

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS


## EMPLOYEE POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM Original Amendment

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from private sources for travel taken in connection with official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report privately-funded travel on the annual *Financial Disclosure Statements* of those employees required to file them. In accordance with House Rule 25, clause 5, **you must complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House by email at [gifttravelreports@mail.house.gov](mailto:gifttravelreports@mail.house.gov), within 15 days after travel is completed.** Please **do not** file this form with the Committee on Ethics.

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.**

1. Name of Traveler: Taylor Reed
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: \_\_\_\_\_ **OR**  None  
b. Relationship to Traveler:  Spouse  Child  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
3. a. Dates: Departure: 08/13/2024 Return: 08/15/2024  
b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: \_\_\_\_\_ **OR**  None
4. Departure City: Manteca, CA (Transported myself from district) Destination: Menlo Park, CA Return City: Manteca, CA (Transported myself back to district)
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended: A day and a half of lectures on important wildfire policy topics at Stanford University.  
A half day going to communities impacted by wildfires in Big Basin State Park and Boulder Creek, CA.
7. Attached to this form are **each** of the following, *signify that each item is attached by checking the corresponding box*:
  - a.  a completed *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form*;
  - b.  the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* completed by the trip sponsor **prior** to the trip, **including all** attachments **and** the *Additional Sponsor Form(s)*;
  - c.  page 2 of the completed *Traveler Form* submitted by the employee; **and**
  - d.  the letter from the Committee on Ethics approving my participation on this trip.
8. a.  I represent that I participated in each of the activities reflected in the attached sponsor's agenda. *Signify statement is true by checking the box.*  
b. If not, explain: I attended all activities in the attached sponsor's agenda except for the flights to and from DC.  
I transported myself to and from the trip.

**I certify that the information contained on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.**

Signature of Traveler:  Date: 08/26/2024

I authorized this travel in advance. I have determined that all of the expenses listed on the attached *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form* were necessary and that the travel was in connection with the employee's official duties and would not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Name of Supervising Member: Josh Harder Date: 08/26/2024

Signature of Supervising Member: 

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## SPONSOR POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

Original  Amendment

This form must be completed by an officer of any organization that served as the primary trip sponsor in providing travel expenses or reimbursement for travel expenses to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. **A completed copy of the form must be provided to each House Member, officer, or employee who participated in the trip within 10 days of their return.** You must answer all questions, and check all boxes, on this form for your submission to comply with House Rules and the Committee's Travel Regulations. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the denial of future requests to sponsor trips and/or subject the current traveler to disciplinary action or a requirement to repay the trip expenses.

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.**

1. Sponsor(s) who paid or provided in-kind support for the trip: Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment

2. Travel Destination(s): Palo Alto, California

3. Date of Departure: 08/13/2024 Date of Return: 08/15/2024

4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): Taylor Reed

*Note:* You may list more than one traveler on a form only if **all** information is **identical** for each person listed.

5. **Actual amount** of expenses paid on behalf of, or reimbursed to, each individual named in Question 4:

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses	Total Other Expenses (dollar amount per item and description)
Traveler	\$156.97	\$398	\$156	
Accompanying Family Member				

6.  All expenses connected to the trip were for actual costs incurred and not a *per diem* or lump sum payment. Signify statement is true by checking box.

**I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.**

Signature: Camayia Daniels Date: 08/26/2024

Name: Camayia Daniels Title: Program Coordinator

Organization: Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment

**I am an officer of the above-named organization. Signify statement is true by checking box.**

Address: 1616 P Street NW, Washington, DC 20036

Telephone: 202-821-6578 Email: camayia@stanford.edu

*Committee staff may contact the above-named individual if additional information is required.*

If you have questions regarding your completion of this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103.

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Taylor Reed
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip: Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment
3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel: Stanford, Menlo Park, and Boulder Creek, California (I will be transporting myself to and from the trip)
4. a. Date of Departure: August 13, 2024 Date of Return: August 15, 2024
- b. Yes  No  Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense?  
If yes, list dates at personal expense: \_\_\_\_\_
5. a. Yes  No  Will you be accompanied by a family member at the sponsor's expense? **If yes:**
- (1) Name of Accompanying Family Member: \_\_\_\_\_
- (2) Relationship to Traveler:  Spouse  Child  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- (3) Yes  No  Accompanying Family Member is at least 18 years of age?
6. a. Yes  No  Did the trip sponsor answer "Yes" to Question 8(c) on the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* (i.e., travel is sponsored by an entity that employs a registered federal lobbyist or a foreign agent)?
- b. **If yes**, and you are requesting lodging for two nights, explain why the second night is warranted:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. Yes  No  *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* is attached, including agenda, invitation, invitee list, and any other attachments and Additional Sponsor Forms.
- NOTE: The agenda should show the traveler's individual schedule, including departure and arrival times and identify the specific events in which the traveler will be participating.

8. Explain why participation in the trip is connected to the traveler's individual official or representational duties. **Staff should include their job title and how the activities on the itinerary relate to their duties.**  
As a Legislative Assistant covering wildfire policy, the trip will allow me to learn directly from wildfire experts who have the knowledge and experience to inform my future policy work on wildfires helping the people of California's 9th Congressional District.

9. **Yes  No  Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip?**

10. For staff travelers, to be completed by your employing Member:

### ADVANCED AUTHORIZATION OF EMPLOYEE TRAVEL

I hereby authorize the individual named above, an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives who works under my direct supervision, to accept expenses for the trip described in this request. I have determined that the above-described travel is in connection with my employee's official duties and that acceptance of these expenses will not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Signature of Employing Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Josh Harder

Date: 06/25/2024

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## PRIMARY TRIP SPONSOR FORM

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer, or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee together with a *Traveler Form* **at least 30 days before the start date of the trip**. The trip sponsor should *NOT* submit the form directly to the Committee. The Committee's website (ethics.house.gov) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form. The Committee will notify the House invitees directly of its decision and will not notify the trip sponsors.

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Failure to comply with the Committee's Travel Regulations may also lead to the denial of permission to sponsor future trips. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.**

1. Sponsor who will be paying for the trip:

Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment

2.  I represent that the trip will not be financed, in whole or in part, by a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent. *Signify that the statement is true by checking box.*

3. **Check only one.** I represent that:

a.  The primary trip sponsor has not accepted from any other source, funds intended directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip; **OR**

b.  The trip is arranged without regard to congressional participation and the primary trip sponsor has accepted funds only from entities that will receive a tangible benefit in exchange for those funds; **OR**

c.  The primary trip sponsor has accepted funds, services, or in-kind assistance from other source(s) intended directly or indirectly to finance all or part of this trip and has enclosed disclosure forms from each of those entities.

