



# CALIFORNIA TREE SCHOOL 2025

## Santa Cruz Session

April 5, 2025

San Lorenzo Valley High School, Felton CA

Presented By:

**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA**  
Agriculture and Natural Resources



Forest Stewardship



FIRE NETWORK

CALIFORNIA  
*Fire Science*  
CONSORTIUM  
"Informing Our Future With Fire"



# Welcome Letter

The UC ANR Forest Stewardship Team is excited to welcome you to California Tree School 2025! This one day forestry and natural resources event will cover a wide variety of topics of interest to forest landowner, managers, and anyone who loves trees.

Our Santa Cruz session offers an exciting location for learning about redwood ecology, plant identification, indigenous basketweaving history, and more.

We hope you enjoy the day.

Cheers,

*Kim Ingram*

UC ANR Forest Stewardship  
Academic Coordinator

*Katie Reidy*

UC ANR Post-Fire Academic  
Coordinator

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*Thank you to our  
collaborators:*



# EVENT SCHEDULE

Santa Cruz

## WELCOME and REGISTRATION ● 8:00-9:00 AM

Welcome to California Tree School 2025- Santa Cruz Session! Sign in at the front table, grab your personal Tree School packet, and join fellow students for coffee and breakfast.

## CLASS BLOCK A ● 9:00-10:30 AM

### ~~Dynamics of Coastal Forests~~ **CLASS FULL**

Instructor: Gregory Gilbert

[Class Description: p.6](#)

### ~~From a Basketweaver's Eyes~~

### **CLASS FULL**

Instructor: Alice Lincoln-Cook

[Class Description: p.9](#)

### ~~Fire Ecology and its Surrogates~~ **CLASS FULL**

Instructor: Angie Richman

[Class Description: p.7](#)

### Introduction to Pile Burning

Instructor: Barb Satink-Wolfson

[Class Description: p.10](#)

### Forest Health

Instructor: Mike Jones

[Class Description: p.8](#)

### Santa Cruz Mountains Tree Identification

Instructors: Brian Woodward; David Benterou

[Class Description: p.12](#)

### Forest Inventory (Beginner)

Instructors: Katie Reidy; Susie Kocher

[Class Description: p.8](#)

## BREAK ● 10:30-11:00 AM



# EVENT SCHEDULE

Santa Cruz

## CLASS BLOCK B ● 11:00 AM-12:30 PM

### ~~A Primer for Wildfire Management in California~~ **CLASS FULL**

Instructor: Ashley Grupenhoff

[Class Description: p.6](#)

### Making Mass Timber Panels at Home

Instructors: Dan Sanchez; Paul Mayencourt

[Class Description: p.11](#)

### Finding Your Way in the Woods

Instructors: Katie Reidy; Susie Kocher

[Class Description: p.7](#)

### Tax Tips for Forest Landowners

Instructor: Larry Camp

[Class Description: p.12](#)

### Forest Inventory (Advanced)

Instructor: Ed Orre

[Class Description: p.8](#)

### Prescribed Fire in Forests: Ecology and Planning

Instructor: Spencer Klinefelter

[Class Description: p.12](#)

### Introduction to Plant ID: Common Plants, Tools, and Tricks

Instructors: David Benterou; Laurel Bard

[Class Description: p.10](#)

## LUNCH ● 12:30-1:30 PM

Enjoy lunch and don't forget to visit our tabling event. Afternoon sessions will begin promptly at 1:30 PM.





# EVENT SCHEDULE

Santa Cruz

## CLASS BLOCK C ● 1:30-3:00 PM

### An Introduction to Biomass and Innovative Forest Products in California

Instructor: Cindy Chen

[Class Description: p.6](#)

### ~~Forest Disturbance Monitoring~~ **CLASS FULL**

~~Instructors: Brian Woodward; Tori Norville~~

~~[Class Description: p.8](#)~~

### ~~Forest Mapping (Avenza)~~ **CLASS FULL**

~~Instructor: Rick Satomi~~

~~[Class Description: p.9](#)~~

### HIZ Home Hardening and D-Space Assessments

Instructor: Lauren Moody

[Class Description: p.9](#)

### Livestock and Forest Stewardship

Instructor: Claudio Nunez

[Class Description: p.10](#)

### Nature Journaling

Instructor: Cady Delay

[Class Description: p.11](#)

### ~~Woodland Fire Resilience and Prescribed Fire~~ **CLASS FULL**

~~Instructor: Jared Childress~~

~~[Class Description: p.13](#)~~

## BREAK ● 3:00-3:30 PM



# EVENT SCHEDULE

Santa Cruz

## CLASS BLOCK D ● 3:30-5:00 PM

### Fire Safe Solutions for Home Design, Building, and Upkeep

Instructor: Yana Valachovic

[Class Description: p.7](#)

