

Bret Stevens, Principal Associate

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**Synapse Energy Economics, Cambridge, MA. *Principal Associate*, October 2026 – Present**

- Consults on the following topics: Cost allocation, rate design, affordability & equity, data center policy, performance-based ratemaking, wildfire mitigation costs, wildfire insurance, load forecasting, ratemaking issues, energy efficiency measurement & verification, econometrics, and causal inference methods.

Public Utility Commission of Oregon, Salem, OR. *Senior Economist*, 2022 – October 2026

- Assemble and manage inter-disciplinary teams across departments for complex assignments.
- Lead analyst on data center policy response.
- Lead analyst for load forecasting, rate design, and cost of service issues.
- Perform complex data analysis using large data sets to inform staff policy recommendations.
- Negotiate binding stipulations across diverse stakeholders regarding wildfire and multi-state issues.

M.Cubed, Davis, CA. *Economic Consultant*, 2021 – 2022

- Estimated costs and benefits of a recycled water plant.
- Estimated cost of future water shortages on the local economy.
- Calculated acreage of different crops inside a water district.
- Compiled historical FERC filings for a project involving a hydroelectric dam.

University of California, Davis, Davis, CA. 2017 – 2022***Graduate Student Researcher*, Center for Water-Energy Efficiency, 2019 – 2022**

- Tasked with data collection, data cleaning, and development of econometric analysis.
- Evaluated water saving programs run by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) from 2014–2018.
- Project produced four technical documents for California DWR and one published journal article. Lead author of the paper produced by this project.

***Associate Instructor*, 2020**

- Taught Introduction to Econometrics. Created original lecture material, homework, and quizzes.
- Required textbooks: Essentials of Applied Econometrics by Smith & Taylor and Mastering Metrics by Angrist & Pischke.

***Teaching Assistant*, 2017 – 2021**

- Introduction to Econometrics; Econometrics for Business Decisions; History of Food; Intermediate Microeconomics (Reader); Agricultural Marketing (Reader).

Graduate Student Researcher (Ned Spang), 2017 – 2018

- Research assistant in charge of database creation, management, and analysis.
- Combined multiple sources of data to generate a range of total water lost in the potato supply chain. Co-author of resulting paper.

EDUCATION

University of California, Davis, Davis, CA

Ph.D., Agricultural and Resource Economics, 2023

M.S., Agricultural and Resource Economics, 2017

Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA

B.A., Economics/Environmental Studies, 2016

Minors: Energy Policy, Arabic & Islamic Studies

TESTIMONY

Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Docket No. UE 463): Led team that provided written testimony on large load contract terms, marginal cost study integration, and creation of a new data center rate schedule for PacifiCorp.

Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Docket No. UM 2377): Led team that provided written testimony on large load contract terms, marginal cost study integration, and creation of a new data center rate schedule for Portland General Electric.

Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Docket No. UG 520): Joint written testimony on rate base calculation methodology for Northwest Natural's 2025 General Rate Case.

Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Docket No. UG 519): Led a team of economists overseeing testimony on load forecasting, rate spread, and rate design. Joint written testimony on rate spread, rate design, and rate base calculation methodology for Avista's 2025 General Rate Case.

Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Docket No. UE 435): Written testimony on the load forecast, cost of service study, rate spread, rate design, calculation of average rate base, and Investment Recovery Mechanism for Portland General Electric's 2024 General Rate Case.

Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Docket No. UE 433): Written testimony on the load forecast, cost of service study, rate spread, rate design, calculation of average rate base, insurance costs, and Catastrophic Fire Fund for PacifiCorp's 2024 General Rate Case.

Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Docket No. UG 490): Written testimony on the load forecast, decoupling, and calculation of average rate base for Northwest Natural's 2024 General Rate Case.

Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Docket No. UE 426): Written testimony on the load forecast, cost of service study, rate spread, rate design, and calculation of average rate base for Idaho Power's 2024 General Rate Case.

Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Docket No. UE 425): Written testimony on the load forecast, rate spread, and jurisdictional allocation of power costs for Idaho Power's 2024 Annual Power Cost Adjustment.

Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Docket No. UE 421): Written testimony on the rate impact for PacifiCorp’s 2022 Power Cost Adjustment Mechanism.

Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Docket No. UE 416): Written testimony on load forecasting, rate spread, rate design, routine vegetation management cost recovery and evaluation, calculation of average rate base, and line extension policy for Portland General Electric’s 2023 General Rate Case.

Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Docket No. UE 414): Written testimony on rate spread and the jurisdictional allocation of net power costs for Idaho Power’s Annual Power Cost Update.

Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Docket No. UE 412): Joint written testimony regarding the structure of Portland General Electric’s Automatic Adjustment Clause for Wildfire Mitigation Costs.

Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Docket No. UE 407): Joint written testimony regarding the structure of PacifiCorp’s Automatic Adjustment Clause for Wildfire Mitigation Costs.

Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Docket No. UG 461): Written testimony regarding the meter replacement program, marginal cost study, rate spread, and rate design for Avista’s 2023 General Rate Case.

PUBLICATIONS

Stevens, B., C. Hammond, K. Novan, and F. Loge. 2025. “Cost-Effectiveness of Urban Water Demand Management Programs.” *Journal of Water Resources Planning and Management* 151, no. 2. <https://doi.org/10.1061/JWRMD5.WRENG-6376>.

Stevens, B., K. Novan, and F. Loge. 2022. “Measurement & Verification Final Report for Irvine Ranch Water District.” Prepared for California Department of Water Resources.

Stevens, B., K. Jessoe, and F. Loge. 2022. “Measurement & Verification Final Report for California Water Company Bakersfield.” Prepared for California Department of Water Resources.

Stevens, B., K. Novan, and F. Loge. 2022. “Measurement & Verification Final Report for Ecology Action – San Francisco Bay.” Prepared for California Department of Water Resources.

Stevens, B., K. Novan, and F. Loge. 2022. “Measurement & Verification Final Report for San Gabriel Valley Water District.” Prepared for California Department of Water Resources.

Spang, E., and B. Stevens. 2018. “Estimating the Blue Water Footprint of In-Field Crop Losses: A Case Study of U.S. Potato Cultivation.” *Sustainability* 10, no. 8: 2854. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su10082854>.

WORKING PAPERS

Stevens, B., A. Barecca, and N. Pankratz. “Measuring Financial Distress from Extreme Heat.”

Stevens, B., K. Novan, F. Loge, and Natalie Popovich. “Evaluation Methods for Water-Energy Efficiency Programs: A Practitioner's Guide.”

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

CUB Conference, October 2025

CUB Conference, October 2024

POWER Conference, March 2024

WEAI Summer Conference, July 2022

AERE Summer Conference, June 2022

Berkeley/Sloan Summer School in Energy and Environmental Economics, August 2019

WAEA Summer Conference, July 2019

LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

UC Davis Agricultural & Resource Economics Graduate Student Association, *Vice President*, 2020 – 2021

UC Davis Agricultural & Resource Economics Graduate Student Association, *UAW 2865 Liaison*, 2018 – 2022

UAW 2865, *Head Steward*, 2021 – 2022

SKILLS

Proficient in Stata, R, Python, SQL, Tableau, Excel, and LaTeX.

Resume updated October 2026