

# Water Resources Management (WRM)

Managing water resources involves ensuring reliable quantities of water of acceptable quality, while simultaneously maintaining or restoring the ecological functioning of water bodies that supply these amenities. Beyond its direct importance as a resource, water is central to many environmental problems. To solve these problems, professionals must deeply understand connections between the atmosphere, surface and ground water, rivers, and the processes that generate, transport, store and/or transform chemicals and aquatics about which society is concerned.

Students in the WRM specialization develop a strong background in hydrologic processes, biogeochemical processes in the watershed and receiving bodies, economics of natural resources, as well policies, laws and regulations that pertain to water resources and their stewardship. For a more detailed listing of the curriculum please visit the [WRM website](#).

## Example WRM related Master's Projects

(click to view project website)

[Implementing a Community Water Trust as a Mechanism for Environmental Water Allocation in California](#)

[Gallatin Valley Water Exchange: A market-based approach to sustainable water management in Western Montana](#)

[Factors Influencing the Expansion of Environmental Water Markets](#)

[The Bathtub Ring: Implications of Low Water Levels in Lake Mead on Water Supply, Hydropower, Recreation, and the Environment](#)

Sample initial job placements for recent Bren School MESM graduates who specialized in WRM include:

### **Water Resources Engineer**

RMC Water and Environment  
San Francisco, CA

### **NEPA Scientist**

Adapt Engineering  
Seattle, WA

### **Staff Scientist, Stormwater**

AMEC Earth and Environmental  
San Diego, CA

### **Policy Analyst**

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)  
Anchorage, AK

### **Watershed Management Specialist**

John L. Hunter and Associates  
Buena Park, CA

### **Environmental Scientist**

AECOM  
Germantown, MD

### **ORISE Fellow**

US Environmental Protection Agency  
Washington, DC

### **Sr. Water Efficiency Specialist**

Irvine Ranch Water District  
Irvine, CA

### **Center Manager and Research Assistant**

Resources for the Future  
Washington, DC

Sample recent internship placements for students pursuing the WRM specialization are:

California Coastal Commission • Dudek Hydrology Division • Environmental Defense Fund • Environmental Problem Solving Enterprises • Fuscoe Engineering, Inc. • Groundswell Technologies • Landcare Research • Los Alamos National Laboratory • New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission • Orange County Watersheds • Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) • Project WET • Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District • State and Federal Contractors Water Agency • Surfrider Foundation • The Freshwater Trust Tejon Ranch Conservancy • Western Resource Advocates • WestWater Research • Woodard & Curran • Wyoming State Engineers Office