### ~~Oak Woodland Ecology and Management~~ **CLASS FULL**

~~Instructor: Mike Jones~~

~~[Class Description: p.11](#)~~

### Forest Mapping (Smartphone Apps for your Forest)

Instructor: Rick Satomi

[Class Description: p.9](#)

### ~~The Big Fire in the Big Basin: The Long History and Short Memory of Wildfire in the Santa Cruz Mountains~~ **CLASS FULL**

~~Instructor: Dustin Mulvaney~~

~~[Class Description: p.13](#)~~

### Livestock and Forest Stewardship

Instructor: Claudio Nunez

[Class Description: p.10](#)

### Truffle Fungi of the Sierra Nevadas

Instructor: Chris Bivins

[Class Description: p.13](#)

### Nature in Watercolor

Instructor: Cady Delay

[Class Description: p.11](#)





# CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

Santa Cruz

Classes are listed in alphabetical order, with applicable forest stewardship themes noted on the right.

## ~~A PRIMER FOR WILDFIRE MANAGEMENT IN CALIFORNIA~~ **CLASS FULL** MANAGING VEGETATION

FIELD CLASS: DRESS FOR THE WEATHER. This course will examine fire management strategies and their ecological and social implications in California. We will cover key concepts in fire ecology and examine real-world case studies that demonstrate how these principles are applied in practice. By the end of the course, you will be equipped to walk into a forest, assess its current condition, understand the historical and ecological factors that shaped it, and anticipate the potential effects of fire.

**Time: Class Block B (11:00 AM-12:30 PM)**

*Instructor: Ashley Grupenhoff, Assn. Professor of Wildland Fire Management, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo.*

## AN INTRODUCTION TO BIOMASS AND FOREST PRODUCTS IN CALIFORNIA

FOREST ART, CULTURE, & PRODUCTS

California's continuous efforts in reaching its emission reduction goals presents great opportunities for the development of a state-wide bioeconomy. This topic will go over the basics of woody biomass and focus on the current development of biomass-based products and innovative wood products. This class will also demonstrate the benefits, challenges, and opportunities related to these products and opportunities for community engagement.

**Time: Class Block C (1:30-3:00 PM)**

*Instructor: Cindy Chen, Biomass and Wood Products Advisor, UC ANR.*

## DYNAMICS OF COASTAL FORESTS **CLASS FULL**

FOREST LIFE

Since 2007, the UC Santa Cruz Forest Ecology Research Plot (FERP) has followed the growth, death, recruitment, and reproduction of trees, shrubs, and lianas in a mixed-evergreen and redwood forest. The 31,000 individuals of 34 species, all mapped, tagged, and measured repeatedly, tell a story of tremendous dynamics not apparent without long-term data from many individuals. We will explore what these data have told us so far, what they point to in the future, and show you how to access and use the FERP data yourself to ask questions about central California Coastal Forests.

**Time: Class Block A (9:00-10:30 AM)**

*Instructor: Gregory Gilbert, Professor of Environmental Studies, UC Santa Cruz.*



# CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

Santa Cruz

Classes are listed in alphabetical order, with applicable forest stewardship themes noted on the right.

## FINDING YOUR WAY IN THE WOODS (INTRODUCTION TO FOREST ORIENTEERING)

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR FOREST

FIELD CLASS: DRESS FOR THE WEATHER. Learn how to use a map and compass to orient yourself in a forest, as well as a variety of helpful tips and tricks to survey a forested landscape. Understand the history of forest inventory and why surveying the forest is important for preservation and conservation. This class will be interactive and engaging, as students will navigate and put their newly-learned skills to the test in a mini orienteering course.

**Time: Class Block B (11:00 AM-12:30 PM)**

*Instructors: Katie Reidy, Post-Fire Education Coordinator, UC ANR; Susie Kocher, Forestry and Natural Resources Advisor, UC ANR.*

## FIRE ECOLOGY AND ITS SURROGATES CLASS FULL

MANAGING VEGETATION

FIELD CLASS: DRESS FOR THE WEATHER. Learn how you can imitate the positive impacts of low-intensity fire on your land. This class will cover the simple hand tools needed to achieve this work, how to use them, and ideas on what to do with trimmed green waste.

