


CURRICULUM VITAE – 1/31/2022  
**BENJAMIN R. LEE**

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Carnegie Museum of Natural History  
 4400 Forbes Ave.  
 Pittsburgh, PA 15213 USA

## Education

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- 2020 **University of Michigan School for Environment and Sustainability** Ann Arbor, MI  
 Ph.D. – Natural Resources and Environment  
*Earlier phenology associated with spring warming will help offset some of the negative impacts of climate change on temperate tree seedling recruitment*  
<https://hdl.handle.net/2027.42/163249>  
 Adviser: Inés Ibáñez
- 2012 **University of Washington** Seattle, WA  
 B.Sc. Biology (Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation)  
 Minor in Philosophy

## Appointments

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- 2021- **NSF Postdoctoral Research Fellow**, Carnegie Museum of Natural History; University of Pittsburgh; Holden Forest and Gardens  
 Sponsors: J. Mason Heberling, Sara Kuebbing, David Burke
- 2021 **Postdoctoral Researcher**, Dept. of Biology, Boston University  
 Mentor: Richard Primack
- 2016-2019 **Graduate Student Instructor**, School for Environment and Sustainability, University of Michigan
- 2012 **Teaching Assistant**, Dept. of Biology, University of Washington
- 2011-2012 **Undergraduate Research Assistant**, Dept. of Biology, University of Washington  
 Mentors: Janneke Hille Ris Lambers and Ailene K. Ettinger

## Research grants & fellowships

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- 2021-2023 **NSF Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in Biology** \$138,000  
 Track: Integrative research investigating the rules of life governing interactions between genomes, environment and phenotypes (DBI-2108128, sole PI)  
*How spatial and temporal variation in environment and soil fungal diversity shapes plant phenotypes.*
- 2016 **Winifred B. Chase Fellowship**, Matthaei Botanical Gardens \$1,928  
*Shedding light on recruitment dynamics: Estimating the effects of microclimate on patterns of seedling establishment in temperate forests.*

## Scholarships and awards

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- 2019 **Samuel A. Graham Award**, University of Michigan School for Environment and Sustainability  
 2018 **Schrank Family Scholarship**, University of Michigan Biological Station  
 2012 **Casey Award**, University of Washington  
 2009 **AmeriCorps Scholarship**, Students in Service program

## Publications (peer-reviewed; published, in press, or in review only)

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- In review **Lee, B. R.** and I. Ibáñez. *In review*. Temperate tree seedlings have similar drought vulnerability despite having different hydraulic drought responses in adults.
- Liu, R.-L., W.-G. Zhang, **B. R. Lee**, G. Liu, X.-J. Song, X.-Y. Chen, J.-B. Zou, F. Huang, and Z.-H. Zhu. *In review*. Rhizosphere and root fungal community of the invasive plant *Galinsoga quadriradiata* changes along its elevational expansion route.
- 2021 **Lee, B. R.** and I. Ibáñez. 2021. Spring phenological escape is critical for the survival of temperate tree seedlings. *Functional Ecology*. DOI: 10.1111/1365-2435.13821.
- Lee, B. R.** and I. Ibáñez. 2021. Improved phenological escape can help temperate tree seedlings maintain demographic performance under climate change conditions. *Global Change Biology*. DOI: 10.1111/gcb.15678.
- Liu, R.-L., Y.-B. Yang, **B. R. Lee**, G. Liu, W.-G. Zhang, X.-Y. Chen, X.-J. Song, J.-Q. Kang, and Z.-H. Zhu. 2021. The dispersal-related traits of an invasive plant *Galinsoga quadriradiata* correlate with elevation during range expansion into mountain ranges. *AoB PLANTS*. DOI: 10.1093/aobpla/plab008.
- 2019 Ibáñez, I., K. Acharya, E. Juno, C. Karounos, **B. R. Lee**, C. McCollum, S. Schaffer-Morrison., and J. Tourville. Forest resilience under global environmental change: Do we have the information we need? A systematic review. 2019. *PLoS One*. DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0222207.
- 2017 Ibáñez, I., D. S. W. Katz, and **B. R. Lee**. 2017. The contrasting effects of short-term climate change on the early recruitment of tree species. *Oecologia* 184: 701-713. DOI 10.1007/s00442-017-3889-1.
- Ettinger, A., **B. R. Lee**, and S. Montgomery. 2017. Seed limitation and lack of downed wood, not invasive species, threaten conifer regeneration in an urban forest. *Urban Ecosystems*. DOI: 10.1007/s11252-016-0640-3.

