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Pacific Southwest Research Station, Albany, CA 94710

Fresno Lab, Cal State Host Range Field Day

On April 4, the Station's Sierra Nevada Montane Ecosystems Research Unit, Fresno, and California State University, Fresno, hosted their annual field day at the San Joaquin Experimental Range, near Fresno. The purpose of the field day is to provide students in CSUF's Agriculture Department with research results and practical information on livestock grazing, economics, and marketing to the livestock industry. Project Leader Bill Laudenslayer reports that more than 50 participants heard presentations on beef industry products of the future, the Decatur Beef Alliance, grid pricing of beef carcasses, personal experiences with grid pricing, current and future ecological research at SJER, and management of intensive grazing and spring calving at SJER.

Forthcoming Seminars

* Hal Salwasser, Station Director, "Sustainability in a changing world," on June 1, at Albany.

* Diane Delany, biological technician, Forest Genetics Research Unit, Albany, "Genetic relationships among red-fir populations in the Sierra Nevada," on May 5, at Albany.

* Garland Mason, Assistant Director—Research, Albany, "PSW Research Station involvement in the President's Plan for Northwest Forests," on May 11, at Albany.

* Sylvia Mori, mathematical statistician, Statistics Group, Albany, "Large-scale survey/monitoring sampling," on May 21, at Albany.

Meetings/Conferences/Seminars

* Jim Absher, Wildland Recreation/Urban Cultures Research Unit, Riverside, presented a paper, "A market segmentation model for information needs of forest visitors," at the 10th Annual Northeastern Recreation Research Symposium, April 5-7 in Bolton Landing, N.Y. Jim also co-presented two other papers, "Relationships between visitor knowledge of 'leave-no-trace' minimum impact practices and attitudes toward selected management actions," and "Water-based recreationists' attitudes regarding customer satisfaction: differences between selected market segments."

* Armando González-Cabán, Wildland Fire Research Unit, Riverside, participated in the III Master Degree Program in Conservation and Management of the Natural Environment, Feb. 21-28 at the International University of Andalucia, Spain. He taught a module on "The importance of economic planning and efficiency in natural resources management." Armando also

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Forestry Research West Spotlights PSW

Nowhere is competition for land use higher or more controversial than it is in the Pacific Southwest Region. The April 1998 issue of *Forestry Research West* spotlights the accomplishments of PSW's 14 research units, in a lead article that outlines the Station's past and present accomplishments, as well as its future direction. Says Station Director Hal Salwasser, "We simply must have science informing our choices, which are ultimately driven by our needs, values, financial capabilities, and aspirations."

For more than 70 years, PSW has developed and delivered science-based information and technologies to help people make informed decisions about natural resources management. Research results are used by National Forest managers, the FS' State and Private Forestry Staff, State Foresters, extension agents, other domestic and international land use managers, academia, and private landowners and partners. The *FRW* article outlines the work that is done at the Station's Albany, Arcata, Davis, Fresno, Placerville, Redding, Riverside, and Hawaii locations and that is used by these publics.

FRW is published quarterly by the three Western Forest Service Research Stations. Copies of the April issues have been distributed to PSW employees, and additional copies are available from PSW Publications Distribution, Attn: Richard Schneider, 3825 E. Mulberry St., Fort Collins, CO 80524-8597, (970) 498-1719.

International Travel

Armando González-Cabán, economist, Wildland Fire Research Unit, Riverside, was "on the road" for much of the past year, traveling to meetings and symposia where he represented the Forest Fire Laboratory and its research programs.

In May 1997, he attended the Second International Wildland Fire Conference on Wildland Fire and Sustainable Development, in Vancouver, B.C., Canada. He presented a paper, "Nonmarket values in land and fire management planning: do they matter to the public?"

In November 1997, Armando attended the International Symposium on Dry Forest and Desertification, at the Universidad Nacional de Piura in Piura y Lambayeque, Peru. His paper was entitled "Economic efficiency in natural resource management." In addition, Armando met with several university and government representatives to discuss issues related to research and reforestation projects.

Later that month, Armando and Marc Wiitala, an operations

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(Meetings/Conferences/Seminars, contd.)

traveled to Madrid, where he met with the Director of Forest Fire Protection Programs in the Spanish Forest Service, to discuss plans to host a second strategic fire planning models workshop in Spain in November 1998.

* Valerie Hipkins, Acting Director—FS National Forest Genetics Electrophoresis Laboratory, Camino, Calif., presented a seminar, “National Forest Genetics Lab: Issues in science and management,” on April 21 at PSW Albany Headquarters.

* Haiganoush Preisler, Statistics Group, Albany, presented a seminar, “Risk assessment for soil temperatures beneath prescribed forest fires,” on April 16 at PSW Albany Headquarters.

* Paul Scowcroft, Ecosystem Processes Restoration Team, Honolulu, presented a seminar, “Promoting forest restoration using Acacia koa to moderate the biotic/abiotic environments of mid-elevation grasslands,” at the annual meeting of the Hawaii Botanical Society, April 6 in Honolulu.

(International Travel, contd.)

research analyst with the Unit, attended the IX Silvotecna: Forest Fires, in Concepcion, Chile. Armando presented a paper, “Economic aspects of fire damage assessment,” and Marc presented a paper, “Strategic forest fire planning: pushing the frontiers of technology.”

After the IX Silvotecna symposium, Armando and Marc met with Guillermo Julio Alvear, Patricio Pedernera, and Raul Aguilera, all of the Universidad de Chile, to discuss the possibility of developing a cooperative research program between their group and the Riverside group to advance the development of strategic fire planning simulation models. The Chileans have developed a simulation model that performs some activities that current USDA Forest Service models do not. The meeting between Armando, Marc, and the Chileans was a follow-up to the Strategic Fire Planning Simulation Models Workshop which was sponsored by the Fire Management Research Unit at PSW Riverside in 1997.

Job Vacancies

Forestry Technicians, GS-0462-5, Redding	4-30-98
Staff Assistant, GS-0301-11/12, Albany	4-30-98
Bio. Sciences Technician, GS-0404-5/6/7, Riverside	5-8-98
Biological Aid/Technicians, GS-0404-4/5/6/7, various	9-28-98
Wildlife Biologists, GS-0486-5/7/9, various	9-28-98

Closes

Executive Calendar

April 27-May 1

Salwasser	M: Wash. State; Tu: Richmond; W: Davis; Th-F: Richmond
Aune	M-F: Redding
Bell (Backup)	M-Tu: Richmond; W-F: Albany
DeMuth	M-W: WO; Th: Richmond; F: Albany
Ewel	M-F: Honolulu
Mason (Acting)	M-Tu: Richmond; W: Davis; Th: Richmond; F: Albany

May 4-8

Salwasser	M-W: Albany; Th: Fresno; F: Millbrook, N.Y.
Aune	M-F: Redding
Bell (Backup)	M: Riverside; Tu: Albany; W: Sacramento; Th-F: Albany
DeMuth	M-F: Albany
Ewel	M-F: Honolulu
Mason (Acting)	M: Reno; Tu-W: Blacks Mtn.; Th: Sacramento; F: Albany

Personnelly Speaking

Retirement

* Carol Kennefick, computer specialist, Forest Meteorology Research Unit, Riverside, 15 years Federal service, on March 31.

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