If "c" is checked, list the names of the additional sponsors: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Provide names and titles of **ALL** House Members *and* employees you are inviting. **For each House invitee, provide an explanation of why the individual was invited** (include additional pages if necessary): \_\_\_\_\_

Please see list attached. The Wildfire Boot Camp was open to applications from all Congressional staff, both House and Senate.

5. Yes  No  Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?

6. Date of Departure: 08/13/2024 Date of Return: August 15, 2024

7. a. City of departure: 08/15/2024

b. Destination(s): San Francisco, Stanford, and Boulder Creek California

c. City of return: Washington, DC

8. **Check only one.** I represent that

a.  The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965; **OR**

b.  The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent; **OR**

c.  The sponsor employs or retains a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent, but the trip is for attendance at a one-day event *and* lobbyist / foreign agent involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.

9. **Check only one of the following.**
- a.  I checked 8(a) or (b) above; **OR**
  - b.  I checked 8(c) above but am not offering any lodging; **OR**
  - c.  I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for one night; **OR**
  - d.  I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for two nights. If you checked this box, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted. \_\_\_\_\_
- 

10.  Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities House invitees will be participating in during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities for trip invitees). *Indicate agenda is attached by checking box.*

11. **Check only one of the following.**
- a.  I represent that a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip. *Signify the statement is true by clicking the box; OR*
  - b.  *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is a U.S. institution of higher education.
12. For **each** sponsor required to submit a sponsor form, describe the sponsor’s interest in the subject matter of the trip **and** its role in organizing and/or conducting the trip:
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

13. **Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary:**
- a. Mode of travel: Air  Rail  Bus  Car  Other  (specify: \_\_\_\_\_)
  - b. Class of travel: Coach  Business  First  Charter  Other  (specify: \_\_\_\_\_)
  - c. If travel will be first class, or by chartered or private aircraft, explain why such travel is warranted:
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

14.  I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). *Signify that the statement is true by checking box.*

15. **Check only one.** I represent that either:
- a.  The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees; **OR**
  - b.  The trip involves events that are arranged specifically *with regard* to congressional participation. If “b” is checked:
    - 1) Detail the cost *per day* of meals (approximate cost may be provided): \_\_\_\_\_
    - 2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: so that staff may meet with Stanford faculty and other CA practitioners and experts to learn about wildfire causes and response and to visit actual wildfire burn and recovery sites

16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:

Hotel Name: Stanford Guest House City: Menlo Park, CA Cost Per Night: 199.00

Reason(s) for Selecting: Located conveniently near Stanford campus

Hotel Name: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Cost Per Night: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason(s) for Selecting: \_\_\_\_\_

Hotel Name: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Cost Per Night: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason(s) for Selecting: \_\_\_\_\_

17.  I represent that all expenses connected to the trip will be for actual costs incurred and not a per diem or lump sum payment. *Signify that the statement is true by checking the box.*

18. **Total Expenses for each Participant:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimates	Total <b>Transportation</b> Expenses per Participant	Total <b>Lodging</b> Expenses per Participant	Total <b>Meal</b> Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	712.00	398.00	196.00
For each Accompanying Family Member			

	<b>Other</b> Expenses (dollar amount per item)	Identify Specific Nature of “Other” Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or Employee		
For each Accompanying Family Member		

19. **Check only one:**

- a.  I certify that I am an officer of the organization listed below; **OR**
- b.  *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is an individual or a U.S. institution of higher education.

20. **I certify by my signature that**

- a. **I read and understand the Committee’s Travel Regulations;**
- b. **I am not a registered federal lobbyist or registered foreign agent; and**
- c. **The information on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 08/26/2024  
 Name: Camayia Daniels Title: Program Coordinator  
 Organization: Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment  
 Address: 1616 P Street NW, Washington, DC 20036  
 Email: camayia@stanford.edu Telephone: 202-821-6578

If there are questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103 or [travel.requests@mail.house.gov](mailto:travel.requests@mail.house.gov).

Michael Guest, Mississippi  
*Chairman*  
Susan Wild, Pennsylvania  
*Ranking Member*

David P. Joyce, Ohio  
John H. Rutherford, Florida  
Andrew R. Garbarino, New York  
Michelle Fischbach, Minnesota

Veronica Escobar, Texas  
Mark DeSaulnier, California  
Deborah K. Ross, North Carolina  
Glenn F. Ivey, Maryland



ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

**U.S. House of Representatives**

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Thomas A. Rust  
*Staff Director and Chief Counsel*

Keelie Broom  
*Counsel to the Chairman*

David Arrojo  
*Counsel to the Ranking Member*

1015 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515-6328  
Telephone: (202) 225-7103  
Facsimile: (202) 225-7392

July 30, 2024

Ms. Taylor Reed  
Office of the Honorable Josh Harder  
209 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms. Reed:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Menlo Park, California, scheduled for August 13 to 15, 2024, sponsored by Stanford University. We note you are not accepting transportation expenses from the sponsor.

You must complete an Employee Post-Travel Disclosure Form (which your employing Member must also sign) and file it, together with a Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form completed by the trip sponsor, with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are also required to attach a copy of this letter and both the Traveler and Primary Trip Sponsor Forms (including attachments) you previously submitted to the Committee in seeking pre-approval for this trip. If you are required to file an annual Financial Disclosure Statement, you must also report all travel expenses totaling more than \$480 from a single source on the "Travel" schedule of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement covering this calendar year. Finally, Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting information provided to the Committee for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,

Michael Guest  
Chairman

Susan Wild  
Ranking Member

MG/SW:mc

**WILDFIRE BOOT CAMP**  
**August 13-15, 2024**

Flight Itinerary

August 13 - IAD to SFO on United flight #1116 departing at 8:25am and arriving at 10:59am

August 15 - SFO to IAD on United flight #1849 departing at 4:35pm and arriving at 12:49am  
(on August 16)

Tuesday, August 13 – (at Stanford)

11:00am Arrivals from DC (United flight #1116- departs IAD at 8:25am)  
Check in at hotel, drop bags

12:30-1:30 *Lunch Welcome and Overview:*  
**Chris Field**, Director, Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment  
**Michael Wara**, Director of the Climate and Energy Policy Program, Stanford  
Woods Institute for the

Introduction to the program with presenters setting the stage for what is to be covered during the event. Participants will learn about why wildfire is a growing safety, economic and public health issue – in directly affected regions as well as thousands of miles away - and receive an overview of each session as well as presenters.

