

**SUMMARY:** Our changing world requires new ways of thinking. My cross-sector, “external” interest and experience – forestry, agriculture, power production, watersheds, public policy, regulatory, political, and more – allows me to think in creative and innovative ways, connecting disparate technology and approaches. With a depth of experience in these sectors of more than 20 years, I am able to be resourceful in tapping existing connections, tested tools, and adapting models that in innovative cross-sectoral ways. With these skill sets and tools, my enthusiasm for good public policy connecting urban and rural communities and landscapes, and motivating all Californians to be part of finding a path forward in our climate-altered world, continues to be invaluable in building bridges through relationships and policy innovations.

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**EDUCATION:** MS, Watershed Science, Colorado State University (2005)  
BS, Environmental Biology and Management, UC Davis (2004)

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**EXPERIENCE:** **California Department of Conservation**  
*Natural and Working Lands Policy Advisor; 2021-present*

I was hired to build the Department’s Natural and Working Lands Initiative into an innovation hub—supporting change management and building interdivisional relationships—and operationalize it through identifying and building partnerships with sibling agencies, different levels of government, and external partners.

- Wood Utilization Work Group and Strategy: I built a robust interdisciplinary stakeholder group, including interests in energy and fuels, building materials, housing, and philanthropic investors. I guided development of a strategy document addressing the state’s forest management crisis through attracting private funding to support the state’s policy objectives.
- Geologic and Mining Working Group: I lead and manage this group, a collaboration between the State Mining and Geology Board and the Department of Conservation. The process requires significant diplomacy and understanding of state processes and statutory authorities and opportunities, and I work closely with our communications, legal, and external affairs team to shape the strategic planning effort, highlighting realistic and doable opportunities for implementation and innovation.
- Natural and Working Lands Dashboard development: As business lead I deployed an online dashboard illustrating the Department’s contributions toward the state’s goals. I balanced budgetary constraints with leadership desires to build a product internally manageable and available publicly. I am currently developing a media strategy for public release.
- CA Jobs First: Actively participating in two regional planning efforts, with advisory work in others. My expertise in rural planning and economies, primarily via the state’s climate and energy priorities and policies, and their connection to urban population centers and needs, provides a balance to the strong urban presence throughout these regions.

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**Oliview Farm and The Oliview Community Building Farm Project, Anderson, CA**

*Co-owner and Project Administrator, 2012-present*

With my husband, we manage a 100-plus-year-old olive orchard to produce olive oil, pastured chicken eggs and meat, and produce, supplying the community with healthy local food. We work with County government and through local organizations to build supportive planning and development code, better educate consumers, and build partnerships for sustainable operations.

Since 2021 we have operated The Oliview Project out of the farm: this is an active partnership with the Shasta County Office of Probations, through their Juvenile Rehabilitation Facility. We bring incarcerated youth to the farm to build independent living skills and prepare them for community re-entry. I developed a strategic plan for funding and partnerships, complemented by a logic model that guides us through sustainable fiscal and program management decisions. I

have built a strong network of diverse funders, including both state and private philanthropy, and provide direction to an informal staffing team regarding priorities for external (funder!) engagement, social media strategies, and when to bring in additional support. We have a strong fiscal sponsor in the United Way of Northern California, and the relationship we've developed has weathered a number of challenges on the budget and grant management/legal front.

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**California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley**

*Basin Planning: Tribal Beneficial Use Program; 2020-present*

The first of all Regional Boards to begin the TBU process, I developed a path focused on gaining early successes, with the primary objective being fulfilling promises of the Water Boards and building trust with collaborating Tribes. Through this process I translated best practices from other efforts, including other Basin Planning efforts, public outreach practices, and non-governmental successes, to benefit the TBU process and the individual participating Tribes.

*Chief, Cannabis Permitting and Compliance Unit, 2017-2020*

As part of this brand-new program I built a multidisciplinary and diverse team to examine and permit the wastewater discharge and surface water withdrawals of cannabis cultivation activities. I applied the state's EEO policies and the need for a representational workforce to my hiring practices and management strategies. I created an onboarding packet for new Regional Board staff that would create a level playing field for expectations and common practices in the Redding office of the Regional Board. This has since been adopted throughout the organization.

Working with other agencies – internal and external – I developed regular communication protocols to ensure that the Water Boards permitting process was aligned with sister agencies' expectations, needs, and processes to effectively shepherd this new industry.

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**Sierra Nevada Conservancy, Auburn, CA**

*Legislative Liaison and Policy Coordinator, 2015-2017*

I developed the Conservancy's first legislative outreach plan, in coordination with CNRA priorities, which included 1:1 relationship building with legislative staff to ensure mutual understanding of the benefits provided by CA's rural forests and watersheds; this ultimately resulted in millions of dollars being invested in the Sierra as part of the 2018 Parks Bond.

My outreach plan included development of strategic policy through analysis of previous policy efforts, relationships, and current opportunities, making the highest and best use of our partner relationships and political opportunities, including EJ and Tribal collaborations. As part of my contributions to large-scale state planning documents and processes – such as the Forest Carbon Plan and AB 32 Scoping Plan update – I recruited and integrated diverse and complex programs to achieve the State goal of developing a cohesive future of investment in natural and working landscapes and watershed connectivity, including taking advantage of federal investments.

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OTHER  
EXPERIENCE:

Leadership Team Member, Sierra Forward, 2022 – present

Board Member, Redding Fashion Alliance, 2021 – 2023

Member, Redding Community Development Advisory Committee, 2017-2022

Director, Western Shasta Resource Conservation District, 2015-2019