

CAL POLY HUMBOLDT
University Senate
**Resolution to Recommend Approval of the Environmental Science and Management,
Geospatial Science Concentration, B.S. - 26-3252 - Suspend Program**

04-26/27-ICC – October 13, 2026 – Curriculum Reading

RESOLVED: That the University Senate of Cal Poly Humboldt recommends to the Provost that the Environmental Science and Management, Geospatial Science Concentration, B.S., detailed in proposal [26-3252](#), be suspended.

RATIONALE: The proposed suspension of the Environmental Science and Management (ESM), Geospatial Science Concentration responds to substantial curricular overlap with the newer Geospatial Science & Technology (GST) major with a concentration in Environmental Science and Management. The GST ESM pathway was developed as part of the university's polytechnic program expansion and was modeled on the existing ESM Geospatial Science concentration.

Maintaining both pathways therefore creates redundancy in closely related geospatial curricula. Recent enrollment patterns also indicate a shift toward the newer GST ESM pathway. Enrollment in the GST ESM concentration increased from 7 students in Fall 2023 to 25 students in Fall 2025. During the same period, enrollment in the ESM Geospatial Science concentration increased from 12 to 14 students, with an average enrollment of 12.8 students over the past six years. These trends indicate substantially greater recent growth in the GST ESM pathway and support consolidating this area of study within the dedicated Geospatial Science & Technology degree.

The suspension maintains access to geospatial education at Cal Poly Humboldt while reducing duplication between two closely related academic pathways. The suspension was approved by the ESM faculty and GSP Steering Committee. The GSP Steering Committee is made up of faculty and administrators from the three departments that house the GST program: ESM, GESA and FFRM.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW: The Environmental Science and Management, B.S. examines interactions among the biological and physical world, human institutions, and human behavior. The degree provides multidisciplinary preparation for careers and advanced study related to environmental and natural resource management.

The Geospatial Science concentration provides specialized study within this broader ESM degree. Graduates of Environmental Science and Management are prepared for employment with state, federal, and local governments; nonprofit conservation organizations; and private-sector consulting firms in areas including environmental impact analysis, environmental planning, wetlands delineation, environmental restoration, geospatial applications in natural resources, energy planning, and natural resource management. The degree also provides

preparation for graduate and professional study in related environmental and natural resource fields.

CURRICULAR CONTEXT: The Geospatial Science & Technology major with an ESM concentration now provides a dedicated academic pathway for students seeking to combine geospatial science with environmental science and management. Because this newer pathway was modeled on the ESM Geospatial Science concentration, the two programs contain substantially overlapping coursework and serve closely related academic interests.

Suspending the ESM concentration consolidates this specialized area within the Geospatial Science & Technology program while retaining the broader Environmental Science and Management B.S. and its other curricular pathways.

ENROLLMENT CONTEXT:

Enrollment trends provided with proposal 26-3252 demonstrate different patterns of growth between the two pathways:

Program Pathway	Fall 2023	Fall 2025	Additional Context
GST, ESM Concentration	7	25	Significant growth since establishment
ESM, Geospatial Science Concentration	12	14	Six-year average of 12.8 students

The suspension therefore responds to both curricular redundancy and the developing pattern of student enrollment, while preserving access to an ESM-focused geospatial pathway through the GST degree.

STUDENT AND CURRICULAR IMPACT:

This proposal suspends the concentration, rather than the Environmental Science and Management B.S. itself. Students will continue to have access to geospatial coursework and to an ESM-focused geospatial pathway through the Geospatial Science & Technology major with a concentration in ESM.

The materials provided for proposal 26-3252 do not identify related course suspensions or indicate that courses associated with the concentration will be discontinued as part of this action.

Note on Document Preparation: *Portions of this resolution were developed with the support of artificial intelligence tools to enhance consistency, formatting, and clarity. All content originates from the official proposal documents and aligns with Chancellor's Office documentation standards. Each resolution is reviewed and finalized collaboratively by the Integrated Curriculum Committee Chair, committee members, and the proposal authors, with opportunities for revision prior to submission for Senate consideration.*