



## Forestry Alumni Chapter Scholarship News

Fall 2008

HUMBOLDT STATE FORESTRY  
ALUMNI

Great News! The HSU Forestry Alumni Chapter now has a Scholarship Program! The HSU Forestry and Wildland Resources Department has graciously agreed to combine several existing, dormant, and unrestricted scholarship funds into what is now called the "HSU Forestry Alumni Association Scholarship Quasi-Endowment Fund" and the "HSU Forestry Alumni Scholarship Fund".

These entities have been officially created and endorsed by the HSU Advancement Office and can now be increased by your generous donation. Alumni and other interested persons are encouraged to join in contributing to either fund as they see fit. Current balances as of June 30, 2008 are \$21,973.58 in the quasi-endowment fund and \$2,061.63 in the scholarship fund. The quasi-endowment fund should be increased to a minimum of \$25,000.00 to make it feasible under current market conditions to transfer the interest earnings from it into the scholarship fund for annual awards to deserving students. The quasi-endowment fund recently received a gift of \$10,000.00 in the memory of Marty Gulick (1969-BS Forestry; 1972-MA Business Administration). Recently Jay and Vicki Francis donated \$500 to the fund and the HSU Alumni Association matched our fundraising efforts with a donation of \$1000.

The criteria developed for HSU Forestry Scholarship awards are those that emphasize merit. This is because there are several existing designated scholarships based on need available to entering or presently enrolled forestry majors. The Forestry Alumni Association Scholarship is offered to juniors and/or seniors that are committed to a forestry career path. The 2008 award of \$1000.00 was to Carrie Capra, Production-Management Option.

It is understood that this turn of events is a wonderful boon to the Chapter. Our former scholarship fund was not even sufficient to award one scholarship. Now we have the makings to be able to build a resource that could be an important help to future students who display excellent capabilities and a strong work ethic. Let us all challenge each other to swiftly contribute to expand the quasi-endowment fund as we are each able, and in the meantime, add to the scholarship fund so that current deserving students can benefit.

The following is a recent response from alumnus Bob Archibald (1959), who was among the first graduates of the four-year forestry program at HSU. "I was not aware that the alumni association had its own fund. I am a strong supporter of student scholarships. As a student, I was privileged to receive two \$50.00 scholarships. In those days, they would pay for your first semester's books. Perhaps, only one book now!" Bob added, "I am prepared to send the Forestry Alumni Scholarship Fund \$250.00 immediately as seed money to get the fund built up. It is not a large amount, but as a starter, perhaps identifying it as a challenge from me to other graduates to match or exceed".

Please contribute to either the HSU Forestry Alumni Association Scholarship Quasi-Endowment Fund or the HSU Forestry Alumni Scholarship Fund or **BOTH**. Make checks payable to "Humboldt State University" with the fund name (quasi-endowment or scholarship fund) identified in the Memo Line of your check. Send your contributions to Humboldt State University, Gift Processing Center, 1 Harpst Street, Arcata, CA 95521-8299. Contact Ken Fulgham, Chair, Forestry & Wildland Resources Department at 707-826-4127 or (fulghamk@humboldt.edu) for further information. Please let Ken know of your contribution.

### HSU FORESTRY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP

Application during Spring term and Financial Aid award made during the following Academic Year. Maximum scholarship amount is \$1,500.00 annually. Decision made by the Forestry & Wildland Resources Department Scholarship Committee.

#### Criteria for award:

1. Currently enrolled as an undergraduate student in a declared Option in Forestry.
2. Must be at least a junior (60+ units) standing upon receipt of award.
3. Has a minimum Overall GPA of 2.75.
4. Active in Forestry & Wildland Resource student activities (SAF, Logging Sports, Forestry Club, SAFE, etc.)

#### Additional Details:

Award is for books & supplies, state and institutional fees, and any tuition assessments.

Upon graduation, recipient is encouraged to join the HSU Alumni Association and the HSU Forestry Alumni Association Chapter.

Recipient is encouraged to write a letter of gratitude to the HSU Forestry Alumni Association.

