So much of science is the result of carefully planned, cautiously observed, and thoroughly analyzed research. True moments of excitement are rare in my work. However, it has been thrilling to uncover information lost for decades, or even centuries, in some historical forest reconstructions. It’s also exciting to measure spectacularly large or unexpectedly old trees.

When did you know you wanted to be a scientist? I became interested in being a scientist in college. My professors taught me how exciting it was to learn about new species, ecosystems, and landscapes, and that the thrill of discovery stays with you throughout your life!