

Benjamin A. Jones

Curriculum Vitae

University of New Mexico
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Research Concentrations

Primary: Environmental Economics, Epidemiological/Health Dimensions of Environmental Economics
Secondary: Dynamic Optimization, Coupled Human and Natural Systems

Current Affiliations

2022- Associate Professor, Department of Economics, University of New Mexico
2017- Affiliated Faculty, National Institute for Risk & Resilience, University of Oklahoma
2021- Affiliated Faculty, Sustainability Studies Program, University of New Mexico
2021- Affiliated Faculty, Water Resources Program, University of New Mexico
2021-2025 Editorial Council, *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*

Past Affiliations

2017-2022 Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, University of New Mexico
2021-2022 Co-Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Economics, University of New Mexico
2015-2016 Postdoctoral Researcher, Center for Energy, Security & Society, and Center for Risk & Crisis Management, University of Oklahoma
2011-2015 Doctoral Fellow, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Center for Health Policy

Education

Ph.D. Economics, University of New Mexico, 2011-2015
M.A. Economics, University of New Mexico, 2011-2013
B.A. Economics (Philosophy Minor), University of Texas at Austin, 2006-2009

Articles

Peer-Reviewed Journals

43. Jones, B.A. (2023). "Dust Storms and Human Well-Being." *Resource and Energy Economics* 72: 101362.
42. Jones, B.A. (2023). "Can Invasive Species Lead to Sedentary Behavior? The Time Use and Obesity Impacts of a Forest-Attacking Pest." *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management* 119: 102800.
41. Goodkind, A., R. Berrens, and B.A. Jones. (in press). "Estimating the Climate and Health Damages of Bitcoin Mining in the US: Is Bitcoin Underwater?" *Applied Economics Letters*.
40. Jones, B.A., A. Goodkind, and R. Berrens. (2022). "Economic Estimation of Bitcoin Mining's Climate Damages Demonstrates Closer Resemblance to Digital Crude than Digital Gold." *Scientific Reports* 12:14512.

39. Jones, B.A., S. McDermott, P. Champ, and R. Berrens. (2022). "More Smoke Today for Less Smoke Tomorrow? We Need to Better Understand the Public Health Benefits and Costs of Prescribed Fire." *International Journal of Wildland Fire* 31(10): 918-926.
38. Kaczmarek, J., B.A. Jones, and J. Chermak. (2022). "Determinants of Demand Response Program Participation: Contingent Valuation Evidence from a Smart Thermostat Program." *Energies* 15(2): 590.
37. Jones, B.A. (2021). "Mountain Pine Beetle Impacts on Health Through Lost Forest Air Pollutant Sinks." *Forests* 12(12): 1785.
36. Jones, B.A. (2022). "Dust Storms and Violent Crime." *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management* 111: 102590.
35. Jones, B.A. and S. McDermott. (2021). "The Local Labor Market Impacts of US Megafires." *Sustainability* 13(16): 9078.
34. Jones, B.A. and S. McDermott. (2022). "Infant Health Outcomes in Mega-Fire Affected Communities." *Applied Economics Letters* 29(14): 1325-1335.
33. Jones, B.A. (2021). "Planting Urban Trees to Improve Quality of Life? The Life Satisfaction Impacts of Urban Afforestation." *Forest Policy and Economics* 125: 102408.
32. Wehde, W., J. Ripberger, H. Jenkins-Smith, B.A. Jones, J. Allan, and C. Silva. (2021). "Public Willingness to Pay for Continuous and Probabilistic Hazard Information." *Natural Hazards Review* 22(2): 04021004.
31. Jones, B.A. and R. Berrens. (2021). "Prescribed Burns, Smoke Exposure, and Infant Health." *Contemporary Economic Policy* 39(2): 292-309.
30. Jones, B.A. (2020). "Labor Market Impacts of Deforestation Caused by Invasive Species Spread." *Environmental and Resource Economics* 77: 159-190.
29. Jones, B.A. (2020). "After the Dust Settles: The Infant Health Impacts of Dust Storms." *Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists* 7(6): 1005-1032.
28. Jones, B.A. and J. Fleck (2020). "Shrinking Lakes, Air Pollution, and Human Health: Evidence from California's Salton Sea." *Science of the Total Environment* 712: 136490.
27. Goodkind, A., Jones, B.A., and R. Berrens. (2020). "Cryptodamages: Monetary Value Estimates of the Air Pollution and Human Health Impacts of Cryptocurrency Mining." *Energy Research & Social Science* 59: 101281.
26. Jones, B.A. (2020). "Invasive Species Control, Agricultural Pesticide Use, and Infant Health Outcomes." *Land Economics* 96(2): 149-170.
25. Jones, B.A. (2019). "Infant Health Impacts of Freshwater Algal Blooms: Evidence from an Invasive Species Natural Experiment." *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management* 96: 36-59.
24. Jones, B.A. and A. Goodkind. (2019). "Urban Afforestation and Infant Health: Evidence from MillionTreesNYC." *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management* 95: 26-44.
23. Carlson, D., J. Ripberger, W. Wehde, H. Jenkins-Smith, C. Silva, K. Gupta, B.A. Jones, and R. Berrens (2019). "Cost-Benefit Analysis, Policy Impacts, and Congressional Hearings." *Journal of Benefit-Cost Analysis* 10(1): 65-94.
22. Jones, B.A. (2019). "Tree Shade, Temperature, and Human Health: Evidence from Invasive Species-Induced Deforestation." *Ecological Economics* 156: 12-23.
21. Jones, B.A. (2018). "Forest-Attacking Invasive Species and Infant Health: Evidence from the Invasive Emerald Ash Borer." *Ecological Economics* 154: 282-293.
20. Jones, B.A. and J. Fleck. (2018). "Urban Trees and Water Use in Arid Climates: Insights from an Integrated Bioeconomic-Health Model." *Water Economics and Policy* 4(4): 38pgs.
19. Jones, B.A., R. Berrens, H. Jenkins-Smith, C. Silva, J. Ripberger, and D. Carlson. (2019). "Inclusive Non-Market Valuation in Coupled Human and Natural Systems (CHANS): A Motivating Theory." *Journal of Environmental Economics and Policy* 8(1): 1-16.

