



Forestland Steward

WINTER 2012

Gotta plan???

This issue is devoted to forest management plans... not the most riveting subject to some, perhaps, but critically important to any serious forest steward.

Then again, you might be surprised to find out just how interesting forest management plans can be, especially after you learn about the many benefits of having a plan and the funding opportunities available to those who have one.

This is certainly a fine time to consider working on your management plan. Not only is it winter, the perfect time of year for dreaming and planning and organizing your life and forest, but there is a lot of money available right now to help you work with a forester to develop your plan: 90% cost share—you pay just 10%!

There is also a brand new template for your forest management plan, one designed to help you learn about your forest and identify your objectives for the future. Then, if you decide to go the next step and implement those objectives, the completed plan can help you obtain cost-share funding.

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Forestland Steward

Forestland Steward is a joint project of the CA Dept of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), Placer County Resource Conservation District, UC Cooperative Extension, and USDA Forest Service to provide information on the stewardship of private forestlands in California.

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The ideas contained in this newsletter are meant as general information and opinion, not management prescription. Consult a Registered Professional Forester or a qualified technical advisor (see page 10) for management advice specific to your needs.



Why do a forest management plan?

Healthy forests provide long-term benefits for everyone in California: fewer catastrophic fires, improved water quality and quantity, more and better wildlife habitat, healthier rural communities, increased carbon sequestered from the atmosphere... the list goes on and on. Because of these great benefits to society, several agencies would like to assist you in creating a forest management plan that will help you improve, enhance, and/or restore your forest.

Any serious endeavor starts with a plan. It is your a roadmap or blueprint, the first step to creating the forest you want. Consider the many advantages of having a forest management plan:

Defines your goals and objectives

Your goals and objectives are the basis of everything you do on your forest. (Note: goals are general statements of your vision; objectives are the measurable actions you take to reach those goals). The very act of articulating your goals and objectives will help clarify what you are trying to achieve. The process of writing them down will further define what you need to do, what it takes to implement your plans, and how to prioritize multiple objectives.

Functions as a business plan

Your forest management plan is also your business plan. Owning forested property is a type of business; there are financial considerations, taxes, expenses and income, and the necessity of keeping accurate records. The forest management plan lays out information that will help you make appropriate business decisions for your land.

Communicates effectively with professionals

A good forest management plan is the key to communicating with a host of professionals. Besides your Registered Professional Forester (RPF), you may need to share information about your forest with bankers, accountants, granting agencies, or any of a number of experts and specialists. Your management plan lays out the background of your forest, your objectives, and the steps you have taken or are taking to achieve those objectives. Your plan will show you are serious about forest management.



Your forest management plan is for you, the landowner. The forester should listen carefully to your ideas for the forest and help you achieve your goals.

Necessary for funding

The new forest management plan template (see page 3) is designed to be used not only for your own needs, but also for a number of cost-share programs, including CFIP and EQIP (see page 6). When your plan is approved, you will already have the information you need to apply for those programs. With minimum effort you can pull together an application and get funding to help implement your objectives.

Establishes a relationship with an RPF

A trusting relationship with an RPF is necessary for many of the activities done on forestland (see page 5). In addition, a long-term relationship with a forester will give you an expert to go to as questions or problems arise. If you don't already work with an RPF, the act of putting together your forest management plan will give you the opportunity to develop such a relationship.

Addresses forest succession

Have you thought about what will happen to your forestland when you are no longer able to manage it? There are a lot of financial, emotional, and management considerations when forestland passes to the next generation. Your forest management plan can help address some of those issues.

(continued on bottom of next page)

The One-Plan Plan: A tool for landowners

Not only is there State and Federal funding available (see page 6) to help you create a forest management plan, but there is a new plan template as well. This plan is not only an educational document for you, it also meets the management plan requirements of a number of agencies that provide cost-share for forest activities. This plan can help you get funding for your projects!

The new template, dubbed the One-Plan Plan (officially the California Cooperative Forest Management Plan), will describe your forest and document your objectives and decisions. These are the first steps toward creating the forest of your dreams.

Using the One-Plan Plan, you will develop a forest management plan that can easily be adapted to the requirements of various cost-share programs. The One-Plan Plan is accepted by at least six forest-related agencies: California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), USDA Forest Service, National Tree Farm Association, Resource Conservation Districts (RCDs), and the Sierra Nevada Conservancy.

