



Society of American Foresters
Committee on Accreditation
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Committee on Forest Technology School Accreditation Summary Findings and Action

College of the Redwoods 2024

Initial Accreditation: January 1, 2024

Current Accredited Degree Programs: A.S. degree program in Forestry and Natural Resources Technology

Current Accreditation-Period Reviews:

Self-Evaluation Report: February 2023

Last Onsite Visit: April 2023

Previous Onsite Visit: n/a

Substantive Change: n/a

Progress Report: 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023

Accreditation Expires: December 31, 2028

2024 Review: Forest Technology: Progress Report

INTRODUCTION

The SAF Committee on Forest Technology School Accreditation granted initial accreditation, under the forest technology standard, to the Forestry and Natural Resources Technology program leading to the A.S. in Forest Technology, as administered within the College of the Redwoods, Division of Career and Technical Education, Department of Forestry and Natural Resources, effective January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2028.

The following summary findings and action by the SAF Committee on Forest Technology School Accreditation are based upon: Summary Findings and Action dated 15-November-2023; a follow-up letter from Terry Baker, SAF CEO dated 15-December-2023; and The College of the Redwoods Progress Update dated 20-August-2024.

SUMMARY FINDINGS

CRITERION I: PROGRAM PURPOSE AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

A refinement of the program purpose and Program Learning Outcomes has been made in order to more fully, or at least more explicitly, address Criterion I of the current Forest Technology Standard. It is clear from the Progress Update that a revised Mission Statement and Program Learning Objectives have been approved. The updates have not been made to the program website yet, perhaps due to the ongoing issues with the College's website. The Progress Report indicated that the website implementation is scheduled to be completed in October 2024 and has been completed.

The Mission Statement has been refined to include the fostering of "teamwork" along with critical thinking and analytical skills as well as emphasizing "interdisciplinary" and technical knowledge essential for an educated forestry professional.

The Program Learning Outcomes: number one now includes "a diversity of perspectives including traditional values and uses of land and forests;" and number five now includes "an emphasis on teamwork, equity, and inclusion."

The criterion is met.

CRITERION II: PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION AND INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT

The Progress Report provides a description of website changes to be implemented in the Fall of 2024 that are responsive to the previous requests made by CFTSA. These updates will include a data dashboard highlighting students' educational experiences as well as employment metrics. Current, readily available information is provided to the public through a dashboard link that is "under construction" and a graduation survey results link. The Progress Report also provided a website update checklist that will guide the website changes that have been made. the information is accurate and complete to meet Criterion II (C2-11).

Student access / transportation that is safe, equitable, and inclusive is being addressed in part by a CALFIRE Workforce Development Grant. This grant will fund the expansion of course offerings on the Klamath-Trinity Campus on the Hoopa Valley Reservation and a high school pathway program which is unique in the California Community College system. Two 10-passenger vans will be purchased to increase equity of forestry education access. The grant also includes the salary for an instructor to teach three courses required for the FNR AS degree for two years.

The criterion is met.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

The CFTSA appreciates the College's thorough response to the Summary Findings and Action dated 15-November-2023. It is clear the College of the Redwoods values both the process and results of SAF accreditation and is genuine in its efforts to continuously improve the quality of its Forestry and Natural Resources Technology program.

COMMITTEE ACTION

The SAF Committee on Forest Technology School Accreditation accepts the response from the College of the Redwoods in the Progress Update dated 20-August-2024 and continues accreditation for five years through December 31, 2028 of the Forestry and Natural Resources Technology program leading to the A.S. degree as administered by the Division of Career and Technical Education, Department of Forestry and Natural Resources at College of the Redwoods. Continuation of accreditation is contingent upon the completion of required Progress Reports and Substantive Change reports as necessary. No Progress Report is required for 2025 Unless a substantive change occurs over the next year.

The above summary findings and action by the SAF Committee on Accreditation are based upon a review of the College of the Redwood's Progress Update dated 20-August-2024.

The above summary findings and action by the SAF Committee on Forest Technology School Accreditation are based upon Candidacy documents submitted in 2018 and the 2024 progress report.

By: 

Date: 1 November 2024

Martha L. Sjogren, Chair

SAF Committee on Forest Technology School Accreditation