18. Jones, B.A. (2018). "Willingness to Pay Estimates for Wildfire Smoke Health Impacts in the US using the Life Satisfaction Approach." *Journal of Environmental Economics and Policy* 7(4): 403-419.
17. Jones, B.A. and S. McDermott. (2018). "The Economics of Urban Afforestation: Insights from an Integrated Bioeconomic-Health Model." *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management* 89: 116-135.
16. Jones, B.A. (2018). "Spillover Health Effects of Energy Efficiency Investments: Quasi-Experimental Evidence from the Los Angeles LED Streetlight Program." *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management* 88: 283-299.
15. Jones, B.A. (2018). "Measuring Externalities of Energy Efficiency Investments using Subjective Well-Being Data: The Case of LED Streetlights." *Resource and Energy Economics* 52: 18-32.
14. Jones, B.A., R. Berrens, H. Jenkins-Smith, C. Silva, J. Ripberger, D. Carlson, K. Gupta, and W. Wehde. (2018). "In Search of an Inclusive Approach: Measuring Non-market Values for the Effects of Complex Dam, Hydroelectric and River System Operations." *Energy Economics* 69: 225-236.
13. Jones, B.A., J. Ripberger, H. Jenkins-Smith, and C. Silva. (2017). "Estimating Willingness to Pay for Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions Provided by Hydropower using the Contingent Valuation Method." *Energy Policy* 111: 362-370.
12. Jones, B.A. and R. Berrens. (2017). "Application of an Original Wildfire Smoke Health Cost Benefits Transfer Protocol to the Western US, 2005-2015." *Environmental Management* 60(5): 809-822.
11. Jones, B.A. (2017). "Are We Underestimating the Economic Costs of Wildfire Smoke? An Investigation Using the Life Satisfaction Approach." *Journal of Forest Economics* 27: 80-90.
10. Jones, B.A. and S. McDermott. (2018). "Health Impacts of Invasive Species Through an Altered Natural Environment: Assessing Air Pollution Sinks as a Causal Pathway." *Environmental and Resource Economics* 71(1): 23-43.
9. Jones, B.A. (2017). "Invasive Species Impacts on Human Well-Being Using the Life Satisfaction Index." *Ecological Economics* 134: 250-257.
8. Jones, B.A. (2017). "The Social Health Costs of Uranium Mining in the US Colorado Plateau Cohort, 1960-2005." *International Journal of Public Health* 62(4): 471-478.
7. Carlson, D., J. Ripberger, H. Jenkins-Smith, C. Silva, K. Gupta, R. Berrens and B.A. Jones. (2016). "Contingent Valuation and the Policymaking Process: An Application to Used Nuclear Fuel in the United States." *Journal of Benefit-Cost Analysis* 7(3): 459-487. 2016 Best Article Award.
6. Jones, B.A., S. McDermott and J. Chermak. (2016). "PLAN or get SLAM'ed: Optimal Management of Invasive Species in the Presence of Indirect Health Externalities." *Journal of Environmental Management* 180: 538-550.
5. Jones, B.A., R. Berrens, H. Jenkins-Smith, C. Silva, D. Carlson, J. Ripberger, K. Gupta and N. Carlson. (2016). "Valuation in the Anthropocene: Exploring Preferences for Alternative Operations of the Glen Canyon Dam." *Water Resources and Economics* 14: 13-30.
4. Jones, B.A. (2016). "Work More and Play Less? Time Use Impacts of Changing Ecosystem Services: The Case of the Invasive Emerald Ash Borer." *Ecological Economics* 124: 49-58.
3. Jones, B.A., J. Thacher, J. Chermak and R. Berrens. (2016). "Wildfire Smoke Health Costs: A Methods Case Study for a Southwestern US 'Mega-Fire.'" *Journal of Environmental Economics and Policy* 5(2): 181-199.
2. Jones, B.A. and S. McDermott. (2015). "Linking Environmental Management to Health Outcomes: A Case Study of the Emerald Ash Borer." *Applied Economics Letters* 22(17): 1409-1414.

