

f for Your information



Caring for the Land and Serving People

www.psw.fs.fed.us

Pacific Southwest Research Station, Albany, CA 94710

Technician Awarded for Volunteer Work

Gloria Burke, a forestry technician in the Prescribed Fire/Fire Effects Research Unit, Riverside, received an appreciation award from the Sierra National Forest, Kings River District, for her "significant contribution of services as a volunteer to work in the wilderness area of the National Forest for 5 days this summer." Gloria reports that this was a very rewarding experience. She served as a contact person for wilderness visitors, and helped build stone steps in a rocky trail area, break up fire rings, and perform overall wilderness work—all without the aid of any motorized tools. In addition, she learned to care for the horses and mules that were her partners in accomplishing her work. "It was great to see what another side of Forest Service work was like. I would recommend this volunteer experience to anyone," she said.

Family Leave Act Is Extended

The Federal Employees Family Friendly Leave Act, which grants leave to care for ill family members or to attend the funeral of a family member, has been extended. Under this Act, all covered full-time employees are able to use up to a total of 40 hours (5 working days) of sick leave each year for family care and bereavement purposes. In addition, a covered full-time employee who maintains a balance of at least 80 hours of sick leave will be able to use an additional 64 hours (8 working days) of leave for these purposes. Part-time employees are also able to use leave for these purposes; further details are available from Personnel. A "family member" under the Act is defined as a spouse, or spouse's parents; children, including adopted children; parents; brothers and sisters and their spouses; and any individual related by blood or affinity whose close association with the employee is the equivalent of a family relationship. For more information about the Act, contact the Personnel office, Albany, at (510) 559-6350.

Meetings/Conferences/Seminars

* Phil Aune, Program Manager—Ecology and Management of Western Forests, based at Redding, gave a keynote address, "The future of plantation forestry," at the 46th Annual Meeting of the California Forest Pest Council, on Nov. 12-13 in Sacramento.

* Mike Haverty, Project Leader—Insect Chemical Ecology, Albany, presented two papers, "Research on wood-degrading insects on the Gooseneck Adaptive Management Area, Klamath National Forest" and "Subterranean termite foraging ecology

Holiday Message from the Director

I wish you all the best as this holiday season unfolds. In my two months here, I have found our people rich in diversity, gracious and great to work with. So I consider myself very fortunate to have been given this gift of working with you.

I am really excited about what the coming year holds in store for us. As I have made my rounds of our field units (I still have two to go, though), I feel your excitement about our work, also. What might look to an outsider like an insurmountable challenge—that is, providing the science foundation upon which society can make its tough choices about natural resources conservation and management—I see as a prime motivation for us to rise to the occasion and deliver our best.

In 1998, we will be active in the Sierra Nevada, working with our colleagues in the National Forest System and State and Private Forestry as well as those in other agencies and institutions, to craft an interagency conservation strategy that builds from the superb work done on the Sierra Nevada Ecosystem Project. We will work with our colleagues in helping to deliver the work called for by President Clinton this summer in the Tahoe Basin. We will work with our colleagues in Hawaii and the Pacific Islands, continuing to increase the relevance and value of Forest Service programs in those places. We will continue to carry out the research needed to refine the Northwest Forest Plan. And we might also have a chance to help put in place one of the grandest experiments in landscape management ever attempted if the Quincy Library Group legislation comes to pass.

In addition to the above opportunities to increase our capacity to deliver sound science to management priorities, we will retain and, I hope, build on our lead roles nationally and internationally in our wide array of sciences related to sustaining long-term productivity, diversity, and resilience of wildland ecosystems and their many resource values and uses.

If you get some time to kick back and reflect on your life and work this holiday season, think about how lucky we are to be engaged in this business at this time in history. We are among those who make a difference in the well-being of life on Earth. And the product of our endeavors will last for generations to come. So, enjoy your family and friends. Drive safely. Catch up on your favorite reading. And take a few deep breaths as you get ready for a wonderful 1998.

*Hal Salwasser,
Station Director*

(continued)

(Meetings, contd.)

and colony dispersal,” at the Insect Committee Meeting at the 46th Annual Meeting of the California Forest Pest Council, Nov. 12 in Sacramento.

* Bill Laudenslayer, Project Leader—Sierra Nevada Montane Ecosystems Research Unit, Fresno, presented a paper, “Implications of plantations on wildlife: how can habitat be enhanced?” at the 46th Annual Meeting of the California Pest Council, Nov. 12-13 in Sacramento.

* Jack Lewis, Hillslope Processes/Fishery Research Unit, Arcata, presented a paper, “Changes in storm peak flows after clearcut logging,” at the Fall National Meeting of the American Geophysical Union, Dec. 8-12 in San Francisco.

* Tim Lisle, Hillslope Processes/Fishery Research Unit, Arcata, presented a paper, “Poor correlation between boundary shear stress and surface particle size in four natural, gravel-bed channels,” coauthored by J.M. Nelson and M.A. Madej, at the Fall National Meeting of the American Geophysical Union, Dec. 8-12 in San Francisco.

* Connie Millar, Forest Genetics Research Unit, Albany, made the following presentations: “The role of climate change in historical analysis,” at the FS Meeting of Regional Botanists, Ecologists, and Range Conservationists, Nov. 5 in Morro Bay, Calif.; “Biological, physical, and social context for ecosystem management in the eastern Sierra,” at the Interagency Leadership Institute for National Resource Leaders, Nov. 14 in Asilomar, Calif.; “Historical reconstruction of the Glass Creek Watershed, eastern Sierra Nevada and implications for landscape analysis,” at a conservation biology seminar course, Nov. 21 at the University of California, Davis; and “Evolutionary history of *Pinus radiata* with a proposed revision of Quaternary history,” at the IUFRO Conference on Genetics of the Radiata Pine, Dec. 1 in Rotorua, New Zealand.

Personnelly Speaking

Appointments

* Phil Janik: from Regional Forester, Alaska Region; to Deputy Chief—State and Private Forestry, FS Washington Office.

* Steve Satterfield, FS Washington Office: from Director of Program Development/Budget; to Director of Cooperative Forestry.

Awards

* Sara Garetz, Group Leader—Library Services, Albany, “for leadership demonstrated in performance as Group Leader for Library Services.”

* Jackie Yerger, Group Leader—Budget and Financial Management, “for outstanding performance as Group Leader for Budget & Financial Management Staff.”

Quality-Step Increase

* Jackie Yerger, Group Leader—Budget and Financial Management, Albany.

Job Vacancy

Biological Science Technician, GS-0404-05,
Riverside (temp.)

Closes

12-29-97

Executive Calendar

Dec. 22-26

Salwasser M-W: Albany; Th-F: Holidays
Aune M-W: Redding; Th-F: Holidays
Bell M-W: AL; Th-F: Holidays
DeMuth (Acting) M-W: AL; Th-F: Holidays
Ewel M-W: Honolulu; Th-F: Holidays
Mason (Backup) M: Albany; Tu-W: AL; Th-F: Holidays

Dec. 29-Jan. 2

Salwasser M-W: AL; Th: Holiday; F: AL
Aune M-W: Redding; Th: Holiday; F: Redding
Bell (Acting—Jan.) . . . M-Tu: AL; W: Albany; Th: Holiday; F: Albany
DeMuth (Acting—Dec.) M-W: AL; Th: Holiday; F: AL
Ewel M-W: Honolulu; Th: Holiday; F: Honolulu
Mason (Backup/Acting) M-W: Albany; Th: Holiday; F: Albany

Pacific Southwest Research Station
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service
P.O. Box 245
Berkeley, CA 94701-0245