Having the Plan will also give you an advantage in the competition for funding from some of them.

What's in the Plan?

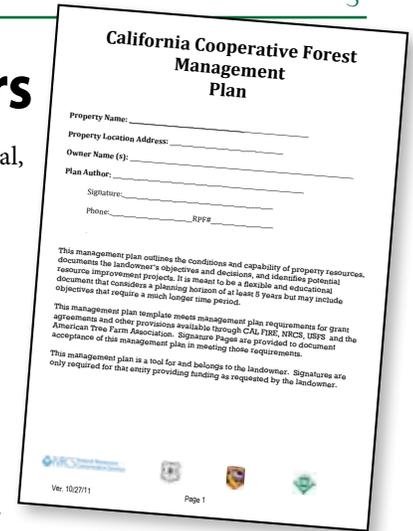
Stephen Smith, State Forester with NRCS, breaks it down, "Most landowners have three overarching goals: business, protecting themselves and the land, and stewardship."

The business side of owning forestland

requires understanding the land's potential, the markets, and other business aspects. Protection includes succession issues, taxes, liability, fire, and other risk factors. Stewardship is the big picture. It requires a shift from simply addressing property boundaries to looking at your land in a landscape context and making the connections to use science in land management decisions.

The One-Plan Plan is very comprehensive and covers all three areas. It first establishes baseline information of your property with a physical description and property history. It looks at current property

(continued on next page)



The One-Plan Plan in a nutshell

1. Download the template at the CAL FIRE CFIP site (http://www.fire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/resource_mgt_forestryassistance_cfip.php) or Placer County RCD (<http://www.placercountyrcd.org/forest/FuelsMgtPgm.php>). This web page has all the information you need, along with contact numbers to get more information.
2. Fill in the easy parts, such as history and location.
3. Contact your local CAL FIRE Forestry Assistance Specialist (FAS) (http://www.fire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/downloads/ForestAdvisorList.pdf) or NRCS office to apply for available funding.
4. Find a forester.
5. Work with your forester to create the plan.
6. Submit the plan for approval.
7. Submit required invoices to get reimbursed.

Why do a forest management plan? *(continued from previous page)*

Provides a legacy for the future

Your forest management plan is a document for posterity. Many forests are multigenerational, which makes it important to pass on your knowledge, intentions, and thoughts. The management plan includes the story of your land, what you have done or are in the process of doing, your goals and the land's potential, and as much information as you want to share with future owners. This allows those future owners to understand what you did and why, so they can continue your work.

It's a living document

You are never finished with your management plan; this is not a document that sits on the shelf. Your plan is a living document, designed to be consulted, changed, added to, and thoroughly used until you are ready to make a new one.

When you create a management plan, it's a big win for everyone. You learn about your forest and good stewardship, identify your goals and the steps necessary to reach them, and develop a long-term relationship with an RFP. You are then able to make your forest what you want it to be.

You are never finished with your management plan. It is a living document, designed to be consulted, changed, added to, and thoroughly used.



Don't be overwhelmed. Your RPF, along with your FAS and others, will help you develop the Plan.

Call the Helpline

New landowners will find a wealth of information on all aspects of forest management through the Forest Stewardship Helpline.

1-800-738-TREE
nccsaf@mcn.org

conditions, covering just about every aspect you can think of. Then it gets into the landowner's management objectives. These could include silvics (growing trees), pests/fire, wildlife, livestock, aesthetics, income,

family legacy, or other areas. Management plan implementation is where you discuss practices, plans, alternatives, do cost/benefit analyses, and run models. Then the Plan goes into specifics with information for each management unit and an activities schedule. Finally, you look at planned activities and the permits, CEQA/NEPA (California Environmental Quality Act/National Environmental Protection Act) documents, and professional assistance needed. The Plan requires a number of maps and other statements and documents in the appendices.

Don't be overwhelmed

If all this information seems overwhelming, don't worry. A plan like this is not something you are expected to do yourself. It was designed to be developed by a Registered Professional Forester,

who has the knowledge and training to gather all this information and come up with alternative approaches. The landowner's job is to share his or her goals/objectives and ideas with the RPF, and make the final decisions about alternatives and implementation.

Who can use the Plan?

