

Laura A. Paul

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APPOINTMENTS

Research Agricultural Economist, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, Office of Production and Rural Communities, Rural Community Branch (2022–present)

Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Delaware, Department of Applied Economics and Statistics and Center for Behavioral and Experimental Agri-Environmental Research (CBEAR) (2019–2022)

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Agricultural and Resource Economics University of California, Davis (2019)

M.S., Agricultural and Resource Economics University of California, Davis (2017)

M.A., Economics Duke University, Durham, North Carolina (2013)

A.B., Economics, Kenyon College, Gambier, Ohio (2011)

JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

13. Dineva, P., A. Inocencio, C. McGranaghan, K.D. Messer, L.H. Palm-Forster, **L.A. Paul**, and A.R. Siders. 2026. “TAPping into homeowners’ decision making and emotions: A think-aloud experimental study of homeowner responses to flood buyouts.” *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction* 140. doi:10.1016/j.ijdr.2026.106155
12. Malacarne, J.G. and **L.A. Paul**. 2026. “Measuring and enhancing resilience of United States rural communities in the context of climate variability.” *Agricultural and Resource Economics Review* 54(3): 679–686. doi:10.1017/age.2026.10022
11. Ferraro, P.J., M. Bowman, H.E. Correia, J. Gao, K.R. Larson, K.D. Messer, **L.A. Paul**, B. Pratt, and L.S. Prokopy. 2025. “Beyond adoption: The persistence of conservation and climate-smart agricultural practices in the United States.” *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 122(43): e2518373122. doi:10.1073/pnas.2518373122
10. **Paul, L.A.**, C. McGranaghan, P. Dineva, A.R. Siders, L.H. Palm-Forster, and K.D. Messer. 2024. “Addressing coordination problems in residential buyouts: Experimental evidence for managed retreat in the face of climate change-related threats.” *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization* 226: 106670. doi:10.1016/j.jebo.2024.07.008
9. Boucher, S.R., M.R. Carter, J.E. Flatnes, T.J. Lybbert, J.G. Malacarne, P. Marenya, and **L.A. Paul**. 2024. “Bundling genetic and financial technologies for more resilient and productive small-scale farmers in Africa.” *The Economic Journal* 134(662): 2321–2350. doi:10.1093/ej/ueae012

8. Wallander, S., **L.A. Paul**, R. Iovanna, P.J. Ferraro, and K.D. Messer. 2023. “Informational nudges in conservation auctions: A field experiment with U.S. farmers.” *Food Policy* 120: 102504. doi:10.1016/j.foodpol.2023.102504
7. Li, T., **L.A. Paul**, K.D. Messer, and H. Kaiser. 2023. “It’s all relative: Consistent marginal effects with willingness to pay and willingness to accept framing in experimental auctions.” *Applied Economics* 56(45): 5329–5341. doi:10.1080/00036846.2023.2244255
6. Dineva, P., C. McGranaghan, L.H. Palm-Forster, **L.A. Paul**, K.D. Messer, and A.R. Siders. 2022. “Promoting spatial coordination in flood buyouts in the United States: Four strategies and four challenges from the economics of land preservation literature.” *Natural Hazards Review* 24(1): 04022042. doi:10.1061/NHREFO.NHENG-1564 (Authorship listed alphabetically.)
5. Malacarne, J.G. and **L.A. Paul**. 2022. “Do the benefits of improved management practices to nutritional outcomes dry up in the presence of drought? Evidence from East Africa.” *Food Policy* 113: 102332. doi:10.1016/j.foodpol.2022.102332
4. **Paul, L.A.**, O.M. Savchenko, M. Kecinski, and K.D. Messer. 2022. “Nudge or sludge? An in-class experimental auction illustrating how misunderstood scientific information can change consumer behavior.” *Applied Economics Teaching Resources* 4(1): 34–43. doi:10.22004/ag.econ.320046
3. **Paul, L.A.** 2021. “Heterogeneous and conditional returns from DT maize for farmers in Southern Africa.” *European Review of Agricultural Economics* 48(5): 1224–1248. doi:10.1093/erae/jbab040
2. Parsons, G., **L.A. Paul**, and K.D. Messer. 2022. “Demand for an environmental public good in the time of COVID-19: A statewide water quality referendum.” *Journal of Benefit-Cost Analysis* 13(1): 107–119. doi:10.1017/bca.2021.14
1. Weigel, C., **L.A. Paul**, P.J. Ferraro, and K.D. Messer. 2021. “Challenges in recruiting U.S. farmers for policy-relevant economic field experiments.” *Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy* 43(2): 556–572. doi:10.1002/aapp.13066

USDA ERS PUBLICATIONS

2. Pratt, B., **L.A. Paul**, M. Bowman, K.D. Messer, and P.J. Ferraro. 2026. “Persistence of cover crop use in crop production in the United States, 2012–2022”. USDA Economic Research Service, Economic Information Bulletin No. 293. doi:10.32747/2026.9460425.ers
1. Farrigan, T., A. Sanders, L. Miller, **L.A. Paul**, R.L. Winkler, and J. Pender. 2026. “Rural America at a glance: 2025 edition”. USDA Economic Research Service, Economic Information Bulletin No. 295. doi:10.32747/2026.9458832.ers