1:30-2:30 *Climate and Weather:*  
**Noah Diffenbaugh**, Senior Fellow, Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment  
**Park Williams**, Professor, UCLA

This session will broadly address climate, weather and the role these factors play in preventing, predicting and mitigating wildfires. Participants will learn about our changing climate and how weather conditions such as winds, temperature and humidity can adversely or positively affect fire behavior.

2:30-3:30 *Wildfire and Human Impacts*  
**Marshall Burke**, Associate Professor, Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability  
**Michael Wara**, Director of the Climate and Energy Policy Program, Stanford  
Woods Institute for the  
**Gabrielle Wong Parodi**, Assistant Professor, the Stanford Doerr School of  
Sustainability

Participants will hear from experts on the human health effects resulting from wildfire exposures. This includes measurable public health outcomes such as increased emergency room visits, aggravated respiratory issues and cardiovascular incidents as well as immediate and longer-term social and mental health effects to communities and individuals.

3:30 Break

4:00-5:00 *Forest Health*  
**Chris Field**, Director, Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment  
**Malcolm North**, Associate Professor Forest Ecology, UC Davis

A healthy forest is better able to withstand and resist damage from extreme wildfires. This session will focus on forest health indicators, covering topics such as drought effects on vegetation, invasive species and destructive pests, and the role of biodiversity in ecosystems.

5:00-5:30 Networking reception with speakers and attendees

5:30-7:00 Dinner

7:00 Return to hotel

#### Wednesday, August 14 – at Stanford

8:15-9:00 Hotel pick up and breakfast

9:00-10:00 *Fire Management and Prescribed Burn:*  
**Crystal Kolden**, Associate Professor, Management of Complex Systems,  
UC Merced  
**Lenya Quinn Davidson**, Fire Advisor and the Fire Network Director, University of  
California Agriculture and Natural Resources (UCANR)

Fire science experts will provide a background history on forest/wildfire management along with current scientific knowledge related to best practices. They will focus on prescribed burns as a management tool to create healthy forests that are more resilient to extreme wildfire events and which recover more quickly when burned.

10:00-11:00 *Tribal Resource Management and Cultural Burning:*  
**Tony Marks-Block**, Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, Geography,  
and Environmental Studies at California State University  
**Don Hankins**, Professor of Geography and Planning, California State University,  
Chico

Indigenous tribes practiced what is known as prescribed or selective burning for millennia to manage forests and landscapes, ensuring that sufficient resources were available to sustain both livelihoods and cultural activities. This practice was outlawed with the passage of the *1850 Act for the Government and Protection of Indians*. Tribal and TEK experts will discuss the resurgence of cultural burning as part of Tribal landback and sovereignty efforts as well as the now widely acknowledged acceptance of the practice as a key wildfire mitigation strategy.

11:00-11:30 Break

11:30-12:30 *Other Approaches to Fire Reduction:*

Fire resource managers will share current best practices to reduce the incidence of wildland fires along with some of the alternative strategies now being deployed. New technologies for fire prediction as well as landscape treatment will also be discussed.

12:30-1:30 Lunch

1:30-2:30 *Wildfire Workforce*  
**Kelly Martin**, International Association of Wildland Fire

The most critical component of wildfire fighting is the human workforce: wildland firefighters who are on the ground engaged in combatting fires as well as those who develop strategies and direct their efforts. Participants will learn what is being done to recruit and retain these invaluable frontline workers and improve their labor conditions including economic benefits, training and career opportunities, and physical and mental health care.

2:30-3:30 *Community Mitigation:*  
**Sara McCaffrey**, Retired Forest Service  
**Kim Guiliacci**, Division Chief / Fire Marshal / Fire Investigator, Woodside Fire Protection District

To prevent fire devastation to humans and property, the best defense is a good offense, particularly in communities which are identified at high fire risk. These communities can engage in group actions to better prepare and prevent a fire-borne disaster such as clearing vegetation to create defensible space, undertaking home hardening projects, educating residents and developing evacuation plans. This session will focus on community-based efforts to improve fire safety and discuss how similar programs can be more widely adopted.

3:30-4:00 Break

4:00-5:00 *Insurance:*

**Nancy Watkins**, Principal and consulting actuary, Milliman  
**Penny Liao**, Fellow, Resources for the Future

As climate change related disasters like wildfires increase and cause billions of dollars in property damages, insurers are pulling coverage for homeowners and businesses where their losses are significant. California offers a 'plan of last resort' for individuals or entities who aren't eligible for traditional coverage, but even that system is failing. Insurance experts will discuss the state of the industry and potential pathways to provide consumers with insurance coverage options that are equitable and affordable.

5:00-7:30 Dinner with speaker

Thursday, August 15 – Off Campus (Site visits to Burn sites and Field Trip to Santa Cruz)

8:00 Bus departs Stanford  
**Chris Field**, Director, Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment  
**Michael Wara**, Director of the Climate and Energy Policy Program, Stanford Woods Institute for the

Background and overview of the site visits during trip to Big Basin State Park

9:30 Arrive Big Basin State Park:  
Talk with: **Chief George Morriss**, Norther Region Fire Chief, Cal Fire

The group will tour the park burn site and hear from resource managers about the effects of the CZU Lightning Complex fire including damages to the forest ecosystem, the immediate aftermath and ongoing recovery of the redwoods.

11:00 Leave Big Basin State Park

11:30 Arrive Boulder Creek:  
Talk with: **Chief George Morriss**, Norther Region Fire Chief, Cal Fire

Participants will view residential burn sites and hear from municipal managers and residents about the effects of the CZU Lightning Complex fire – the damages to property and infrastructure, effects on the community/individual residents and ongoing recovery efforts.