**Time: Class Block A (9:00-10:30 AM)**

*Instructor: Angie Richman, Forest Health Project Manager, Santa Cruz County RCD .*

## FIRE SAFE SOLUTIONS FOR HOME DESIGN, BUILDING, AND UPKEEP

YOUR HOME IN THE WOODS

INCLUDES OUTDOOR ACTIVITY: DRESS FOR THE WEATHER. Feeling overwhelmed about wildfire in California? You are not alone, but the good news is that there is a lot that homeowners can do to reduce risk and help your family and community withstand wildfire exposure. This class, "Fire Safe Solutions for Design, Building, and Upkeep," will help dispel myths about products and materials; offer science-based solutions for construction, design, and maintenance; provide the latest information in managing fuels on the property; discuss what is happening in the insurance market; and provide an opportunity for shared, experiential learning. Equip yourself with the tools to empower your community, fostering a safer and more resilient environment in the face of fire risks.

**Time: Class Block D (3:30-5:00 PM)**

*Instructor: Yana Valachovic, Forestry and Natural Resources Advisor, UC ANR.*





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Classes are listed in alphabetical order, with applicable forest stewardship themes noted on the right.

### FOREST DISTURBANCE MONITORING **CLASS FULL**

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR FOREST

**FIELD CLASS: DRESS FOR THE WEATHER.** Join this class to learn how to monitor a forest after a fuel reduction or stewardship activity. Monitoring is important to understand how your land responds to treatments and if your goals and objectives are being met. This class will present and explain the basics of monitoring these treatments in an interactive, outdoor setting.

**Time: Class Block C (1:30-3:00 PM)**

*Instructors: Brian Woodward, Forestry and Natural Resources Advisor, UC ANR; Tori Norville, Fire and Natural Resources Advisor, UC ANR.*

### FOREST HEALTH

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR FOREST

**FIELD CLASS: DRESS FOR THE WEATHER.** Explore some tips and tricks for identifying forest health problems on your forestland. This course will cover the common pests and diseases affecting conifer and hardwood forests.

**Time: Class Block A (9:00-10:30 AM)**

*Instructor: Mike Jones, Forestry and Natural Resources Advisor, UC ANR.*

### FOREST INVENTORY (BEGINNER AND ADVANCED)

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR FOREST

**BEGINNER: FIELD CLASS: DRESS FOR THE WEATHER.** Gain an understanding of essential tools that foresters and other natural resource professionals use in order to survey, map, and understand the composition of a forested landscape. These tools and skills can help you in your natural resources career or in understanding your private forested lands and better ways to manage it.

**Time: Class Block A (9:00-10:30 AM)**

*Instructors: Katie Reidy, Post-Fire Education Coordinator, UC ANR; Susie Kocher, Forestry and Natural Resources Advisor, UC ANR.*

**ADVANCED:** Learn how to measure basic metrics for forest management, growth, research, and the sale of wood products: forest mensuration and log scale. Forest mensuration is the art and science of measuring individual trees and stand volumes. Log scale is the art and science of measuring logs.

**Time: Class Block B (11:00 AM-12:30 PM)**

*Instructor: Ed Orre, Unit Forester, CALFIRE.*



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## **FOREST MAPPING (AVENZA & SMARTPHONE APPS FOR YOUR FOREST) AVENZA CLASS FULL**

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR FOREST

INCLUDES OUTDOOR ACTIVITY: DRESS FOR THE WEATHER.

**FOREST MAPPING WITH AVENZA:** In this class we will talk about how mapping can help with stewardship and will introduce participants to the commonly-used mapping app, Avenza. Avenza is used to collect and manage digital data records to track critical forest features. This is an interactive course with hands-on time using the app, so please have Avenza downloaded on your phone:

<https://store.avenza.com/pages/app-features>.

**Time: Class Block C (1:30-3:00 PM)**

**SMARTPHONE APPS FOR YOUR FOREST:** This class will cover various smartphone applications forest landowners can use to identify flora and fauna, conduct forest measurements, and analyze property features. Gain hands on experience working with digital data and learn about the various tools available when stewarding a forest property.

**Time: Class Block D (3:30-5:00 PM)**

*Instructor: Rick Satomi, Forestry and Natural Resources Advisor, UC ANR.*

## **FROM A BASKETWEAVER'S EYES CLASS FULL**

FOREST ART, CULTURE, & PRODUCTS

Join this class to learn more about the culture of basketweaving, the natural environment and materials, fire, and ways to support California Indian Basketweaver's Association (CIBA) efforts.

