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Pacific Southwest Research Station, Albany, CA 94710

Sierra Nevada Research Center Established

A major realignment of the Station's research on the resources of the Sierra Nevada became effective Oct. 1, with the formation of the Sierra Nevada Research Center, headquartered in Davis, Calif. Peter Stine, was designated as the Center's Program Manager, on June 4. He had been Science Integration Team Leader of the Sierra Nevada Framework Unit, located in Sacramento.

Scientists of the new unit will be located at Albany, Davis, and Fresno. The Center was formed from Forestry Sciences Laboratory staff at Fresno, elements of the Institute of Forest Genetics at Albany, and the Framework unit. The Center is organized into four teams based on four areas of research emphasis:

- Terrestrial Ecology focuses on ecological responses to human-induced and natural influences, habitat relationships, and biodiversity conservation and restoration.
- Ecosystems Patterns/Processes focuses on evolution, biogeography, and climate change, tree mortality process and patterns, spatial and temporal variation in ecosystems, landscape and watershed processes, and disturbance effects on vegetation and structure and function.
- Socioeconomics/Institutions focuses on governance and decision-making strategies, economic and non-market value trends, community well-being, and institutional capacities.
- Aquatic Ecology focuses on autecology and community ecology of species at risk, ecological responses to human-induced and natural environmental changes, and development of conservation and restoration techniques and strategies.

Assignment of scientists to the four teams, including team leaders, will be announced later.

The Center will emphasize an integrated, ecoregional approach to examine particular ecological and socio-economic issues across a range of appropriate spatial and temporal scales specific to each issue," says Peter. "We hope that the Center will be recognized as a focal point for wildlands research within the Sierra Nevada."

The Center intends to collaborate with scientists and managers from other government agencies, academic institutions, and the private sector. Its research will be conducted in cooperation with the FS Pacific Southwest Region and other resource management organizations to develop an adaptive management strategy through monitoring and research.

"All scientists and staff of this new research unit are excited about the challenges and opportunities of contributing to the body of scientific information for the Sierra Nevada ecoregion," says Peter. "We are privileged to work in the wonderful environment that is the Sierra Nevada."

Ledig Elected Science Association Fellow

Tom Ledig has been elected a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Sciences—the highest honor the AAAS bestows upon scientists. He was cited for his "distinguished contributions to the conservation of genetic resources in forest trees and to knowledge of the genetic bases of rarity." A former Project Leader—Forest Genetics Research, Tom is now a senior scientist at Placerville and Davis. This latest honor comes on top of a Distinguished Service Award that Tom received last year from the International Union of Forest Research Organizations.

New Detailers in FS Chief's Office Selected

Two new detailers to the Office of the FS Chief, in Washington, D.C. were recently announced. Pete Roussopolous, Station Director, Southern Station, Asheville, N.C., became Acting Deputy Chief—State and Private Forestry, on Oct. 15. And Linda Goodman, Deputy Regional Forester—Operations Pacific Northwest Region, Portland, started as Acting Chief of Staff, on Oct. 22.

PSW Library has New E-Mail

The Pacific Southwest Library and Information Center has a new e-mail address: psw library. Operated by the Station, the unit serves both the Station and the FS Pacific Southwest Region, and is now a PSW unit rather than an enterprise. Another FS library recently announced its closure, effective Sept. 30. The INFO South Southern Forestry Information Service, which opened in 1985 in Athens, Ga., ceased operations on Sept. 30. Other libraries in the FS Library Network may pick up some of the services that INFO South had provided.

Combined Federal Campaign Launched at PSW

This year's Combined Federal Campaign—the philanthropic program that focuses on voluntary employee donations—was kicked off this month at PSW. "As the tragic events of September 11 made abundantly clear, our country could not function without the voluntary efforts of our citizens," said Station Director Hilda Diaz-Soltero in her CFC message to employees.

The CFC coordinators and closing dates for Campaign contributions are: Sara Garetz (Albany/Vallejo, Nov. 19), Jan Bright (Arcata, Dec. 1), Carmen Romero (Redding, Nov. 15), Laura Kemp (Davis, Nov. 14), Honolulu/Hilo (Kelly Duncan, Nov. 4), Leticia Vidrio (Fresno, Nov. 15), Karen Jennings (Riverside, Nov. 23).

