

»»» NEWSLETTER «««

NASA Equity & Environmental Justice

EEJ NEWS

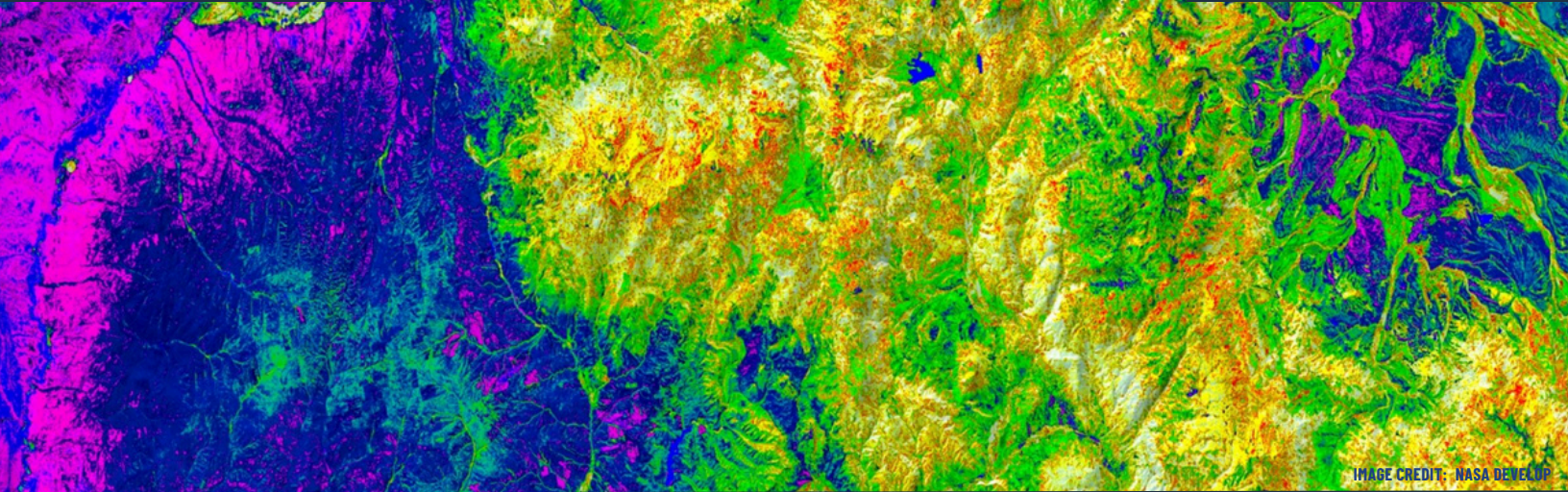


IMAGE CREDIT: NASA DEVELOP

»»» ANNOUNCEMENTS «««

Engaging Diverse STEM Communities at SACNAS

NASA's Equity and Environmental Justice (EEJ) Program participated in the SACNAS National Diversity in STEM (NDiSTEM) Conference in October 2024, the largest multidisciplinary and multicultural STEM diversity conference in the country. Hosted in Phoenix, Arizona, the conference aims to equip, empower, and energize participants in academic and professional STEM fields. Dozens of students and professionals stopped by NASA's exhibit tables to learn about the EEJ program, funded work with communities, NASA data, and broader opportunities to engage with NASA.

For more information, click [HERE](#).



From left to right: Edil Sepúlveda Carlo, NASA EEJ Program Coordinator; Cristina Villalobos-Heredia, MSFC node Center Lead, NASA DEVELOP; Karla Nairea Monroy, NASA DEVELOP alumni (seated)

EEJ ROSES PIs at AGU 2024

Check out the EEJ ROSES A.47 Principal Investigators sharing their research at the American Geophysical Union conference this December!