1. Jones, B.A. (2014). “What are the Health Costs of Uranium Mining? A Case-Study of Miners in Grants, New Mexico.” *International Journal of Occupational and Environmental Health* 20(4): 289–300. 2015 Editor’s Choice Article

Working Papers

- “The Environmental Costs of Bitcoin Mining: The Climate and Health Damages of Bitcoin’s Energy Use.” (with A. Goodkind and R. Berrens). Book contract. Routledge. 2025 anticipated press date.
- “Sending Agricultural Water to the Salton Sea to Improve Public Health? An Integrated Hydro-Agri-Health Economic Analysis.” (with J. Wang and J. Fleck)
- “Forests to Airsheds: Investigating Wildfire Smoke Exposure as a Financing Mechanism for Forest Fuels Management.” (with R. Berrens)

Book Chapters, Conference Proceedings, and Other Publications

6. Goodkind, A.L., B.A. Jones, and C. Leek (2023). “PM2.5 Pollution from Oil and Gas Activity in the Permian Basin: An Economic Analysis of its Human Health Impacts and Damages.” White Paper, UNM Department of Economics, prepared for the State of New Mexico, Legislative Research Grant.
5. Goodkind, A.L., B.A. Jones, and S. Ghimire. (2022). “Ozone Pollution in New Mexico: An Economic Analysis of its Human Health Impacts and Damages.” White Paper, UNM Department of Economics, prepared for the State of New Mexico, Legislative Research Grant.
4. Jones, B.A. (2020). “Chapter 8: Happiness and Forest-Attacking Invasive Alien Species.” In D. Maddison, K. Rehdanz, and H. Welsch (Eds.), *Handbook of Well-Being, Happiness and the Environment*. Edward Elgar Publishing.
3. Jones, B.A. and R. Berrens. (2017). “When there’s Fire there’s Smoke: Linking Wildfire to Distant Urban Airsheds. A 10 Year Health Economic Assessment of the Western, US, 2005-2014.” *Proceedings of the 5th International Fire Behavior and Fuels Conference*, April 11-15, 2016, Portland, OR, USA. International Association of Wildland Fire.
2. Jenkins-Smith, H., Silva, C., Carlson, D., Gupta, K, Jones, B.A., Ripberger, J., Wehde, W., and R. Berrens. (2016). Estimating Non-Use Values for Alternative Operations of the Glen Canyon Dam: An Inclusive Value Approach. Phase 3B Project Research and Findings. University of Oklahoma, Center for Energy, Security, & Society.
1. Jones, B.A., J. Thacher, J. Chermak and R. Berrens. (2016). “Wildfire smoke health costs: A methods case study.” *Proceedings of the 13th International Wildland Fire Safety Summit & 4th Human Dimensions of Wildland Fire Conference*, April 20-24, 2015, Boise, ID, USA. International Association of Wildland Fire.