**Time: Class Block A (9:00-10:30 AM)**

*Instructor: Alice Lincoln-Cook, Chairperson, California Indian Basketweaver's Association.*

## **HIZ HOME HARDENING AND D-SPACE ASSESSMENTS**

YOUR HOME IN THE WOODS

FIELD CLASS: DRESS FOR THE WEATHER. Join this class to learn more ways you can protect your home from wildfire. Students will join Lauren to assess an example structure for potential hazards, learn about recommendations for home modifications, and will receive information about the free Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) Program offered by the Fire Safe Council of Santa Cruz County (FSCSCC).

**Time: Class Block C (1:30-3:00 PM)**

*Instructor: Lauren Moody, Program Director, Santa Cruz County Fire Safe Council.*





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### **INTRODUCTION TO PILE BURNING**

FIRE AS A TOOL

FIELD CLASS: DRESS FOR THE WEATHER. Residential pile burning is an important tool for homeowners to create defensible space in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI). It is also a useful tool for large landowners who want to manage vegetation. We will review aspects of pile burning such as: building the pile, permits that are necessary, and safety.

**Time: Class Block A (9:00-10:30 AM)**

*Instructor: Barb Satink-Wolfson, Fire and Natural Resources Advisor, UC ANR.*

### **INTRODUCTION TO PLANT ID: COMMON PLANTS, TOOLS, AND TRICKS**

FOREST LIFE

FIELD CLASS: DRESS FOR THE WEATHER. Learn how to see the world around you differently by getting in to plant identification! This course will introduce you to easily accessible apps and tools to begin your plant ID journey, and you will learn to identify a few common plant species of the Santa Cruz Mountains.

**Time: Class Block B (11:00 AM-12:30 PM)**

*Instructors: David Benterou, Staff Research Associate, UC ANR ; Laurel Bard, Forest Health Program Specialist, Santa Cruz RCD.*

### **LIVESTOCK AND FOREST STEWARDSHIP**

MANAGING VEGETATION

Domestic livestock are the most extensively used tool for land management in the Western US. In this session, we will discuss the principles for managing disturbance with livestock and its implications for fire-fuels, habitat integrity and forest regeneration.

**Time: Class Block C (1:30-3:00 PM); Class Block D (3:30-5:00 PM)**

*Instructor: Claudio Nunez, Grazing Program Manager, Santa Lucia Conservancy.*



# CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

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Classes are listed in alphabetical order, with applicable forest stewardship themes noted on the right.

## MAKING MASS TIMBER PANELS AT HOME

FOREST ART, CULTURE, & PRODUCTS

Be a part of the mass timber revolution! Join for a lecture on simple techniques for creating structural and architectural panels that add value to dimensional lumber. This class will cover methods for making nail laminated timber and dowel laminated timber at home, and introduce techniques for scaling production at a low cost.

**Time: Class Block B (11:00 AM-12:30 PM)**

*Instructors: Dan Sanchez, Cooperative Extension Specialist, UC Berkeley; Paul Mayencourt, Cooperative Extension Specialist, UC Berkeley.*

## NATURE IN WATERCOLOR

FOREST ART, CULTURE, & PRODUCTS

FIELD CLASS: DRESS FOR THE WEATHER. Get inspired by the Redwood forest and learn how to capture its beauty in a painting made by you! We will go through each step, sketching, painting, and more to make sure you leave with a piece you love and an experience to remember.

**Time: Class Block D (3:30-5:00 PM)**

*Instructor: Cady Delay, Art Instructor, Art de Delay.*

## NATURE JOURNALING

FOREST ART, CULTURE, & PRODUCTS

FIELD CLASS: DRESS FOR THE WEATHER. Get closer to the redwoods by learning how to journal about nature. Spend the afternoon in the Redwood forest, practice sketching and making connections about the world around us.

**Time: Class Block C (1:30-3:00 PM)**

*Instructor: Cady Delay, Art Instructor, Art de Delay.*

## OAK WOODLAND ECOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT **CLASS FULL** GETTING TO KNOW YOUR FOREST

FIELD CLASS: DRESS FOR THE WEATHER. Take a walk in the oaks and join a discussion on these fascinating, dynamic, and complex ecosystems. We will talk about the diversity of oak woodlands, the role of disturbance, threats to their health, and how we steward for different goals and objectives.

**Time: Class Block D (3:30-5:00 PM)**

*Instructor: Mike Jones, Forestry and Natural Resources Advisor, UC ANR.*





# CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

## Santa Cruz

Classes are listed in alphabetical order, with applicable forest stewardship themes noted on the right.

