

# f for Your information



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Pacific Southwest Research Station, Albany, CA 94710

## Enterprise Applications Due September 9

The second round is underway to solicit proposals for enterprise businesses within PSW and Region 5. The opportunity is open to all permanent employees. Those who are interested must submit a business prospectus by Sept. 9. Requests for prospectuses, as well as completed prospectuses, should be sent to: USDA Forest Service Reinvention Laboratory, 630 Sansome St., Room 632, San Francisco, CA 94111 or via IBM e-mail to rl/r5.

So far, 10 enterprise business operations have successfully completed their initial phases, and are now operating their businesses. R5 Regional Forester Lynn Sprague and PSW Station Director Hal Salwasser said, in a joint announcement to employees, "We challenge those of you who feel you have what it takes, and the business idea to succeed, to take this opportunity."

## Davis Unit Welcomes Student Employees

The Urban Forestry Research Unit, at Davis, recently added two student employees to its staff, according to Project Leader Greg McPherson. *Rosalie Venterea* will be working part-time with the unit while completing her undergraduate degree in environmental horticulture and urban forestry, with a minor in Spanish, at the University of California, Davis. She will handle the unit's clerical and budgeting work. Rosalie replaces Stacy Kontrabecki, who has moved on to oversee forest restoration work for the State of Maine in the aftermath of last winter's storms. *Sabrina Mathis* is the unit's second new employee. She is a U.S. Department of Agriculture National Scholar at Tuskegee University, in Alabama, who will be completing her final year of undergraduate work at UC Davis. She also plans to obtain a master's degree in human ecology at UCD. She is assisting on a variety of research projects in Modesto and Sacramento.

## Visitor to PSW

\* Betty Ishida, research biologist at USDA's Agricultural Research Service, Albany, and a founder and current president of the Northern California Chapter of the Asian Pacific American Network in Agriculture, made a presentation on her recent trip to Europe and the work of APANA, on July 14 at PSW Albany headquarters.

## Personnelly Speaking

### Detail

\* Cynthia Jacobs, Secretary, Director's Office; to Personnel Staffing Clerk, Personnel Management Group, Albany, not to exceed 1 year, July 20.

## González-Cabán Makes News in Colorado

Armando González-Cabán, Wildland Fire Management Research Unit, Riverside, was written up in a July issue of *The Coloradoan* newspaper in Fort Collins, Colo., for a study that he is conducting with John Loomis, Colorado State University's Agriculture Experiment Station, and John Englin, University of Nevada, Reno. The intent of the study is to learn whether damage caused by wildfires tends to keep recreationists away. They also hope to learn whether the severity of fire damage plays a role in hikers' decisions to take trails that have burn sites. The study, which is funded by the USDA Forest Service, will last all summer. The results will be compared with that of similar research that is being conducted in Idaho and Nevada. "If we know how people react to fire in terms of recreation behavior, we can better deal with issues that arise with fire at recreation areas," says Armando.

## Meetings/Conferences/Seminars

\* Station Director Hal Salwasser gave the keynote address, "Coming face-to-face with sustainability on island ecosystems," at the Hawaii Conservation Conference, held July 30 in Honolulu.

\* Katherine Ewel, Team Leader—Forested Wetlands Research, Honolulu, presented a poster, "Structure of mangrove trees and forests in Micronesia," by Thomas G. Cole, Katherine, and Nora N. Devoe, at the joint meeting of the American Society of Limnologists and Oceanographers and the Ecological Society of America, June 7-12, in St. Louis, Mo.

\* Nancy Grulke, Air Pollution/Global Change Research Unit, Riverside, gave a talk, "The interaction of ozone exposure and drought stress in photosynthetic capacity of ponderosa pine," at the participant-sponsored Annual Air Pollution Workshop, Apr. 20-23 in Boone, N.C. Nancy also gave a talk, "The role of early, late, and whole season ozone exposure in predicting photosynthetic decline of ponderosa pine," at the Annual Air and Waste Management Association Meeting, held June 16 in San Diego, Calif.