Research Funding and Related Activities

External and Internal Funding

- “The Social Costs of Health and Housing Impacts from the Oil and Gas Boom in New Mexico’s Permian Basin.” Research and Public Service Project (RPSP), The State of New Mexico. B.A. Jones (co-PI). 2022-2023. \$61,589.
- “An Economic and Social Impact Analysis of Ozone Pollution in New Mexico.” The State of New Mexico, Legislative Research Grant. B.A. Jones (co-PI). 2021-2022. \$30,978.
- “Forests to Airsheds: Investigating Wildfire Smoke Exposure as a Financing Mechanism for Wildfire Risk Mitigation.” UNM Research Allocations Committee (RAC) Internal Grant. B.A. Jones (PI). 2021-2022. \$3,575.

- “The New Mexico SMART Grid Center: Sustainable, Modular, Adaptive, Resilient, and Transactive.” National Science Foundation EPSCoR Track 1. William Michener (PI), Anne Jakle (Co-PI). B.A. Jones (Investigator in Economics over 2018-2020 period). Award OIA-1757207. 2018-2023. \$561,070.

Grant Reviewer Activities

- EPA STAR Grant Expert Panel Reviewer (February 2021); Northern Arizona University, School of Forestry, Mission Research Board (October 2018); UNM GPSA, Graduate Student Research Grants (2014 & 2015)

Teaching Experience

- Graduate: Natural Resource, Environmental, and Ecological Modeling I; Mathematical Tools and Economics Models; Water Resources Models; Contingent Valuation Survey Design, Administration, and Analysis in Environmental Economics
- Undergraduate: Principles of Microeconomics; Intermediate Microeconomics; Natural Resource Economics; Mathematical Economics; Advanced Microeconomics
- Trainings: Creating a Welcoming and Supportive Online Environment (2020); Online Course Design Institute (2020)

Press and Media Attention (Selected)

- 2022 *Smithsonian Magazine*, October 3, 2022 ([Link](#)); *Forbes*, September 29, 2022 ([Link](#)); *Time Magazine*, September 29, 2022 ([Link](#)); *The Verge*, September 29, 2022 ([Link](#)); *Yahoo! Finance*, September 29, 2022 ([Link](#)); *Bloomberg*, September 29, 2022 ([Link](#)); *Minneapolis Star Tribune*, April 30, 2022 ([Link](#)); *The New York Times*, February 25, 2022 ([Link](#)); *The Guardian*, February 18, 2022 ([Link](#))
- 2021 *The Guardian*, November 18, 2021 ([Link](#)); *The Texas Tribune*, October 28, 2021 ([Link](#)); *The New York Times*, September 3, 2021 ([Link](#)); *CBS News*, August 12, 2021 ([Link](#)); *Popular Science Magazine*, June 21, 2021 ([Link](#)); *Discover Magazine*, June 10, 2021 ([Link](#)); *Bloomberg Quint*, May 26, 2021 ([Link](#)); *BBC World News*, May 13, 2021 ([Link](#)); *The Associated Press* (AP), February 6, 2021 ([Link](#)); *The Guardian*, February 27, 2021 ([Link](#)); *Psychology Today*, March 9, 2021 ([Link](#)); *CBS News MoneyWatch*, March 12, 2021 ([Link](#))
- 2020 *The Los Angeles Times*, April 23, 2020 ([Link](#))
- 2019 *FOXBusiness.com*, November 15, 2019 ([Link](#)); *ScienceDaily*, November 13, 2019 ([Link](#)); *AAAS EurekAlert!*, November 12, 2019 ([Link](#)); *MarketScreener.com*, January 10, 2019 ([Link](#))
- 2018 *Nature Sustainability* Research Highlight, May, 2018 ([Link](#)); *Improbable Research* blog, February 10, 2018 ([Link](#)); *National Affairs* “Show Me the Green” blog, February 7, 2018 ([Link](#))

