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

## McDonald, Page to Retire in New Year

Two long-time PSW scientists are retiring on Jan. 3, 2001, but are continuing on as emeritus scientists with their appointments as FS volunteers: Philip M. McDonald, with 42 years of Federal service; and Marion Page, with 37 years.

After several summer jobs with the FS, Phil joined the agency full-time in 1961 as a snow researcher at the Station's Central Sierra Nevada Snow Laboratory, at Soda Springs, Calif. Two years later, he transferred to silvicultural research as a research forester, first at the Challenge Experimental Forest, and since 1965, at Redding. His work has centered on California hardwoods and on vegetation management. His research is reported in more than 135 publications—largely as Station serials aimed at providing, says Phil, "information that is interesting and worthwhile for scientists and practitioners." He plans to continue in this vein, with a dozen manuscripts now in various stages of preparation.

Phil earned his forestry degree at Washington State University (1960), his master of forestry degree at Duke University (1961), and his doctorate in forest science at Oregon State University (1978).

His goal now, he says, is to "slow down the pace of life a bit." He has found that "with few exceptions, people who work for the FS really care about their jobs and want to make a difference for the better."

In his career with the FS and PSW, Marion Page, a research entomologist, has managed to combine work in scientific research, and, in later years, the Station's efforts at recruitment and reaching out to the community. For his exceptional efforts in outreach and recruitment to achieve a diverse workforce, he was awarded the USDA Superior Service Award in 1993.

Marion earned a biology degree in 1963 at San Francisco State University, and an M.S. degree in forest entomology at the University of California at Berkeley in 1985. He joined the FS as a permanent employee, in 1966, as a biologist, and became a research entomologist. Since 1985, he has been assigned to the Station's unit doing research on the chemotaxonomy of forest insects, by using cuticular hydrocarbons.

He has been vice chair of the Entomological Society of America, and national president of the Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Related Sciences.

In retirement, in addition to being an emeritus scientist at PSW, Marion plans to be active in MANRRS, an environmental education organization, and community college outreach efforts. And so, says Marion, "I'll continue to have a full plate after January 3."

Besides Phil and Marion, three other PSW employees are retiring: Johnny P. Cramer, maintenance worker at the Institute of Forest Genetics, in Placerville; Farrell R. Dernbach, library

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## FS Top Staff Changes Announced

A number of changes in the FS top staff have been announced by Chief Mike Dombeck. They include an increase in the Associate Chief's responsibilities, a new Deputy Chief—State and Private Forestry, a new Northeastern Area/State and Private Forestry Director, and two new Washington Office Staff Directors.

Associate Chief Hilda Dias-Soltero's responsibilities have been enlarged to include supervision of the State and Private Forestry branch. She will continue to oversee two other branches: National Forest System, and Research and Development. State and Private Forestry, until this recent change, had been overseen by the FS Chief Operating Officer, Phil Janik.

The new Deputy Chief—State and Private Forestry is Michael Rains, who relinquishes his old position as Director of the Northeastern Area//State and Private Forestry, at Radnor, Pa. Mike succeeds Janice McDougale, and in the interim, Robin Thompson has been Acting Deputy Chief.

Mike holds a B.S. degree in forestry and an M.S. degree in watershed management from Humboldt State University, in Arcata, Calif., and master's degree in business administration from Georgia State University. He began his FS career 32 years ago as a wildland firefighter in California, and most recently headed an agency team that produced the National Fire Plan.

Succeeding Mike in the Northeastern Area job is Kathryn P. Maloney, who moves from the FS Washington Office position of Director of Strategic Planning and Resource Assessment. Kathryn received a bachelor's degree in mineral economics from Pennsylvania State University, and a master's degree in business administration from George Washington University, in Washington, D.C.

The other new WO Staff Director is Hank Kashdan, who moved from Assistant Director to Director of Program Development and Budget. Hank is a 1973 journalism graduate of Humboldt State University, in Arcata, Calif.

## Matthews Makes New York Times Science Pages

Kathleen Matthews, whose aquatic research has earned her national fisheries awards, made it to the pages of *The New York Times* last month. In its Science Section of its Nov. 28 edition, Kathleen was not only pictured with her fellow scientist, Roland Knapp of the University of California, but had her work described in detail in a near-full-page article under the headline of "When the Trout Arrive, the Amphibian Exodus Begins."

