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**Pacific Southwest Research Station, Albany, CA 94710**

## Urban Trees Help Reduce Global Warming

Urban trees can play a vital role in helping reduce global warming, according to Greg McPherson and Jim Simpson of the Station's urban forestry research and education unit, at Davis, Calif. Greg is project leader, and Jim is a forest meteorologist with the unit.

They are authors of the Station General Technical Report 171 titled "Carbon Dioxide Reduction Through Urban Forestry: Guidelines for Professional and Volunteer Tree Planters."

Through their growth process, trees can help reduce atmospheric carbon dioxide and produce oxygen, say Greg and Jim. Owing to increased levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, the accumulated greenhouse gases trap heat, leading to a condition called "global warming." By using the guides in this new report, tree planters in metropolitan areas throughout the United States have a way of scientifically estimating the potential reduction of carbon dioxide from the planting of trees.

Because more carbon dioxide is entering the atmosphere than can be reabsorbed by land or water, the accumulating greenhouse gases can upset global climate. Greg and Jim say that this increase in carbon dioxide, the predominant greenhouse gas, is attributed largely to fossil fuel combustion and deforestation. Through their growth process, trees act as a sink for atmospheric carbon. Therefore, increasing the number of trees can potentially slow the accumulation of atmospheric carbon, thereby slowing the effects of global warming.

This Station handbook offers practical advice on how to achieve current or future carbon dioxide reduction through a standardized accounting process. It provides a way to compare the cost-effectiveness of urban forestry programs with other carbon dioxide reduction methods. And it serves as a guide to tree selection, placement, planting, and care.

Copies of General Technical Report PSW-GTR-171 are available from the Station's distribution center at Fort Collins, Colo. (phone 907 498-1392; e-mail: [rschneider@fs.fed.us](mailto:rschneider@fs.fed.us)). It is also available on the Internet at: [http://www.psw.fs.fed.us/Tech\\_pub/gtrs.html](http://www.psw.fs.fed.us/Tech_pub/gtrs.html).

## In Memoriam

William T. Duncan, purchasing agent at the Station's Redwood Sciences Laboratory, at Arcata, Calif., died on Feb. 1, at age 56. He was born in Atlanta, Ga., served 3 years in the U.S. Navy, and earned an A.A. degree at West Valley College, Saratoga, California.

(continued on page 2)

## Matthews Wins "Rise to the Future Award"

Kathleen Matthews and Roland Knapp are co-winners of a "Rise to the Future Award" presented by the FS and seven fisheries organizations. The award was presented to the two scientists on April 12, in Washington, D.C., by FS Chief Mike Dombeck. It was given in six categories. And Kathleen and Roland were the only honorees in the Research category.

Kathleen is a research fisheries biologist with the Station's Sierra Nevada Montane Ecosystems Research Unit, at Albany. Roland, a FS cooperater, is a research scientist with the University of California's Sierra Nevada Aquatic Research Laboratory, at Mammoth Lakes, Calif. For the past 5 years, the two scientists have been studying the decline of amphibians in protected areas, including National Parks and wildernesses, in the Sierra Nevada.

Their studies on the effects of fish stocking on native biota, including amphibians, have shown that introducing non-native fish, particularly several species of trout, has resulted in the decline of amphibians, including the mountain yellow-legged frog and Pacific tree frog, and reptiles, including the garter snake.

"We also found that removing fish from lakes could reverse the decline of mountain yellow-legged frog," says Kathleen. "This finding can help policy-makers decide on the appropriate fishery management practices in protected areas.

As follow-up to these studies, Kathleen, with a member of her team, aquatic ecologist Karen Pope, plans to remove trout from lakes in Dusy Basin at 11,400-ft elevation, in Kings Canyon National Park to study the effects of removal. She predicts that not only will mountain yellow-legged frogs return, but do so in abundance.

