

Application Form

Profile

Neil _____ D _____ Tsutsui _____
First Name Middle Initial Last Name

Home Address _____ Suite or Apt _____
El Cerrito _____ CA _____ 94530
City State Postal Code

Primary Phone _____

Email Address _____

[District Locator Tool](#)

Resident of Supervisorial District:

District 1

UC Berkeley _____ Professor _____
Employer Job Title

Length of Employment

15 years

Do you work in Contra Costa County?

Yes No

If Yes, in which District do you work?

How long have you lived or worked in Contra Costa County?

13 years

Are you a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces?

Yes No

Board and Interest

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

East Bay Regional Park District's Park Advisory Committee - BOS Appointee: Submitted

Seat Name

Have you ever attended a meeting of the advisory board for which you are applying?

Yes No

If Yes, how many meetings have you attended?

I have attended nearly every meeting since my appointment to this board in June 2017

Education

Select the option that applies to your high school education *

High School Diploma

College/ University A

Name of College Attended

Boston University

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

Biology, specialization in Marine Science

Degree Awarded?

Yes No

College/ University B

Name of College Attended

UC San Diego

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

Ecology, Behavior, and Evolution

Degree Awarded?

Yes No

College/ University C

Name of College Attended

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

Degree Awarded?

Yes No

Other Trainings & Occupational Licenses

Other Training A

Certificate Awarded for Training?

Yes No

Other Training B

Certificate Awarded for Training?

Yes No

Occupational Licenses Completed:

Qualifications and Volunteer Experience

Please explain why you would like to serve on this particular board, committee, or commission.

During the past five years, it has been my great pleasure to represent Contra Costa County as the Board of Supervisors appointee to the EBRPD Parks Advisory Committee (PAC). As you know, these years have been filled with great challenges and difficulty, as well as renewal and opportunity. I am proud of my work on the PAC, helping to steer the Park District through these events, I am excited at the possibility of continuing for another term as the BOS appointee to the PAC. As a professor of Environmental Science, Policy, and Management at UC Berkeley, I am keenly aware of the environmental challenges that we face today, and I am well-versed in a variety of topics related to ecology and global change. In my professional life, I have previously served on many committees related to personnel, instruction, research, budgets, etc. at the levels of department, college, campus, and UC-wide. I believe that effective engagement with a variety of different user groups is crucial for the continued support of the parks, and that this engagement benefits society generally. In particular, I am interested in continuing to support and develop collaborations between the parts and student groups (university and K12), research scientists, and individuals from underrepresented groups. I have extensive experience collaborating on complex projects, and achieving measurable results within budgetary guidelines and on time.

Describe your qualifications for this appointment. (NOTE: you may also include a copy of your resume with this application)

As mentioned above, I have served as the Contra Costa County BOS appointee to the Park District PAC since 2017. In this time, I have been actively engaged in meetings of the committee as well as the regular Board field trips and site visits. This past year, I'm proud that my colleagues on the PAC elected me as their Vice-chair. I believe that this long and deep experience in the East Bay Parks as uniquely prepared me to serve as the BOS appointee to the Parks Advisory Committee. Outside of my PAC service, I have extensive experience in management of natural areas. This year, after a campuswide search, I was selected as the Faculty Director of UC Berkeley's five Central Sierra Field Research Stations. In this capacity, I manage staff, oversee the budgets, raise external funds, and guide programmatic and capital projects for these field stations and their thousands of acres of Sierra Nevada lands. More locally, I recently served for two years on the UC Berkeley Long Range Development Plan committee, focusing on the future use and preservation of the largely undeveloped Hill Campus in the Berkeley hills. Third, I have also served as a member of the Sagehen Creek Field Station Advisory Committee, helping to guide the this heavily-used UC Natural Reserve through the difficulties of a COVID-19 associated closure and the hiring and onboarding of a new station manager. Fourth, I am a faculty affiliate of the UC Berkeley Institute for People, Parks, and Biodiversity, and have twice served on the search committee for a new Executive Director. Finally, as a professor and scientist, I study ecology and evolution for a living, and am recognized as a world expert on invasive species and insect behavior. I am deeply immersed in the scientific literature, with expertise in a wide range of fields – from genetics, genomics, and molecular biology up to organismal behavior and evolutionary theory. I oversee a medium-sized research lab at UC Berkeley I have been funded continuously with competitive federal and state grants. I teach and mentor students in ecology, evolution, and environmental science, including undergraduates, PhD graduate students, and post-doctoral researchers.

