



## Introducing the UC ANR Fire Network

The UC ANR Fire Network is a statewide team with expertise across a wide range of disciplines, including fire science and ecology, prescribed fire, home hardening and defensible space, community and regional planning, grazing and fire interactions, and much more. The Network includes specialists on UC campuses, advisors and staff in local communities, and broad networks of partners and volunteers. The goal of the Fire Network is to inspire and empower Californians, connecting them to the research, training, and tools they need to live with fire in California.

### Meet the Team of Fire Advisors and Key Staff

#### Lenya Quinn-Davidson, Director

*Serving California, based in Humboldt County*



Lenya Quinn-Davidson is a Fire Advisor and the Director of UC ANR's Fire Network. Over the last 15 years, Lenya's work has centered on the human connection with fire, and increasing the use of prescribed fire for habitat restoration, invasive species control, and ecosystem and community resiliency. Lenya works on prescribed fire issues at various scales, including working locally with private landowners in Humboldt to put good fire back on the land; at the state level, where she collaborates on prescribed fire-related policy and research, and helps mentor prescribed burn associations; and nationally, through her

leadership on prescribed fire training exchanges (TREX). As Network Director, she aims to better support fire academics and practitioners, both within UC ANR and across geographies, partnerships, and fields.

#### Katie Low, Coordinator

*Serving California, based in Placer & Nevada Counties*



Katie Low is the Statewide Coordinator of UC ANR's Fire Network. Katie works with the Network to deliver fire-related extension programs and educational materials to communities and professionals across California. She collaborates with regional Advisors and partners to deliver science-based workshops around fuel reduction treatments and wildfire preparedness to communities in Placer and Nevada Counties. She researches fuel treatment efficacy including prescribed fire, thinning, and grazing in the Sierra Nevada. Katie works with partners to deliver statewide programming to develop a diverse and robust fire and forestry workforce.

#### Alison Deak, Fire Advisor

*Fresno, Madera, & Mariposa Counties*



Alison Deak is a Fire Advisor based in Mariposa County. Alison leverages her prior experience as a wildland firefighter and a fire scientist to build a critical regional research and extension program centered around prescribed fire and wildfire preparedness. She researches fuel treatment efficacy in her region and evaluates the fire-related needs of residents and community fire groups across the state and nation. Alison works with local fire practitioners to provide prescribed fire trainings through the Yosemite Gateway Prescribed Burn Cooperative.

## Tori Norville, Fire Advisor

*Marin, Napa, and Sonoma Counties*



Tori Norville is a Fire Advisor serving communities and regional partners in Marin, Napa, and Sonoma Counties. She is a registered professional forester who is building a research and extension program emphasizing vegetation management and land stewardship. Her research currently involves assessing the efficacy of fuel reduction treatments in oak woodland and redwood forest ecosystems. Through the delivery of science-based trainings and workshops, Tori is encouraging residents and professionals to be more familiar with fire as a stewardship tool, educating them about fire-smart landscaping strategies, and increasing community fire science literacy.

## Barb Satink Wolfson, Fire Advisor

*Monterey, San Benito, Santa Clara, & Santa Cruz Counties*



Barb Satink Wolfson is a Fire Advisor based in the Central Coast Region. Barb brings 20 years of experience in fire, including science communication and research. She aims to reduce wildfire risk to Central Coast communities and ecosystems through a robust research program focused on prescribed fire effects monitoring and post-wildfire impacts and regular outreach events centered on building regional prescribed fire workforce capacity with the Central Coast Prescribed Burn Association. Barb is also actively engaging with fire-related workgroups at the county, regional, and national levels.

## Ally Sung-Jereczek, Beneficial Burning/Tribal Land Stewardship Advisor *Mendocino & Lake Counties*



Ally Sung-Jereczek is the Beneficial Burning and Tribal Land Stewardship advisor for Mendocino and Lake counties. She aims to build collaborative and reciprocal relationships amongst local Tribal and community partners working towards increasing capacity for prescribed and cultural fire, ecosystem health, and culturally significant practices. She has collaborated with Tribes on indigenous fire stewardship, co-management, tribal climate adaptation planning, and data sovereignty. Her research focuses on combining traditional ecological knowledges with western science, emphasizing the needs and priorities of tribal communities for long-term sustainability. She graduated from UC Los Angeles with a degree in Geography and minor in Conservation Biology and a masters at the University of Michigan in Behavioral Psychology, Environmental Justice, and Ecosystems Science Management.

## Yana Valachovic, Forestry Advisor

*Humboldt & Del Norte Counties*



Yana Valachovic is the County Director and Forestry Advisor for the University of California Cooperative Extension in Humboldt and Del Norte Counties. She is a registered professional forester and forest scientist whose skills and interests cover a broad set of natural resource fields with a strong focus on wildfire mitigation and resilience. Yana has over 20 years of experience rooted in county government and community engagement. She works at many scales and has roles in the State's Wildfire Forest Resilience Taskforce, the Wildfire Mitigation Committee, and the Risk Modeling Committee. She brings key insights into building and landscaping design and maintenance that make a difference in building survivability and property protection. For the Fire Network, she serves as the team's lead on built environment topics.

## Want to connect with the UC ANR Fire Network?

Contact **Lenya Quinn-Davidson, Fire Network Director** ([lquinndavidson@ucanr.edu](mailto:lquinndavidson@ucanr.edu)) or **Katie Low, Fire Network Coordinator** ([katlow@ucanr.edu](mailto:katlow@ucanr.edu)) to be connected with your local Network expert. You can also visit our website (<https://ucanr.edu/statewide-program/uc-anr-fire-network>) or follow us on [Facebook](#) (@UC ANR Fire Network), [Instagram](#) (@ucanr\_firenetwork), [LinkedIn](#), and [YouTube](#) (@ucanrfirenetwork).