

Colby Parkinson

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS AND AFFILIATIONS

University of Wyoming

Assistant Professor, Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources 2026-Present

The Pennsylvania State University

Graduate Assistant, Department of Recreation, Park, and Tourism Management 2023-2026

Graduate Fellow, Department of Recreation, Park, and Tourism Management 2022-2023

Clemson University

Affiliate Lab Member, Virtual Reality and Nature Lab 2021-2025

Oregon State University

Graduate Assistant, Department of Forest Ecosystems and Society 2020-2022

EDUCATION

The Pennsylvania State University, College of Health and Human Development 2022-2026

Dual-Title PhD, Recreation, Park, and Tourism Management & Social Data Analytics

Oregon State University, College of Forestry 2020-2022

MS, Forest Ecosystems and Society

American University, School of Communications 2015-2018

BA, Public Relations & Strategic Communications

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

11. Park S., **Parkinson C.**, Pan B., & Duffy L. (2026) "The Leisure of AI Agents on Moltbook?" *Leisure Sciences*. [In Press]
10. **Parkinson C.**, Gong Y., Tan G., Pan B. (2025), "Tourist monitoring compass: linking measurement with constructs for nature-based tourism monitoring". *Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Horizons*, 1(4), 438–451, <https://doi.org/10.1108/JHTH-04-2025-0070>
9. Li, H., Li, F., Browning, M. H. E. M., Larson, L. R., Jennings, V., Rigolon, A., Ogletree, S., **Parkinson, C.**, & Wang, R. (2025). Green spaces and social bonds: Investigating associations of parks and greenness with online social connectedness (via Facebook) across the United States. *Urban Forestry & Urban Greening*, 112, 128985. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ufug.2025.128985>
8. Cheng, X., Li, J., **Parkinson, C.**, Liu, T., & Pan, B. (2025). Virtual or physical: how different types of urban streets affect tourists' restoration. *Current Issues in Tourism*, 1–20. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13683500.2025.2493229>
7. **Parkinson C.**, Shen X., MacDonald M., Logan SW., Gorrell L., Lindberg K. (2025) Outdoor recreation's association with mental health and well-being during the COVID-19 pandemic. *PLoS ONE*, 20(4): e0321278. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0321278>

6. **Parkinson, C.**, Pan, B., Morris, S. A., Rice, W. L., Taff, B. D., Chi, G., & Newman, P. (2025). A Comparison of tourists' spatial-temporal behaviors between location-based service data and onsite GPS tracks. *Sustainability*, 17(2), 391. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su17020391>
5. **Parkinson, C.**, Shen, X., MacDonald, M., Logan, S. W., Gorrell, L., & Hatfield, B. E. (2024). Adaptive strategies for outdoor recreation during a time of stress: insights from the COVID-19 pandemic in the U.S. *Sage Open*, 14(4). <https://doi.org/10.1177/21582440241305774>.
4. Patwary, M. M., Bardhan, M., Disha, A. S., Dzhambov, A. M., **Parkinson, C.**, Browning, M. H., ... & Shuvo, F. K. (2024). Nature exposure and mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic: A Navigation Guide systematic review with meta-analysis. *Environmental Pollution*, 12484, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envpol.2024.124284>.
3. Rice, W. L., Taff, B. D., Morris, S. A., Pan, B., **Parkinson, C.**, & Newman, P. (2024). Explorations of preferred and maximum booking windows among U.S. national park campers: Implications for improved fairness. *Tourism and Hospitality Research*, 0(0). <https://doi.org/10.1177/14673584241237442>
2. Gorrell, L., Shen, X., MacDonald, M., Logan, S. W., Hatfield, B. E., **Parkinson, C.**, ... Massey, W. (2024). The effect of outdoor play, physical activity, and screen time use on the emotional wellbeing of children and youth during a health crisis. *Leisure Sciences*, 1–18. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01490400.2024.2335930>
1. Shen, X., Macdonald, M., Logan, S. W., **Parkinson, C.**, Gorrell, L., & Hatfield, B. E.. (2022). Leisure engagement during COVID-19 and its association with mental health and wellbeing in U.S. adults. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 19(3), 1081. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph19031081>