\* Mike Haverty, Project Leader—Insect Chemical Ecology Research, Albany, presided over the FS Research Advisory Committee's meeting, May 12-14 in Reno, Nev. The Committee advises the Deputy Chief—Research and Development, FS Washington Office, on a variety of research and related issues. Mike became Committee chair in May, and was succeeded as vice-chair by Linda Heath, Northeastern Station. The next meeting is scheduled for the week of Sept. 21.

\* Lori Nelson, Insect Chemical Ecology Research Unit, Albany, presented a paper, "Cuticular hydrocarbons and soldier defense secretions for chemotaxonomy of *Reticulitermes* in North

(continued)

## New to PSW

\* **Bonni Corcoran** may be a “new” employee, but she’s also an old hand around the Prescribed Fire/Fire Effects Research Unit, Riverside, having worked there as a Biological Technician since 1990. Bonni persevered for 6 years as a temporary employee, and then for 2 years as a term employee, before she was recently made a full-time, permanent employee with the unit.

Bonni came to the unit in 1990 as a work/study student while she was an undergraduate at the University of California, Riverside. In 1992, she earned her B.S. degree in environmental sciences from UCR. She was born in Pomona, Calif., and grew up in nearby Ontario, which makes her a native southern Californian. In her leisure time, Bonni enjoys hiking, rock climbing, cooking, gardening, and crafts. Her professional ambitions may include graduate work in the fields of ecology, botany, geology, or some other naturalist area.

\* While **Farrell Dernbach** has been a Librarian at Albany for 6 years—approximately 3 of those as a temporary employee and 3 as a term employee—he only recently got the word that he has been granted permanent employee status. “It’s a great feeling,” says Farrell of the news.

Farrell currently splits his work schedule between the Library’s Albany and Davis locations. And when the Library moves to its new home at Mare Island in January 1999, he will add more miles to his weekly commutes up and down Interstate 80. He is busy these days with preparations for the Library’s move, as well as with making the transition from the old database to the new one. Because the Data General computer system’s final contract expires this December, all of the records in FSINFO are being exported. In addition, the Library is gathering all records from adjunct Region 5 offices, to form one conglomerate PSW/R5 library in Vallejo. When the new database is installed, Farrell and other members of the Library Services Group will begin cataloging all of the information that was exported from FSINFO and gathered from other sources.

(Meetings, contd.)

America,” written by Mike Haverty, Lori, Brian Forschler, Laurence Cool, and Marion Page, at the 15th Annual Meeting of the International Society of Chemical Ecology, June 20-24 in Ithaca, N.Y.

\* Pamela Padgett, Air Pollution/Global Change Research Unit, Riverside, gave two talks, “Nitrogen deposition to soils and other nonliving surfaces” and “HNO<sub>3</sub> effects on plant metabolism,” at the participant-sponsored Annual Air Pollution Workshop, Apr. 20-23 in Boone, N.C.

\* Marion Page, Insect Chemical Ecology Research Unit, Albany, presented a paper, “Cuticular hydrocarbons suggest three lineages in *Reticulitermes*, North America,” written by Marion, Lori Nelson, Mike Haverty, and Brian Forschler, at the 15th Annual Meeting of the International Society of Chemical Ecology, June 20-24 in Ithaca, N.Y.

\* Jennifer Rechel and Jan Beyers, Prescribed Fire/Fire Effects Research Unit, Riverside, attended a conference, Fire Effects and Rare and Endangered Species and Habitats 1998, Mar. 29-Apr. 1 in Coeur d’Alene, Ida. Jennifer presented a paper, “Habitat use and distribution of neotropical migratory birds in relation to landscape and stand structure in fire altered landscapes in southern California,” coauthored by David Larson and David Johnson, also with the unit.

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