Ted Schuette  
Class of 1960



## **What's happening in Forestry and Wildland Resources at HSU?**



The Department of Forestry & Wildland Resources welcomes John Pascal Berrill as the new Silviculture faculty member who will teach Silvics-Foundation of Silviculture (FOR 331) and The Forest Environment (FOR 116) during the Fall Semester 2008. Pascal is a recent graduate of University of California – Berkeley where he studied with Kevin O' Hara (1984). He was raised in New Zealand. Pascal replaces Bill Bigg who retired in December and has moved with Donna to Illinois.

The departure of Chris Keyes to the University of Montana (research) has left a hole in our ranks and a faculty position request in Forest Health and Protection was submitted. Your support to get this position search process approved is appreciated. We still work to convince the upper administration of the importance to approve the search processes for several vacant faculty positions in the department.

Enrollments have shown a marked increase, especially in Forestry. It appears that by Fall Census, we will have around 200 forestry students, nearly 40 rangeland resources & wildland soils students, and about 30 graduate students spread across all four options. This is good growth for our programs and places a burden on class offering frequency, especially with the vacant faculty positions mentioned before.

The support of the HSU Forestry Alumni Association is essential for our success and the Forestry Recruitment Initiative is critical for sending students to our programs. Lisa Perry, the Natural Resources & Sciences Recruiter has had a huge impact on student recruitment for the 2008-2009 academic year. As always, please encourage the President, Provost, and Dean to continue their support for the Forestry and Wildland Resources Department programs.

K.O. (Ken) Fulgham  
Department Chair,  
Forestry & Wildland Resources

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## **Stephen C. Sillett welcomed to the Department of Forestry and Wildland Resources**

“...it's been a long-standing interest with trees that's grown into an obsession with the tallest trees.” Stephen C. Sillett's obsession continues to result in more discoveries than he probably ever hoped for. Sillett has not only discovered previously unknown high canopy relationships but he has uncovered an interest in the tallest trees that mainstream society begs to know. His research has been highlighted in numerous scientific journals, magazines such as *National Geographic* and *The New Yorker*, and a number of books, but it doesn't stop there. Sillett's work has also been featured in film, an IMAX movie *Adventures in Wild California*, and on National Public Radio's *Earth & Sky*. Most recently some of Sillett's research was used in the popular *Planet Earth* series from the Discovery Channel, and he was even discussed on The Daily Show with Jon Stewart during an interview with the author of *The Wild Trees*, Richard Preston. Finding the tallest trees has also drawn Sillett to all parts of the globe from Costa Rica to the Pacific Northwest, the Cascades and the Sierra Nevadas, and even now to the eucalyptus groves of Australia.

Forest research continues at a high pace but rarely has the American public been so captivated by it. It goes without saying that Humboldt State University was a perfect fit for Sillett with a forestry program focusing so intensely on those tall trees. With the new title of Kenneth L. Fisher Chair and a \$90,000 annual research budget, Sillett can not only continue captivating Americans with his research but he can also pass on his knowledge and spark to his students. Professor Sillett's new position with the Department of Forestry and Wildland Resources will undoubtedly further his reach as more students become interested and educated in redwood ecology. Sillett felt that he had the “potential to truly increase human awareness of these important trees” and it seems like he is doing just that.

Megan Parker  
Class of 2006

## Meet Pascal Berrill – Assistant Professor Silviculture & Ecophysiology

*Please join us in welcoming another new member to the HSU Forestry Faculty, Assistant Professor Berrill.*

### Personal and Research Interests:

My teaching and interdisciplinary research plans focus on silviculture, ecology, physiology, and the linkages between these disciplines i.e., how can we use/expand our understanding of physiological processes and linkages between the growth of a forest and its environment to better manage forest ecosystems. Key areas of research interest include: multi-aged silviculture, tree response to stress/climate change, forest restoration, carbon forestry (silviculture to maximize biomass production/carbon sequestration), and how variations in the natural environment affect results from these research areas.

My professional background is in commercial silvicultural research, growth and yield modeling, and intensive plantation management – establishment, pruning, and thinning practices to maximize value. Academic research background includes multiaged management of coast redwood, leaf area index and growth efficiency modeling, geostatistics and spatial pattern analysis, multivariate analysis methods, and linkages between coast redwood ecology, productivity, regeneration, and stand structure.

