



A natural resource sociologist looks at humans and their relationship to the natural world.

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Important Scientist Characteristics

- ★ Curiosity
- ★ Creativity
- ★ Asking questions about social groups and their view of the natural world

Example of a simple research question

I have tried to answer: Why do some social groups rarely visit National Forests even though they live close to them? What beliefs do recent immigrant groups have about nature?

: Most Exciting Discovery

- : I found that socially vulnerable
- : populations in the South that also
- : live in high wildfire risk communities
- : are less likely than more affluent
- : communities in high wildfire risk areas
- : to have programs that help reduce the
- : severity of wildfires.

- : **When did you know you wanted to be a**
- : **scientist?** I'm not sure. It sort of evolved
- : over time. I came to the realization
- : after working with the Forest Service
- : several years that the great outdoors
- : and nature seemed to have different
- : meanings for different people. I wanted
- : to better understand these various
- : interpretations of nature.