

# ERICH SEAMON

University of Idaho  
Institute for Modeling, Collaboration, and Innovation  
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## EDUCATION

**Degree: B.A., Geosciences.**

**University:** Wittenberg University, Springfield, OH

**Description:** Focus on geospatial methods

**Degree: M.S., Geosciences.**

**University:** Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH

**Description:** Focus on GIS and surficial processes. Thesis: "A GIS Model to Calculate Sediment Yields from a Small Rural Watershed, Old Woman Creek, Erie and Huron Counties, Ohio." Ohio Journal of Science vol. 97 (3): 44-52.

**Degree: Ph.D., Natural Resources.**

**University:** University of Idaho, Moscow, ID

**Description:** Research emphasis is on the examination of climatic relationships to agriculture thru the use of machine learning and data science techniques. Completion expected in 2019. See <http://github.com/erichseamon> for my repositories, and <http://erich.io> for more specific details on my research.

**Postdoctoral Training: Postdoctoral Fellowship**

**University:** University of Idaho, Institute for Modeling, Collaboration, and Innovation (<http://imci.uidaho.edu>)

**Description:** Research focus on spatiotemporal modeling and applications to health

## CERTIFICATIONS AND AWARDS

- Project Management Professional (PMP) 2008 - Present
- Geographic Information Systems Professional (GISP) 2007 - Present
- Information Technology Infrastructure (ITIL) Foundation Certified 2008 – Present
- Xi Sigma Xi Natural Resource Honor Society
- Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

*Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Idaho, Institute for Modeling, Collaboration, and Innovation  
October 2019 – Present*

- Participate in geospatial modeling initiatives across differing disciplines and funding streams.
- Population synthesis modeling for Idaho health indicator analysis. Development of iterative proportional fitting algorithms which use the Center for Disease Control's (CDC) Behavioral Risk Factors Surveillance System (BRFSS) survey instruments. Computational models constructed to modularly for reproducible research efforts.
- Research work as part of the University of Idaho's Pandemic Modeling Group (<http://pandemic-modeling.uidaho.edu>), which has been developing modeling techniques to explore health behavior and risk associated with SARS-CoV2.

*Data Scientist, Global Parametrics Ltd - London*  
*January 2019 – October 2019*

- Developed machine learning models to predict agricultural commodity yields for South Africa and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), which were used to construct derivative contracts for investment and insurance firms.
- Model development used global climate model forecasts as inputs, applied recursive feature elimination in conjunction with random forest algorithms.

*Ph.D. Candidate and Researcher, Climate Impacts Research Consortium (<http://pnwcirc.org>)*  
*July 2014 – September 2019*

- As part of the Regional Integrated Sciences Assessment (RISA) team for the Pacific Northwest, worked to develop data mining and machine learning models that predict agricultural outcomes (<http://dmine.io>).
- Worked on drought impacts related to agriculture, using Python and R.
- Collaborated with a diverse grouping of scientists @ Oregon State, University of Washington, University of Oregon, and University of Idaho.

*Environmental Data Manager, University of Idaho, Regional Approaches to Climate Change (REACCH)*  
*December 2011 – March 2017*

- Conducted data analysis for a USDA/NIFA funded \$20M Coordinated Agricultural Project (CAP) to improve the long-term profitability of cereal production systems in the Pacific Northwest, under ongoing and projected climate change (<http://reacchpna.org>).
- Produced three technical reports (See *Recent Publications*)
- Managed data architecture aspects and GIS components among 200 individuals on the CAP team. Facilitated research work and datasets across diverse areas including climate modeling, emissions analysis, cropping systems, biotics, hydrology, and socio-economic factors. Implemented data standards across three research universities (University of Idaho, Washington State University, and Oregon State University).
- Developed data cataloging and dynamic web applications using Python, Java, R, and ArcGIS Server(<http://reacchpna.org/data-management>).
- Led data management efforts around agriculture and data science using python, R, and TensorFlow, Apache httpd, Spark, MapReduce, Tomcat.
- Organized training and workshop efforts for data management, analysis, and consumption of integrated data thru web APIs and application development. For example, I organized and led a data science-based research workshop for python and R development for REACCHPNA in 2014.
- Led 2014 Python-focused scientific discovery sessions for students involved in ecological and agricultural research at the University of Idaho.