Forest landowners are a diverse group with various goals, interests, and levels of knowledge. This Plan was designed to work for three general groups of landowners:

New landowners tend to be respectful of the land but don't have the knowledge to assess management issues. Forest stewardship is a complex area that requires a basic framework of knowledge over a broad set of topics. The Plan is designed to provide these landowners with an educational document that will help them assess the immediate issues on their land, and also encourages a relationship with a forester who can answer questions and provide support for implementing management activities.

Harvest veterans have done a harvest in the past, often for successional reasons. They have a lot of information available about their land in their Timber Harvest Plan (THP), but may be looking to make timber stand and wildlife improvements. The new Plan will take the existing data and turn it into a form the landowner can understand and build upon.

Ongoing forest stewards already have a management plan, often an NTMP (Non-industrial Timber Management Plan). This Plan will help them address landscape concerns, such as fuels and fire, fish and wildlife habitat improvements, upgrading roads, and even undertaking carbon inventories.

The big picture

Your property is not an island, it exists in a larger regional context. No matter what your goals for your forest, there are some larger issues that go beyond property boundaries, such as fire in the Sierra Nevada, water concerns along the Northwest Coast, invasive species in southern California, and a host of others. This forest management plan will also help you address these regional issues.

The One-Plan Plan is a great opportunity to learn about your forest using a template that has already been vetted by numerous agencies. And you can get funding to create it. Don't delay.

Pilot outreach program for Mendocino, Shasta, and Placer Counties

A new 3-year pilot program will reach out to forest landowners in three counties: Mendocino, Shasta, and Placer. These counties were chosen for a number of reasons, including the diversity of forest issues in these areas.

The goal of the program is to encourage landowners to learn how to actively manage, or steward, their land. The first step is to help them to create a management plan, since a plan sets the foundation for sound management. Much of the outreach and education will be done by UC Cooperative Extension using a variety of methods: traditional face-to-face, webinars, online courses, and other tools.

This project is funded by a mix of State and Federal funds.

Find the right fit when shopping for an RPF

You will need to hire a Registered Professional Forester (RPF) to complete your forest management plan. And, since there is funding for management plans, you can get to know the RPF without a heavy investment of your own money.

Use this opportunity to find someone who you can work with over the long run, as RPFs are uniquely qualified to help you reach your management goals.

Take some time in your search. You want someone who will listen to you, communicates well and is willing to help you learn and, most importantly, one who understands your values and what you are trying to achieve on your land. Your RPF should also be familiar with the area and special issues there, and be easily accessible.

Like any important professional in your life—doctor, lawyer, plumber—you'll want to choose your RPF with great care. This will hopefully be a long-term relationship so you need to find someone whose style, personality, and values are

compatible with yours.

Ask your neighbors and other forest landowners for recommendations. CAL FIRE keeps a list of RPFs and there will soon be a list of those who have attended trainings on the One-Plan Plan. Contact your local FAS, NRCS, or RCD office for these lists. Check qualifications and follow up on references.

When you have narrowed the candidates down to a short list, conduct interviews. This should include a walk around the property, where you can discuss specific areas and concerns. Ask questions to see if the RPF sees the land as you do.

The person you choose should be willing to spend time answering your questions and explaining their forest management philosophy. The RPF should listen as well as offer suggestions. You will depend on your RPF for advice and expertise, but you are the final decisionmaker. This is a partnership that should be rewarding over many years.

There will be workshops for RPFs throughout the state in March to explain the requirements of the One-Plan Plan (see calendar p. 11). Ask your forester if she or he has attended one of these trainings.

What is a Registered Professional Forester ?

Registered Professional Foresters are licensed by the State of California to perform a broad range of services. They are knowledgeable about the use of forestry principles and techniques to manage forested landscapes. In order to become an RPF a person must meet the following minimum qualifications:

- Be of good moral character and possess a good reputation for honesty and integrity. (No firm, company, partnership, or corporation can receive a professional forester license.)
- Have seven years of experience in forestry work (may substitute a BS in Forestry for four years of work experience).
- Pass a comprehensive exam given by the Professional Foresters Examining Committee

An RPF generally has an educational background that includes an understanding of forest growth, development, regeneration, pest control; soils, geology, hydrology; wildlife and fisheries biology; archaeology, fire management, and non-timber forest resources. They often have expertise in areas such as road design, timber harvest, marketing, and others.