The CFC keyworkers at Albany are Mario Clark, Paul Hodgskiss, Martha Shibata, and Patricia Steverson. They and Sara are planning several fundraising activities, including a cookie sale, bike race, and opportunities to win a cruise.

New to PSW

It may be a long way to Tipperary, but so it is to Seoul, Korea. And it is from Seoul that *Chin S. Jugan* left for a job as Budget Assistant at PSW. She reported to the Station, at Albany, on Aug. 20, funding her own way here. And how did she find the PSW job from Seoul? Simple, it was advertised on the Internet.

Although her legal name is “Chin S,” she says to call her “Chi Na” (pronounced “CHEE nah”)—the nickname her husband gave her. Before joining PSW, Chi Na worked for 18 years at the U.S. Eighth Army headquarters in Seoul, as a secretary, budget assistant, and then management assistant.

Based in Seoul, her husband Michael, travels widely as a Representative of U.S. Forces Korea for Maintenance and Warehouse, a San Diego firm that supplies U.S. Army-Navy-Air Force Post Exchanges. Their daughter, Laura, an applied mathematics graduate from the University of California at Berkeley, is a software technician for Leapfrog, an educational toy firm in Berkeley. Their son, Michael, a student at the University of Texas, Austin, and his wife Hyunmee, are proud parents of a year-old daughter, Kayla.

Chi Na’s hobbies includes golfing, skiing, and reading. She finds the work environment at PSW much more open and relaxed than what she was accustomed to at Eighth Army headquarters, and is glad to be on her new job.

“Fish Introductions” Article is Editors’ Choice

A recently published journal article, co-authored by a PSW scientist, has gained distinction as an Editors’ Choice in *Science* magazine’s Sept. 7th issue. The article is titled “Resistance and Resilience of Alpine Lake Fauna to Fish Introduction,” by Roland Knapp, Kathleen Matthews of the Station’s Sierra Nevada Research Center, at Albany, and by Orlando Sarnelle, and was published in *Ecological Monographs* (vol. 7, p. 401-21, in 2001). Kathleen and her co-authors report on the response by amphibians, benthic macroinvertebrates and zooplankton in naturally fishless alpine lakes to fish introductions and subsequent fish disappearance. They conclude that “faunal resilience may be lower in lakes that revert to a fishless condition today than is suggested by the results of our study.”

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

Meetings/Conferences/Seminars

- Garland Mason, Acting Station Director, attended the Annual Meeting, National Association of State Foresters, Sept. 39-Oct. 4, in Hot Springs, Ark. whose theme centered on cooperation, collaboration, and coordination among Federal, State, and industry sectors in sustainable forestry.

- Kathy Ewel, Team Leader—Forested Watersheds Research, Honolulu, attended the Advisory Board meeting of the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis, Sept. 20-22, in Santa Barbara, Calif.

- Hart Welsh, Timber-Wildlife Interactions Research Unit, Arcata, presented a paper on “Impacts of Introduced Fisher in Amphibian Assemblages in the Klamath Mountains of Northern California” co-authored by Dan Bolano of the unit, at the Annual Meeting, Society of Conservation Biology, July 29-Aug. 1, in Hilo, Hawaii.

- Jeff Dunk, Timber-Wildlife Interactions Research Unit, Arcata, presented a poster on “Geographic Range and Habitats of Rare Mollusks in Northern California” (co-authored by Bill Zielinski) at the Annual Meeting, Society of Conservation Biology, July 29-Aug. 1, in Hilo, Hawaii.

Personnelly Speaking

Cash Awards

- Jim Baldwin, Unit Leader—Environmental Statistics, Albany: “for innovation in design and statistical support of the marbled murrelet effectiveness monitoring strategy.”

- Nancy Diaz, executive assistant, Station Director’s Office, Albany: “for personal contributions and support of the Station Management Team in preparing for the FS Research Deputy Chief’s Review of PSW.”

- Patrick Linkenhoger, purchasing agent, Facilities/Administrative Services Group, Albany: “for providing timely support to the Prescribed Fire/Fire Effects Research Unit and for challenging procurements.”

For Your Information (FYI) is published, in Albany, Calif. Vince Dong, editor (510-559-6324; vdong@fs.fed.us). Field correspondents: Matt Busse (Redding), Kelly Duncan (Honolulu/Hilo), Jim Geiger (Davis), Sandy Hicks (Fresno), Chris Nelson (Placerville), Elnora Porter (Riverside), Bob Ziemer (Arcata).