*Geographic Information Officer, City and County of San Francisco  
December 2000 – November 2005*

- Served as technical lead and senior manager for several citywide business systems, including property assessment, tax collection, real estate, and public works. Led data science/development teams as large as 20 individuals.
- As the City and County of San Francisco's Geographic Information Officer, developed and implemented SF's first Enterprise GIS, using common geospatial methods to disseminate information.
- Led development teams constructing applications in ArcGIS, ArcGIS Server, ArcIMS, geospatial database management, metadata specification development, as well as map construction.

*Senior GIS Analyst, Marin Municipal Water District  
May 1995 – December 2000*

- Served as senior analyst and manager of GIS activities at Marin County's primary water utility.
- Led development of MMWD's infrastructure and natural resources technology systems thru the use of GIS technologies on Linux and Unix.
- Administered MMWD's technical architecture, including UNIX/Windows, along with DB systems (Oracle, DB2).
- Served as the political/technical representative for MMWD's technology efforts, as it relates to working with several multi-agency consortiums (Marin Telecommunications Agency).
- Served as the project manager for natural resource GIS development.

## **PARTICIPATING RESEARCH EFFORTS**

- **2022-2025, Co-PI**, Idaho Tobacco Prevention and Control Surveillance and Evaluation (\$784,083). Funded by the State of Idaho. Grant spans 3 years and will use modeling and geospatial analysis to provide decision-making tools and data for the State of Idaho's Tobacco program.
- **2020-2021, Postdoctoral Fellow**, University of Idaho Pandemic Modeling Group (<http://pandemic-modeling.uidaho.edu>) Worked as part of a collaborative, multi-disciplinary team to develop research associated with SARS-CoV2. Current manuscripts in development associated with: 1) COVID risk prevalence, 2) structural equation modeling in relationship to COVID behavioral perceptions, as well as 3) applying agent based modeling techniques to simulate COVID spread in rural communities.
- **2020-2021 Co-PI**, Small Area Estimation of Health Indicators for the State of Idaho (\$30,000). Funded by the State of Idaho Department of Health and Welfare (IDHW), developed modeling approaches to estimate health indicators (obesity, overweight, diabetes) at refined spatial scales, using spatial microsimulation approaches. Paper forthcoming.
- **2018-2020: Collaborator**, Socio-ecological feedback systems and soil health. Funded by the National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center (SESYNC) under NSF grant #'s DBI-1052875 and DBI-1639145, this project brings together 15 leading scientists in soil health, agricultural policy, and climate resilience to explore modeling techniques, and to assess human relationships to soil health (<http://soilhealthfeedback.org>).

- **2015-2020: *Research Assistant*** - Climate Impacts Research Consortium (CIRC) NOAA RISA Grant NA15OAR4310145. Active team member, as a PhD candidate, of the data mining portion of the project, exploring relationships of drought to agricultural commodity loss, using machine learning techniques (<https://pnwcirc.org>).
- **2011-2017: *Environmental Data Manager*** - Regional Approaches to Climate Change for Pacific Northwest Agriculture. USDA Grant # 2011-68002-30191. REACCH examined the relationships of climate on cereal production systems in the Pacific Northwest, by bringing together over 200 scientists from Oregon State, Washington State, University of Idaho, and the USDA ARS (<http://www.reacchpna.org>)
- **2010-Present: *Collaborator***, research efforts with social scientists/psychologists in applying modeling techniques to child development issues. Most recent work involves the development of machine learning methods to explore child development variations from datasets collected worldwide (manuscript submitted to PLOS 1, included in application materials). Overall, four papers generated in association with this research (listed in publications section).

## EXPERT WITNESS TESTIMONY

- **Expert Witness** – Willits vs. City of Los Angeles – 2013. Provided data mining and geospatial technology analysis for a class action lawsuit related to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Settlement reached in case 2015 - \$1.4 billion awarded to plaintiffs - largest disability class action lawsuit settlement in U.S. History.
- **Expert Witness** – Piper vs. RGIS – 2009. Provided data mining/geospatial technology analysis for a nationwide class action lawsuit related to employment discrimination for related to a major big box organization with locations across the United States.