Registered Professional Foresters can

- Prepare forest and land management plans.
- Monitor and assess forest health and develop strategies to protect the forest from insects, disease, and wildfire.
- Prepare and maintain inventories of forest resources.
- Measure standing timber volume and appraise its market value.
- Preparing Timber Harvesting Plans (THPs).
- Market forest products.
- Prepare plans to rehabilitate forests damaged by wildfire or other natural forces.
- Manage wildlife habitat.
- Analyze wildfire hazard.
- Participate on teams with other natural resource professionals in developing and preparing environmental documents.
- Provide expert testimony during litigation.
- Manage community watersheds for water and timber production.
- Provide information to forest landowners to increase their knowledge of forest ecology and management.
- Act as an agent for the landowner and represent them in legal matters.

Join a landowner association

One way to meet other landowners and talk about forestry issues is to join a landowner association.

The two major forest landowner associations in California are:

Forest Landowners of California

<http://www.forestlandowners.org/>

California Tree Farms

<http://www.caltreefarm.com/>

Forestry Institute for Teachers



Registration is now open for the 2012 Forestry Institute for Teachers (FIT). This week-long program is designed to give K–12 teachers the knowledge, skills, and tools to teach their students about forest ecology and management practices.

The program is FREE. Applications are available at <http://www.forestryinstitute.org/> (\$20 non-refundable application fee). The registration deadline is March 11, 2012.

2012 Sessions:

June 10–16: Plumas
UC Forestry Camp,
Quincy

June 23–29: Tuolumne
Sierra Outdoor School,
Sonora

July 8–14: Shasta
Camp McCumber,
Shingletown

July 15–21: Humboldt
HSU, Arcata

For more information, go to 1-888-FIT PROJ (348-7765) or info@forestryinstitute.org.

Where's the money?

This is a special year, with abundant funding available for forest projects. Forest management plans are at the top of the list (see page 3), along with funding for a number of covered practices. Take advantage of this funding cycle; this type of assistance may not come around again for a while.

Proposition 40 Fuels Management Program

Cost-share funding is available to private non-industrial forestland landowners in 15 Sierra Nevada counties for developing forest management plans and implementing vegetation management practices to reduce fuel loads and the threat of wildfire.

Forest management plans are the first step toward identifying your forest and watershed resource concerns, as well as leading to the design of conservation practices to improve forest health, reduce devastating catastrophic events, and enhance watershed function.

Practices may include thinning, pruning, stand release, brush control, invasive weeds, masticating, chipping, burning, and fuel removal.

Funding for landowner management plans will be paid 90% by the Prop 40 Program and 10% by the landowners. Practices are paid on a 75%/25% basis. Payments for forest management plans and project costs are paid on a reimbursable basis—the landowner first incurs the cost, pays their subcontractors, and then requests reimbursement.

All Prop 40 plans and practices must be consistent with the CAL FIRE/CFIP User Guide and/or NRCS Field Office Technical Guide and compliant with California Forest Practice Rules (see CFIP guidelines at http://www.fire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/resource_mgt_forestryassistance_cfip.php).

For more information, go to <http://www.placercountyrcd.org/forest/FuelsMgtPgm.php>.

California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP)

This program is designed to encourage private and public investment in, and improved management of, California forest lands and resources. The purpose is to ensure adequate high quality timber supplies, related employment and other economic benefits, and the protection, maintenance, and enhancement of a productive and stable forest resource system for the benefit of present and future generations.

The program scope includes the improvement of all forest resources, including fish and wildlife habitat, soil, and water quality. The program provides technical assistance to private forest

landowners, forest operators, wood processors, and public agencies. Cost share assistance is provided to private forest landowners, RCDs, and nonprofit watershed groups. Cost-shared activities include management planning (currently at a 90:10 cost share rate), site preparation, tree purchase and planting, timber and forest stand improvement, fish and wildlife habitat improvement, and land conservation practices for ownerships containing up to 5,000 acres of forest land.

The CFIP User's Guide can be found at http://www.fire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/downloads/2011-CFIP_UsersGuide.pdf.

For more information, go to http://www.fire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/resource_mgt_forestryassistance_cfip.php.

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

EQIP provides financial and technical assistance to forest, range, and agricultural land owners and managers through contracts up to a maximum term of 10 years. These contracts provide financial assistance to help plan and implement conservation practices that address natural resource concerns and opportunities to improve soil, water, plant, animal, air, energy, and related resources on non-industrial private forestland. In addition, EQIP helps producers meet Federal, State, Tribal and local environmental regulations.