The story is by Martin Forstenzer, a contributor to *The Times*, who specializes in science articles. For the story on Kathleen and Roland, he hiked in with them to the research site at 11,400-ft elevation in Kings Canyon National Park in central California, observed firsthand, and took the photographs that appear in *The Times* article.

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technician, Library Group, Vallejo; and Anthony P. Gomez, photo scientific technician, Atmospheric Deposition Unit, Riverside, Calif.

## New to PSW

Laura R. Kemp blends in well with others at the University of California at Davis because she is one of many who bicycles to campus. She started her new job with PSW on September 25, reporting as automation clerk with the Station's Urban Forestry Research Unit, located at Davis.

Laura's husband, Robert, who is a self-employed goldsmith-jeweler, is also an avid bicyclist, getting to work by that mode of transportation. They are the parents of Renee, 14, who just started high school.

A native of Woodland, Calif., Laura attended Sacramento City College, taking courses in general education. Her work experience includes about 20 years in banking, accounting, and retail sales. Before joining PSW, Laura worked for 2-1/2 years as an accounts payable clerk with Z-World, Inc., in Davis. She has, however, had previous government experience, having worked as a mail and file clerk with the U.S. Bureau of Land Management's Cour d'Alene office, in Idaho.

That experience with a resources management agency made Laura an eager applicant for the job vacancy in the Station's Davis office when it was announced.

"I'm very impressed by the work of the Urban Forestry Unit, and the contributions the scientists are making to the environment," says Laura.

## Personnelly Speaking

Retirements (years of Federal service as shown):

- Johnny P. Cramer, maintenance worker, Placerville, Jan. 2, 2001 (37).
- Farrell R. Dernbach, library technician, Vallejo, Dec. 30 (6).
- Anthony P. Gomez, technical photographer, Riverside, Jan. 2, 2001 (37).
- Philip M. McDonald, research forester, Redding, Jan. 2, 2001 (42).
- Marion Page, research entomologist, Albany, Jan. 3, 2001 (37).

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(Matthews—continued)

Besides Kathleen and Roland, another PSW scientist is quoted in the article: Hartwell Welsh of the Timber-Wildlife Interactions Research Unit, at the Redwood Sciences Laboratory,

The impetus for *The Times* story is that agencies are on the verge of listing the mountain yellow-legged frog as endangered. And if that were to happen, then the question of what to do about further stocking of high-elevation lakes with trout needs to be answered. According to research by Roland and Kathleen, the sharp decline of amphibians, particularly the yellow-legged frog, is due to trout stocking in these lakes.

## Meetings/Conferences/Seminars

Four members of the Station's Western Forest Management Research and Development Program, at Redding, attended the Symposium on the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Long-Term Soil Productivity Study, Oct. 17-19, in Alexandria, La.: Bob Powers, Team Leader—Soil Productivity Research, opened the symposium by describing the origin and evolution of the LTSP program. Matt Busse, soil scientist, presented a paper on "Tolerance of Soil Organisms to Intensive Site Disturbance." His co-author, Nancy Rappaport, research entomologist, also attended, as did Gary Fiddler, Team Leader—Science Support. Bob concluded the symposium with a summary of 5-year findings from soil study sites across North America.

• Connie Millar, Forest Genetics Research Unit, Albany, presented a paper on "Response of High-Elevation Conifers in the Central Sierra Nevada, California, to 20<sup>th</sup> Century Climate," at the 112<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Geological Society of America, Nov. 9-18, Reno, Nevada. Diane Delaney, Bob Westfall, and John King, of the Research Unit, were co-authors of the paper.

## Rappaport Elected Chair of Insect Committee

Nancy Rappaport was elected chair of the Insect Committee of the California Forest Pest Council last month at the Council's 49<sup>th</sup> annual meeting, in Sacramento. Nancy is a research entomologist with the Station's Soil Productivity Research Team, at Albany. With representatives from Federal and State agencies, industry, and academia, the Council serves as an advisory body to the California State Board of Forestry for forest pest issues.