

Forest Stewardship Education Newsletter: September 2020

Upcoming 2020 Forest Stewardship Workshops

August 24th – October 21st Forest Stewardship Online and In-person Field Day Workshop

Location: Online and UC Berkeley Forestry CAMP, Meadow Valley, CA (Plumas County)

October 3rd, 10am - noon

Follow-up Workshop for Ukiah, Berkeley, Redding and Blodgett Participants

Location: Zoom

See page 3 for more details

September 21st – November 19th

Forest Stewardship Workshop

Location: Online and Felton, CA (Santa Cruz County)

Additional workshop hosted by your local UCCE office can be found by searching 'UCCE (your county)'

"I made a good forester connection through the workshop, and I see a path forward that wasn't clear to me a few months ago." – Workshop participant

Photo: Blodgett workshop participants with Ariel Roughton, RPF.

Greetings from UC ANR

Developing and strengthening working relationships between participants and local registered professional foresters (RPFs) is one of the goals of the Forest Stewardship Workshop. To facilitate this, participants who complete the workshop are eligible for an initial site visit by an RPF to assess their management plan development and plan out next steps. Participating RPFs are then paid through an honorarium supported by the project contract.

"I felt the workshop was a great way to introduce forest land-owners to professionals, as well as start the dialogue necessary to accomplish their management goals. It also seems like a great way to educate non-forestry professionals on management techniques." – Jacob Harrower, Forest Operations Manager, Jacobszoon & Associates, RPF #3070.

However, this initial site visit offer does have a deadline. In order to take advantage of the site visit and honorarium, the visit must take place by June 30, 2021.

This Forest Stewardship Newsletter is dedicated to working with RPFs. We hope this information and resources will prompt you to reach out to a local RPF and arrange that initial site visit.

– Kim Ingram, kcingram@ucanr.edu



Working with an RPF and completing a plan

Ukiah workshop participant Lynn Garric, whose forested property is located in Sonoma County, shares her experiences in working with RPFs and finalizing her plan.

My first contact with an RPF was in 2015 when I was looking to apply for CFIP funding. Before hiring, I called several RPFs and asked them a few questions and explained my situation. This informal interview process is important. Some didn't want to travel to my area or were not interested in non-commercial harvests. I was fortunate to find an RPF who supported my goals and was great to work with.

After the 2017 Tubbs Fire burned through my 40 acres, Sonoma RCD and RPF Mary Mayeda, helped me write a new Forest Management Plan. This plan was more comprehensive and included specifics about road improvement, removal of invasive species, potential funding sources and assistance, and I loved that it included more maps! Being able to visualize ones entire property is a good incentive for doing work.



Photo: RPF Mary Mayeda discussing a participant's plan

New and Relevant Online Resources for You!

Looking for additional information on working with an RPF? Check out the Forest Stewardship Workshop Materials [web page](#) which has information including two RPF contact lists.

[The Forest Stewardship Series 24: Professional Assistance](#) provides information on identifying potential professionals, checking qualifications and references, and general liability and insurance information.

For those whose forest properties are located in Shasta, Tehama, Butte, Yuba, Lassen, Plumas, Sierra, Nevada or Placer Counties, [My Sierra Woods](#) can assist you in the development of your management plan and the coordination of activities, such as working with an RPF.

This spring, I contacted RPF Fred Euphrat whom I met at the Forest Stewardship workshop. Meeting him at the workshop, being able to put a face with a name and chatting with him, made it an easy decision to bring him on for the initial site visit. He visited my property and helped me understand re-planting and other mitigation options for a landslide area that occurred in 2019 after my plan was written.

I think the most important step is for landowners to identify their own objectives. A Forest Management Plan that is written for commercial purposes or solely for fire reduction may not hit on the key issues that will motivate a private landowner to follow-through on the implementation. The fact that my second plan was written by RCD staff made it better suited to my personal goals and more interesting to me. I would suggest that landowners work with their RPF to prioritize the suggested treatments, including short- and long-term activities. RPFs can also help landowners actually access financial resources through a warm hand-off to their local RCD or NRCS.

Working with an RPF and completing a plan, continued

The workshop discussions about EQIP and CFIP also helped me realize what I could ask for. For example improving my road to mitigate negative effects for streams or addressing the landslide on my property.

Even though I already had a plan, the workshop helped me understand what was in my original plan better. I then used the workshop drafts to update my plan, which was very helpful. The workshop helped me think in more depth about my priorities and objectives. As a private landowner (with no commercial goals), my objectives are about fire protection, wildlife habitat, personal enjoyment of the land and family legacy. I broke the objectives down into activities, and my property into management units (dividing and prioritizing my property into 4 working areas) with 5-, 10-, and 20- year objectives.

If I hadn't had the original CFIP grant, and hadn't attended the workshop where I met Fred, I probably wouldn't be doing nearly the amount of work that I am. Small forest landowners don't often know that there are resources out there for us. Now that I know where to get direction and help, it doesn't feel so overwhelming and I've even set aside my own annual budget for these purposes.

Follow-up Workshop Information

Participants of the Ukiah, Berkeley, Redding and Blodgett workshops are invited to join us Saturday, October 3rd, 10am – noon, for a follow-up workshop. Presenters will be discussing prescribed fire and prescribed burn associations (PBAs); conservation easements; identifying management units; and various fuels treatment options. Following presentations, participants will be invited to join presenters in break out rooms for Q&A. The presentations will be recorded and posted to the Forest Stewardship website. If you are a past workshop participant and would like to attend this follow-up workshop, please contact Kim Ingram at kcigram@ucanr.edu to receive the zoom link.

For participants who have completed the workshop:



61% have made some or more progress on developing their plans



39% have made progress on contacting an RPF



46 – 58% have made some progress initiating cost-share programs (EQIP or CFIP)



78% have begun implementing management activities on their properties