### Education and Degrees:

Ph.D. (2008) University of California, Berkeley, Ecosystem Science

M.S. (2003) University of California, Berkeley, Forest Science

B.For.Sc. (1999) University of Canterbury, New Zealand, Forestry Science

### Courses scheduled for AY 2008/09:

FOR 116 The Forest Environment

FOR 331 Silvics

FOR 432 Silviculture

FOR 479 Forestry Capstone



## 2004 HSU Forestry Graduate finds record breaking Ponderosa Pine

Tim Lovitt, HSU Forestry class of 2004, discovered the historic tree while conducting a stream condition inventory a few miles north of the Forest Glen Campground on the South Fork Management Unit of the Shasta-Trinity National Forest, where Tim is currently a Forestry Technician. Knowing that the tree he had seen was something special, Tim made a point of bringing out the proper equipment to measure and document this find.

The tree measured 240.5 feet tall and had a circumference of 290 inches (approximately 7.7 feet in diameter) making it the largest Ponderosa Pine on record in the United States. Tim's find was recognized as a champion tree in May of 2008 by the National Registry of Big Trees. He was also featured in an article in the American Forests Magazine. Both the registry and the article can be found on the American Forest website at [www.americanforests.org](http://www.americanforests.org).

"This is a great tree to have found and now be able to share with the public, I couldn't be more excited" said Lovitt.

"There is an iconic presence with large trees and it makes me proud it is located on the largest national forest in California."

When asked for comments to share with his fellow HSU Forestry Alumni, Lovitt added: "Professor John Stuart inspired me to search out, measure, and nominate large trees for the benefit of the American citizens." Spoken like a true public servant, Tim. Keep up the good work!

Kevin Conway  
Class of 2005

## HSU Forester Honored As 2008 Distinguished Alumni

On April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008 I spent the evening with many HSU alumni and friends honoring HSU's four 2008 Distinguished Alumni Award Recipients. Among them was Lyle Laverty, HSU Forestry Class of 1965. Lyle was nominated by the Forestry Chapter of the Alumni Association for his numerous career and personal achievements.

Lyle graduated in 1965 with a bachelor of science degree in Forest Management from Humboldt State College. He began his career in Orleans, California, in what would become a 30-year career with the US Forest Service (USFS). Lyle served the USFS in numerous capacities at the local, regional, and national level, ultimately ending his USFS career as the Associate Deputy Chief in 2001. From there he became the Director of Colorado State Parks until 2007, when he was nominated by President Bush, and confirmed by the United States Senate, as the Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish, Wildlife, and Parks. In this capacity he is responsible for overseeing policy for both the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service. Lyle currently oversees a combined annual budget of about \$3.6 billion and a workforce of 30,000 employees, very likely making Lyle the highest ranking federal official that HSU has produced.

Lyle was enthusiastic to be spending the evening at HSU among family and friends, both new and old. Lyle shared a table with his wife Pam, longtime friends, current Forestry Department Chair Ken and Jackie Fulgham, myself and current Forestry student Marissa Perez. I enjoyed hearing stories of Lyle's time at HSU as well as highlights from his career.

When Lyle took to the podium, his passion for the woods was evident. He spoke of a lifelong connection with the natural world that started as a child. This connection has guided Lyle throughout his long, distinguished career. Much of that career has been dedicated to sharing his passion with young people who otherwise not have the opportunity to experience and learn about the outdoors. As the National Director of Recreation, Heritage and Wilderness Resources for the USFS, Lyle collaborated with Disney in the creation of Wonderful Outdoor World (WOW). This is one of the first organizations to take low income, urban children out to the woods to learn about nature and has served as a model copied by numerous organizations throughout the country. You can view Lyle's speech in its entirety at the HSU alumni web page (<http://alumni.humboldt.edu>) by clicking on the distinguished alumni link.

The Forestry Chapter of HSU's Alumni Association is proud have a man of Lyle's caliber amongst our ranks. We should all be glad that the values instilled in HSU graduates have made their way to the highest levels of our government. I was left feeling proud of what a fellow HSU Forestry Alum had accomplished and I am left wondering just how far the newer Forestry alumni will take their education.

Kevin Conway  
Class of 2005

“... likely making Lyle the highest ranking federal official that HSU has produced.”



