. (2020) Scalable solutions to freshwater scarcity: Advancing theories of change to incentivise sustainable water use. *Water Security* 9, p.100055.
- Stevens M, **Gilson G** (2016) An exploration of field-station partnerships: university-operated field stations located in US national parks. *BioScience* 66: 693-701.

Book Chapters

- **Gilson G**, Garrick D (2021) Ready or not? Learning from 30 years of experimentation with environmental water markets in the Columbia Basin (USA) in Wheeler, SA and Loch, A (eds.) *Water Markets: A Global Assessment*. Edward Elgar, UK.

Policy and Public Works

- **Gilson G**. (2023) Preliminary Fieldwork Results in Kisumu, Kenya. Policy Brief.
- **Gilson G**, Geagea D, Porada H, Girma S, Singh R (2023) ESR-Reflections on the UN Water Conference. June 9.
- Kjellén M, Sinha R, Hebart-Coleman D, Yaari E, Muratore E, Loeffen A, Pories L, Priscoli JD, Garrick D, **Gilson G**, Herron C, Guenther E, Jindal A, Willemart S, Webley N, Kinna R. (2021). Chapter 9: Enabling multi-value approaches in water governance. *The United Nations World Water Development Report 2021: Valuing Water*. UNESCO, Paris.

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- **Gilson G, Moez C, Garrick D (2019)** Evaluation of the Columbia Basin Water Transactions Program: Transaction Costs, Drivers & Trends from 2003-2018.
- **Gilson G (2019)** The Columbia Basin Water Transactions Program Briefing Report: A synthesis and some insights for program development.
- **Gilson G (2019)** Philanthropy in the CRB. Policy Brief.

Other Media

- **Gilson, G (2020)** Columbia Basin Water Transactions Program: Sub-basin Profile visualisation tool.
<https://ginagilson.shinyapps.io/CBWTP2020/>

GRANTS & AWARDS

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| 2023 | NFRF Special Call: The Informal Water Paradox (\$700,000 CAD, lead grant writer) |
| 2022 | Competitive Fieldwork Funding, Green Templeton College |
| 2022 | Royal Geographical Society, Slawson Award |
| 2021 | NEWAVE Next Water Governance Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellow, Grant No. 861509 |
| 2019 | National Fish and Wildlife Program
Review and Evaluation of the Columbia Basin Water Transactions Program Project No. 65713 |
| 2018 | BCM Dissertation Grant |
| 2015-2017 | National Science Foundation Field Stations and Marine Laboratories Grant No. 1522462 |
| 2012-2014 | NASA Nebraska Space Grant Research Fellowship |

CONFERENCES, PANELS, AND PRESENTATIONS

Presentations

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| 2023 | How can informal water vendors contribute to equitable water access? <i>Panel: The Water Commons We Want: Location Action for a Better Future.</i> International Association for the Study of the Commons XIX. |
| 2022 | Informal insights: archetypes of informal water entrepreneurs for better development outcomes. <i>Session: Polycentricity, Markets, and Environmental Commons.</i> WINIR Conference on Polycentric Governance & the Challenges of the 21st Century. |
| 2021 | Understanding the evolution of informal water markets in East Africa. <i>Panel 11: The Evolution of Markets and the Water Commons: Pressures, Patterns and Pathways of Water Governance.</i> International Association for the Study of the Commons: Water Commons Virtual Conference. |

Events chaired and organised

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| 2023 | ‘Panel 10.11: The water commons we want: local action for a better future.’ Panel co-convenor and moderator. IASC 2023 Global Biennial Conference XIX : The Commons We Want held June 19 – 24, 2023 at University of Nairobi in Nairobi, Kenya. June 19-24. |
| 2023 | ‘Overcoming obstacles for reflexive research practice in water governance.’ Event co-organizer. UN Water Conference, virtual side event. March 22-24. |
| 2022: | Decolonising Methodologies: Brown Bag with Raisa Cole. Event co-organizer, online. |
| 2022 | NEWAVE Summer School on Transferable, Actionable, and Dissemination Skills. Planning Committee. |
| 2021 | NEWAVE Summer Summit: Theoretical Training. Planning Committee. |
| 2013 | Creighton University Welcome Week: Coordinator (2013), Executive (2012), and Leader (2011) |

