



THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY LAB

The Environmental and Social Sustainability ([ESS](#)) Lab is a hub of sustainability-oriented research at The Ohio State University (OSU). Our interdisciplinary community of scholars collaborates to describe, analyze, and communicate environmental and social challenges and sustainability solutions. Our mission is to conduct innovative, applied research in service of sustainable environments and communities.

WHO WE ARE

We are a team of faculty, postdoctoral researchers, graduate students, and undergraduate researchers at the School of Environment and Natural Resources. We are also supported by The Ohio State University Sustainability Institute. The lab is led by Prof. Robyn Wilson, Prof. Jeremy Brooks, and Prof. Nicole Sintov.



EXPERTISE

We specialize in employing theory and methods from diverse disciplines, including but not limited to those depicted here.

WHAT WE PROVIDE

We provide research services to industry, government, non-governmental organizations, and campus partners to answer fundamental and applied questions about people and sustainability.

As examples, we have addressed questions like:

- How do experiences across home, school, and informal spaces support environmental interest?
- How can we harness public support for individual and collective climate action?
- What leads to the adoption and use of sustainable innovations (e.g., electric cars)?
- How do policy actors (individuals and organizations) interact with each other when they face environmental problems?
- Why and when are conservation behaviors and sustainable consumption patterns adopted by individuals?



Our work is tailored specifically to each partnership and can take various forms based on the partner's needs. All projects can inform communication, marketing, and outreach efforts. Some examples of the methods we employ include:

Behavioral interventions

Surveys

Interviews

Focus groups

Field experiments

Lab experiments

Literature reviews

COST GUIDE

As a general guideline for personnel costs, projects will be priced based on the hourly salaries of involved lab members, which begin at approximately \$30/hour for graduate research assistants, excluding overhead costs. All costs will be clearly communicated to potential partners in alignment with The Office of Sponsored Programs ([OSP](#)) guidelines.

EXAMPLE TOPICS



GET IN TOUCH

The ESS Lab is part of the School of Environment and Natural Resources (SENR), located in Kottman Hall on OSU's West campus. Please visit our [website](#) for more details and email our lab at essl@osu.edu or reach out to the ESS Lab Manager, Ellen Eilers, at eilers.14@osu.edu.