From left to right: Charles Ciancio, Distinguished Alumni Lyle Laverty, Dept. Chair Ken Fulgham and Kevin Conway



## Recollections of the Past

Is anyone curious about the origin of the Humboldt Forestry logo? Through the years the design has been used by the Forestry Club and the Forestry Alumni Association. Although modified and enhanced a number of times through the years, the core design remains unchanged. It's origin always comes to mind each time I receive the latest alumni newsletter with it displayed.

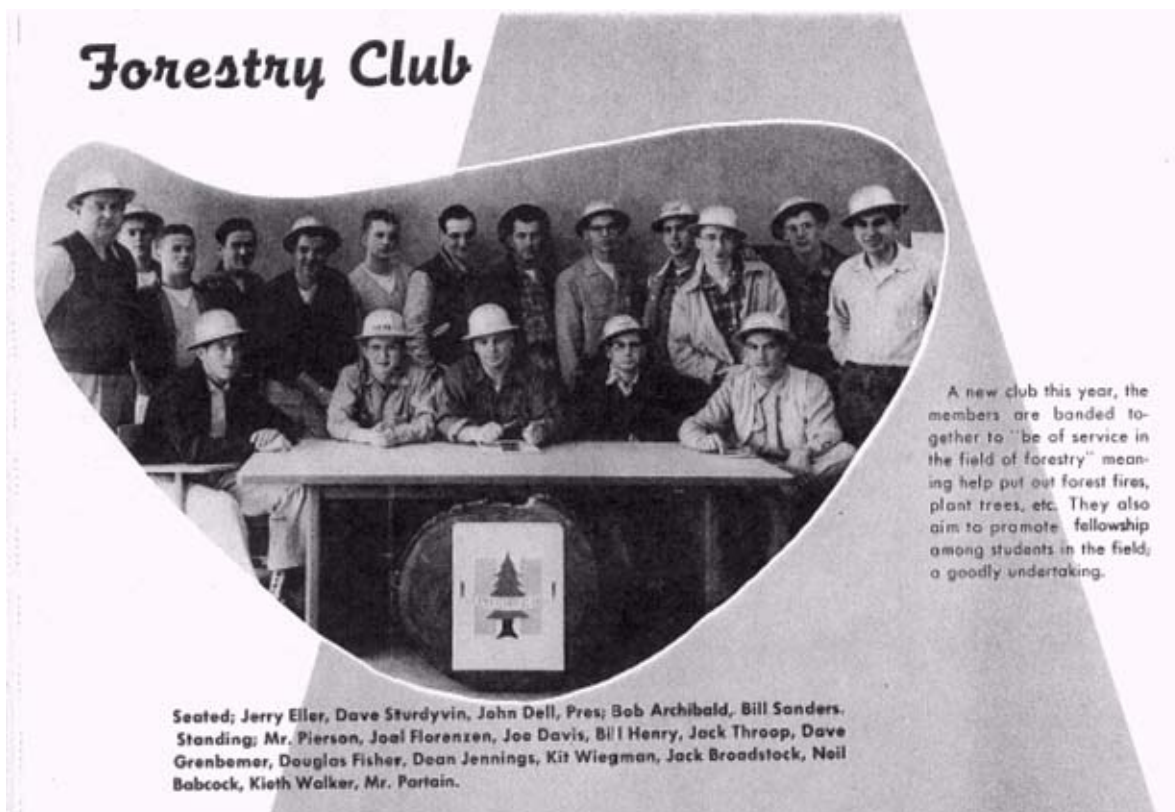
In the fall of 1955, the *HSC* Forestry Club was established on campus. At one of the early meetings, the need for a club logo or emblem was discussed. I don't recall just how I got involved; either I volunteered to make a draft or someone nominated me and the motion was approved unanimously. So was the way of club "doings." I suspect the latter!

I recall sitting on my Redwood Hall dorm bed and sketching out an idea on a piece of heavy poster paper. It was a pretty simple design: an "H" for Humboldt with a two-man saw being the cross arm. A tree was placed in the center and the words "Forestry Club" written across the saw.

