

FOREST STEWARDSHIP COMMUNITY NEWS

Spring 2024

All About Wood Products

*Celebrating International Day of Forests
2024: Forests and Innovation*

Happy [International Day of Forests](#), and welcome to our first Forest Stewardship Community newsletter! Stay up to date with new research, community stories, and upcoming UC ANR forestry events.

This first edition celebrates wood- it's utility, its beauty, and its enormous potential to aid California in achieving statewide environmental goals. Explore our new dowel-laminated timber guide and interviews with landowners and UC ANR academics. We hope you enjoy reading!

Warmly,
Grace Dean
Forest Stewardship Communications Specialist
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Top to bottom: Forest Stewardship field day participants examine a solar kiln up close at the UC Berkeley Richmond Field Station; Stacks of wood from different tree species at Richmond. Photo credit: N.Dutch.

DIY Mass Timber with Paul Mayencourt, UCCE Wood Products Specialist

A guide to making your own dowel-laminated timber panels at home.

Mass timber is popping up all around California- from the subject of [academic lectures](#) to its use within [an office building in downtown Los Angeles](#). Mass timber is the umbrella term for structural engineered wood products, which include variants such as cross-laminated timber, glue-laminated timber, and dowel-laminated timber.

Using wood for construction purposes is nothing new- but what makes **mass timber special is that it utilizes multiple pieces of wood to create a singular panel**. This opens up opportunities for utilizing small diameter timber that would otherwise be considered unusable for construction.

While the mass timber panels needed for constructing buildings come from manufacturing facilities, **did you know that you can make your own mass timber panels at home for small-scale projects?** We developed a guide to making your own dowel-laminated timber panels with UCCE's Wood Products Specialist, Paul Mayencourt, which can be seen below.

Learn more about Paul's research on low-carbon design solutions for the built environment on [his website](#), and connect with him at mapaul@ucberkeley.edu.

See below for a preview of our DIY Dowel-Laminated Timber guide, and a link to download the full guide as a pdf.

Please note that this guide is for educational purposes ONLY.

What would you like to see from UCCE? Tell us about your learning interests on our Wood Products survey [HERE](#).



L to R: UCCE Specialists Dan Sanchez and Paul Mayencourt lead a demonstration at the Richmond Field Station. Photo credit: N. Dutch.

How To DIY Dowel-Laminated Timber Panels
Please note that this guide is for educational purposes only.

- Stack your wood pieces.
- Mark the desired location for dowel holes with the combination square. Repeat until you have marked holes for all dowels.
- Use the bar clamp to secure your beams both vertically and horizontally.

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How To DIY Dowel-Laminated Timber Panels
Please note that this guide is for educational purposes only.

- Drill your pilot hole using the portable drill guide and power drill.
- Use the hammer drill to drill through the entire stack of wood. Repeat steps 4-5 until you have drilled holes for all dowels.

Pilot hole example

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[DOWNLOAD THE GUIDE](#)

UC ANR Advisors on Biomass and Bioenergy in California

Cindy Chen and Haris Gilani add their stories to the Forest Stewardship Story Map.

[**Cindy Chen**](#) is the UC ANR Woody Biomass Advisor for the Central Sierra region. She shares about the benefits of getting input from all collaborators within the biomass utilization supply chain:

"It's important to connect landowners with industry, as biomass facilities have a need for reliable, long-term feedstock. It would be great to get landowners and industry partners in the same room to hear what landowners want and find solutions that make it easier for both sides to participate in the process."

[**READ CINDY'S STORY**](#)

[**Haris Gilani**](#) serves Riverside and San Bernardino counties, yet his role as the UC ANR Biomass and Bioenergy Advisor takes him all around California. He expands the positive potential of biohydrogen:

"Hydrogen can be used as an alternative to fossil fuels, which aids statewide decarbonization goals. What's exciting is that the biomass utilized [for this] would come from forest treatments or agriculture residues, which is a great way to use products which are currently considered waste."

[**READ HARIS'S STORY**](#)

Publications and Resources

Plans for building solar kilns, bioenergy fact sheets, and more!

