

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT
Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): March 3, 2025

REDWOOD TRUST, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Maryland
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation)

001-13759
(Commission File Number)

68-0329422
(IRS Employer Identification Number)

One Belvedere Place
Suite 300
Mill Valley, California 94941
(Address of principal executive offices, including Zip Code)

(415) 389-7373
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Not Applicable
(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Trading symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share	RWT	New York Stock Exchange
10% Series A Fixed-Rate Reset Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Stock, par value \$0.01 per share	RWT PRA	New York Stock Exchange
9.125% Senior Notes Due 2029	RWTN	New York Stock Exchange
9.0% Senior Notes Due 2029	RWTO	New York Stock Exchange
9.125% Senior Notes Due 2030	RWTP	New York Stock Exchange

Item 8.01 Other Events.

Filing of Shelf Registration Statement and Prospectus Supplement

On March 3, 2025, Redwood Trust, Inc. (the “Company”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) a shelf registration statement (File No. 333-285506) (the “Registration Statement”), which became immediately effective upon filing.

On March 4, 2025, the Company also filed with the SEC a prospectus supplement, dated March 4, 2025, pursuant to Rule 424(b) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, relating to the Company’s Direct Stock Purchase and Dividend Reinvestment Plan (the “Plan”), which is designed to provide the Company’s existing stockholders and interested new investors with a method of purchasing shares of the Company’s common stock and investing all or a percentage of their cash dividends in additional shares of common stock.

In connection with the filing of the prospectus supplement, the Company is filing as Exhibit 5.1 hereto the opinion of its Maryland counsel, Venable LLP, regarding the legality of the validity of the securities being registered under the prospectus supplement. Additionally, the Company is filing as Exhibit 8.1 hereto an opinion of its counsel, Latham & Watkins LLP, with respect to certain tax matters.

This Current Report shall not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy nor shall there be any sale of these securities in any state in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
5.1	Opinion of Venable LLP
8.1	Opinion of Latham & Watkins LLP
23.1	Consent of Venable LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1)
23.2	Consent of Latham & Watkins LLP (included in Exhibit 8.1)
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the inline XBRL document)

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Date: March 4, 2025

REDWOOD TRUST, INC.

By: /s/ Andrew P. Stone

Name: Andrew P. Stone

Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Legal Officer and Secretary



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March 4, 2025

Redwood Trust, Inc.
One Belvedere Place
Suite 300
Mill Valley, California 94941

Re: Registration Statement on Form S-3:
Direct Stock Purchase and Dividend Reinvestment Plan

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have served as Maryland counsel to Redwood Trust, Inc., a Maryland corporation (the "Company"), in connection with certain matters of Maryland law relating to the registration by the Company of 12,500,000 shares (the "Shares") of common stock, \$.01 par value per share, of the Company (the "Common Stock"), covered by the above-referenced Registration Statement, and all amendments thereto (the "Registration Statement"), filed by the Company with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"). The Shares may be issued from time to time pursuant to the Redwood Trust, Inc. Direct Stock Purchase and Dividend Reinvestment Plan (the "Plan"), as described under the heading "The Plan" in the Prospectus Supplement (as defined herein).

In connection with our representation of the Company, and as a basis for the opinion hereinafter set forth, we have examined originals, or copies certified or otherwise identified to our satisfaction, of the following documents (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Documents"):

1. The Registration Statement and the related form of prospectus included therein;
2. The Prospectus Supplement, dated March 4, 2025 (the "Prospectus Supplement"), relating to the Plan, filed by the Company with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) under the Securities Act;
3. The charter of the Company (the "Charter"), certified by the State Department of Assessments and Taxation of Maryland (the "SDAT");
4. The Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Company, certified as of the date hereof by an officer of the Company;
5. Resolutions adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company (the "Resolutions"), relating to the authorization of the Plan and the issuance of the Shares, certified as of the date hereof by an officer of the Company;

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March 4, 2025
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6. A certificate of the SDAT as to the good standing of the Company, dated as of a recent date;
7. A certificate executed by an officer of the Company, dated as of the date hereof; and
8. Such other documents and matters as we have deemed necessary or appropriate to express the opinion set forth below, subject to the assumptions, limitations and qualifications stated herein.

In expressing the opinion set forth below, we have assumed the following:

1. Each individual executing any of the Documents, whether on behalf of such individual or any other person, is legally competent to do so.
 2. Each individual executing any of the Documents on behalf of a party (other than the Company) is duly authorized to do so.
 3. Each of the parties (other than the Company) executing any of the Documents has duly and validly executed and delivered each of the Documents to which such party is a signatory, and such party's obligations set forth therein are legal, valid, binding and enforceable in accordance with all stated terms.
 4. All Documents submitted to us as originals are authentic. The form and content of all Documents submitted to us as unexecuted drafts do not differ in any respect relevant to this opinion from the form and content of such Documents as executed and delivered. All Documents submitted to us as certified or photostatic copies conform to the original documents. All signatures on all such Documents are genuine. All public records reviewed or relied upon by us or on our behalf are true and complete. All representations, warranties, statements and information contained in the Documents are true and complete. There has been no oral or written modification of or amendment to any of the Documents, and there has been no waiver of any provision of any of the Documents, by action or omission of the parties or otherwise.
 5. Upon any issuance of the Shares, the total number of shares of Common Stock issued and outstanding will not exceed the total number of shares of Common Stock that the Company is then authorized to issue under the Charter. None of the Shares will be issued in violation of the restrictions on ownership and transfer set forth in Article XI of the Charter.
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Based upon the foregoing and subject to the assumptions, limitations and qualifications stated herein, it is our opinion that:

1. The Company is a corporation duly incorporated and validly existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Maryland and is in good standing with the SDAT.
2. The issuance of the Shares has been duly authorized and, when and if issued and delivered against payment therefor in accordance with the Registration Statement, the Resolutions and the Plan, the Shares will be validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable.