I took the design to the next meeting for review. I remember that Ray Flynn, a fellow first year graduate, pointed out that the teeth on the saw were not accurate. I had omitted the "raker teeth." To tell the truth, I didn't know what the heck they were, as not being familiar with the saw detail. After making this correction, the design was presented and approved by the club membership.

I have enclosed a photo from the 1956 campus yearbook of the then new Forestry Club membership. As you can see, the Forestry Club logo is prominently displayed in the center. I drew only one original so you can only wonder what happened to it. However, the basic design has remained in use for over the last 50 years.

Bob Archibald,  
Class of 1959



## Forestry Alumni Annual Meeting 2008

Once again the HSU Forestry Alumni held an exciting Spring Meeting! The weekend began with a visit to Dr. Rollin Richmond. Alumni Officers stressed the importance of filling upcoming vacant positions, which is particularly key towards maintaining SAF accreditation. We tried not to nag too much, however, and thanked him for all he did towards the development of the Natural Resources Recruiter position, highlighting the effectiveness that this is having towards increasing enrollment in the Forestry Department. Now we just need to make sure we have the teachers to teach them!!

Following the meeting with President Richmond, alumni representatives met with Department of Forestry and Wildland Resources faculty and staff. This new annual tradition is an excellent medium upon which the Forestry Alumni and the faculty can meet and collaborate, providing direction for our annual activities.

Friday night, the HSU Forestry Club hosted the alumni at the Six Rivers Brewery. This event, labeled as a "Meet & Greet", gave current forestry students an opportunity to interact with seasoned and newer alumni. Resumes were exchanged and good times were had.

Saturday morning was an event almost too embarrassing to mention (at least for the author of this article!). The HSU Student SAF Chapter organized a golf tournament in McKinleyville. With 70+ degree temperatures and virtually no wind, we were all amazed that we were in Humboldt County! As for the golf game itself, many played well, while others were definitely out there for the great company. Winners of the day's events were Todd Hamilton, Brian Wing, Jesse Kreye, and Martin Ritchie.

The highlighted event of the weekend was definitely on Saturday night at the Alumni Banquet held at the Plaza Grill. Over 70 students and alumni enjoyed seeing old faces, making new friends, and feasting on fine food. The night included many activities.

First, an update on Alumni activities that had been occurring throughout the year was presented. Gary Rynearson gave an overview of the meeting with Dr. Richmond; Lisa Perry talked about the recruiting she has been doing all over the state; Kevin Conway asked for more alumni volunteers to make presentations to the Introduction to Forestry class, and Dr. Ken Fulgham presented an update on the Forestry Department.

Also during the evening, Dr. Steve Sillett, the Forestry Department's newest addition, spoke on the work he has been conducting all over the world to understand the role of carbon sequestration in old growth forests which include measurements taken at heights of 300+ (100 meters) feet off the ground. His presentation included captivating pictures of his research and innovative graphical depictions of his findings. The audience was stunned and definitely eager to learn more.

To conclude the evening's events, a special tribute was made to Dr. Bill Sise upon his retirement after 38 years in the Department. Memories were read that had been sent in from alumni representing a broad spectrum of graduating years, a presentation was made by the alumni of a wood pen only after asking Dr. Sise to "quiz tree!" the memento, and the Faculty presented him with a collage; he will truly be missed.

Finally, the weekend ended with breakfast at the Samoa Cookhouse. Over 30 alumni and students discussed plans for your Forestry Alumni for the next year, which includes a change in the administration. Your new Alumni officers are:

President:	Vacant
Co-1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Presidents:	Gary Rynearson & Dana Walsh
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President:	Ted Schuette
Past President:	Elizabeth Hadley
Treasurer:	Jim Brown
Secretary:	Vacant
Forestry Advisory Committee Liaison:	Len Lindstrand
Steering Committee:	Kevin Conway
	Jay Francis
	Eric Gehrke
	John Heissenbittel
	Brian Lindstrand
	Megan Parker
	Brian Wing

Thanks to all who made the weekend a huge success - We look forward to seeing you again next year!

Elizabeth Hadley  
Class of 2000

## California Forester rescues burned bear cub -Los Angeles Times

Adam Deem was driving through burned brush in the Shasta-Trinity National Forest west of Redding, Calif., when he spotted a black bear cub teetering oddly in the middle of the road.