- **Dr. Chengpin Deng:** *Estimating and Assessing Severe Tornado Tracks in the US using Daily satellite images.* [Learn more HERE.](#)
- **Dr. Nick Kruskamp:** *Development of the 2012-2022 U.S. Gridded Anthropogenic Methane Emissions Inventory.* [Learn more HERE.](#)
- **Dr. David Salisbury:** *Integrating Indigenous Expert Knowledge with Earth Observations in the Amazon Borderlands of Peru and Brazil: Lessons Learned for Empowering Collaboration to Engage Climate Change in an Increasingly Dynamic Amazonia.* [Learn more HERE.](#)
- **Dr. Farshid Vahedifard:** *Multiple Projects linked [HERE](#).*
- **Dr. Qian Xiao:** *TEMPO Nighttime Light: First Comparison with VIIRS-DNB and ISS Astronaut Photo.* [Learn more HERE.](#)

AGU24

Washington, D.C. | 9–13 December 2024

WHAT'S NEXT FOR
SCIENCE



University of California GIS Week

The University of California system will host its annual event **November 19-21, 2024**. This event celebrates all things mapping and geospatial of the University of California faculty, staff, students, and alumni. Lightning talks, presentations, workshops, and a virtual gallery with maps and posters will be held virtually, but some campuses may host on-site events anytime this week, including a Mapathon.

NASA EEJ will be participating in discussions on Geospatial Opportunities on Wednesday, November 20th. Be sure to check it out!

All talks are free and open to the public.

For more information, click [HERE](#).



APPLY TODAY 2025 President's Environmental Student & Teacher Awards



EPA Seeks Applications: 2025 President's Environmental Student and Teacher Awards

These awards recognize outstanding environmental stewardship projects from students in Grades K-12 that promote environmental awareness and encourage community involvement as well as outstanding Grade K-12 educators who integrate environmental education and place-based learning into school curricula and school facility management across the country.

Projects eligible for the awards can apply to a variety of environmental topics, including (but not limited to):

- Agricultural practices
- Climate change
- Environmental justice
- Food waste
- Lead in drinking water
- Recycling
- Sustainability
- Using science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) in environmental education
- Water infrastructure
- Water quality and/or litter within waterways

Applications for both awards are due no later than **Monday, January 15, 2025**.

Learn more [HERE](#)

NOAA designates 3rd-Largest National Marine Sanctuary

Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary to be managed with tribal, Indigenous community involvement

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) announced that it is designating the Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary, which comprises 4,543 square miles of coastal and offshore waters along 116 miles of California's central coast. This sanctuary designation is the result of a decade of work by Tribes, Indigenous Peoples, community leaders, organizations, businesses, and Federal, state and local officials.

Learn more [HERE](#)



IMAGE CREDIT: NOAA



UPCOMING CONFERENCES



EPA 2024 National Pollution Prevention Training and Conference

December 10 - 11, 2024, Washington D.C.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will be holding its 2024 National Pollution Prevention Training and Conference in Washington, D.C., on December 10-11. The event will convene representatives from EPA grantees, academia, industry, non-governmental organizations, and state and federal agencies. Participants will have the opportunity to deepen their understanding of pollution prevention (P2), while leveraging and strengthening their connections to other practitioners. P2, which is also known as source reduction, is any practice that reduces, eliminates or prevents pollution at its source prior to recycling, treatment or disposal. Many of the practices and goals of P2 overlap significantly with those of sustainability and zero waste.

Learn more and register [HERE](#).

2024 National Pollution Prevention Training and Conference

December 10 - 11, 2024
Washington, D.C.



AGU24 Annual Meeting

December 9-13, 2024, Washington, D.C.

Each year, AGU's annual meeting, the largest gathering of Earth and space scientists, convenes 25,000+ attendees from 100+ countries to share research and connect with friends and colleagues. Scientists, educators, policymakers, journalists and communicators attend AGU24 to better understand our planet and environment, opening pathways to discovery, opening greater awareness to address climate change, opening greater collaborations to lead to solutions and opening the fields and professions of science to a whole new age of justice equity, diversity, inclusion and belonging. This December, AGU24 returns to Washington, D.C. with the theme "What's Next for Science." The EEJ Program will be present at AGU24, and we can't wait to see you all there.

Learn more and register [HERE](#).



EEJ PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS



Investing In Equity and Environmental Justice: An Urban Decision-Support Tool Integrating Earth Observations, Socioeconomic Data, And Ecosystem Service Models

Team: PI Lingling Liu (University of Minnesota), Joseph F. Knight (University of Minnesota), Chris W Nootenboom (Natural Capital Insights), Gretchen C. Daily (Stanford University), David Fisher (Stanford University), Anne D Guerry (Stanford University), Douglas Denu (Stanford University), Eric V Lonsdorf (Emory University)

Those who make decisions affecting equity and the urban environment must manage multiple, interacting challenges such as climate change, air and water pollution, flooding, heat waves, affordable housing, and public health.

