

Climate Change Experts Available for Interviews

Please contact press@drawdown.org or skylar.knight@drawdown.org for interviews.



Jonathan Foley, PhD, Executive Director

Jonathan is a world-renowned environmental scientist, sustainability expert, author, and public speaker. His work focuses on understanding our changing planet and finding new solutions to sustain the climate, ecosystems, and natural resources we all depend on.

Areas of Expertise

- Climate change
- Climate solutions
- Earth systems
- Climate change impacts (on weather, biodiversity, ecosystems, people, economies, etc.)
- Extreme weather
- Climate and clean energy policy
- Effects of agriculture, land use, and food systems on the environment
- Climate communications



Aiyana Bodi, Manager, Employee Engagement

Aiyana leads Project Drawdown's employee engagement programs, working with corporate partners and their employees to scale climate solutions in more meaningful and impactful ways. She develops and manages resources, media, and other initiatives to show non-sustainability employees tangible ways they can make their jobs climate jobs.

Areas of Expertise

- Corporate sustainability
- Employee engagement on climate
- Climate jobs/career development
- Labor and climate
- Climate activism
- Climate justice



Amanda Smith, PhD, Senior Scientist, Built Environment

Amanda is a researcher, analyst, and educator with expertise in buildings and distributed energy systems. Her research investigates trade-offs among energy use, economics, and environmental consequences within the context of a building's location and its unique function.

Areas of Expertise

- Climate solutions in buildings (commercial, residential, campuses)
- Renewable energy in the built environment
- Electrical grid–buildings integration
- Water use associated with power generation
- Solar PV or solar thermal potential analysis
- Energy cost optimization



Daniel Jasper, Senior Policy Advisor

Daniel is the policy advisor for Project Drawdown. He is an expert on multidisciplinary solutions for climate change and poverty alleviation, particularly in South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa. He draws upon over a decade of public policy experience to advocate for climate financing to simultaneously address poverty and climate resilience in low- and middle-income countries.

Areas of Expertise

- International climate policy (UNFCCC, COP28, etc.)
- Climate and development
- Global food policy
- Humanitarian aid
- US foreign policy and climate (e.g. State and Treasury Departments)
- Climate diplomacy
 - US-China climate diplomacy



Elizabeth Bagley, PhD, Managing Director

Elizabeth is an interdisciplinary environmental scientist and learning scientist with experience spanning academia, business, and the nonprofit sector.

Areas of Expertise

- Climate solutions
- Climate and environmental education
 - Education technologies (video games, online courses, etc.)
- Climate jobs
- Climate and sustainability leadership
- Science communication
- Climate communication



Emily Cassidy, Research Associate

Emily is a writer and environmental scientist, with expertise in agriculture, climate change, and land use. She has published in scientific journals including *Science*, *Nature*, and *Environmental Research Letters*.

Areas of Expertise

- Diet shifts
 - Plant-based protein
 - Livestock production
- Land use
- Food waste
- Remote sensing
- Environmental impacts of agricultural practices



James Gerber, PhD, Senior Scientist, Data Science

James is a data scientist with expertise in agriculture and land use, modeling of crop yield futures, and ocean wave energy. He uses various analytic techniques to assess the effectiveness of climate mitigation solutions in the land use sector and their impacts on human well-being.

Areas of Expertise

- Environmental impacts of agricultural practices
- Climate solutions in the food and agriculture sector
- Impacts of climate change on agricultural production
- Trends in global crop production
- Ocean wave energy



Matt Scott, Director of Storytelling & Engagement

As director of storytelling and engagement, Matt focuses on passing the mic to those who often go unheard in the climate space. Inspired by human-centered design, Matt is an expert on the role of storytelling in engaging diverse audiences around climate solutions.

Areas of Expertise

- Climate storytelling
- Climate justice
- Climate activism
- Climate grief and climate anxiety
- Representation in climate science, solutions, activism, and the stories we tell
- Engaging students, communities, and diverse audiences in climate change and solutions
- Finding your individual role in climate solutions (including climate careers)



Paul West, PhD, Senior Scientist, Ecosystems & Agriculture

Paul is an ecologist developing science-based solutions for sustaining a healthy planet for people and nature. He is assessing how climate solutions can create win-wins and trade-offs for conserving biodiversity, creating a sustainable food system, and many other aspects of planetary health and human well-being.

Areas of Expertise

- Climate and land use change
- Ecosystems, biodiversity, and conservation
- Agriculture
 - Food security
 - Crop production
 - Farm management practices
 - Impact on climate, water, biodiversity
- Biosphere
 - Carbon, nitrogen, phosphorus, water cycles
 - Soils
 - Biomes



Ruthie Burrows, PhD, Research Associate

Ruthie is a population-environment researcher with interdisciplinary experience in geography, demography, and epidemiology. At Project Drawdown, she focuses on developing methods to integrate demographic data into climate solutions analyses.

Areas of Expertise

- Climate impacts on people
- Climate change and health
- Human well-being benefits of climate solutions
- Global food security



Sarah Gleeson, PhD, Climate Solutions Research Manager

Sarah is a materials scientist with expertise in plastics, carbon removal, and science communication. Her research interests include systems-level decarbonization, waste mitigation, and global materials circularity. At Project Drawdown, she is analyzing the impact of emissions reductions in the industrial sector and the techno-economic potential of engineered carbon sinks.

Areas of Expertise

- Improved materials for climate solutions
- Plastic use and pollution
- End-of-life considerations for climate solutions
- Industrial decarbonization
- Engineered carbon sinks



Tina Swanson, PhD, Senior Scientist, Policy and Private Sector Partnerships

Tina is an environmental scientist with a background in cross-disciplinary research, multi-faceted engagement at the interface of science and policy, and an enduring passion for turning science into action to solve environmental problems and benefit society.

Areas of Expertise

- Water resources
- Water management
- Ecosystems
- Ecosystem services
- Net-zero policy

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