Upload a Resume

Would you like to be considered for appointment to other advisory bodies for which you may be qualified?

Yes No

Do you have any obligations that might affect your attendance at scheduled meetings?

Yes No

If Yes, please explain:

Are you currently or have you ever been appointed to a Contra Costa County advisory board?

Yes No

If Yes, please list the Contra Costa County advisory board(s) on which you are currently serving:

EBRPD Parks Advisory Committee

If Yes, please also list the Contra Costa County advisory board(s) on which you have previously served:

EBRPD Parks Advisory Committee

List any volunteer or community experience, including any advisory boards on which you have served.

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT, Parks Advisory Committee. Appointed by Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors. June 2017–present. Sierra Club, West Contra Costa Chapter. Vice-chair, May 2020-May 2022. El Cerrito Environmental Quality Committee (2017-present; Vice-chair, 2019-2020; Chair, 2020-2022).

Conflict of Interest and Certification

Do you have a familial or financial relationship with a member of the Board of Supervisors? (Please refer to the relationships listed under the "Important Information" section below or Resolution No. 2021/234)

Yes No

If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:

Do you have any financial relationships with the County such as grants, contracts, or other economic relationships?

Yes No

If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:

Please Agree with the Following Statement

I CERTIFY that the statements made by me in this application are true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and are made in good faith. I acknowledge and understand that all information in this application is publicly accessible. I understand that misstatements and/or omissions of material fact may cause forfeiture of my rights to serve on a board, committee, or commission in Contra Costa County.

I Agree

Important Information

1. This application and any attachments you provide to it is a public document and is subject to the California Public Records Act (CA Government Code §6250-6270).
2. All members of appointed bodies are required to take the advisory body training provided by Contra Costa County.
3. Members of certain boards, commissions, and committees may be required to: (1) file a Statement of Economic Interest Form also known as a Form 700, and (2) complete the State Ethics Training Course as required by AB 1234.
4. Meetings may be held in various locations and some locations may not be accessible by public transportation.
5. Meeting dates and times are subject to change and may occur up to two (2) days per month.
6. Some boards, committees, or commissions may assign members to subcommittees or work groups which may require an additional commitment of time.
7. As indicated in Board Resolution 2021/234, a person will not be eligible for appointment if he/she is related to a Board of Supervisors' member in any of the following relationships:
 - (1) Mother, father, son, and daughter;
 - (2) Brother, sister, grandmother, grandfather, grandson, and granddaughter;
 - (3) Husband, wife, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepson, and stepdaughter;
 - (4) Registered domestic partner, pursuant to California Family Code section 297;
 - (5) The relatives, as defined in 1 and 2 above, for a registered domestic partner;
 - (6) Any person with whom a Board Member shares a financial interest as defined in the Political Reform Act (Gov't Code §87103, Financial Interest), such as a business partner or business associate.

CURRICULUM VITAE
(abbreviated)

NEIL DURIE TSUTSUI
Professor and Michelbacher Chair

University of California, Berkeley
Department of Environmental Science,
Policy & Management
130 Mulford Hall, #3114
Berkeley CA 94720-3114

EDUCATION

PhD in Biology, September 2000
University of California, San Diego – Department of Biology

BA in Biology, specialization in Marine Science.
Boston University, September 1994

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

University of California, Berkeley
Department of Environmental Science, Policy & Management
- Faculty Director, Central Sierra Field Research Stations, 2022-present
- Michelbacher Endowed Chair in Systematic Entomology, 2017-present
- Full Professor, 2014-present
- Affiliate Faculty, Essig Museum of Entomology, 2007-present
- Vice Chair for Instruction, 2010-2012, 2014-2015
- Associate Professor, 2009-2014
- Assistant Professor, 2007-2009

University of California, Irvine
Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
- Assistant Professor, 2003-2007

University of California, Davis
Section of Evolution and Ecology, Center for Population Biology
- Post-doctoral Associate, 2000-2003

10 MOST RECENT PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

(of 73 total)