GRANT AWARDS AND FUNDED PROJECTS

Current Funded Projects

Co-PI (PI: Dr. Bing Pan, Co-PIs: Haizhong Wang, B. Derrick Taff, Peter Newman); Risk Preparedness and Resilience Planning for Emergency Evacuations in Wrangell-St. Elias National Park; **National Park Service**, 2024-2027; Full Award: \$520k, UW Portion: \$30k

Completed Projects

PI (Co-PIs: Bing Pan, Guangqing Chi, B. Derrick Taff); Bicycle Patterns in Grand Teton National Park's Multi-Use Pathway: Integrating Behavior, Recreation Specialization, and Big Data; **University of Wyoming-National Park Service**, 2023-2025, Full award: \$5k

PI (Co-PIs: Bing Pan, Guangqing Chi); Expanding Methods and Understanding of Trail Use and Users at Grand Canyon National Park with Spatial Applications of Big Data; **The Pennsylvania State University Center for Social Data Analytics Accelerator Award**, 2023-2024, Full award: \$5k

NON-PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Technical Reports

Parkinson, C., Staes, B., Sedighi, F., Pan, B., Wang, H., Taff, B. D., & Newman, P. (2025). *Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve risk assessment and emergency response in the McCarthy Road Corridor* [Technical report]. Report prepared for the U.S. National Park Service. OSF. <https://osf.io/muecz>

- Parkinson, C.**, Gong, Y., Pan, B., Chi, G., & Taff, B. D. (in press). *E-bikers versus conventional cyclists: Exploring behaviors, sociodemographics, and recreation specialization among cyclists in Grand Teton National Park*. UW–National Park Service Research Station Annual Reports [Technical report]. Report prepared for the University of Wyoming–National Park Service Research Station.
- Morris, S., **Parkinson, C.**, Rice, W., Pan, B., & Taff, B. (2024). *South Rim visitor use study at Grand Canyon National Park: 2022–2023 data collection summary* [Technical report]. Report prepared for the U.S. National Park Service.

CONFERENCES AND PUBLIC OUTREACH

Organized Conference Sessions

- Pan, B. **Parkinson, C.**, Haizhong, W. (2025). Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Evacuation for National and State Parks. *George Wright Society ParkForum 2025: A Conservation Solutions Workshop*.
- Parkinson C.**, Fuesler, A., Henry, C. (2025). Applying Cyclist Behavior and Backgrounds to Inform e-Bike Policy on Public Lands. *George Wright Society ParkForum 2025: A Conservation Solutions Workshop*.

Conference Presentations

- Parkinson, C.**, Pan, B. (2025). Public Parks' Influence on Physical and Mental Health in New York City. *The Academy of Leisure Sciences 2025 Conference*.
- Parkinson, C.**, Rice, W. L., & Pan, B. (2024). Standardizing the procedure for cleaning GPS device data for recreation and tourism research. *Travel and Tourism Research Association 54th Annual International Conference*.
- Parkinson, C.**, Morris, S., Rice, W. L., Pan, B., Taff, B., & Newman, P. (2024). Differences in visitor spatial behavior in Grand Canyon National Park by entrance. *2024 National Environment and Recreation Research Symposium*.
- Parkinson, C.**, Pan, B., Rice, W. L., Morris, S., Taff, B., Chi, G., & Newman, P. (2024). Validation of location-based service data for tracking tourist spatiotemporal behavior in Grand Canyon National Park. *American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting*.
- Parkinson, C.**, Morris, S., Rice, W., Pan, B., & Taff, B. (2023). Visualizing GPS tracks for outdoor recreation: a case Study in Grand Canyon National Park. *2023 Northeastern Travel and Tourism Research Association Annual Conference*.
- Morris, S., Rice, W., Taff, B., Pan, B & **Parkinson, C.** (2023). Cluster analysis of visitor motivation and movement through Grand Canyon National Park. *2023 National Environment and Recreation Research Symposium*.
- Browning, L., Browning, M., McAnirlin, O., Sindelar K., **Parkinson, C.**, Battisto, D. (2022). Therapy Dogs in Design Studios: A Case Study of Feasibility and Efficacy. *Environmental Design Research Association EDRA 53 Conference*.
- Shen, X., Kirkwood, M., **Parkinson, C.**, & Gorrell, L. (2022). Play on: The impact of leisure on mental health during COVID-19 and implications for a post-pandemic world. *The Academy of Leisure Sciences 2022 Conference on Research and Teaching*.
- Gorrell, L., Shen, X. & **Parkinson, C.** (2022). Active play, screen time, and children's emotional wellbeing during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Western Forestry Graduate Research Symposium*.
- Parkinson, C.**, Shen, X., Megan, M., Gorrell, L., Logan, S., & Hatfield, B. (2021). Environmental-