1:00 Leave Boulder Creek - Boxed lunches on bus- travel to SFO

4:35 Depart SFO on United flight #1849

**Wildfire Boot Camp – House Invitation List**

**These staff have portfolios that include work on wildfire, forests, conservation or other related issues that will be addressed during the boot camp**

**Shaina Zarkin-Scott**

Legislative Assistant  
Office of Representative Marie Perez  
Gluesenkamp

**Kevin Fox**

Legislative Director  
Office of Representative Ro Khanna

**Daniel Dziadon**

Staff Director  
House Science Committee

**Shanta Katipamula**

Legislative Assistant  
Office of Representative Suzan K. DelBene

**Alexander Weixel**

Professional Staff Member  
House Committee on Science, Space and  
Technology

**Tyler Adams**

Legislative Assistant  
Office of Representative Mike Thompson

**Chase Hite**

Legislative Assistant  
Office of Representative Mike Garcia

**Liz Jacobson**

Legislative Assistant  
Office of Representative Jimmy Panetta

**Jamie Thompson**

Senior Legislative Assistant  
Office of Representative Adam Schiff

**Taylor Reed**

Legislative Assistant  
Office of Representative Josh Harder

**Kate Rohr**

Legislative Director  
Office of Representative Kim Schrier

# Stanford | Woods Institute for the Environment

March 28, 2024

Sent via Email: [taylor.reed@mail.house.gov](mailto:taylor.reed@mail.house.gov)

Dear Taylor:

I am pleased to share that the [Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment](#) is now accepting applications for its [Congressional Wildfire Boot Camp](#). The boot camp will take place at Stanford University in Palo Alto, California from Tuesday, August 13th through Thursday August 15th, 2024. Woods is launching this new boot camp program in recognition of the challenges facing congressional staff in understanding and addressing the causes and potential mitigation strategies of wildfires.

This inaugural program will include lectures and discussions with experts including [Chris Field](#), Director of the Woods Institute, [Michael Wara](#), Director of Woods' Climate and Energy Policy Program, and additional faculty members from Stanford, the University of California, tribal and community leaders, and other distinguished state fire practitioners. Instructional talks will explore a range of topics relevant to wildfire science and policy, allowing participants to gain a greater understanding of the mechanisms and contributing factors that produce mega fires and the conditions required to maintain healthy forests.

The intensive boot camp format includes a day and a half of programming on Stanford's main campus, complemented by an additional day of field visits to wildfire burn sites in neighboring communities. The site visits will include briefings from academic and policy experts as well as community members.

Mid- to senior-level congressional staff with an interest in wildfire, conservation, healthy forests and related natural resource issues are encouraged to apply. Note that this program is only open to congressional staff. Additional information on the program and a short on-line application form can be found on the [Woods website](#). Feel free to share this announcement with other colleagues who may be interested in applying.

Please contact me at the email or phone number below if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

*Lea Rosenbohm*

Lea Rosenbohm  
Director, Policy and Engagement  
Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment  
[lrosenbohm@stanford.edu](mailto:lrosenbohm@stanford.edu)  
cell: 301.318.9352

# Stanford | Woods Institute for the Environment

May 31, 2024

Sent via Email: [taylor.reed@mail.house.gov](mailto:taylor.reed@mail.house.gov)

Dear Taylor:

Congratulations! On behalf of the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment, we are pleased to inform you that you have been selected to be part of the inaugural 2024 cohort of the Woods Congressional Wildfire Boot Camp. We are excited by the strong interest and diversity of the applications submitted.

The Boot Camp will begin with a lunch session on Tuesday, August 13 after a morning arrival into SFO from DC and will end on Thursday, August 15 with an evening departure from SFO back to Washington. The Woods Institute will pay for and arrange all aspects of the program including air travel between Washington, DC and San Francisco, food, lodging and ground transportation.

Additional materials will be provided to you within the next few days that will be necessary for you to submit to the Ethics Committee for the required travel pre-approval. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions. We look forward to your participation.

Sincerely,

*Lea Rosenbohm*

Lea Rosenbohm  
Director, Policy and Engagement  
Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment  
[lrosenbohm@stanford.edu](mailto:lrosenbohm@stanford.edu)  
cell: 301.318.9352



# Congressional Wildfire Bootcamp

August 13-15, 2024



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# Agenda



Tuesday, August 13, 2024

Location: Stanford University

**11:00AM** Arrival from DC

**12:30-1:30** *Lunch Welcome and Overview:*

**Chris Field**, Director, Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment  
**Michael Wara**, Director of the Climate and Energy Policy Program,  
Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment

Introduction to the program with presenters setting the stage for what is to be covered during the event. Participants will learn about why wildfire is a growing safety, economic and public health issue – in directly affected regions as well as thousands of miles away -and receive an overview of each session as well as presenters.

**1:30-2:30** *Climate and Weather:*

**Noah Diffenbaugh**, Senior Fellow, Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment  
**Park Williams**, Professor, University of California, Los Angeles

This session will broadly address climate, weather and the role these factors play in preventing, predicting and mitigating wildfires. Participants will learn about our changing climate and how weather conditions such as winds, temperature and humidity can adversely or positively affect fire behavior.

**2:30-3:30** *Wildfire and Human Impact:*

**Marshall Burke**, Associate Professor, Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability  
**Michael Wara**, Director of the Climate and Energy Policy Program, Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment  
**Gabrielle Wong Parodi**, Assistant Professor, the Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability

Participants will hear from experts on the human health effects resulting from wildfire exposures. This includes measurable public health outcomes such as increased emergency room visits, aggravated respiratory issues and cardiovascular incidents as well as immediate and longer-term social and mental health effects to communities and individuals.

**3:30** Break

**4:00-5:00** *Forest Health:*

**Chris Field**, Director, Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment  
**Malcolm North**, Associate Professor Forest Ecology, UC Davis

A healthy forest is able to withstand and resist damage from extreme wildfires. This session will focus on forest health indicators, covering topics such as drought effects on vegetation, invasive species and destructive pests, and the role of biodiversity in ecosystems.

**5:00-7:00** Dinner

**7:00** Return to hotel

# Agenda



Wednesday, August 14, 2024

Location: Stanford University

**8:15-9:00** Hotel pick up and breakfast

**9:00-10:00** *Fire Management and Prescribed Burn:*  
**Crystal Kolden**, Associate Professor, Management of Complex Systems, UC Merced  
**Lenya Quinn Davidson**, Fire Advisor and the Fire Network Director, University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources (UCANR)

Fire science experts will provide a background history on forest/wildfire management along with current scientific knowledge related to best practices. They will focus on prescribed burns as a management tool to create healthy forests that are more resilient to extreme wildfire events and which recover more quickly when burned.

**10:00-11:00** *Tribal Resource Management and Cultural Burning:*  
**Tony Marks-Block**, Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, Geography, and Environmental Studies at California State University  
**Sara Clark**, Partner, Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger, LLP

Indigenous tribes practiced what is known as prescribed or selective burning for millennia to manage forests and landscapes, ensuring that sufficient resources were available to sustain both livelihoods and cultural activities. This practice was outlawed with the passage of the 1850 Act for the Government and Protection of Indians. Tribal and Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) experts will discuss the resurgence of cultural burning as part of Tribal landback and sovereignty efforts as well as the now widely acknowledged acceptance of the practice as a key wildfire mitigation strategy.

