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Daniel Winkler joined the Environmental System Sciences (ESS) program as a program manager in 2024. He manages a portfolio of experimental and modeling research that includes climate resilience, ecological, hydrological, atmospheric, and socioeconomic sciences, with a particular focus on addressing the needs of disadvantaged communities. He serves as the lead for the DOE's Climate Resilience Centers (CRC) and the Urban Integrated Field Laboratory (UIFL) initiative.

Daniel earned a PhD in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from the University of California (UC), Irvine and a MS in Environmental Systems from UC Merced. Before joining the ESS team, Daniel worked as a research ecologist at the U.S. Geological Survey's (USGS) Southwest Biological Science Center. His research focused on climate change impacts to native plant systems and their interactions with ecological restoration, conservation, and land management decisions being made throughout drylands systems in the western U.S. He also has experience studying native and invasive plant species responses to climate change in alpine systems in the U.S., Mexico, and Japan.

Prior to his time at USGS, Daniel worked for multiple federal agencies, including the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Daniel's interests extend beyond climatological and ecological processes and also include decision-making and the cultural and socioeconomic drivers that influence public lands and their management. Daniel was recently elected as an [Early Career Fellow to the Ecological Society of America](#) for advancing the science of ecology and showing promise for continuing contributions.