

The Tragedy of the Groundwater Commons: Adaptation to Environmental Change in Agriculture

Faculty Member: [Nicholas Ryan](#)

~~How can we sustainably manage a common-pool resource? This project studies how both farmers and the government respond to water scarcity using survey data on agricultural production and geographic data on water scarcity. The RA(s) will use survey data to measure how farmers adapt their agricultural production and GIS data to relate farmer production decisions to groundwater depletion.~~

We will study farmer adaptation to man-made environmental change in India. India uses more groundwater than the United States and China combined. Farming with groundwater yields higher profit at lower risk for Indian farmers, but groundwater is growing scarce over time, in a classic “tragedy of the commons,” as farmers use cheap electricity to pump ever more water out of the ground. This project studies how both farmers and the government respond to water scarcity using survey data on agricultural production and geographic data on water scarcity. The RA(s) will use survey data to measure how farmers adapt their agricultural production and GIS data to relate farmer production decisions to groundwater depletion.

Award: Dalton Boyt

Tobin Application Link: [Tobin Application](#)

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