## DATA SCIENCE RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

### *Python and R*

- I have extensive experience in development in R and Python (<http://github.com/erichseamon>). Use both daily to analyze, organize, and statistically explore integrated biological, climatological, and social datasets. I also regularly deploy shiny server web applications using R and expose these on my <http://erich.io> web site. I also regularly use Jupyter notebooks to organize and collaborate using python.
- As part of my research work for REACCH and CIRC, I use Python and R to integrate data. Data aggregation, function construction, vectorization and loops, data frame, array and raster construction, as well as leaflet/GDAL/Geos usage are all common techniques that I use regularly.
- All R and python work at the University of Idaho are deployed on Linux servers that I manage and maintain to run Jupyter, R/Rstudio server, Solr, Apache, and Tomcat. Familiar with all systems and security complexities needed to expose and implement data science methods in this manner (port exposure, SELinux, remote mounts, apache and tomcat web service architectures, as well as python web API deployment for pickled data model exposure).
- Well versed in frequentist statistics techniques (linear/multivariate regression, ANOVA/MANOVA, repeated measures, factor analysis, data transforms).
- Have collaborated with human health researchers to produce several publications that utilize geospatial modeling techniques (See *Recent Publications*)

### ***Algorithmic Modeling***

- Actively use algorithmic data mining and filtering techniques on natural resource datasets for feature extraction, transformation, and model development, including: decision trees, random forest, neural networks/convolutional neural networks, Naïve Bayes, Support Vector Machines, and Long-Short Term Memory (LSTM) neural networks. Examples of model development can be seen at <http://erich.io/dashboards>.
- Developed predicative models for two research teams (<http://pnwcirc.org> and <http://soilhealthfeedback.org>) to examine agricultural insurance commodity loss in comparison to climate and other social/demographic factors. I have developed all of the technology implementations for our active SESYNC pursuit, including the web site development and integration with R and python.

### ***GIS and Geospatial Modeling***

- Experienced with all forms of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software, including ArcGIS Desktop, ArcGIS Server, ArcSDE, ERDAS, GRASS, QGIS, MapInfo, MapReduce, Leaflet, Gdal/Geos. Use Leaflet regularly to deploy R-based spatial datasets. Experienced with map projections, coordinate systems, spatial statistics, georeferencing, and geo-metadata development.
- Experienced in geospatial data mining with regards to large databases/systems – and providing analytical perspectives (report, presentation, data model review, etc.).

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

*Geospatial Analysis for Natural Resource Management, Forestry 375. Spring 2016. 70 students, one teaching assistant. 4 credit. Included computational analysis labs.*

*Introductory Geospatial Analysis. Spring 2020. BCB 503. 30 students. Short course on introductory geospatial analysis in R.*

*Advanced Geospatial Analysis. Spring 2021. BCB 503. 25 students. Short course on advanced geospatial topics, including spatial autoregression, kriging, geographically weighted regression, and geographically weighted random forest. Course materials can be found at [https://github.com/erichseamon/BCB503\\_advanced\\_geospatial\\_workshop](https://github.com/erichseamon/BCB503_advanced_geospatial_workshop)*

## **STUDENT MENTORSHIP**

Felino Macatuno (2020-2021). University of Idaho Undergraduate in Mathematics. Mentorship and training in computational processes and R

Trevor Griffin (2020-2021). University of Idaho Undergraduate in Mathematics. Training in R and data transformations

Tristan Moxley (2021). University of Idaho Graduate Student in Statistics. Computational mixed model development and mentorship, associated with SARS-CoV2.

Stephan Fricke (2015-2016). University of Idaho Graduate Student, Geography. Mentorship and training associated with python geospatial analysis and model development, climate analysis.

## RELEVANT COURSEWORK

Geomorphology	Computational Data Analysis	Petrology
Surficial Hydrology	Analytics and Machine Learning	Multivariate Analysis
Geographic Info. Systems	Stratigraphy	Advanced Climatology
Groundwater Hydrology	Scanning Electron Microscopy	Advanced Structural Geology
Inorganic Geochemistry	Sedimentary Structures	Sedimentology

## MANUSCRIPTS IN DEVELOPMENT

Seamon, E., Miller, C.R., Johnson-Leung, J.. (2021) “Spatiotemporal effects of United States political ideology on SARS-CoV2” Manuscript in progress

Seamon, E., Megheib, M., Brown, H., William, C. (2022) “Estimating county level health indicators using spatial microsimulation” Health and Place. Manuscript in progress

## PUBLICATIONS

Seamon, E., Gessler, P.E., Abatzoglou, J.T., Mote, P.E., Lee, S., 2022. “Random Forest Climatic Modeling of Agricultural Insurance Loss Across the Inland Pacific Northwest Region of the United States.” Submitted Manuscript, Environmental Data Science (via International Conference on Climate Informatics)

Ridenhour, B., Sarathchandra, D., Seamon, E., Brown, H., Leung, F.Y., Johnson-Leon, M., Megheib, M., Miller, C., Johnson-Leung, J. 2021 “Effects of trust, risk perception, and health behavior on COVID-19 disease burden: Evidence from a multi-state US survey” Submitted Manuscript, PLoS One.