**11:00-11:30** Break

**11:30-12:30** *Other Approaches to Fire Reduction:*  
**Cody Hill**, Associate Director, Resilience and Emergency Response, Dept. of Sustainability, Utilities & Infrastructure, Stanford University  
**Bodie Cabiyo**, Social Science Resource Scholar, Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment

Fire resource managers will share current best practices to reduce the incidence of wildland fires along with some of the alternative strategies now being deployed. New technologies for fire prediction as well as landscape treatment will also be discussed.

**12:30-1:30** Lunch

**1:30--2:30** *Wildfire Workforce:*  
**Kelly Martin**, International Association of Wildland Fire

The most critical component of wildfire fighting is the human workforce: wildland firefighters who are on the ground engaged in combatting fires as well as those who develop strategies and direct their efforts. Participants will learn what is being done to recruit and retain these invaluable frontline workers and improve their labor conditions including economic benefits, training and career opportunities, and physical and mental health care.

# Agenda



Wednesday, August 14, 2024 (cont.)

Location: Stanford University

**2:30-3:30** *Community Mitigation:*

**Sarah McCaffrey**, U.S. Forest Service (retired)

**Kim Guiliacci**, Division Chief / Fire Marshal / Fire Investigator, Woodside Fire Protection District

To prevent fire devastation to humans and property, the best defense is a good offense, particularly in communities which are identified at high fire risk. These communities can engage in group actions to better prepare and prevent a fire-borne disaster such as clearing vegetation to create defensible space, undertaking home hardening projects, educating residents and developing evacuation plans. This session will focus on community-based efforts to improve fire safety and discuss how similar programs can be more widely adopted.

**3:30-4:00** Break

**4:00-5:00** *Insurance:*

**Nancy Watkins**, Principal and consulting actuary, Milliman

**Penny Liao**, Fellow, Resources for the Future

As climate change related disasters like wildfires increase and cause billions of dollars in property damages, insurers are pulling coverage for homeowners and businesses where their losses are significant. California offers a 'plan of last resort' for individuals or entities who aren't eligible for traditional coverage, but even that system is failing. Insurance experts will discuss the state of the industry and potential pathways to provide consumers with insurance coverage options that are equitable and affordable.

**5:00-7:00** *Dinner with Speaker:*

**Tyson Bertone-Riggs**, Alliance for Wildfire Resilience

## Thursday, August 15, 2024

Location: Off Campus- Site visits

**8:00-9:30** *Bus trip from Stanford to Big Basin State Park*

**Chris Field, Director**, Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment

**Michael Wara**, Director of the Climate and Energy Policy Program, Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment

Background and overview of the site visits during trip to Big Basin State Park

**9:30-11:00** *Big Basin State Park site visit*

Talk with: **Chief George Morris**, Northern Region Fire Chief, Cal Fire

The group will tour the park burn site and hear from resource managers about the effects of the CZU Lightning Complex fire including damages to the forest ecosystem, the immediate aftermath and ongoing recovery of the redwoods.

**11:00** Leave Big Basin State Park

# Agenda



Thursday, August 15, 2024 (cont.)

Location: Off Campus- Site visits

**11:30-1:00** *Boulder Creek area site visit*  
Talk with: **Chief George Morris**, Northern Region Fire Chief, Cal Fire

Participants will view residential burn sites and hear from municipal managers and residents about the effects of the CZU Lightning Complex fire – the damages to property and infrastructure, effects on the community/individual residents and ongoing recovery efforts.

**1:00** *Program Ends*  
Depart Boulder Creek for SF0- Boxed lunches on bus

**4:35** *Depart SF0 on United Flight #1849*

# Speakers



Chris Field is the Perry L. McCarty Director of the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment and the Melvin and Joan Lane Professor for Interdisciplinary Environmental Studies at Stanford University. Prior to his 2016 appointment at the Stanford Woods Institute, Field was a staff member at the Carnegie Institution for Science (1984-2002) and founding director of the Carnegie's Department of Global Ecology (2002-2016). He holds a bachelor's degree in biology from Harvard College and a Ph.D. in biology from Stanford.

**Chris Field**  
Director, Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment

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Michael Wara is the Director of the Climate and Energy Policy Program, a senior research scholar at the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment, and the Senior Director for Policy at the Sustainability Accelerator within the Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability. Wara organizes and manages cross-functional teams of postdocs, legal fellows, and graduate students that provide fact-based, bipartisan, technical, and legal assistance to policymakers, environmental justice advocates, and tribes engaged in the development of novel climate and energy law and regulation.

**Michael Wara**  
Director of the Climate and Energy Policy Program, Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment

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Dr. Noah Diffenbaugh is the Kara J Foundation Professor and Kimmelman Family Senior Fellow in Stanford's Doerr School of Sustainability and the Olivier Nomellini Family University Fellow in Undergraduate Education. He studies the climate system, including the processes by which climate change could impact agriculture, water resources, and human health. Dr. Diffenbaugh has served the scholarly community in several roles, including as the inaugural Editor-in-Chief of the peer-reviewed journal *Environmental Research: Climate* and as Editor-in-Chief of *Geophysical Research Letters* from 2014-2018. He has also served as a Lead Author for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and has provided testimony and scientific expertise to Federal, State, and local officials. Dr. Diffenbaugh is an elected Fellow of the American Geophysical Union (AGU), a recipient of the James R. Holton Award and William Kaula Award from the AGU and has been recognized as a Kavli Fellow by the U.S. National Academy of Sciences.

**Noah Diffenbaugh**  
Senior Fellow, Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment

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Park Williams received a BS from the University of California at Irvine and an MA and a PhD from the University of California at Santa Barbara. He was a postdoctoral researcher at the University of California at Santa Barbara (2009-2011) and Los Alamos National Laboratory (2011-2013). Williams was a research professor at the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory of Columbia University (2013-2021) before joining the Department of Geography at the University of California at Los Angeles as an associate professor. Williams has published in a variety of scientific journals, including *Nature*, *Science*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, *Nature Climate Change*, and *Geophysical Research Letters*, among others.

**Park Williams**  
Professor, UCLA

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# Speakers



Marshall Burke is an associate professor in Global Environmental Policy unit in the Doerr School of Sustainability, deputy director at the Center on Food Security and the Environment, and Senior Fellow at the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies (FSI), Woods Institute, and SIEPR at Stanford University. He is also a faculty research fellow at the National Bureau of Economic Research, and a co-founder of AtlasAI, a remote sensing start-up. His research focuses on social and economic impacts of environmental change and on measuring and understanding economic development in emerging markets. His work has appeared in both economic and scientific journals, including recent publications in *Nature*, *Science*, *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, and *The Lancet*.