### **PRESCRIBED FIRE IN FORESTS: ECOLOGY AND PLANNING**

FIRE AS A TOOL

**FIELD CLASS: DRESS FOR THE WEATHER.** This workshop will focus on both the logistical side of prescribed fire in woodland and forest environments as well as the ecological effects of fire in these environments and what landowners can expect after using fire on their land. Topics covered will include permitting and burn plans, prep work necessary for safe burns, and post-fire responses of various tree and shrub species in common forest types.

**Time: Class Block B (11:00 AM-12:30 PM)**

*Instructors: Spencer Klinefelter, Program Coordinator, Central Coast Prescribed Burn Association.*

### **SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS TREE ID**

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR FOREST

**INCLUDES OUTDOOR ACTIVITY: DRESS FOR THE WEATHER.** Learn to identify the common (and not so common) trees of the Santa Cruz Mountains in this hands-on course with your local UC ANR Forestry Advisor. The class will start in the lab where we will look at cuttings and identify distinguishing features. The second part of the class will head into the woods where you apply your knowledge to the nearby forests surrounding the Fall Creek Unit of Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park.

**Time: Class Block A (9:00-10:30 AM)**

*Instructor: Brian Woodward, Forestry and Natural Resources Advisor, UC ANR; David Benterou, Staff Research Associate, UC ANR.*

### **TAX TIPS FOR FOREST LANDOWNERS**

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR FOREST

This class will introduce key considerations for filing taxes as a forest landowner. Topics to be covered include: basis, organization of records, discussion of applicable sections of Federal and State income tax, including cost share payments, casualty losses, and periodic timber sales, and the California Timber Yield Tax.

**Time: Class Block B (11:00 AM-12:30 PM)**

*Instructor: Larry Camp, RPF and Board Member, Forest Landowners of California.*



# CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

Santa Cruz

Classes are listed in alphabetical order, with applicable forest stewardship themes noted on the right.

## ~~THE BIG FIRE IN THE BIG BASIN: THE LONG HISTORY AND SHORT MEMORY OF WILDFIRE IN THE SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS~~ **CLASS FULL**

FIRE AS A TOOL

This talk will discuss the post-colonial wildfire history in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Learn about the Spanish dispossession of Indigenous fire regimes and landscape level changes during American occupation, and how it led to an active period of wildfires across the region in the late 1800s that lasted in the early 20th century. These fires spurred efforts to protect the region's redwood forest through the formation of the Sempervirens Fund and founding of Big Basin State Park, but also further entrenched practices that encouraged further wildfire suppression.

**Time: Class Block D (3:30-5:00 PM)**

*Instructors: Dustin Mulvaney, Professor of Environmental Studies, San Jose State University.*

## TRUFFLE FUNGI OF THE SIERRA NEVADA MOUNTAINS

FOREST LIFE

INCLUDES OUTDOOR ACTIVITY: DRESS FOR THE WEATHER. Truffles are mushrooms that have evolved to grow completely underground. Due to the difficulty involved in finding these fungi, they remain one of the most understudied groups in the fungal kingdom. This course will cover some introductory concepts regarding the biology of truffle fungi, their symbiotic relationships with trees like oaks and conifers, and the considerations regarding sustainable collection of these fascinating fungi.

**Time: Class Block D (3:30-5:00 PM)**

*Instructor: Christopher Bivins, Natural Sciences Teaching Associate, UC Merced.*

## WOODLAND FIRE RESILIENCE AND PRESCRIBED-FIRE HISTORY **CLASS FULL**

FIRE AS A TOOL

INCLUDES OUTDOOR ACTIVITY: DRESS FOR THE WEATHER. Humans have been burning in California for thousands of years, from Native American stewards to early foresters and 1950s ranchers. Join us for a presentation and discussion on the forgotten history of prescribed fire in California.

**Time: Class Block C (1:30-3:00 PM)**

*Instructor: Jared Childress, Program Manager, Central Coast Prescribed Burn Association.*





# REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Santa Cruz

## How to Register

1. Visit [the registration page](#) or scan the QR code to the right.
2. Select which classes you would like to attend.
3. Registration is \$70. Card payments only. Need-based scholarships available by request.



### What does my registration fee include?

Registration fee covers class materials (unless otherwise noted in class description), parking, lunch, and coffee breaks.

### When does the registration form close?

The registration form will close on March 10th at 5 PM. Remember to register early! Classes may fill up before the registration deadline.

### Should I register for both Tree School locations?

We recommend attending the location that best suits your management goals and learning objectives.

### How do I obtain a need-based scholarship?

Email Kim Ingram, Forest Stewardship Academic Coordinator at [kcingram@ucanr.edu](mailto:kcingram@ucanr.edu).