Gartstein, M.A., Seamon, E., Mattera, J., Bosquet-Enlow, M., Rosalind J. Wright, Perez-Edgar, K., Buss, K., LoBue, V., Bell, M.A., Calkins, S.D., Goodman S.H., Spieker, S., Bridgett, D.J., Salisbury A.L., Mliner S.B., Gunnar, M.R., Muzik, M., Stifter, C.A., Planalp, E.M., Mehr, S.A., Spelke, E.S., Lukowski, A.F., Groh, A.M., Lickenbrock, D.M., Santelli, R., Du Rocher Schudlich, T., Anzman-Frasca S., Thrasher, C., Diaz, A., Dayton C., Moding, K.J., Jordan, E.M. 2021 “Using Machine Learning to Understand Age and Gender Differences in Infant Temperament”. Accepted. PLOS One (September 2021).

Seamon, E., Gessler, P.E., Abatzoglou, J.T., Mote, P.E., Lee, S., 2021 “Agricultural Insurance Loss and Relationships to Climate Across the Inland Pacific Northwest Region of the United States”. Northwest Science. Submitted manuscript.

Gartstein, M.A., Seamon, E., Thompson, S.F., Lengua, L., 2018. "Community Crime Exposure and Risk for Obesity: Examining Child Hypothalamic–Pituitary–Adrenal (HPA)-Axis Response as a Moderator" Journal of Pediatric Psychology. doi: 10.1093/jpepsy/jsx116.

Gartstein, M.A., Seamon, E., Thompson, S.F., Lengua L. 2018. "Parenting matters: Moderation of biological and community risk for obesity" Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology. doi: 10.1016/j.appdev.2018.01.004

Seamon, E, Roesch-McNally, G., McNamee, L., Roth, I., Wulfhorst, J., Eigenbrode, S., & Laursen, D., 2017. “Producer Perceptions on Climate Change and Agriculture: A Statistical Atlas”. University of Idaho Agricultural Economics Extension Series 17-01. Funded through award #2011-68002-30191 from USDA-NIFA.

Gartstein, M.A., Prokasky, A., Bell, M.A., Calkins, S., Bridgett, D.J., Braungart-Rieker, J., Leerkes, E., Cheatham, C., Eiden, R.D., Mize, K.D., Jones, N., Mireault, G., & Seamon, E. (2017). Latent Profile and Cluster Analysis of infant

temperament: Comparisons across person-centered approaches. *Developmental Psychology*, 53, 1811-1825 doi: 10.1037/dev0000382.

Gartstein, M.A., E. Seamon, T.J. Dishion, 2013. "Geospatial Ecology of Adolescent Problem Behavior: Contributions of Community Factors and Parental Monitoring" *Journal of Community Psychology*. doi:10.1002/jcop.21610

Evans, J.E., Seamon, E. 1997. "A GIS Model to Calculate Sediment Yields from a Small Rural Watershed, Old Woman Creek, Erie and Huron Counties, Ohio" *Ohio Journal of Science* vol. 97 (3): 44-52, 1997.

## PRESENTATIONS AND POSTERS

Seamon, E., Megheib, M., Brown, H., Williams, C. "Estimating Idaho county level health indicators using small area estimation and micro simulation". Presented the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, September 2021.

Seamon, E. "Exploring agricultural insurance loss due to drought across the inland Pacific Northwest: spatiotemporal relationships to climate". Presentation to the National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS), Pacific Northwest Drought Early Warning System. December 2019

Seamon, E., Gessler, P.E., Abatzoglou, J.A., Mote, P. 2018. "Decision Tree Modeling of Agricultural Insurance Loss: Relationships to Climate for the Palouse Region of the Pacific Northwest" Pacific Northwest Climate Conference, Boise, ID

Seamon, E., Gessler, P.E., Eigenbrode, S., Nelson, R., Stockle, C. 2015. "REACCHPNA and data management" USDA Data Harmonization Workshop, Washington DC

