

OSTROM WORKSHOP COLLOQUIUM SERIES

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“Extending the Design Principles for Common-Pool Resource Governance to Conservation Easements on Private Lands”



Monday, November 27, 2017

12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Ostrom Workshop, 513 N. Park

Private land conservation (PLC) mechanisms, such as conservation easements (CEs), create increasingly complex and potentially resilient regimes for securing and maintaining conservation benefits. Yet questions remain about how well eased lands can sustain social, economic, and environmental changes shaping resource use on private lands, and to what extent CE regimes may remain institutionally and ecologically robust. We conceptualize CE-protected lands as quasi-common-pool resource systems that produce shared resources and public goods in the form of ecosystem services. Linking the PLC literature with common-pool resource (CPR) theory, we extend Ostrom’s institutional design principles for CPR governance to PLC with a focus on land trust-managed CE regimes. This paper also advances the notion that Ostrom’s design principles may offer land trusts and other PLC entities a tool for planning and assessing the resilience and institutional viability of CE regimes as complex and evolving social-ecological systems.



James Farmer leads the Human Dimensions Lab and codirects the Campus Farm at Indiana University, and is an assistant professor in IU’s Department of Recreation, Park, and Tourism Studies within the School of Public Health-Bloomington. His research centers on sustainable behavior and decision making. Current projects include: Indiana grains farmers transition to organic production; understanding the decline in Indiana’s u-cut Christmas tree industry; and terminal farmland-transfer to promote and perpetuate sustainable agriculture enterprises in the Midwest ([website](#)).

Presentations are open to the public and are live streamed (see our website for URL and papers). You are welcome to bring your lunch. For questions, contact Allison Sturgeon (sturgeon@iu.edu; 812/855–3151).