EQIP provides financial assistance payments to eligible producers based on a portion of the average cost associated with practice implementation. Additional assistance is available to help landowners develop conservation plans for various purposes.

Information about how to apply for assistance through EQIP is available online.

Applications for EQIP are accepted on a continuous basis, however, NRCS establishes application submission deadlines for evaluation and ranking of eligible applications. To obtain an EQIP application, visit or contact your local NRCS field office.

For more information, go to <http://www.ca.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/eqip/2011/index.html>.

Placer RCD at the forefront

Placer County Resource Conservation District (RCD) is a busy place. They are involved in farm issues, forestry issues, watershed issues, and urban issues.

RCDs are uniquely positioned to respond to local concerns. Although created through Federal legislation, RCDs are set up as local units of government and function as independent Special Districts within the State. This gives them the ability to act as a bridge between the public and numerous Federal, State, and local government agencies.

Resource Conservation Districts have a long and interesting history. They were created as Soil Conservation Districts in the 1930s when the Dust Bowl crisis resulted in the huge loss of soil and cropland. In order to be more responsive to local needs, Conservation Districts were set up to be controlled by local boards rather than by a Federal agency.

Soil Conservation Districts originally managed only soil and water resources, but this was expanded in the 1970s to include “related resources,” which included fish and wildlife habitat. At that time the name was changed to Resource Conservation Districts.

In California, there are currently 103 RCDs that manage a range of resource conservation projects, including soil, water, wildlife habitat, exotic plant control, conservation planning, education, and more.



Placer Co RCD recently completed the Dutch Flat/ Alta Bark Beetle Prevention Project, to the benefit of more than 100 landowners and 80 acres.

Placer County RCD is an independent self-governing body that was formed in 1946. The 7-member Board of Directors (see page 9) helps identify local issues and provide support for voluntary conservation efforts of local landowners, land managers, and communities..

Because the RCD is self-governing and nonregulatory, it can be nimble in adapting to current and emerging issues. It provides a local link to these agencies to move grant funding, contracts, and programs along quickly.

Placer RCD has four major program areas:

- Forest and Fuels
- Rural Conservation
- Urban and Community Conservation
- Watershed

Mission:

The Placer County RCD is dedicated to supporting wise natural resource management and conservation, providing education and technical assistance or direction to private landowners/ operators, local and regional entities. Independently and in collaboration with other local, State, and Federal agencies and organizations, the RCD will implement programs, hold land, easements and endowments, and plans to conserve and enhance the natural resources of the District while inspiring and mobilizing public conservation awareness and involvement.



Placer County RCD was honored by NRCS this year as one of four Outstanding Districts of the Year for the Placer County Hedgerow Program, an effort to raise awareness about the value of native pollinators within the central Sierra foothills. The Placer County Hedgerow Program serves to connect technology, education, and local communities/landowners to help build native pollinator habitat and contribute to the central Sierra foothill’s sustainable agriculture future.



Rick Gruen, District Manager of Placer County RCD.

The crown jewel of the Forest and Fuels Program is the countywide chipper program, which is supported by Federal and State grants and local landowner cost-sharing. It is implemented through a partnership that includes Placer County RCD, Placer County, Placer County Sheriff’s Department, Placer County Air Pollution Control District, and CAL FIRE. This program assists homeowners in creating defensible space and reducing fire hazard. The



Right: the chipping program in action; below: Placer RCD chipper fleet; bottom: completed work—chipped and masticated.



chipped material is blown back on the property. Although there is some cost to homeowners, this cost can be waived for eligible homeowners who are disabled or have financial hardship.

In addition to the chipper program, the RCD also secures grants to undertake fuel break projects, and partners with CAL FIRE and the State Fire Marshall’s Office fireline safety training for hired contractors. The Rural Conservation Program provides technical assistance to rural landowners and land managers to improve soil and water quality and water system efficiency. Services include site assessment, conservation planning, best practice designs, and irrigation audits.

The Rural Conservation Program recently won an award for its Hedgerow Program, which was developed in response to dwindling populations of honeybees. The RCD partnered with a local high school, NRCS, Sierra Nevada Conservancy, and the Xerces Society (a national organization that works to conserve invertebrates and their habitats) to create a demonstration hedgerow that can be replicated on local farms to support native pollinators. Hedgerows can also be used to enhance wildlife habitat and to provide soft-edged “fences.” Local nurseries provide a source of select native plants for the hedgerows.