Investing in green infrastructure can help address many of these challenges but leveraging the current data and tools that can best inform these decisions requires knowledge of ecosystem processes and skills in Geographic Information Systems (GIS). This project is developing a green infrastructure planning tool that lowers technological barriers for urban planners and decision-makers to generate insights and inform investments in green infrastructure for sustainable and equitable cities.

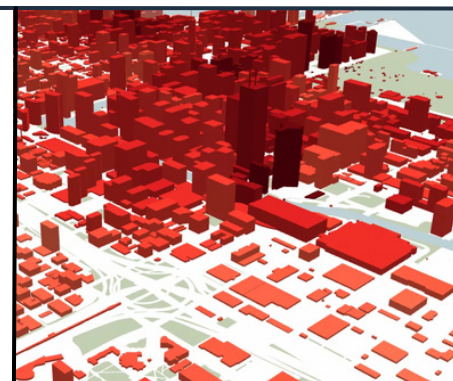
Learn more [HERE](#).

e-JUST: Environmental Justice using Urban Scalable Toolkit

Team: PI Ashish Sharma (Discovery Partners Institute, University of Illinois System); Co-I Matthew Turk (University of Illinois Urbana Champaign); Co-I Edith Makra (Metropolitan Mayors Caucus); Postdoc Carolina Veiga (Discovery Partners Institute, University of Illinois System); Postdoc Peiyuan Li (Discovery Partners Institute, University of Illinois System); Grad Student Gustavo Moreira (University of Illinois Chicago); Collaborator Fabio Miranda (University of Illinois Chicago); Collaborator Trent Ford (University of Illinois Urbana Champaign); Collaborator Milan Budhathoki (Univ of Maryland)

This project is developing a web GIS-based "e-JUST — Environmental Justice using Urban Scalable Toolkit." to co-identify extreme heat and air quality threats to health, equity, and crime to improve urban decision-making. This research aims to integrate health and equity focus into municipal planning and operations by utilizing an open-source GIS framework to co-produce knowledge. The project, after completion, will provide EJ communities in Chicago with a weather and air quality forecasting system that will guide decision-making.

Learn more [HERE](#)





F.5 Future Investigators in NASA Earth and Space Science and Technology

Future Investigators in NASA Earth and Space Science and Technology (FINESST) solicits proposals from accredited U.S. universities and other eligible organizations for graduate student-designed and performed research projects that contribute to SMD's science, technology, and exploration goals. The Future Investigator (FI), i.e., the student, shall have the primary initiative to define the proposed FINESST research project and must be the primary author, with input or supervision from the proposal's Principal Investigator (PI), as appropriate. The Future Investigator (FI) named on the proposal is primarily responsible for writing a FINESST proposal. The proposal must present a well-defined research problem/activity and a justification of its scientific significance to NASA, as well as a detailed approach for its conduct. All FINESST proposals must address their relevance to at least one participating SMD division.

Proposals are due by February 5, 2025. Learn more [HERE](#).

A.60 Earth Action: Ecological Conservation

A.60 Ecological Conservation supports the integration of NASA Earth observations in decision making within the domain of ecological conservation and management. Any area of conservation is welcome (e.g., invasive species, protected area management, fisheries or wildlife management, habitat restoration, ecosystem services, rewilding, biodiversity protection). The program welcomes proposals looking at any biome (terrestrial, freshwater, marine, or airborne) or geography. All projects must combine three components: NASA Earth observations (defined in Section 3.2.1), in situ biological observations (see Section 3.2.2 for examples), and ecological models to develop decision-support tools.

Notices of intent are requested by February 14, 2025, and proposals are due March 14, 2025.

Learn more [HERE](#)



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



IMAGE CREDIT: ELECTRIC SCHOOL BUS INITIATIVE

2024 Clean School Bus (CSB) Rebate Program

EPA has announced the opening of the 2024 Clean School Bus (CSB) Rebate Program application period. Under the 2024 CSB Rebate Program, the EPA anticipates awarding up to \$965 million in rebate funding with the potential to modify this figure based on the application pool and other factors.