**Marshall Burke**

Associate Professor, Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability

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Gabrielle Wong-Parodi is an interdisciplinary social scientist, theoretically grounded in psychology and decision science, who seeks to understand (1) how people make decisions to address the impacts of climate change and (2) how robust interventions can empower them to make decisions that serve their lives, communities, and society. Her work focuses on frontline communities who experience the "first and worst" of climate change. Currently she is serving as a member of the American Psychological Association's Climate Change Task Force, the National Academies advisory board to the U.S. Global Climate Change Research Program, and the National Science Foundation's Natural Hazards Engineering Research Infrastructure Science Plan.

**Gabrielle Wong-Parodi**

Assistant Professor, the Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability and Center Fellow at the Woods Institute for the Environment at Stanford University.

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Malcolm North is a Research Scientist with the Forest Service and a Professor in Plant Science at the University of California, Davis. The Malcolm North Lab at UC Davis is actively working in areas that include the ecological effects of fuels reduction treatments and the ecological restoration of fire-suppressed forests. His research interests are stand dynamics, disturbance regimes, and ecosystem processes of western coniferous forests. Particularly focused on understanding how disturbance alters forest structure, producing changes that propagate through the ecosystems' processes, food webs, and species diversity. He has received awards for science productivity and outreach from the U.S. Forest Service

**Malcolm North**

Associate Professor Forest Ecology, UC Davis

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Crystal Kolden is an Associate Professor in the Management of Complex Systems department within the School of Engineering at the University of California, Merced. Her areas of expertise include wildfire science topics such as risk, planning, behavior, impacts, and resilience; fire meteorology and climatology; prescribed burning and fuels management; and remote sensing and geospatial information. Professor Kolden's work focuses on characterizing and understanding the intersections of wildfire with human-environment systems through geospatial, temporal, and mixed-method approaches. Prior to joining the University of California, Merced, Professor Kolden was on the faculty of the University of Idaho.

**Crystal Kolden**

Associate Professor in the Management of Complex Systems, University of California, Merced

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# Speakers



Lenya Quinn-Davidson is a Fire Advisor and the Director of UCANR's Fire Network. Lenya's primary focus is 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 locally in Humboldt County, where she works with private landowners to bring fire back as a land management tool; at the state level, where she collaborates on policy and research related to prescribed fire, and helps inspire and support prescribed burn associations; and nationally, through her work and leadership on prescribed fire training exchanges (TRES).

**Lenya Quinn Davidson**

Fire Advisor and Fire Network Director, University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources



Tony is an assistant professor in the Department of Anthropology, Geography, and Environmental Studies at California State University, East Bay. He teaches courses across all disciplines on the unceded territories of the Chochoyeno Ohlone peoples, where he approaches education with a focus on anti-colonialism. His research centers on the socioecology of small-scale subsistence practices, such as prescribed and cultural fire, and the political ecology of colonial land management and Indigenous struggles for autonomy. During his doctoral studies, Tony collaborated with the Karuk and Yurok Indigenous peoples of the Klamath River watershed, where he gained insights into Indigenous ecology, philosophy, and social movements. He holds a PhD from Stanford University.

**Tony Marks-Block**

Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, Geography, and Environmental Studies at California State University, East Bay



Sara is a dedicated advocate for environmental conservation and cultural preservation, with a robust legal background and a commitment to community service. With a passion for protecting natural resources and promoting sustainable practices, she plays a pivotal role in supporting cultural fire practitioners and prescribed fire advocates by advising fire collaboratives, developing strategic plans, providing subject matter expertise, and advancing policy solutions. In collaboration with the Colorado River Indian Tribes, Sara works to protect cultural resources across ancestral homelands, ensuring effective government-to-government consultation and mitigating project impacts. She holds a Juris Doctor degree from the University of California, Berkeley, M.A. in Urban Planning from New York University, and B.A. in Environmental Science and Public Policy from Harvard University.

**Sara Clark**

Partner, Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger, LLP



Cody Hill serves as the Associate Director for Resilience and Emergency Response in the Department of Land, Buildings, and Real Estate (LBRE). In this role, he designs and implements programs aimed at enhancing resilience across utilities, facilities, and wildlands, including the honor of leading the Wildfire Resilience program. During emergencies, he serves as the incident commander, working closely with stakeholders to ensure the continuity of facility and research operations, and collaborates with local fire agencies, government entities, and private entities. He received a BA in Organizational Communication and an M.A. in Education from California State University, and a M.S. in Occupational Safety and Health in Environmental Management from Columbia Southern University.

**Cody Hill**

Associate Director, Resilience and Emergency Response, Dept. of Sustainability, Utilities & Infrastructure, Stanford University

# Speakers



Bodie uses interdisciplinary approaches to investigate nature-based solutions to climate change. He currently studies how policy and innovative technology can enable carbon-beneficial forest management. This work bridges industrial ecology, forest economics, and forest ecology. His modeling work has focused on the role of innovative wood use in reducing carbon emissions, both in California and East Africa. His applied policy work focuses on improving forest carbon offset protocols. The intent of this work is to promote the more credible translation of carbon dioxide removals to a market context. Bodie also has latent interests in the social aspects of technology adoption, short-lived climate pollutants, and soil carbon storage. Bodie completed his PhD in the UC Berkeley Energy and Resources Group in 2022 as an NSF Graduate Research Fellow.

**Bodie Cabiyo**  
Social Science Resource Scholar, Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment

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Kelly Martin is the President of the International Association of Wildland Fire a retired Chief of Fire and Aviation at Yosemite National Park, National Park Service, Pacific West Region, Yosemite, CA. Kelly graduated from Northland College, Ashland, WI, with a bachelor's degree in Outdoor Education in 1986 and completed Technical Fire Management in 1996. Kelly began her federal career as a GS-3 with the Apostle Island National Lakeshore in 1984 while attending college and has worked her way up through the wildland fire ranks for the last 34 years. Kelly Martin maintains a highly diverse skill set as a field practitioner in prescribed fire and wildfire management focusing on increasing the wise use of applied fire on large fire adapted ecosystems for forest health and resiliency especially due to drought, tree mortality and climate change. Kelly also strongly advocates diversity, inclusion, and gender parity throughout the Wildland Fire Community.