The Urban and Community Conservation Program provides technical assistance to landowners and watershed organizations in the urban built environment. It focuses its efforts on smaller landscapes utilizing low impact technologies and storm water management.

The Watershed Program takes a landscape-scale approach to conservation and often works on projects involving multiple landowners, organizations, agencies, and funders. Placer County RCD is currently working with Ducks Unlimited and Sutter County RCD on an extensive riparian restoration effort within the American and Sutter Basin watersheds.

And if this range of activities isn’t enough, Placer RCD is poised to get involved in mountain meadow restoration. In partnership with American Rivers, and through a grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, the Placer County RCD will soon gain expertise about meadow restoration on the east side of the Sierras.

With a small staff, and big plans, Placer County RCD is doing an amazing job of conservation for Placer County. For more information, go to their website at <http://www.placercountyrcd.org/>.

What makes a successful organization? Meet the staff and board of Placer RCD

Placer County RCD has an enviable staff and board. Each individual brings a rich diversity of expertise and experience in multiple areas of resource conservation. Together, they are doing extraordinary work.

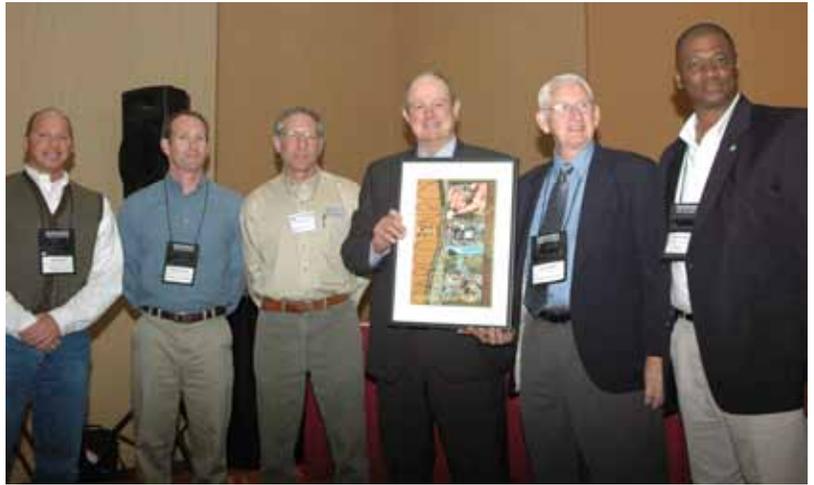
Rick Gruen, the District Manager, has only been at Placer County RCD for two years, but in that time has been able to focus and expand operations significantly.

Rick's career has been a dynamic one. Starting with degrees in Range Management and Natural Resource Economics, he worked a stint with the Soil Conservation Service in Texas, then became an Extension agent in Colorado for five years. He left the public sector to spend a few years managing farm trusts for First Interstate Bank, acquiring a business background that led to eight years selling high-end custom millwork products for new homes being constructed on rural acreage. This provided the opportunity to talk about land management and conservation with his clients, which took him full circle back to the resource world. In 2002, Rick took a job managing a small RCD in Oregon, which grew to be among the largest in the state under his leadership. He came to Placer County in 2010.

Other RCD staff include Matt Dunnahoe, Program Manager, a Certified Conservation Planner and project manager. Matt brings a hands-on approach to project management and provides a wide range of technical, analytic, and geospatial capabilities to his conservation plans and projects. He is a graduate of Humboldt State University with a BS in Natural Resource Planning and a minor in Forestry.

Mark White is a Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control and a landscape irrigation auditor. He has 30 years of experience in natural resource planning, storm water management and irrigation system design and evaluation for NRCS and Placer County RCD. Mark graduated from California State University, Sacramento, with BA in Geography with an emphasis in planning.

Katie Maloney, Operations Manager, has extensive accounting, bookkeeping, and fiscal management experience. Katie provides the administration and oversight for an incredibly wide range of local, State, and Federal grants and



Receiving the NRCS District of the Year award. (left to right) Rick Gruen, Placer County RCD District Manager; Matt Dunnahoe, Placer County RCD Conservation Planner; Mike Brenner, NRCS District Conservationist; Ed Burton, NRCS State Conservationist; Tom Wehri, Placer County RCD Boardmember/CARCD President; Curtis Tarver, NRCS Asst. State Conservationist, Area 3.

contracts, and is very familiar with watershed-based projects.