Kathleen and Roland have reported the results of their studies in the journal *Conservation Biology* and *International Journal of Wilderness*, as well as in forthcoming issues of *Ecosystem* and *Copeia*.

The seven fisheries organizations participating in the "Rise to the Future Awards" are American Fisheries Society, American Rivers, American Sport Fishing Association, International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Izaak Walton League, Pacific Rivers Council, and Trout Unlimited.

Besides Research, the other categories in which the awards were given were Public Awareness, Collaborative Aquatic Resource Stewardship, Recreational Fishery Resources Accomplishments, Professional Excellence, and Monitoring.

(William T. Duncan—continued)

Bill joined the FS and PSW staff in 1987. For many years, he served as president of the local Chapter at PSW of the National Federation of Federal Employees. He is survived by his father, Harry Duncan of McKinleyville, Calif., two brothers, and a sister. To honor Bill, the Arcata staff held a memorial service in the laboratory parking lot, where a tree and a rose bush were planted.

### **Comment Period for Roadless Proposal Extended**

The FS has announced a 15-day extension to the public comment period for its proposed road management policy. The policy deals with the agency's more than 380,000 miles of roads throughout the nation's 155 National Forests and 200 National Grasslands. The FS's road management policy is expected to be final by Sept. 1.

Interested individuals and groups now can provide comments until May 17. The FS published the proposed policy on March 3, and comments can be sent through the internet, electronic mail, postal, or facsimile systems,

Comments can be mailed to CAET, Roads Project, PO Box 22300, Salt Lake City, UT 84122; faxed to (801) 517-1021; e-mailed to roads/wo\_caet-slc@fs.fed.us; or sent via internet to <http://www/fs/fed/us/news/roads>.

A copy of the draft environmental assessment statement can be ordered from Heidi Valetkevitch at (202) 205-09143, or at [hvaletkevitch@fs.fed.us](mailto:hvaletkevitch@fs.fed.us).

### **Rocky Mountain Station at New Location**

Headquarters of the Rocky Mountain Research Station were recently relocated to the new Natural Resources Research Center, at 2150 Central Avenue, Bldg. A, Fort Collins, CO 80526-1198 (telephone: 970-295-5000). At the new site, which is about one-half mile south of the Station's old site, are the RM Director and Staff and three Research Units. Remaining behind at the old site, at 240 West Prospect Road, are two other Research Units, the Personnel Group, and the Publications Group (including PSW's publications distribution center).

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

## **Personnelly Speaking**

### *Cash Awards*

To the following members of the Budget and Financial Management Group, Albany, for "extra effort and outstanding services by preparing the Station for implementation of the new accounting system (FFIS) in FY2000, in addition to performing your regular responsibilities:"

- \* Jackie Yerger
- \* Anne Ellison
- \* Conchita Bura
- \* Jean DeHoyos
- \* Chelle Mullins
- \* Sandra Nedley
- \* Anna Wong
- \* Patrick Linkenhoger (Facilities and Administrative Services Group, Albany).

For "extra effort in the management and coordination of the Albany office remodeling project:"

- \* Chuck Richmond, Facilities and Administrative Services Group, Albany.
- \* Diane Delaney, Institute of Forest Genetics, Albany.
- \* Paul Hodgskiss, Institute of Forest Genetics, Albany.
- \* Audie Nishida, Facilities and Administrative Services Group, Albany.
- \* Melissa Smith, Personnel Management Group, Albany.

### *Appointments*

- \* Sally Collins, from Forest Supervisor, Deschutes National Forest, Bend, Oregon; to Associate Deputy Chief—National Forest System, FS Washington Office.
- \* Gloria Manning, from Associate Deputy Chief—National Forest System; to Associate Deputy Chief—Business Operations, FS Washington Office.
- \* Joel Holtrop, from Deputy Director of Range Management; to Director of Wildlife, Fish, Rare Plants, and Watershed and Air Management, FS Washington Office.