

# Sarah Billig Mendocino Redwood Company Stewardship Director sbillig@mendoco.com Economic Chamber

## **Biography**

Sarah Billig is Director of Stewardship for Mendocino and Humboldt Redwood Companies. In this role, she manages the organization's FSC forest management certificates totaling 530,000 acres, including a group certificate of external landowners. She also manages the FSC chain of custody certification for two sawmills, three distribution centers, and four treated wood plants. In addition to these duties, Sarah also manages the companies' forest

inventory and information systems.

Sarah received her B.S from the University of Michigan in Natural Resources. After graduation her passion for conservation, stewardship and innate love of wildlife and natural resources inspired her to explore, backpack, and study as many places as possible. Her travels led her to study birds in Australia, count seals off the coast of Maine, get treed by bison, and trek in the Himalayas. All the travelling left her a strong desire to start her career in natural resources.

Sarah joined Mendocino Redwood Company in 2001; a new forest ownership in the redwood region with a long-term forest management outlook and strong company values of stewardship and restoration. Sarah has worked as director of stewardship for 15 years. With each year, her passion for FSC has grown as her engagement increases.

## **Position Statement**

It would be an honor to represent FSC membership on the board. I look forward to bringing my experience working in FSC-certified timberlands and mills to the board.

# Vision: Increase market demand for wood products.

All of our rigorous standards and protections require strong market demand for FSC-certified products to be effective. Efforts at business to business marketing have yielded slim results especially for the wood products industry; let's focus our efforts on increasing consumer awareness.

### Certificate holder and membership engagement

We need to find more streamlined methods to engage certificate holders and members, reducing frustration and information overload. When all interested members and stakeholders are heard and accounted for we can build better outcomes.

#### Streamline standards and increase efficiencies while maintaining rigor

We need to find ways to make the applicable standards efficient and workable while maintaining rigor. Changes in standards should be driven by need, rather than revision timelines.

## Connect FSC US strategic priorities with the FSC global strategic plan

This alignment is critical in order to deliver on priority areas of the global strategic plan. Additionally, we must ensure that US needs are considered at the global level.