Brian Dietterick

Dr. Dietterick has been the Director of Cal Poly’s Swanton Pacific Ranch since 2004 and has been involved with teaching and research in the field of hydrology at Cal Poly since 1994. He is a Professional Hydrologist (PH) and has held professional hydrology positions in Pennsylvania, Arizona, Montana, and now California over the past 30 years. His teaching responsibilities include undergraduate and graduate teaching in hydrology, watershed management, and sustainable forestry at Cal Poly and at Swanton Pacific Ranch with a focus on furthering educational opportunities for students at Swanton. He has a diverse role at Swanton managing a team of six permanent staff along with a number of apprentices. He engages faculty, staff and students from Cal Poly regularly to promote the use of Swanton Pacific Ranch for research, seminars, short courses, and field activities. Additionally, professional and community groups use the Ranch for seminars, workshops, and retreats under his guidance. He oversees and participates in both education and research programs at the Ranch. His research interests have been related to water quality and land management, stream restoration, and LiDAR for landscape analysis. He has mentored eighteen graduate students as their adviser and participated in over 20 graduate research committees. He has served on numerous technical advisory committees as well as served a lead role in a number of development projects for the ranch, including the Swanton Pacific Educational Center and Field Camp, solar development project, and water development project.