It was Thursday, weeks into the state's fire siege. Deem, a forester with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, grabbed a camera from the back seat and took a few photos. Then he noticed the cub's fur was singed. Its paws looked badly burned. Worried, he mimicked the cub's cry to try to draw the mama bear close.

"He was crying, and between the two of us (crying), if the mother was anywhere nearby, she would have come," said Deem, 32. He tracked the bear as it painfully climbed a tree. Still no mother bear. Deem decided to act. He scooped him out of the tree by the scruff.

"He was fighting, trying to bite and scratch me, and I tried to keep out of his way," Deem said. "Basically I tucked him under my arm, hiked up the hill, climbed up and called the command center." Deem drove one-handed to camp where medics hooked the dehydrated cub up to an IV for fluids and treated its third-degree paw burns and a singed left eye. Deem held the cub, whom he had dubbed Lil' Smokey. "He licked my neck a little bit and gave me little kisses," Deem said with a laugh.

Lil' Smokey, weighing 8½ pounds and estimated to be 6 months old, is at Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care in South Lake Tahoe, one of the only centers in the state where cubs can be treated and taught survival skills until ready to return to the wild. The cub is one of many animals affected by the more than 1,700 fires that have burned in California in the last month. The center has two other bear cubs, also about 6 months old, that weigh 35 to 40 pounds.

Officials hope to take the cub back into the wild in January or February and place him in a den for the hibernation period. Some colleagues have questioned whether Deem made the right choice taking an animal out of the wild. But Deem said he would do it again. "I can't say that's right or wrong. All I can say is, when I was there, and I saw him, I just knew I couldn't leave him because he was gonna die, I knew that," Deem said. "And I thought, I can't explain it, something in my heart just turned and I said, I just need to give this guy a chance."



### *48 years ago...* **Humboldt State gets forest**

Humboldt State College in Arcata is now one of the few schools of high learning in the nation which can boast of having its own forest laboratory where fledgling foresters can test the validity of classroom lessons with actual fieldwork, according to an announcement by Humboldt State College president C. H. Siemens. The Pacific Lumber Co. of Scotia has signed an agreement with the College Improvement Foundation on behalf of Humboldt State's Department of Forestry, leasing 310 acres of company-owned forest land to the college for educational and experimental purposes. The acreage, about 15 minutes by car from the college campus between Arcata and Eureka, has an estimated 100,000 board feet of sawtimber per acre.

*Humboldt Times*  
June 12, 1960

*Reprinted in the Times Standard*  
June 12, 2008

### **Announcement: Pre-Homecoming Gathering**

All are invited to attend an informal get-together beginning at 6 PM at Six-Rivers Brewery in McKinleyville on Friday, 10/3/2008, prior to Homecoming. For information, email [forestry\\_alumni@humboldt.edu](mailto:forestry_alumni@humboldt.edu)

*If you are planning on being in the area or just need an excuse to come to the Coast, please come join us!*



*HSU Forestry Alumni Association  
Humboldt State University  
1 Harpst St.  
Arcata, CA  
95521*

*The Humboldt State University Forestry Alumni Chapter was established to support the Department of Forestry and Watershed Management. The Chapter aims to provide a source of expertise to the students and faculty, and to provide for the fellowship of the alumni, students and faculty of the department.*

*Yes, I'd like to join...  
the Forestry Alumni Chapter  
of the  
HSU Alumni Association*

- Annual Forestry Alumni Chapter Membership: \$10  
(*must have current HSUAA membership*)
- Annual joint HSUAA & Forestry Chapter Membership: \$45
- 3-Year joint HSUAA & Forestry Alumni Chapter Package: \$105
- Forestry Alumni Chapter Life Membership: \$150  
(*Open to all Life Members of the HSUAA*)
- Joint Lifetime HSUAA & Forestry Chapter Membership: \$550  
*\*Spousal rates available, please contact the HSUAA*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Major & Year graduated HSU \_\_\_\_\_

Tell us what you've been up to \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*Thank you!*

**Please** make checks payable to **HSU Alumni Association**  
and mail this form to:

**HSU Forestry Alumni Association**  
**c/o Department of Forestry & Watershed Management**  
**Humboldt State University**  
**1 Harpst Street**  
**Arcata, CA 95521**