

Bryce Currey

Curriculum Vitae
July, 2021

Dept. of Land Resources and Environmental Sciences
Montana State University
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Current position

2016-present Ph.D. Candidate and Graduate Research Assistant, Montana State University.
Ecosystem Biogeochemistry Lab.

Relevant Interests

Bryce Currey's expertise includes applying a robust knowledge of data collection, data analyses, geographic information systems, and remote sensing techniques to answer biogeochemical and ecological questions. His primary interests consist of integrating *in-situ* measurement with large-scale ecosystem data to understand how regional and global change will lead to future ecological and biogeochemical changes across scales. Bryce Currey also strongly ascribes to the academic tenets of collaboration and science communication.

Education

2016-present Ph.D. candidate Ecology and Environmental Sciences. Montana State University
Advisor: Dr. Jack Brookshire
2012-2016 B.S. Environmental Engineering, minor in Applied Mathematics. Graduated *Magna Cum Laude*. Loyola Marymount University.
Advisor: Dr. Jeremy Pal

Research Experience

2017-2020 Graduate research assistant, Montana State University. Bureau of Land Management Grant # L16AS00082. *Multi-scale analysis of the effects of prescribed fire on terrestrial ecosystem dynamics in the Missouri and Musselshell River Breaks, central Montana.*

2018-2020 Graduate research assistant, Montana State University, EPSCoR Track II NSF project #OIA-1632810. *Water Agriculture Food Energy Research Nexus (WAFERx).*

2018 Two-week field expedition to Trinidad to collect tree measurements and tree cores and measure N-fixation.

2018 One-week long field training camp in dendrochronology.

2017 Founding member of the graduate section of the interdisciplinary *Grassland Resilience Working Group* at Montana State University.
(<https://grasslandsgraduate.wixsite.com/resilience>)

2017 Established long-term study and creating 45 20x20m sampling plots in Central Montana.

2015 Research Experience for Undergraduates at Colorado State University

Technical Expertise

- Fluent in *R*, *ArcGIS Pro*, *QGIS*, *Microsoft Office suite*.
- Proficient in frequentist and Bayesian, multivariate, spatial- and time-series statistical methods.
- Proficient in Python, JavaScript, MATLAB, Earth Engine, ERDAS IMAGINE
- Frequent use of high-powered computing
- Frequent use of machine learning algorithms (e.g., deep neural networks, gradient boosted machines, random forests)
- Proficient with field sampling/monitoring techniques (e.g., soil sampling, forest monitoring, dendrochronology, data logging, flux measurement)
- Trained using analytical laboratory equipment (Lachat QuickChem8500; Costech ECS 4010)

Research Products

- 2021 Epstein, K., D. J. A. Wood, K. Roemer, **B. Currey**, H. Duff, J. D. Gay, H. Goemann, S. Loewen, M. C. Milligan, J. A. F. Wendt, E. N. J. Brookshire, L. McNew, D. B. McWethy, B. D. Maxwell, P. C. Stoy, and J. H. Haggerty. *Towards an urgent yet deliberate conservation strategy: sustaining social-ecological systems in rangelands of the Northern Great Plains, Montana*. Ecology and Society.
- 2020 **Currey, B.**, M. P. Oatham, and E. N. J. Brookshire. *Negative trait-based association between abundance of nitrogen fixing trees and long-term tropical forest biomass accumulation*. Journal of Ecology.
- 2020 Brookshire, E. N. J., P. C. Stoy, **B. Currey**, and B. Finney. *The greening of the Northern Great Plains and its biogeochemical precursors*. Global Change Biology.
- 2019 Brookshire, E. N. J., N. Wurzbarger, **B. Currey**, D. N. L. Menge, M. P. Oatham, and C. Roberts. *Symbiotic N fixation is sufficient to support net aboveground biomass accumulation in a humid tropical forest*. Scientific Reports.
- 2018 McWethy, D. B., A. Pauchard, R. A. García, A. Holz, M. E. González, T. T. Veblen, J. Stahl, and **B. Currey**. *Landscape drivers of recent fire activity (2001-2017) in south-central Chile*. PLOS ONE.
- In prep* **Currey, B.** D. B. McWethy, N. Fox, E.N.J. Brookshire. *Large contribution of woody plant expansion to recent vegetative greening of the Northern Great Plains*
- In prep* **Currey, B.**, J. D. Gay, E. N. J. Brookshire. *Woody plant expansion drives reallocation of carbon, nitrogen and phosphorous in the Northern Great Plains*.
- In prep* Gay, J. D., **B. Currey**, E. N. J. Brookshire. *Interactions between woody plant expansion and pyrogenic soil carbon storage in temperate grassland ecosystems*.
- In prep* Gay, J. D., **B. Currey**, E. N. J. Brookshire. *Global evidence for microbial driven N limitation in tropical montane forests*.

In prep Blomdahl E.M., D. Alving, G. Cahalan, **B. Currey**, B. Hagedorn, M. Kaye, E. Li, H. Li, R. Oelkers, L. Peletier, M. Rochner, J. H. Speer, I. Thapa, K. Willson, B. D. Woodward, N. Zampieri, R. J. DeRose. *An assessment of ecotone shift and mechanisms of change in the high elevation forests of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem*

Conference contributions and invited talks

- 2021 **Currey, B.**, D. B. McWethy, N. Fox, E.N.J. Brookshire. “Large contribution of woody plant expansion to recent vegetative greening of the Northern Great Plains.”
British Ecological Society, Macroecology (Talk)
- 2020 **Currey, B.**, D. B. McWethy, N. Fox, E.N.J. Brookshire. “Recent vegetative changes in the Northern Great Plains.”
Society of Rangeland Management (Invited Talk)
- 2019 **Currey, B.**, D. B. McWethy, N. Fox, E.N.J. Brookshire. “Recent woody plant encroachment and vegetative greening in the Northern Great Plains of North America.”
Ecological Society of America (Talk)
- 2019 **Currey, B.** “Causes and consequences of recent vegetative changes across central Montana.”
Musselshell Watershed Coalition stakeholder meeting (Invited Talk)
- 2018 **Currey, B.** E.N.J., Brookshire., M. Oatham. “Diversity, stability and long-term carbon sequestration in a mature tropical forest landscape.”
Ecological Society of America (Talk)
- 2014 **Currey, B.** T. Birner. “Geographic Variability of the Width of the Tropical Belt.”
American Geophysical Union (Poster)

Awards and Honors

- 2018 \$1,000. North American Dendroecological Fieldweek
2018 \$8,500. Nielson Graduate Research Assistantship
2019 \$15,000. Murdock Trust Partners in Science Award
2020 \$1,000. Undergraduate Research Program grant (mentored)

Teaching Experience

- Spring 2017 Ecosystem Biogeochemistry (400-level); Teacher’s Assistant
Spring 2018 Ecosystem Biogeochemistry (400-level); Teacher’s Assistant
Spring 2019 Ecosystem Biogeochemistry (400-level); Teacher’s Assistant
Spring 2021 Remote Sensing (400-level); Co-Instructor

Affiliations

Ecological Society of America
Society for Range Management
Grasslands Resilience Working Group