- Tonione, M. A., K. Bi, R. R. Dunn, A. Lucky, and **N. D. Tsutsui**. 2022. Phylogeography and population genetics of a widespread cold-adapted ant, *Prenolepis imparis*. *MOLECULAR ECOLOGY* **31**(18):4884-4899.
- van Wilgenburg, E., M. Mariotta, and **N. D. Tsutsui**. 2022. The effect of diet on colony recognition and cuticular hydrocarbon profiles of the invasive Argentine ant, *Linepithema humile*. *INSECTS* **13**(4):335.
- Maccaro, J. J., B. A. Whyte, and **N. D. Tsutsui**. 2020. The ant who cried wolf? Short-term repeated exposure to alarm pheromone reduces behavioral response in Argentine ants. *INSECTS* **11**(12):871.
- Tonione, M. A., K. Bi, and **N. D. Tsutsui**. 2020. Transcriptomic signatures of cold adaptation and heat stress in the thermally sensitive winter ant (*Prenolepis imparis*). *PLOS ONE* **15**(10):e0239558.

Tsutsui, Neil D.
Curriculum Vitae

- Sánchez-Restrepo, A. F., L. Chifflet, V. A. Confalonieri, **N. D. Tsutsui**, M. A. Pesquero, and L. A. Calcaterra. 2020. Species delimitation and molecular phylogenetics of South American fire ant decapitating flies (Diptera: Phoridae: *Pseudacteon*). PLoS ONE **15**(7):e0236086.
- Adams, S. A. and **N. D. Tsutsui**. 2020. The evolution of species recognition labels in insects. PHILOSOPHICAL TRANSACTIONS ROYAL SOCIETY LONDON B. **375**: 20190476.
- Tonione, M. A., S. Cho, G. Richmond, C. Irian, **N. D. Tsutsui**. 2020. Thermal acclimation ability differs between high- and low- elevation populations of the winter ant, *Prenolepis imparis*. ECOLOGY & EVOLUTION **8**:11385-11398.
- Naughton, I., C. Boser, **N. D. Tsutsui**, and D. A. Holway. 2020. Direct evidence of native ant displacement by the Argentine ant in island ecosystems. BIOLOGICAL INVASIONS **22**:681-691.
- Felden, A., C. I. Paris, D. G. Chapple, A. V. Suarez, **N. D. Tsutsui**, P. J. Lester, and M. A. M. Gruber. 2019. Native and introduced Argentine ant populations are characterised by distinct transcriptomic signatures associated with behaviour and immunity. NEOBIOTA. 49:105-126.
- Buellesbach, J., B. A. Whyte, B., E. Cash, J. D. Gibson, K. J. Scheckel, R. Sandidge, and **N. D. Tsutsui**. 2018. Desiccation resistance and micro-climate adaptation: Cuticular hydrocarbon signatures of different Argentine ant supercolonies across California. JOURNAL OF CHEMICAL ECOLOGY **44**:1101-1114.

GRANT SUPPORT

Currently active grants:

- NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION, LONG-TERM RESEARCH IN ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGY (LTREB), Holway, D. A. (lead), Tsutsui as co-PI. “*LTREB Collaborative Proposal: Large-scale removal of introduced ants as a test of community reassembly*” (renewal). Aug. 2022 – April 2027. **\$599,997** (UCB **\$300,002**).
- NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION, DIVISION OF BIOLOGICAL INFRASTRUCTURE (DBI), “*Collaborative Research: Digitization TCN: Extending Anthophila research through image and trait digitization (Big-Bee)*”, Seltmann, K. (lead), Tsutsui and eight others as co-PI. Sept. 2021 – Aug. 2024. **\$1,288,241** (UCB **\$235,963**).
- CALIFORNIA CONSERVATION GENOMICS PROJECT, “*Conservation genomics of three California ant species*”, Tsutsui, N.D. (lead) and P.S. Ward. Nov. 2020 – July 2022, **\$78,298** (UCB **\$45,645**).
- US DEPT. OF DEFENSE, STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (SERDP), “*RNAi development for invasive ant eradication*”, Tsutsui, N. D. (lead), and B. Hoffmann, T. Walsh. May 2021 – Jan. 2023. **\$592,433** (UCB **\$316,763**).

Previous grants:

~\$5 million in grants from federal and state agencies and private foundations.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE & MENTORSHIP

GRADUATE STUDENTS ADVISED:

- 12 PhD students since 2003.

POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCHERS ADVISED:

- 12 since 2003.

