



Summary Social Assessment Report 2023

ECONOMIC

Local Contracting & Local Purchasing

URFC and RFFI contract for various services:

URFC: Timber Harvest Plan (THP) consulting, inventory cruising, logging, hauling, road work, carbon verification, FSC auditing, spotted owl surveying, botanical surveys, geological review of THPs, reforestation, restoration activities, site preparation, stand improvements and carbon offset program sales and support.

RFFI: Communications support, financial accounting/audit support, as well as Annual Update and Annual Meeting production. Through 2023 RFFI continued to contract with the prior board chair for its CEO position.

URFC			
Year	Major Local Vendors/Contractors	Approximate Value of Goods and Services	Community Donations
2023	25 2 of these contractors were Local Tribal members	\$1,494,250	\$4229 More then 100 cords of firewood were donated to local community members and fire departments.

RFFI			
	Major Local Vendors/Contractors	Approximate Value of Goods and Services	Community Donations
2023	10	\$73,894	\$700

Safety Record for 2023

There were two injuries in 2023. One a minor strain/muscle tear in right arm bicep while clearing trees in the forest. The other a soft tissue trauma to left knee area while hiking in the forest and landing on the knee.

Personnel Costs

Usal Redwood Forest Company, LLC

Year	# of Full Time Equivalent (FTE) employees	Total Personnel Costs
2023	7	\$504,230

Redwood Forest Foundation, Inc.

Year	# of Full Time Equivalent (FTE) employees	Total Personnel Costs
2023	3	\$190,390

Carbon Certification contractors

URFC contracts with US Forest Capital out of Portland, Oregon for management of our carbon credit certification process, and with NCRM, Inc. for carbon offset program calculations.

Internships for students

URFC annually hires one or two summer interns from either Cal Poly Humboldt (formerly Humboldt State University) or College of the Redwoods, providing real world experience for those students who perform a variety of tasks that happen in the summer months. This is part of our commitment to rebuilding the local workforce.

COMMUNITY

2023 Annual Meeting

The 2023 Annual Meeting was held virtually on Wednesday, September 20, 2023. There were 80 community members in attendance; this included regional residents along with others who tuned in from all over the US and internationally. Forest Manager Linwood Gill talked from the Usal Forest about the Timber Harvest Plans and contractors working with us in the forest. He showed the management plans for thinning and creating small gaps and clusters of different age groups of trees to create a healthy forest.

Karen Youngblood, Forest Conservation Specialist, talked about the restoration work being done on the Forest. The planning for restoration can take years but the actual work on the restoration can take just weeks. Work continues in collecting data after the work is done.

Kathy McCovey was the Keynote Speaker. She is from the Karuk Tribe and has worked in

Forestry, Fire, Cultural Resources Management and Tribal Relations. She talked about the work being done on the fires going on currently and in the past. They are now using fires more for management and changing the way they are burning.

Community Governance

Community involvement is integral to RFFI's existence and operation. It is reflected in our governance by what is currently a six-member Board of Directors (we are actively recruiting additional board members) and an advisory group composed of regional representatives.

In 2023, members of the Redwood Forest Council (RFC), RFFI's 25-member community advisory group, held monthly meetings and attended RFFI Board meetings and our virtual Annual Meeting. RFC members provided input on strategic planning, organizational development, hiring, forest management planning, timber harvest plans and restoration projects.

Native American Honorariums

In 2023, RFFI began to pay honorariums to local tribal members to support their participation in meetings and at events. We have developed deeper relationships and have consistent participation from local tribes.

Volunteer Program

URFC and RFFI benefit from a dedicated group of volunteers, who among other contributions help us conduct a number of educational, citizen science, forest restoration and recreational activities in conjunction with dedicated partners. We generally have about 50 active volunteers, both local residents and from beyond, who volunteer personally or virtually to support our work.

Usal Lost Coast Hopper

URFC again hosted the Usal Hopper bike race, which had over 250 participants. The organization donated a portion of the registration fee toward tree planting. After the Hopper RFFI/URFC hosts a fireside chat with those who stay over until Sunday. This gives us an opportunity to educate them about the vision, goals and objectives of both our forest management and community governance/engagement.

Community Events

We held several events in 2023, Scotch Broom weed pulling, Sudden Oak Death survey, Botanical Surveys, Biochar Emissions, Pinoleville Pomo Nation Youth Fieldtrip, Prescribed Burn training, Yokakama Prescribed Burn and Post Burn Site Walk.

Communication

RFFI/URFC produces an annual update each year to help keep our supporters (donors and volunteers) apprised of the activities in the forest as well as our links to the community. That annual update, produced in the late fall, is sent to approximately 4,000 individuals across the nation.

Other events

In 2023 RFFI completed the process of acquiring a second piece of property, the Reist Ranch, by donation from the current owners. There is a conservation easement, modeled after our existing easement on Usal, already on the property when escrow closes. The forest management will be integrated into the management of Usal. This property was originally a summer home for the donor. It has the potential to become a research hub as it is less remote than most of our property, has electrical connections and an original water source, along with existing structures (albeit in poor condition.)