

# Wildfire Restoration Symposium

May 13, 2022 Feather River College

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## Symposium Objectives

The goal of the symposium is to convene diverse community members across ownerships impacted by recent wildfires in order to discuss challenges and opportunities for restoration. Each talk will have time allotted for questions and discussion, and we hope all will participate in this co-learning event. This event is co-hosted by Feather River College, University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources Cooperative Extension, and a coalition of local partners including the Feather River Resource Conservation District, Plumas County Fire Safe Council, Maidu Summit Consortium, and the Sierra Institute for Community and Environment.

## Agenda

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Speaker</b>
8:45-9:00 am	<b>Coffee</b>	
9:00-9:15 am	Welcome	<i>Bridget Tracy &amp; Dana Flett FRC Environmental Studies</i>
9:15-10:15 am	What is forest resilience & how do we restore it? Wildfire changes and challenges	<i>Ryan Tompkins, UC ANR Kyle Jacobsen, USFS</i>
10:15-10:45 am	<b>Morning Break &amp; Refreshments</b>	
10:45-11:45 am	Post-fire drivers influencing reburn severity Active and passive post-fire restoration in a changing climate	<i>Michelle Coppoletta, USFS Derek Young, UC Davis</i>
11:45-1:00 pm	<b>Complimentary Lunch</b>	
1:00-1:15 pm	Afternoon Opening	<i>Tracy Schohr, UC ANR moderator</i>
1:15-2:15 pm	Panel on Local Restoration Efforts <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>FRRCD: Plumas EFoRT</i></li><li>• <i>Plumas Fire Safe Council</i></li><li>• <i>Plumas National Forest</i></li><li>• <i>Maidu Summit Consortium</i></li><li>• <i>Feather River College</i></li><li>• <i>Sierra Institute</i></li></ul>	<i>Michael Hall, FRRCD Hannah Hepner, PCFSC Chris Carlton, USFS Trina Cunningham, MSC Jon Dvorak, FRC Spencer Lachman, SI</i>
2:15-2:45 pm	<b>Afternoon Break &amp; Refreshments</b>	
2:45-3:45 pm	Forest Management for landowners Venado Declaration: Keep our forests	<i>Steve Ostoja, USDA Climate Hub Yana Valachovic, UC ANR</i>
3:45-4:00 pm	Closing Remarks	

**Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> Wildfire Preparedness Day Event & Children's Fair at the Plumas County Fairgrounds!**

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## Presentations

### **What is forest resilience & how do we restore it?**

*Ryan Tompkins, UC Agriculture & Natural Resources, Cooperative Extension Forester, Plumas, Sierra & Lassen*

Ryan's research and extension program focuses on forest restoration, wildfire preparedness, and post-fire restoration and reforestation. While many forest restoration goals include promoting forest resilience, these concepts are often discussed in broad qualitative terms. Ryan will present recent research that supports clear definitions and quantified metrics and thresholds for forest and large tree resilience – particularly in a changing 21<sup>st</sup> century climate.

### **Wildfire changes and challenges**

*Kyle Jacobson, Asst. Fire Mgmt. Officer, US Forest Service, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit*

Kyle brings extensive knowledge in fuels and fire behavior and brings firsthand experience in operations in large fire incident management. Kyle will present on changes in wildfires and the challenges these present to forest and fire managers. He will offer insights into how we should be preparing for the coming wildfire seasons.

### **Influence of post-fire vegetation and fuels on fire severity patterns in reburns: Implications for restoration**

*Michelle Coppoletta, Ecologist, US Forest Service*

Working at the boundary between science and management, Michelle's work focuses on applied ecological research that addresses the challenge of land management and ecological restoration in the face of changing climate and disturbance regimes. Michelle will present the results from a set of studies conducted on the National Forests that have burned repeatedly since 2000, which suggest that post-fire vegetation and woody fuels are important drivers of subsequent fire severity patterns.

### **Active and passive post-fire restoration in a changing climate**

*Dr. Derek Young, Research Ecologist UC Davis*

Derek is a forest ecologist and data scientist at the University of California, Davis. He collects and analyzes data to understand forest dynamics and inform forest management in the context of global change, including intensifying drought and increasingly large and high-severity wildfires. Derek will present results from recent research exploring how natural post-fire regeneration patterns may shift, under what conditions reforestation efforts are most likely to be successful, and the potential for planting non-local tree genotypes to promote forest resilience in a hotter climate.

### **Panel on local restoration efforts**

This panel includes a series of short presentations and panel discussion on local fire restoration efforts and across public and private lands including public assistance programs. Panelists represent a broad spectrum of federal, tribal, community college, and non-profit local organizations. Panelists include:

- *Chris Carlton, Forest Supervisor for the Plumas National Forest*
- *Trina Cunningham, Executive Director, Maidu Summit Consortium*
- *Hannah Hepner, Program Manager, Plumas County Fire Safe Council*
- *Michael Hall, District Manager, Feather River Resource Conservation District*
- *Jon Dvorak, Forest Health and Fuels Manager, Feather River College*
- *Spencer Lachman, Collaborative Forestry Specialist, Sierra Institute*

### **Forest Management for small-parcel landowners in the Sierra Nevada and Southern Cascade range**

*Dr. Steven Ostoja, Director of the USDA California Climate Hub & UC Davis Institute of the Environment Fellow*

As Director of the California Climate Hub, Steve is charged with leading the development and delivery of regional, science-based information that enables climate-smart agricultural and forestry decision-making for natural and working lands. Steve will be presenting on forest management for landowners and USDA Climate Hub tools that can be utilized to inform and assist landowners with climate-adapted practices.

### **The Venado Declaration: Keep our forests, a call to action from California's scientists, land managers, and former government leaders**

*Yana Valachovic, UC Agriculture & Natural Resources, Cooperative Extension Forester & North Coast Counties Director*

Yana is a forest scientist whose skills and interests cover a broad set of natural resource fields including wildfire mitigation and resilience, ecology of conifer and oak systems, and management of forest pathogens. In September 2021, Yana assisted Governor Jerry Brown in convening a group of California experts and managers to discuss the fire crisis and identify solutions to guide the management of our landscapes and the resilience of our communities. She will discuss the framework identified to work together to collectively commit to action and shared principles to address our shared fire challenges.

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## Event Directions

The event is being hosted on the Feather River College Campus at 570 Golden Eagle Ave., Quincy, CA 95971.

**Directions:** From Highway 70 travelling north through Quincy: Turn west on Golden Eagle Avenue approximately 0.5 miles north of downtown Quincy. Drive approximately 0.25 miles along Golden Eagle Avenue past the hatchery ponds and the preschool and then turn into the main upper campus parking lot on your left. The parking lot says permit only parking, **but permits will not be required this day.**

The presentations will be held in the FRC Gallery as shown on the campus map below:

