Biosketch: Dr. Nathaniel Osborne

My education started at NC State University. I worked extensively with the extension-forestry program at NC State, ultimately leading to my M.S. at NC State (Prof. Dennis Hazel) and M.Sc. from the University of Helsinki (Prof. Bo Dahlin). During my master studies, I focused on measuring the amount of wood left after energy wood harvesting across the US South and Southern Sweden. I went to Oregon State University (Ph.D., minor statistics, Prof. Doug Maguire) to expand my understanding of forest modeling. My dissertation, supported by the Center for Intensive Planted-forest Silviculture, was focused on linking growth, yield and wood properties models. Our aim was to generate "glass logs" from growth models which could be passed into a sawing simulator to understand how silvicultural regimes influence fitness of lumber. I was lucky to have worked with the French National Research Institute (INRA) and the UK Forest Service on my dissertation topics in France and Scotland. After graduating with my Ph.D., I took on a biometrician position at Weyerhaeuser company for 2-years in Centralia Washington. Working with Dr. Dave Marshall and Greg Johnson (scientist and director, WY Company) was one of the most formative experiences of my career so far. I joined Rayonier as a forest biometrics project leader in 2017 working from our office near Amelia Island, Florida. My move to Rayonier was motivated by an interest to develop leadership and project and program management skills. Within this role, I manage the forest biometrics team focused on scientific programming, biometrics and harvest scheduling. Our team covers the Pacific Northwest (379k ac) and Southeast (1.8 MM ac) and provides support for New Zealand (414 k acres). Our research focus this year is on young stand growth modeling, linking wood properties and growth models, predicting forest inventory from LiDAR and other remote sensed data, and a number of promising mensuration techniques which enhance traditional forest sampling designs. Our research effort is balanced with time spent evaluating acquisitions and divestitures, and providing operational support in the context of activities like harvest scheduling, which ultimately sets our sustainable allowed cut across the 2 MM ac estate.