Seamon, E., Gessler, P.E., Flathers, E., Sheneman, L. 2015. "Climatic Data Analysis and Data Management: Regional Approaches to Climate Change for Pacific Northwest Agriculture" University of Idaho GIS Day, Presentation, Idaho Commons

Flathers, E., Gessler, P.E., Seamon, E., 2015. "Implementation of an OASIS Repository using Free, Open Source Software" AGU Fall Meeting, San Francisco, CA

Seamon, E., Gessler, P.E., Flathers, E., 2015. "Development of an Interactive Crop Growth Web Service Architecture to Review and Forecast Agricultural Sustainability" AGU Fall Meeting, San Francisco, CA

Seamon, E., Gessler, P.E., Flathers, E., Sheneman, L. 2015. "Data Management and Integration for Transdisciplinary Research: REACCHPNA" Arid Cereals International Conference, Minneapolis, MN. Poster

Seamon, E., Gessler, P.E., Flathers, E., Walden, V.P. 2014. "Development of an interactive crop growth web service architecture to review and forecast agricultural sustainability" Poster presentation at the American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting

Seamon, E., Gessler, P.E., Fricke, S. 2014. "Using geospatial information for agricultural climate change analysis" Presentation at the 2014 ESRI Users Conference, San Diego, CA.

Flathers, E., Gessler, P.E., Seamon, E., 2014. "Service-Based Extensions to an OASIS Archive for Science Data Management" AGU Fall Meeting

Seamon, E., Gessler, P.E., Flathers, E., Sheneman, L., 2013. "Climatic Data Integration and Analysis - Regional Approaches to Climate Change for Pacific Northwest Agriculture (REACCH PNA)" NIFA Climate Science Project Director's Meeting, Gainesville, FLA

Seamon, E., Gessler, P.E., Flathers, E., Sheneman, L., 2013. "Climatic Data Integration and Analysis - Regional Approaches to Climate Change for Pacific Northwest Agriculture (REACCH PNA)" Presentation at the American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting

Seamon, E., Gessler, P.E., Flathers, E., Sheneman, L., Goldberg, G. 2013. "Climatic Data Integration and Analysis - Regional Approaches to Climate Change for Pacific Northwest Agriculture (REACCH PNA)" Presentation at Pacific Northwest Climate Science Conference, Portland, OR

Seamon, Gessler, P.E., 2012. "Data Management and REACCH: Strategies and Implementation. University of Idaho" Poster - Annual REACCH CAP Conference.

Gartstein, M.A., Dishon, T.J., Seamon, E., 2008. "Explaining Neighborhood Correlates of Adolescent Conduct Problems: the Geospatial Perspective." Presentation at the Annual Convention of the Society for Prevention Research, San Francisco, CA

Seamon, E., 2006. "Understanding Adolescent Behavior with GIS – a case study: Portland, Oregon" ESRI Users Conference, San Diego Convention Center, San Diego, CA

Seamon, E., Gartstein, M.A., Dishon, T. 2006. "Explaining neighborhood correlates of adolescent conduct problems in the Portland, Oregon metropolitan area: the geo-spatial perspective" Santa Fe, NM

Seamon, E., 2005. "Security, Privacy and GIS: Changing Perspectives in a Changing World." ESRI Users Conference. San Diego Convention Center, San Diego, CA

Seamon, E., 2005. "Implementing Enterprise GIS in San Francisco" American Planning Association National Conference, March 21-25, San Francisco, CA.

Seamon E., 2005. "Managing geographic information nationally: strategies for GIS governance" California GIS Conference, Bakersfield, CA

Seamon, E., 2005. "SF Enterprise GIS: interactions and uses of geospatial databases" Northern California URISA presentation, Sacramento, CA

Seamon, E., 2004. "Building a Successful Enterprise GIS in San Francisco, CA" ESRI Users' Conference, San Diego, CA

Seamon, E., 2004. "Fighting Crime in the 21st Century: Developing CrimeMAPS, SF's first dynamic crime analysis system" National Institute of Justice (NIJ) Seventh Annual Crime Mapping Conference, Boston, MA

Seamon, E., 2000. "Water Management in Marin County, California: Development and Implementation of a Complex Water Utility GIS to Manage Both Infrastructure and Natural Resources" ESRI Users Conference, San Diego, CA

Seamon, E., 1999. "Hydrological Modeling and the use of GIS as a predictive tool in environmental management" Northern Kentucky Area Planning Commission, KY