**Kelly Martin**  
International Association of Wildland Fire

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Sara McCaffrey, PhD, recently retired after 20 years as a fire social scientist with the US Forest Service, where her research focused on understanding the social dynamics of fire management. This included research projects that examined the role of risk perception and risk attitudes, social acceptability of prescribed fire, homeowner mitigation decisions, evacuation decision-making, risk communication, and agency-community interactions during fires. Her current interests are in understanding barriers to the use of fire as a management tool and what a more effective fire management system, one designed for 21st-century social and environmental conditions, might look like. She received her PhD in 2002 from the University of California at Berkeley.

**Sara McCaffrey**  
Retired Forest Service

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Kimberly Giuliacci is a skilled professional with experience in the fire protection field. Kimberly currently holds the position of Division Chief and Fire Marshal at Woodside Fire Protection District since January 2018. Prior to this role, Kimberly was a Fire Inspector II and Fire Investigator at the same organization. Kimberly's previous experience includes working as a Fire Inspector at Central County Fire Department from February 2014 to January 2018. Kimberly holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Management from Franklin University.

**Kim Giuliacci**  
Division Chief / Fire Marshal / Fire Investigator, Woodside Fire Protection District

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# Speakers



Nancy Watkins is a principal and consulting actuary with the Property and Casualty Practice in Milliman's San Francisco office. She manages an actuarial consulting practice that specializes in climate resilience, insurtech, and catastrophic property risk. She joined the firm in 1997. Nancy's consulting engagements include climate resilience strategy, pricing and product development, predictive modeling, target marketing analysis, competitive rate analysis, use of catastrophe models and third-party data, loss reserve analysis and certification, litigation support, reinsurance risk transfer analysis, reinsurance commutation support, software development support and market analysis, mergers and acquisitions support, arbitrations, and expert witness testimony. Her clients include domestic and international insurance and reinsurance companies, trade associations, governmental insurance entities, virtual insurance companies, insurance software developers, general agencies, venture capitalists, and attorneys.

**Nancy Watkins**  
Principal and consulting actuary, Milliman

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Yanjun (Penny) Liao is an economist and fellow at Resources for the Future. Her research primarily focuses on issues of natural disaster risk management and climate adaptation. She has studied the impacts of disasters on local government budgets, housing markets, and demographic changes. Her ongoing work investigates how disaster insurance interacts with the housing and mortgage sector, as well as the economic and fiscal impacts of adaptation policies on local communities. Liao earned her PhD in economics from UC San Diego in 2019 and conducted her postdoctoral research during 2019–21 at the Wharton Risk Center at University of Pennsylvania.

**Penny Liao**  
Fellow, Resources for the Future

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Chief Morriss began his career in the fire service in 1996 as a Firefighter I in the Butte Unit. In 2014, Chief Morriss was appointed as the Unit Chief for the Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit serving as the Placer County Fire Chief, Placer County Fire Warden, Nevada County Fire Marshal, Loma Rica-Browns Valley Fire Chief, City of Marysville Fire Chief and City of Colfax Fire Chief. In 2018, he was appointed as Assistant Region Chief in the Northern Region supervising six Units and Management Services within the Region. On November 29th, 2021, Morriss was appointed as the Northern Region Chief. Chief Morriss holds an Associate Degree in Social and Behavioral Science and a Bachelor of Science in Business Management.

**Chief George Morriss**  
Northern Region Fire Chief, Cal Fire

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Tyson Bertone-Riggs has a diverse background in forest policy and conservation work with both field experience and policy expertise. Along with Annie Schmidt, he served as the staff co-lead for the congressionally chartered Wildland Fire Mitigation and Management Commission. Tyson's past experience includes five years with the Rural Voices for Conservation Coalition as Executive Director and Policy Manager where he was responsible for coalition development, management, and political strategy. Tyson also brings experience working for state and federal forestry agencies, as well as having worked on state and local elections and in the U.S. Senate.

**Tyson Bertone-Riggs**  
Alliance for Wildfire Resilience

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# Congressional Staff



Tyler Adams has been a Legislative Assistant in Congressman Mike Thompson's (D-CA-04) office since May 2023, working on a legislative portfolio including wildfires and disasters, transportation, infrastructure, education, labor, and postal issues. Working for a district that has been devastated by wildfires in recent years, wildfire policy is a major focus of his day-to-day work. He worked extensively on the Disaster Resiliency and Coverage Act of 2024, which promotes fire mitigation investments in an effort to help address California's insurance crisis. Prior to working for Congressman Thompson, Tyler was a Legislative and Appropriations Fellow in Congressman Matt Cartwright's office. He received his Master of Public Affairs from the LBJ School of Public Affairs' DC Concentration program. Prior to his work on policy, Tyler worked in the finance industry after earning his undergraduate degree from Georgetown University.

**Tyler Adams**

Legislative Assistant, Office of Representative Mike Thompson

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Nate was born and raised in Santa Rosa, California. He graduated from UC Davis in 2017. In May of 2017, Nate became a Legislative Assistant with the Governor's office, where he stayed until the Governor's term ended. Following his time in Sacramento, Nate made his way to D.C., as a Legislative Assistant to Congressman Mike Thompson. After working on immigration, transportation, and FEMA issues in the 116th Congress, Nate joined the office of Senator Alex Padilla (D-NM) and is currently a policy advisor working on FEMA, forestry, energy, and space issues. Nate is passionate about California politics and public service and looks forward to connecting with other participants on wildfire policy.

**Nate Bentham**

Policy Advisor, Office of Senator Alex Padilla

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Meredith Booker (she/her) currently serves as a Policy Advisor for Senator Jeff Merkley (D-OR) covering appropriations, natural resources, and Tribes. She has previous work experience as a disability rights attorney, an advocate for the health and safety of incarcerated individuals, and a legislative staffer covering civil rights, immigration, criminal justice, retirement, labor, and housing. Meredith is from Detroit, Michigan and attended Wayne State University for her bachelors degrees in criminal justice and sociology. Meredith also holds a Master of Public Policy from Oregon State University and a Juris Doctor from Loyola University New Orleans College of Law. She is licensed to practice law in Maryland and DC.

**Meredith Booker**

Policy Advisor, Office of Senator Jeffrey Merkley

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Carlee is a Senior Policy Advisor for Senator Hickenlooper (D-CO) focusing on forestry, water, public lands, and environmental quality. Carlee received a Bachelor of Arts and a Master's of Science in Earth Systems from Stanford University.

