

## *Tribal Natural Resources Faculty Candidate Seminars*

### **Dr. Megan Mucioki**

Post-doctoral Researcher  
University of California Berkeley

### **Research Seminar**

Tuesday, February 26, 2019

12:00-1:00 p.m.

110 Green Hall

St. Paul Campus

## **Collaborative Research in the Klamath River Basin to Support Tribal Access to and Management of Native Plant Foods**

The Klamath River Basin of Northern California and Southern Oregon is one of the most ecologically rich and diverse ecosystems in the Western United States, an abundance that supports the nutrition and cultural expression of tribes in the region. After decades of denied access to ancestral territories and native foods, tribes in the Basin are revitalizing their role as caretakers of their land and native foods, fibers, and medicines. Collaborative and equitable research relationships between tribes and academics, as demonstrated in the Karuk-UC Berkeley Cooperative, contribute applied research and outreach to tribal revitalization goals. This seminar highlights my collaborative research and outreach with the Karuk Tribe, Yurok Tribe, and Klamath Tribes in the Klamath River Basin over the last five-years. I detail both social and ecological research projects that incorporate traditional ecological knowledge and western science perspectives to 1) establish novel analyses of Native American food security in the context of cultural tribal resources and native food systems and 2) assess cultural agroecosystem resilience in the context of climate change and contemporary management programs to support more effective decision making for improved land management and agroecological resilience. Building on my past research with tribes in California and Oregon, I am committed to working collaboratively with tribes in Minnesota on issues prioritized by the community and natural resources department. I am particularly interested in assessing and developing cultural management plans for important native foods such as wild rice and understanding community needs for improved access to native foods in the rural and urban context.

If you cannot join us, please go to - <https://z.umn.edu/MuciokiResearchSeminar> to watch the seminar online.

### **Teaching Seminar**

Wednesday, February 27, 2019

9:00-10:00 a.m.

110 Green Hall

St. Paul Campus

## **Reestablishing California Black Oak Woodlands and Indigenous Fire Management in Northern California**

California Black Oak Woodlands are culturally and ecologically important landscapes to tribes in California, providing a plethora of goods and services including sustenance from acorns, historically composing 50% of Native peoples' diet in the region. Maintenance by Native Americans in California with low-intensity, frequent cultural burns, informed by traditional ecological knowledge (TEK), ensured predictability and sustainability of cultural resources and maintained the open structure of woodlands by reducing competition with conifers. Following 150 years of fire suppression and limited management with fire by Native Americans, today 90% of California Black Oak Woodlands have been excluded from the landscape. During this seminar, in order to understand the key components of integrating TEK related to the management of Black Oak Woodlands into contemporary plans for reestablishing Black Oak Woodlands, I discuss the cultural significance of this woodland landscape, cultural environmental practices related to fire that support the health and structure of Black Oak Woodlands, and strategies for implementing Black Oak Woodland reestablishment. With the growing movement of multi-stakeholder, collaborative restoration efforts, inclusive of tribes, there is great opportunity for the incorporation of TEK into forest management plans and establishing tribal cultural resources as management priorities.

If you cannot join us, please go to - <https://z.umn.edu/MuciokiTeachingSeminar> to watch the seminar online.

**For more information go to: FR link: <https://www.forestry.umn.edu/tribal-natural-resources-faculty-search>**