Please visit the [Clean School Bus Program Rebates](#) homepage to access the 2024 CSB Rebate Program Guide with all program requirements, and other program details and resources. Access the 2024 Clean School Bus Rebate Applicant Dashboard [HERE](#)

More information on tax credits can be found [HERE](#)

Applications are due by January 9, 2025

EPA Gulf of Mexico Division Farmer to Farmer 2024 BIL Funding Opportunity

The EPA anticipates awarding ten to twenty assistance agreements to support farmer-led or farm focused organizations to improve water quality, habitat, resilience, and environmental education through the demonstration of innovative practices on working lands.

Eligible Entities include:

- State and local governments (includes State-designated Indian Tribes)
- Interstate agencies
- Federally Recognized Indian Tribal Governments
- Public and private universities and colleges
- Public or private nonprofit institutions
- Intertribal consortia

View the opportunity on EPA's Gulf of Mexico webpage [HERE](#).

Applications are due by: January 28, 2025

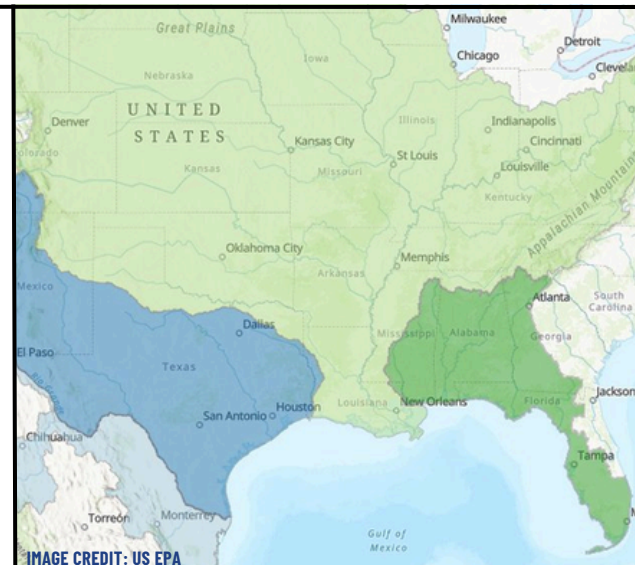


IMAGE CREDIT: US EPA



UPCOMINGEVENTS



WEBINAR: Understanding Green Gentrification and Displacement - the Path toward Equitable Development

American Water Resources Association is hosting a webinar where members of the Urban Waters Learning Network team will give an overview of green gentrification and displacement pressures on communities from restoration and revitalization efforts of urban waterways. Providing some case study examples, they will also suggest some strategies for mitigating displacement and working toward equitable development in urban landscapes. Content and processes from a new equitable development toolkit will also be incorporated.

Learn more and register [HERE](#)



ADDITIONAL READINGS & RESOURCES



Pediatric Environmental Health: e-Toolkit for Prevention



Pediatric Environmental Health Toolkit

The Pediatric Environmental Health Speciality Unit's team of doctors, nurses and public health professionals at University of California San Francisco's Western States PEHSU created the Pediatric Environmental Health e-Toolkit for Prevention, a free mobile-friendly online resource for health providers and professionals. Search children's health topics by chemicals (i.e., lead, mold, or VOCs) or exposure source (i.e., water, air, soil). Additionally, access environmental health prevention strategies grouped by age and key concepts like climate change and environmental justice to quickly build foundational knowledge.

Each topic in the Toolkit also has companion Prescriptions for Prevention. These online handouts available in English and Spanish cover health effects and best practices to reduce environmental exposures. Each is easy to read; has simple, low, or no cost do's and don'ts; and links to national level resources.

Learn more [HERE](#).



INTRODUCTION TO EEJ



The Equity and Environmental Justice Program (EEJ)

The EEJ Program advances progress on equity and environmental justice and builds a community of practice around the application of Earth science information to inform action on EEJ. This newsletter is one of the Program's strategic communication efforts for engaging those working in the space. It will continue to evolve, so please share your thoughts on what information is useful to you.

Learn more about the EEJ Program and access our previous newsletters by visiting our website [HERE](#).

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