**Carlee Brown**

Senior Policy Advisor, Office of Senator John Hickenlooper

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# Congressional Staff



Katie Devlin works for Senator Steve Daines (R-MT) handling public lands, forestry, conservation, and environment policy. She previously worked for the Congressional Western Caucus under Chairman Dan Newhouse (R-WA) handling agriculture and public lands policy and for Rep. Doug LaMalfa (R-CA) handling his Agriculture Committee policy. Katie grew up in Northern California and studied economics at UC Santa Barbara.

**Katie Devlin**  
Policy Advisor, Office of Senator Steve Daines

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Daniel Dziadon [pronounced like Poseidon starting with a “D”] is the Staff Director of the Energy and Environment Subcommittees of the House Committee on Science, Space, & Technology. He has been with the Committee since 2017, focusing on energy and environment research, development, and demonstration, including clean energy technologies at the Department of Energy, next-generation weather research and forecasting at NOAA, and science-based decision-making at EPA. Dziadon previously completed an internship with Senator Richard Shelby and holds a degree in Metallurgical & Materials Engineering with a minor in Mathematics from the University of Alabama.

**Daniel Dziadon**  
Staff Director, House Science Committee

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Kevin Fox grew up in Vestal, NY, a suburb of Binghamton NY. He serves as Legislative Director for Rep. Ro Khanna (D-CA), the representative for CA-17 in the U.S. House of Representatives. The district encompasses the heart Silicon Valley. He works on policies to carry out Rep. Khanna’s vision to restore American manufacturing and technology leadership, improve the lives of working people, and advance U.S. leadership on climate, human rights, and diplomacy around the world. Rep. Khanna believes our nation needs a new economic patriotism to create jobs in the industries of the future and unify Americans -- from the South to the heartland to the coasts -- around a shared purpose.

**Kevin Fox**  
Legislative Director, Office of Representative Ro Khanna

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Ricky Gonzalez is a Legislative Aide for Senator Laphonza Butler (D-CA), focusing on natural disaster, agriculture, and animal welfare policy. His work includes advising the Senator as a member of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee. He previously served as a Scheduler for the late Senator Dianne Feinstein.

Born and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area, Ricky is committed to developing comprehensive policy solutions to bolster community disaster preparedness and resilience. He began his Capitol Hill journey in 2022 as an intern for Congressman Pete Aguilar (CA-33), now Chairman of the House Democratic Caucus. He graduated from the University of Redlands in 2021 with a Bachelor of Arts in Public Policy, specializing in Emergency Management.

**Ricky Gonzalez**  
Legislative Aide, Office of Senator Laphonza Butler

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# Congressional Staff



Chase joined Rep. Mike Garcia's (R-CA-27) team as a Legislative Assistant at the start of the 118th Congress and handles policy areas including Science, Space, & Technology, Energy & Water, and more. Prior to joining Rep. Garcia, Chase worked for T&I Chairman Sam Graves for four years. Chase received a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Dayton and currently resides in Alexandria, VA with his wife, Mina.

**Chase Hite**  
Legislative Assistant, Office of Representative Mike Garcia

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Liz Jacobson is a Legislative Assistant for Congressman Jimmy Panetta (D-CA-19), who represents the Central Coast of California. She serves as the Congressman's advisor on agriculture, energy, environment, forestry, disaster, and water policy. She is from Napa, California, and received an undergraduate degree in Political Science-Public Service and Spanish from the University of California, Davis.

**Liz Jacobson**  
Legislative Assistant, Office of Representative Jimmy Panetta

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Shanta Katipamula (she/her) currently serves as a Senior Policy Advisor for Congresswoman Suzan K. DelBene (D-WA-01), working on a wide portfolio of issues including energy, environment, tribes, transportation & infrastructure, agriculture, and more. She has worked for Rep. DelBene for the last 4 years and has built out the Congresswoman's leadership on a variety of climate issues, including carbon border adjustments, clean hydrogen, and transportation decarbonization. Shanta has a B.S. in Environmental Systems Engineering and an M.S. in Management Science and Engineering with a focus in Energy/Environment from Stanford University.

**Shanta Katipamula**  
Legislative Assistant, Office of Representative Suzan K. DelBene

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Taylor Reed is a Legislative Assistant for Congressman Josh Harder (D-CA-09) specializing in wildfire, water, environment, and appropriations policies. Born and raised in California's 9th Congressional District, Taylor is combining her firsthand knowledge of the district with her passion for policy and public service. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from San Diego State University in 2021 and her Master of Public Administration from American University in 2023. Most recently, Taylor has worked on important wildfire legislation, including the Modernizing Wildfire Safety and Prevention Act of 2024 as well as the Fire Department Repayment Act.

**Taylor Reed**  
Legislative Assistant, Office of Representative Josh Harder

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# Congressional Staff



Jamie Thompson is a Senior Legislative Assistant for Congressman Adam Schiff (D-CA-30) of California. Her portfolio includes banking and tax policy, housing and homelessness, education, civil rights, transportation, infrastructure, and water issues. Prior to her work on the Hill, she served as a public-school teacher, teaching Kindergarten through Second Grade. Jamie earned a B.A. in Gender & Health Studies and an M.A. in Education Policy from the University of Michigan.

**Jamie Thompson**  
Senior Legislative Assistant, Office of Representative Adam Schiff

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Alex Weixel [phonetically WHYK-cell] is a Professional Staff Member on the Environment Subcommittee with the House Committee on Science, Space, & Technology. In this role, Alex primarily covers NOAA research and development and works on related hearings, legislation, and oversight. Before Starting with the committee at the beginning of the 118th Congress, Alex worked previously for Rep. David McKinley (WV), handling his Science and Technology portfolio, among other issues. This Congress, he has worked on drafting and negotiating the Weather Act Reauthorization Act of 2023 (H.R. 6093) and the Fire Weather Development Act of 2023 (H.R. 4866). Alex received a B.A. in Political Science with a minor in Business Administration from the University of South Carolina.

**Alex Weixel**  
Professional Staff Member, House Committee on Science, Space and Technology

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Shaina is currently a Senior Legislative Assistant for Congresswoman Marie Gluesenkamp Perez (D-WA), who represents the Third District of Washington. The Congresswoman sits on the Agriculture and Small Business Committees. Shaina covers agriculture, energy, environment, natural resources, Army Corps and trade policy for the Congresswoman. She previously worked for Congresswoman Kim Schrier (WA-08). She is originally from Portland, Oregon, and attended Grinnell College.

**Shaina Zarkin-Scott**  
Legislative Assistant, Office of Representative Marie Perez Gluesenkamp

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