Other staff include Don Lane, Chipper Program Coordinator and Megan Durand, Chipper Program Administrative Assistant.

The Placer RCD Board of Directors is equally accomplished.

- Steve Garcia, Board Chair, is an RPF and CAL FIRE Unit Forester
- Christine Johnson, Vice-Chair, is a business owner and Professional Land Surveyor
- Claudia Smith, Board Secretary/Treasurer, is a farmer, Farmers' Market Site Manager, and Farm Bureau boardmember
- Tom Wehri is the current CARCD (California Association of Resource Conservation Districts) President and a former NRCS State Conservationist
- Bob Wiswell is a business owner, farmer, RC&D (Resource Conservation and Development Council) boardmember, and Farm Bureau boardmember
- David Funk is an RPF and member of the California Forest Stewardship Council
- Robin Mahoney is a Professional Civil Engineer, Qualified SWPPP Developer, and Associate Civil Engineer for Placer County



Rick Gruen has four children, the youngest of whom lives at home. He coaches lacrosse in his spare time.

Know Your RCD

Introduce yourself to your local RCD and learn about the exciting projects near you. RCDs provide leadership and assistance; they will welcome your involvement.

Webinars on the Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI)

The California Fire Science Consortium offers webinars on fire issues in the WUI. Sign up for these free webinars at <http://www.cafiresci.org/wui-webinar-registration/>.

JANUARY 26, 2012: Planning to Live with Fire: Designing and Retrofitting Communities. Carol Rice, Wildland Resource Management Inc.

FEBRUARY: WUI Fire Response. Dan Turner, Urban Forest Ecosystems Institute

MARCH: Ready, Set, Go! Bob Roper, International Association of Fire Chiefs

APRIL: Social Motivation. Sarah McCaffrey, USFS Research Station

MAY: Fuels/Landscaping. Ed Smith, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension

JUNE: Making Buildings Ignition-Resistant. Sam Manzello, Nat'l Inst of Standards & Technology

JULY: FireWise Communities/USA. Michele Steinberg, NFPA and Phyllis Banducci, CAL FIRE

AUGUST: Social Considerations. Pam Jakes, USFS Research Station

SEPTEMBER 2012: Evacuation Planning. Tom Cova, University of Utah

These webinars are over. Watch them at <http://www.cafiresci.org/webinar-recordings/>.

A holistic framework to sustainably manage the wildland-urban interface—Dr. Chris Dicus, California Polytechnic State University

Material and design considerations for building in wildfire prone areas—Dr. Steve Quarles, Insurance Institute

Assessing hazard and risk in the interface: Cautions and confessions from a statewide mapping effort—Dave Sapsis, CAL FIRE Fire and Resource Assessment Program

Evaluating the effectiveness of landscape fuel treatments at reducing modeled landscape-level fire behavior in the Sierra Nevada—Dr. Brandon M. Collins, US Forest Service, PSW Research Station

What are the characteristics of resilient forests? The mixed conifer forests of the Sierra San Pedro Martir in northern Baja California—Dr. Scott Stephens, UC Berkeley

GTR 220: Integrating wildlife habitat and forest resilience with fuels reduction; Ecosystem management concepts for mixed-conifer forests—Dr. Malcolm North, UC Davis/US Forest Service PSW Research Station

California Fire Interval Return Departure (FRID) map metadata: Introduction and demonstration, including challenges to determining reasonable baseline conditions—Dr. Hugh Safford, US Forest Service

Technical Assistance

Many agencies are available to provide technical assistance, referrals, information, education, land management plan assistance, and advice.

California Stewardship Helpline
1-800-738-TREE; ncsaf@mcn.org

California Dept of Forestry & Fire Protection
Forest Landowner Assistance Programs
Jeffrey Calvert; jeff.calvert@fire.ca.gov

Forestry Assistance Specialists
Guy Anderson (Mariposa/Madera/Merced) 209-966-3622 x218
Jan Bray (Calaveras) 209-754-3831
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Jill Butler (Santa Rosa) 707-576-2935
Ed Crans (Placer/Yuba/Nevada) 530-889-0111 x128
Damon Denman (Siskiyou) 530-842-3516
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Mary Huggins (S. Lake Tahoe) 530-541-1989
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Jonathan Pangburn (San Benito/Monterey) 831-333-2600
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USDA Forest Service

Calendar

January 11, 2012

Board of Forestry Meeting

Location: Resources Building, Sacramento
Contact: 916-653-8007
Website: <http://www.bof.fire.ca.gov>

