



Photo Credit: National Forest Foundation

Yuba Forest Network

Workforce Development Subgroup

Background

Since the mid-1800s, the communities of the Yuba River watershed have been sustained by the surrounding forests through a thriving wood products industry. Over time, a combination of environmental and social challenges degraded this industry, as well as the jobs and livelihoods it once supported. Current efforts promoting ecologically-based forest management have the potential to reduce the risk of uncharacteristic, high-intensity wildfire, restore watershed health and native biodiversity, and redevelop a wood products industry and a restoration-based economy that supports our local communities.

The Yuba Forest Network's Workforce Development Subgroup supports programs and relationships that build local workforce capacity for forest health restoration work and create long-term sustainable jobs across the watershed.

Goals

- Assess forest health workforce sectors with the greatest need for increased capacity
- Support and/or develop training programs focused on forest restoration-based work
- Build relationships with local employers to inform effective training and job placement programs

Current Tasks

- Conduct a needs assessment of local employers and project planners engaged in forest restoration work in the Yuba River watershed

Future Tasks

TBD

Products

TBD - links to completed documents and tasks will be provided here

Subgroup Members

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Chris Friedel - [Yuba Watershed Institute](#)

Erika Seward - [Bear Yuba Land Trust](#)

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