PHD STUDENT COMMITTEE MEMBER

- 42 since 2003.

UNDERGRADUATES MENTORED:

>100 since 2003.

Tsutsui, Neil D.
Curriculum Vitae

COURSES TAUGHT:

UC-Berkeley

- *Insect Behavior* (ESPM150, ESPM142), 11 times since 2008.
- *Molecular Approaches to Environmental Problem Solving* (ESPM 192), 4 times.
- *Advanced Topics in Chemical Ecology, Behavior* (ESPM290), 6 times.
- *Senior Seminar-Conservation & Resource Studies* (ESPM194), 3 times.
- *Environmental Science Forum* (ESPM 201C), 1 time.

UC-Irvine

- *Graduate Core in Evolution*, 1 time.
- *Advanced Evolutionary Biology* (BS168), 3 times.
- *Freshman Seminar* (BS2B), “*Social behavior of ants*”, 4 times.

PRESENTATIONS & PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS

- 76 departmental seminars and conference talks since 2003. Includes two graduate student invited talks and one keynote presentation.

SERVICE

COMMITTEE MEMBER

- EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT, Parks Advisory Committee. Appointed by Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors. June 2017–present (Vice chair, April 2022–present).
- SIERRA CLUB, West Contra Costa Chapter. Vice-chair, May 2020–May 2022.
- El Cerrito Environmental Quality Committee (2017– present; Vice-chair, 2019–2020; Chair, 2020–2022).

CO-FOUNDER

- BACKYARD BIODIVERSITY PROJECT. 2016–present.
- BAY AREA ANT GROUP (BAAG). 2007– present.

EDITORIAL BOARDS:

- BMC ECOLOGY. Associate Editor, 2011–present.
- BIOLOGICAL INVASIONS. Associate Editor, 2011–present.
- PLOS GENETICS. Guest Editor, 2013.
- AUSTRALIAN JOURNAL OF ZOOLOGY. Associate Editor, 2007–2012.

COMMITTEE MEMBER:

- NATIONAL ECOLOGICAL OBSERVATORY NETWORK (NEON) DESIGN CONSORTIUM, Invasive Species subcommittee. 2004–2005.

REVIEWER (manuscripts and grant proposals):

Several hundred from 2003–present

Journals, including: *The American Naturalist, Animal Behaviour, Annals of the Entomological Society of America, Behavioral Ecology, Behavioral Ecology & Sociobiology, Biology Letters, BMC Ecology, Conservation Biology, Diversity & Distributions, Ecological Entomology, Ecology, Ecology Letters, eLife, Evolution, Evolutionary Applications, Evolutionary Ecology Research, Genetics, Insectes Sociaux, Journal Chemical of Ecology, Naturwissenschaften, Molecular Ecology, Oecologia, PLoS One, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Scientific Reports.*

Funding agencies, including: *The National Science Foundation, US Department of Agriculture, National Institute for Climate Change Research (US Dept of Energy), Natural Environment Research Council.*

SERVICE TO UC SYSTEM:

Tsutsui, Neil D.
Curriculum Vitae

Member – Faculty advisory committee, UC Education Abroad Program (UCEAP). 2013–present.

SERVICE TO CAMPUS (past four years):

Faculty Director – UC Berkeley Central Sierra Field Research Stations
(includes Central Sierra Snow Lab, Sagehen Creek Field Station, Onion Creek
Experimental Forest, Chickering-American River Reserve, and the North Fork
Association Lands). July 2022–present.

Member – UC BERKELEY, Hill Campus, Long Range Development Plan Committee,
2019–present.

Member – Committee on Courses of Instruction (COCI). 2014–2018.

SERVICE TO SCHOOL/COLLEGE (past four years):

Member – Search Committee, Executive Director for UC Berkeley Institute for People,
Parks, and Biodiversity. June 2022–present.

Member – Search Committee, Executive Director for UC Berkeley Institute for People,
Parks, and Biodiversity. Nov 2021–April 2022.

Member – Executive Committee, Sept 2019–Oct. 2021.

SERVICE TO THE DEPARTMENT (past four years):

Member – Graduate Student Admission Committee, Organisms & the Environment.
Fall 2022.

Member – Student Endowment Allocation Committee. 2022–present.

Chair – Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) committee, Mentoring working group.
2020–2021.

Member – DEI Committee. 2019–2021.