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Ryan Lee is a Graduate Research Associate with the Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy, and a Ph.D student in the University of Arizona's Arid Lands Resource Sciences program.

A native of Tucson, AZ USA, his research interests center on using geographic information systems to analyze how the water management affects communities and ecosystems. With the specific purpose of improving human and environmental resilience, he is also interested in water harvesting and other alternative, place-relevant techniques able to mitigate human-caused environmental degradation, water management in the global South, and participatory, discursive, in situ research and project implementation.

He holds a dual-MA degree in International Affairs-Sustainable Development and Natural Resources from American University in Washington DC and the U.N.-mandated University for Peace in Costa Rica, and B.S. in Environmental Science and B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies from the University of Arizona. In Costa Rica he examined the intersection of agrochemical pollution, agricultural management and climate change.