Features

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| 2019 | Wall Street Journal. ‘The Colorado River Is in Crisis. The Walton Family Is Pushing a Solution.’ <i>MSc findings featured.</i> |
| 2019 | EE News: Colorado River’s biggest champion: Walmart heirs. <i>MSc findings featured.</i> |

TRAININGS & WORKSHOPS

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| 2022 | Pathways to Sustainability– Water and Food Security Workshop. <i>Invited participant.</i> |
| 2023 | NEWAVE Synthesis Workshop: Water governance futures and alternatives. |
| 2023 | NEWAVE Synthesis Workshop: Problématiques-Paradigms-Patterns, from diagnosis to analysis to actionability. |
| 2022 | Coase Institute Web Workshop on institutional analysis, November 28-Dec 7. <i>Accepted participant.</i> |

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- 2022 NEWAVE Transferable, Actionable, and Dissemination Skills Summer School.
- 2021 NEWAVE Summer Summit: Theoretical training.
- 2021 NEWAVE Methods Training
- 2021 IASC conference 2021 Training: Analysing Archetypes of CPR Arrangements. Matteo Roggero, Stefan Partelow, Luigi Piemontese and Rimjhim Aggarwal.
- 2020 IASC Virtual Summer School on Institutional Frameworks and Their Applications, June 15-19. *Accepted participant.*
- 2020 NEWAVE e-Lecture Series: Water Governance Theoretical Perspectives
- 2020 Valuing Water Initiative & Global Water Partnership: Water Change-makers Workshop. *Invited participant.*

TEACHING

University of Oxford: Biodiversity, Conservation and Management

- 2021 Course Team Member, MSc in Biodiversity, Conservation and Management
Co-lead, Economics of the Environment Module
- Payments for Ecosystem Services: key concepts and discussion session
 - Conservation Finance Lecture (given 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022)
 - Biodiversity Offsets (given 2018, 2019, 2021)
 - Critical Perspectives on the Dasgupta Review on the Economics of Biodiversity: discussion session with Michael t'Sas-Rolfes
- 2018-2022 Lecturer, Conservation Finance (given 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022)
- 2018-2021 Co-convenor, Biodiversity Offsets Interactive Workshop (given 2018, 2019, 2021)

University of Oxford: Water, Science, Policy and Management

- 2019 Co-convenor, Research Design and Skills: Research Philosophy

Utah Valley University: Non-academic Environmental Education

- 2017 Plant-O-Rama: Plant Identification Workshop at Capitol Reef Field Station
- 2015-2017 Night Sky Tour: Astronomy at Capitol Reef Field Station
- 2015-2017 Cultural and Natural History of Capitol Reef Field Station: Introduction and Guided Hike

University of Georgia, Costa Rica Campus: Non-academic Environmental Education

- 2014 Resident Naturalist (Intern)
- Guided Natural History Hike (day or night)
 - Botanical & Medicinal Plant Garden Tour
 - Insect-O-Rama: Insect Identification Workshop
 - Plant-O-Rama: Plant Identification Workshop
 - Introduction to Costa Rican History and Culture
 - Introduction to the Birds of San Luis, and How to Identify Them (including birdwatching)

Creighton University: General Biology

- 2013 Lead Teaching Assistant, General Biology Lab, Biology Department

SERVICE

- NEWAVE: Early Stage Researcher Board 2021
- Reviewer: Conservation Science and Practice
- Volunteer: Creighton University Honors Program Interviews

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- International Association for the Study of the Commons (2020-present)
- Royal Geographical Society (2021-2023)
- World Interdisciplinary Network for Institutional Research (2022-present)
- Honorary Research Associate at University of Oxford (2019-2020)

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- Spanish: advanced
- German: intermediate
- Swahili: beginner