Honors, Awards, and Fellowships

- UNM WeR1 Faculty Scholarship Time (FaST) awardee, Fall 2022
- UNM Economics Research Excellence Designation (1 of 2-3 faculty each year), 2018, 2019, 2020
- Best Article Award, “Contingent Valuation and the Policymaking Process: An Application to Used Nuclear Fuel in the United States”, *Journal of Benefit-Cost Analysis*, 2016
- Western Social Science Association (WSSA) Graduate Student Paper Competition (2nd place/Honorable Mention), 2014
- Gerald Boyle Memorial Student Award in Economics, UNM, 2014

- Alfred L. Parker, PhD Endowed Scholarship in Economics, UNM, 2013
- J. Raymond Stuart Award in Economics, UNM, 2013
- Fellowship, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Center for Health Policy, 2011-2015

Service and Professional Activities

Professional Service

- AERE Scholars Program Committee, 2023-2025
- AERE@ASSA Program Committee, 2022-2024
- AERE Scholars Program, Faculty Mentor, 2021-2022 & 2022-2023
- AEA Committee on the Status of LGBTQ+ Individuals in the Economics Profession (CSQIEP) Faculty Mentor, 2020-2023

Journal Activities

- Guest Co-Editor for a Special Issue of *Sustainability* on “Sustainability Perspectives on Fire and Smoke” (August 2021)
- Referee for: *Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (JAERE)*, *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management (JEEM)*, *PNAS*, *Environmental and Resource Economics*, *Ecological Economics*, *Resource and Energy Economics*, *American Journal of Agricultural Economics (AJAE)*, *Energy Economics*, *Economics and Human Biology*, *Health Economics*, *American Journal of Health Economics*, *Water Economics and Policy*, *Contemporary Economic Policy*, *Forest Policy & Economics*, *Journal of the American Water Resources Association*, *PLOS One*, *Journal of Environmental Management*, *Environmental Research*, *International Journal of Occupational and Environmental Health*, *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine*, *Environmental Impact Assessment Review*, *Environment International*, *Annals of Internal Medicine*, *American Thoracic Society*

Departmental Service

- Administrative: Co-Director of Graduate Studies (2021-2022); Ph.D. Core Examination Committee, Chair (2022-2023)
- Committees: Graduate Committee Member (2017-2022); Ph.D. Core Examination Committee Member (2017-2019); Seminar Committee Member (2018-2019); Energy Economics Faculty Search Committee Member (2019-2020)

Other Reviewer Activities

- US EPA External Peer Reviewer (2021)
- Paper proposal reviewer for: AAEA Annual Meeting (2016 & 2019)
- Environmental economics book reviewer for: Elsevier (2021); W.W. Norton & Company (2019); Wiley (2018)

Conferences and Invited Talks

NM Economics Research Day (2023 & 2022); UNM Alumni Association Lobo Living Room (2022); AERE@WEAI (2021); European AERE (EAERE) (2021); Wright State University (2021); AERE@WEAI (2020); AERE@WEAI (2019); UCLA Fielding School of Public Health (2019); AERE@WEAI (session chair) (2018); AERE@WEAI (2017); US EPA BenMAP-CE Webinar (2017); CU Boulder ERE Workshop (2017); AUBER Fall Research Conference (session chair) (2017); Inaugural Journal of Environmental Economics & Management (JEEM) ERE Conference (2017); AERE@WEAI (2016); University of New Mexico (2017); IAWF Fire Behavior and Fuels Conference (2016); Purdue University (2016); AERE@SEA (2015); AERE@WEAI (2015); APPAM Fall Research Conference (2015); IAWF Human Dimensions Conference (2015); NM CARES HD/PRC/RWJF Joint Summit (2014); University of Oklahoma (2014); RWJF Scholars in Health Policy Research (2014); International Dark-Sky Association (IDA) (2014); WEAI (2013); Western Social Science Association (2013); USAEE/IAEE North American Conference (2013); RWJF Clinical Scholars National Meeting (2013); RWJF Center for Health Policy National Advisory Board (2012)

Affiliations

American Economic Association (AEA)
Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (AERE)
Western Economic Association International (WEAI)

Personal

Birthplace: San Antonio, Texas
Citizenship: U.S. Citizen
Language Proficiency: English
Software: Stata, Matlab, L^AT_EX, Powersim, GoldSim, ArcGIS, BenMAP-CE