January 12, 2012

Wildland Urban Interface Webinar 4

Topic: Planning to Live with Fire: Designing and Retrofitting Communities with Fire in Mind
Location: online
Website: <http://ucanr.org/sites/forestry/Events/?calitem=145877&g=28858>

January 28

NorCal Society of American Foresters Winter Meeting

Topic: Getting to Consensus: How Organizations Collaborate to Solve Forestry Problems
Location: Sacramento
Contact: aehissenbittel@volcano.net or 209.296.2250
Website: <http://norcalsaf2012wintermeeting.eventbrite.com>

February 8

Board of Forestry Meeting

Location: Resources Building, Sacramento
Contact: 916-653-8007
Website: <http://www.bof.fire.ca.gov>

March 7

Board of Forestry Meeting

Location: Resources Building, Sacramento
Contact: 916-653-8007
Website: <http://www.bof.fire.ca.gov>

March 8

PPT Integration Team Meeting

Location: Hopkins Road, Davis
Contact: Kim Ingram at kcingram@ucdavis.edu
Website: <http://snamp.cnr.berkeley.edu/events/>

June 6-8

North Coast Forest Conservation Conference

Location: Shone Farm Pavilion, Forestville
Contact: Forest2012@sonomalandtrust.org
Notes: Speakers, panels, and field trips. Save the date and watch for more details next issue.

RPF One-Plan Workshops *(see p. 5)*

Dates and Locations: March 15: Ukiah; March 20: Redding; March 21: Eureka; March 27: Sonora; March 28: Auburn
Audience: RPFs, agency personnel, technical professionals
Contact: Stephen Smith (707) 468-9223 x112; Stephen.Smith@ca.usda.gov

2nd Ties to the Land Workshops

The follow-up Ties to the Land workshops will focus on financial and legal approaches, and tools (trusts, limited liability companies, easements, etc) and specific resource management planning approaches.

Nevada City, Tuesday, January 10
 Sonora, Wednesday, January 11
 Placerville, Thursday, January 12

Redding, Tuesday January 17
 Ukiah, Tuesday January 17
 Yreka, Wednesday January 18
 Garberville, Wednesday January 18
 Quincy, Thursday January 19
 Eureka, Thursday January 19
 Berkeley, Tuesday January 24
 Rohnert Park, Wednesday January 25

Contact: Susie Kocher, 530-542-2571, sdkocher@ucdavis.edu, or Tong Wu tongwu@berkeley.edu
Website: <http://ucanr.org/tiestotheland>

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<http://ceres.ca.gov/foreststeward/calendar.html>

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Don't spread pests around

Did you know that firewood has the potential to spread nasty pathogens and insects around the state? The California Firewood Task Force has started a campaign to tell people that "the shorter the distance you move firewood, the better."

The "Buy It Where You Burn It" campaign will encourage people to buy and burn firewood locally, rather than moving it around.

"Firewood can carry insects and pathogens that may or may not be visible, making it impossible to know if you are transporting an invasive pest from one location to another. Once an invasive species is established in a new area it can do a lot of damage environmentally and economically as the trees in those areas have no natural defenses to fight off the pest attack," explains Don Owen, chair of the California Firewood Task Force.

The goldspotted oak borer is one example. This beetle, which is now found on oaks in southern California, is thought to have come in to San Diego County on firewood. There is much concern about its effect on oak woodland communities in San Diego and beyond. Other pests include the emerald ash borer, siren woodwasp, gypsy moth, Asian longhorned beetle, and diseases such as Sudden Oak Death.

The BIWYBI campaign includes a number of approaches. There will be outreach to campers, firewood suppliers, and the general public. In addition, there will be camper surveys, firewood posters for campgrounds and parks, and educational Frisbees and playing cards to foster one-on-one interaction with campers while also providing them with useful



information.

"As we increasingly become a global community, the movement of invasive pests and pathogens is becoming more frequent. Buying and burning wood locally is a simple way to help minimize the chances of spreading invasive species, and it is something everyone can do with little impact," says Owen. "The feedback gathered through the surveys will be useful for developing our long-term outreach campaign, helping ensure that we reach out to our audience as effectively as possible."

The California Firewood Task Force is part of the California Forest Pest Council. For more information go to <http://www.firewood.ca.gov/> or contact Katie Palmieri at (510) 847-5482.