## Invited research presentations (scientific and public audiences)

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- 2021 Carnegie Museum of Natural History Moriarty Seminar Series. Pittsburgh, PA.  
 2020 Pop-Up Global Symposia about Life & Ecology for You (PUGSLEY II). University of Minnesota. Online  
 2017 Research Education and Activities for Classroom Teachers (REACT) Conference. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan.  
 2016 School for Environment and Sustainability, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan

## Conference presentations (presenting author only)

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- Lee, B.R.** and Inés Ibáñez, 2021. "Climate change tradeoffs in tree seedling carbon assimilation and demographic performance." Contributed Oral Presentation. Ecological Society of America Annual Conference.
- Lee, B.R.** and Inés Ibáñez, 2020. "Increased light availability in warmer springs compensates for the negative impacts of warmer summers on temperate tree seedling carbon budgets." Contributed Oral Presentation. Ecological Society of America Annual Conference.
- Lee, B.R.** and Inés Ibáñez, 2019. "Foliar phenology shifts affect tree seedling recruitment performance in Great Lakes forests." Contributed Oral Presentation. Ecological Society of America Annual Conference.
- Lee, B.R.** and Inés Ibáñez, 2019. "Drought-related tree seedling mortality in the Great Lakes region." Poster. Early Career Scientists Symposium, University of Michigan.
- Lee, B.R.** and Inés Ibáñez, 2018. "Drought-related tree seedling mortality in the Great Lakes region." Poster. Ecological Society of America Annual Conference.
- Lee, B.R.** and Inés Ibáñez, 2017. "The multifaceted effects of climate change on tree seedling recruitment: Assessing the combined effects of phenological shifts, light, and drought on carbon starvation processes." Poster. Ecological Society of America Annual Conference.
- Lee, B.R.**, S. Montgomery, A. Ettinger, and J. HilleRisLambers. 2012. "A lost generation of trees: Investigating the cause of low tree recruitment in urban coniferous forests." Poster. Ecological Society of America Annual Conference.

## Teaching and mentoring:

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- 2021- **Research Mentor**, University of Pittsburgh
- 2021-2022 **AP Research Mentor**, Taylor Allderdice High School, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2016-2019 **Research Mentor**, Doris Duke Conservation Scholars, University of Michigan
- 2016-2019 **Graduate Student Instructor**, *Forest Ecology* (graduate), University of Michigan
- 2014-2016 **Research Mentor**, Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program, University of Michigan
- 2012 **Teaching Assistant**, *Intro to Biology* (undergraduate), University of Washington

## Outreach/service

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- 2017-2018 **Ecology and climate change track leader**, R.E.A.C.T. Workshop, Ann Arbor, MI
- 2016-2018 **Student representative**, University of Michigan Tree Advisory Council, Ann Arbor, MI
- 2015-2017 **Collaborator**, Climate Change and Michigan Cherries, Ann Arbor, MI  
Developed high school curriculum designed to teach students the basics of phenology and climate change, particularly as they relate to important crops in Michigan.
- 2015-2017 **Volunteer and trainer**, Climate Change and Michigan Forests, Ann Arbor, MI  
Led 7<sup>th</sup>-grade Ann Arbor Public Schools students on field trips to local forests as part of a unit teaching them about the impacts of climate change on the environment. Trained teachers and volunteers in the use and maintenance of the increment borers involved in the lesson plan.

## Scientific service

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**Reviewer for:** *American Journal of Botany, Ecological Applications, Ecology, Ecoscience, Forest Ecology and Management, Functional Ecology, Journal of Ecology, Journal of the Torrey Botanical Society, Journal of Vegetation Science, PeerJ*