and individual-level determinants of outdoor recreation participation during the COVID-19 pandemic. *The International Association for Society and Natural Resources 2021 Virtual Conference*.

Parkinson, C., Shen, X., Megan, M., Gorrell, L., Logan, S., & Hatfield, B. (2021). Predicting engagement in outdoor recreation during COVID-19. *Western Forestry Graduate Research Symposium*.

Public Outreach Presentations and Facilitated Sessions

Parkinson, C., Staes, B., Sedighi, F., Pan, B., & Wang, H., (2026). Interagency Emergency Planning Exercise for the McCarthy Road Corridor. Facilitated planning exercise with partners from US Federal, AK State, Chitina Native Village, and communities of McCarthy, Chitina, and Gakona, AK.

Parkinson, C., Staes, B., Sedighi, F., Pan, B., & Wang, H., (2026). Emergency Management and Resilience Planning in the McCarthy Road Corridor: Findings from Surveys and Simulations. Presented to community members and stakeholders in Chitina, McCarthy, and Kennicott, AK.

Parkinson, C., Sedighi, F., Parkinson, M., Pan, B., & Taff B. (2025). Emergency Management and Resilience Planning in the McCarthy Road Corridor: Findings from Stakeholder Engagement and Interviews. Presented to community members and stakeholders in Chitina, McCarthy, and Kennicott, AK.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Wyoming

ORTM 4902: Recreation Venue Operations (undergraduate) 2026

The Pennsylvania State

RPTM 433W: Program Evaluation and Research in Recreation Resources (undergraduate) 2025

Advising

Graduate Student Committee Member

Tommy Furland (MS, 2026- Present); Caleb Ramus (MS, 2026-Present)

Undergraduate Student Advising and Supervising

Sophie Miller (2023-2024); Mirand Foster (2023); Pamela Murcia (2023)

HONORS AND PROFESSIONAL AWARDS

Lundegren Graduate Scholarship, The Pennsylvania State University 2025

Fred Loomis Information Science Technology 521 Outreach Prize 2024

Best Graduate Student Presentation at NETTRA 2023

Distinguished Graduate Fellowship, The Pennsylvania State University 2022

Outstanding Graduate Student Award, Oregon State University 2022

SERVICE

Professional Committees and Boards

Board Member, Society of Outdoor Recreation Professionals 2025-Present

Member, Native Village of Chitina Climate Change Adaptation Planning Committee 2026

Academic Committees

President, RPTM Graduate Student Association, The Pennsylvania State University 2025-2026

RPTM Social Committee, The Pennsylvania State University 2022-2024

Ad-Hoc Reviewer

Information Systems Frontiers, Urban Forestry and Urban Greening, Journal of Outdoor Recreation and Tourism Management

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

Member, Society of Outdoor Recreation Professionals 2025-Present

Member, American Association of Geographers 2024-2026

Member, The Academy of Leisure Sciences 2022-2026

Member, International Association for Society and Natural Resources (IASNR) 2020-2022

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Public Relations Intern for Safe Routes to School 2021

Oregon Department of Transportation, Transportation Safety Office Salem, OR

Operations Manager 2020

MeanGreen Media LLC Washington, DC

Communication and Social Media Specialist 2019-2020

North American Association for Environmental Education Washington, DC

Production Assistant 2018

MeanGreen Media LLC Washington, DC

Strategic Enterprise Product Marketing Intern 2017

Micron Technologies Boise, ID

Communication Intern 2015

Environment America Washington, DC