UC ANR Forest Stewardship Woody Biomass Newsletters

- [**Woody Biomass, Pt. 1**](#) covers woody biomass-based energy products. *Author: Kim Ingram.*
- [**Woody Biomass, Pt. 2**](#) covers mass timber and biofuels. *Author: Kim Ingram.*

[UC ANR Forest Stewardship Bioenergy and Wood Products Webinar](#)

- View discussions around bioenergy and wood products with guest speakers Cindy Chen and Haris Gilani (UC ANR), Terrance Rodgers (Golden State Natural Resources), and Jaron Brandon (Tuolumne Board of Supervisors).

[UC ANR Woody Biomass Utilization Website](#)

- Includes an interactive map of California's forest products and biomass power plant facilities.

[UC Berkeley 2024 William Main Seminar Series: Woody Biomass Utilization in California](#)

- This series will explore wood processing infrastructure, capability and development in California- register for sessions and join online over Zoom!

Biofuels Fact Sheets

- [**Why Biofuels?**](#) *Authors: Haris Gilani, Daniel Sanchez, Katie Harrell*

- [The Benefits of Different Biofuels.](#) Authors: *Haris Gilani, Daniel Sanchez, Katie Harrell.*
- [Forest Biofuels Fact Sheet.](#) Authors: *Haris Gilani, Daniel Sanchez, Katie Harrell.*

[Build it Solar Website- Solar Wood Drying](#)

- Includes free plans for making solar powered kilns to reduce wood moisture content.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHTS

Stories from our Forest Stewardship and Post-Fire Resilience community- forest landowners and professionals alike!



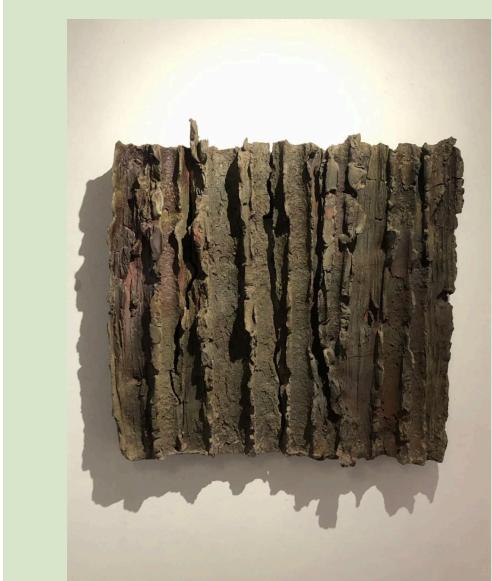
A selectively managed MRC redwood forest.
Photo credit: J.Andersen.

NEW BLOG

Forest Stewardship from an Industry Perspective: Mendocino and Humboldt Redwood Co.'s John Andersen

This new blog explores stewardship practices, environmental transparency, and industry adaptation to wildfire through a conversation with John Andersen, Forest Policy Director for [Mendocino and Humboldt Redwood Companies](#) (MRC/HRC).

"Our family-owned businesses want to hand the forest down to future generations in a better



"Cultural burn" by Scott Parady. Photo credit: S.Parady.

FOREST STEWARDSHIP STORY MAP

Landowners share how they transform woody biomass into fine art

In addition to Cindy and Haris's additions to the Story Map, we also spoke with two forest landowners and former workshop participants: James Wellner and Scott Parady.

"Art and forest management embody both science and creativity."
-James Wellner

James is a woodworker with a long history of using wood as an artistic

*condition than when the forestland
was purchased."*
-John Andersen

[Read the Full Story](#)

medium, and Scott is a ceramicist using wood to fuel his wood-burning kiln. Both unique stories can be found on the Story Map!

[Visit the Story Map](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

2024 Cal-TREX- Santa Cruz County

Applications close March 24

When: June 3-6

Where: Mt. Madonna Center, Santa Cruz County

[APPLY](#)

Post-Fire Forest Resilience Workshop- Plumas and Lassen Counties

When: April 23-May 21, with an in person field day May 18

Where: Online over Zoom

[REGISTER](#)

Tree School- Hopland

When: May 4, 8 AM-4:30 PM

Where: Hopland Research and Extension Center, Mendocino County

[LEARN MORE](#)

Forest Stewardship Workshop- Lake Tahoe Basin

When: May 14-July 16, with an in person field day June 8

Where: Online over Zoom

[REGISTER](#)

Stewardship Exchange- Plumas County

This event is for local natural resource managers.

When: May 23-24

Where: UC Forestry Camp, Plumas County

[EMAIL *retompkins@ucanr.edu* for more information](#)

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