

Schneider Fellows – Summer 2021

The Schneider Fellows program provides Stanford students with opportunities to work at leading U.S. non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the sustainable energy field.

Undergraduate Students

Gabe Alvarez, '21 (Engineering Physics); Natural Resources Defense Council

Gabe investigated the local pollution impacts of carbon trading programs and provided analysis in support of robust federal funding for clean energy innovation and deployment.

Lizzie Avila, '23 (Earth Systems); Natural Resources Defense Council

Lizzie worked with the Midwest Energy Efficiency for All (EEFA) program, that advocates for energy efficiency and affordability in low-income and multifamily housing. She created a tracking system of different energy affordability and anti-eviction policies that had been put in place during the pandemic in the Midwest.

Herber Banda, '21 (Earth Systems); Environmental Defense Fund

Herber worked with the Food and Nutrition Team in the Ocean's Program. He spent his summer looking at fish catch data from Indonesia and Chile to see how to best leverage small-scale fisheries to meet the needs of populations suffering malnutrition.

Nomunzul Battulga, '23 (undeclared); United Nations Foundation

Nomunzul worked with the Climate Team at the UN Foundation. She assisted with research on climate change impacts in the US and prepared for the release and media analysis of the crucial IPCC Working Group I report.

Timothy Dai, '23 (C.S. & Earth Systems); U.S. Green Building Council

Timothy worked with the Data & Analytics team at USGBC, cleaning and visualizing data, recommending data pipeline revisions, and designing new data pipelines.

Bethel Gashaw, '22 (Civil & Environmental Engineering); U.S. Green Building Council

Bethel interned at U.S. Green Building Council on the Global Market Development team. She focused on various equity initiatives within the organization, including efforts to make green building knowledge more accessible for professionals in the construction sphere.



Tule Horton, '22 (International Relations); Audubon

Tule served as a member of the federal climate policy team. She prepared literature reviews, fact sheets, and slides for congressional offices about various conservation issues, hosted a congressional briefing, and created a story map on the power of natural climate solutions.

Patrick Kim, '24 (Mathematical & Computational Science); Environmental Defense Fund

Patrick interned with the Energy Team at EDF, where he worked to accelerate the electrification transition in drayage transport trucks. He created an analysis landscaping the drayage process in the Port of New York and New Jersey and laid the groundwork for future action in electrification.

Emily Liu, '23 (Earth Systems); Environmental Defense Fund

Emily served as a Vehicle Electrification Research and Analysis Intern, supporting the environmental advocacy group's efforts to electrify medium- and heavy-duty vehicles (MHDV). She made the case that MHDV electrification is a feasible air pollution mitigation measure for air quality planners.

Cathy Luo, '23 (Economics); Natural Resources Defense Council

As part of the NRDC's Western Climate and Clean Energy Team, Cathy advocated for equitable energy policies through regulatory proceedings, research, and analysis. She assisted in a proceeding about solar energy rates, tracked spending trends of Californian utilities, and quantified cost-saving energy efficiency measures for low-income households.

Janica Mendillo, '22 (Earth Systems); Natural Resources Defense Council

Janica worked with the American Cities Climate Challenge initiative, a program that accelerates local climate action and policy in 25 U.S. cities. She advocated for climate policy that would be most beneficial to cities on a federal level.

Jevan Yu, '23 (Mathematical & Computational Science); Environmental Defense Fund

Jevan worked on EDF's Permian Methane Analysis Project (PermianMAP), an ambitious effort to monitor and mitigate methane emissions from oil and gas infrastructure in the Permian Basin. He developed a revised estimate of pipeline emissions, characterized the distribution of small leaks from well sites, and conducted various geospatial analyses of aerial methane measurement data.

Graduate Students

Enzo Alfonsi; U.S. Green Building Council

Enzo worked with the Global Market Development team at USGBC. He created a Go-to-Market plan for the organization to reach the African market.

Nicole Biggs; Audubon

Nic worked with Audubon California's science and policy teams to develop sustainable solutions to climate change, protect birds and the places they need, and build grassroots capacity to support climate solutions. She led research on renewable energy development on California's working lands, as well as supporting the policy team in conservation and climate policy advocacy.

Daniel Gajardo, '23 (Environment & Resources); World Resources Institute

Daniel worked with the Aqueduct Water-Energy project at WRI. He combined policy, engineering and environmental science to provide useful insights for water-related decision making processes.

Trudie Gratton, '22 (Environmental Communications); Environmental Defense Fund

Trudie worked with EDF's Ocean Technology Solutions Team. She pursued a project exploring the environmental and social impacts of technology.

Kristina Koh, '21 (Civil & Environmental Engineering); U.S. Green Building Council

Kristina created a best practices guide for schools and facility managers working to measure their indoor air quality, specifically carbon dioxide and particulate matter.

Kat McNeill, '21 (Sustainability Science & Practice); Natural Resources Defense Council

Kat researched mineral supply chain best practices and the role of carbon capture in climate scenarios to better inform NRDC's advocacy efforts.

Lude Rong, '22 (Atmosphere & Energy); Environmental Defense Fund

Lude created a technical assessment report of the EDF Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) Model for fleet planning and expanded the TCO tool to enhance customizability.

Eleanor Walker, '21 (Atmosphere & Energy); Rocky Mountain Institute

Eleanor worked at RMI on the Green Hydrogen Catapult within the Breakthrough Technology Team, an initiative looking to implement 25 GW of green hydrogen capacity worldwide by 2026. She analyzed a cost optimization model to determine opportunities for lowest level cost projects at current and future capital costs.

Schneider Fellows – 1-year Fellows 2021-2022

Jordan Brinn, '20, '21 (B.S. Environmental Systems Engineering, M.S. Civil & Environmental Engineering - Sustainable Design and Construction)

Placement: Natural Resources Defense Council – New York City, NY

Title: Eastern Sustainable Energy and Climate Fellow

Jacqueline Ennis, '20 '21 (B.S. Symbolic Systems - Artificial Intelligence, M.S. Civil & Environmental Engineering - Atmosphere / Energy)

Placement: National Resources Defense Council – Washington, D.C.

Title: Federal Climate and Clean Energy Policy Analysis Fellow

Valeria Rincon, '21 (B.A. Political Science, M.S. Sustainability Science and Practice)

Placement: Natural Resources Defense Council – Chicago, IL

Title: Midwest Sustainable Energy and Climate Fellow

Kiki Velez, '21 (B.S. Civil and Environmental Engineering - Atmosphere/Energy)

Placement: National Resources Defense Council – San Francisco, CA

Title: Western Sustainable Energy and Climate Fellow