The foregoing opinion is limited to the laws of the State of Maryland and we do not express any opinion herein concerning any other law. We express no opinion as to the applicability or effect of any federal or state securities laws, including the securities laws of the State of Maryland. To the extent that any matter as to which our opinion is expressed herein would be governed by the laws of any jurisdiction other than the State of Maryland, we do not express any opinion on such matter.

The opinion expressed herein is limited to the matters specifically set forth herein and no other opinion shall be inferred beyond the matters expressly stated. We assume no obligation to supplement this opinion if any applicable law changes after the date hereof or if we become aware of any fact that might change the opinion expressed herein after the date hereof.

This opinion is being furnished to you for submission to the Commission as an exhibit to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K relating to the filing of the Prospectus Supplement (the "Current Report"), which is incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement. We hereby consent to the filing of this opinion as an exhibit to the Current Report and the said incorporation by reference and to the use of the name of our firm therein. In giving this consent, we do not admit that we are within the category of persons whose consent is required by Section 7 of the Securities Act.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Venable LLP

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LATHAM & WATKINS LLP

March 4, 2025

FIRM / AFFILIATE OFFICES

Austin	Milan
Beijing	Munich
Boston	New York
Brussels	Orange County
Century City	Paris
Chicago	Riyadh
Dubai	San Diego
Düsseldorf	San Francisco
Frankfurt	Seoul
Hamburg	Silicon Valley
Hong Kong	Singapore
Houston	Tel Aviv
London	Tokyo
Los Angeles	Washington, D.C.
Madrid	

Redwood Trust, Inc.
 One Belvedere Place, Suite 300
 Mill Valley, California 94941

Re: Direct Stock Purchase and Dividend Reinvestment Plan

To the addressee set forth above:

We have acted as special tax counsel to Redwood Trust, Inc., a Maryland corporation ("*RWT*"), in connection with the registration of shares of common stock of RWT issuable under RWT's Direct Stock Purchase and Dividend Reinvestment Plan, pursuant to a registration statement on Form S-3 dated March 3, 2025 (such registration statement, together with all exhibits thereto and the documents incorporated by reference therein, the "*Registration Statement*") filed by RWT with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "*Commission*") under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "*Act*"), a prospectus dated March 3, 2025 (the "*Base Prospectus*") and a prospectus supplement dated March 4, 2025 (the "*Prospectus Supplement*," and together with the Base Prospectus, the "*Prospectus*") filed by RWT with the Commission under the Act.

You have requested our opinion concerning certain of the federal income tax considerations relating to RWT, including with respect to its election to be taxed as a real estate investment trust ("*REIT*"). This opinion is based on certain assumptions and factual representations concerning the business, assets and governing documents of RWT and its subsidiaries as set forth in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus. We have also been furnished with, and with your consent have relied upon, certain representations made by RWT and its subsidiaries with respect to certain factual matters through a certificate of an officer of RWT, dated as of the date hereof (the "*Officer's Certificate*").

In our capacity as special tax counsel to RWT, we have made such legal and factual examinations and inquiries, including an examination of originals or copies certified or otherwise identified to our satisfaction of such documents, corporate records and other instruments as we have deemed necessary or appropriate for purposes of this opinion. For purposes of our opinion, we have not made an independent investigation or audit of the facts set forth in the above referenced documents or in the Officer's Certificate. In particular, we note that RWT may engage in transactions in connection with which we have not provided legal advice, and have not reviewed, and of which we may be unaware. Consequently, we have relied on your representation that the facts, statements, representations, and covenants presented in the above referenced documents and the Officer's Certificate, or otherwise furnished to us, accurately and completely describe all material facts relevant to our opinion. In addition, in rendering this opinion we have assumed the truth and accuracy of all representations and statements made to us that are qualified as to knowledge or belief, without regard to such qualification. In our examination, we have assumed the authenticity of all documents submitted to us as originals, the genuineness of all signatures thereon, the legal capacity of natural persons executing such documents and the conformity to authentic original documents of all documents submitted to us as copies.

LATHAM & WATKINS LLP

We are opining herein only as to the federal income tax laws of the United States, and we express no opinion with respect to the applicability thereto, or the effect thereon, of other federal laws, the laws of any state or other jurisdiction or as to any matters of municipal law or the laws of any other local agencies within any state.

Based on such facts and subject to the qualifications, representations, assumptions and limitations set forth herein and in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus, it is our opinion that:

1. Commencing with RWT's taxable year ended December 31, 2011, RWT has been organized and has operated in conformity with the requirements for qualification and taxation as a REIT under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "*Code*"), and its proposed method of operation will enable RWT to meet the requirements for qualification and taxation as a REIT under the Code; and
2. The statements set forth in the Base Prospectus and the Prospectus Supplement under the captions "Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations" and "Supplemental Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations," respectively, insofar as they purport to describe or summarize certain provisions of the statutes or regulations referred to therein, are accurate descriptions or summaries in all material respects.

No opinion is expressed as to any matter not discussed herein.

This opinion is rendered to you as of the date of this letter, and we undertake no obligation to update this opinion subsequent to the date hereof. This opinion is based on various statutory provisions, regulations promulgated thereunder and interpretations thereof by the Internal Revenue Service and the courts having jurisdiction over such matters, all of which are subject to change either prospectively or retroactively. Any such change may affect the conclusions stated herein. Also, any variation or difference in the facts from those set forth in the Registration Statement, the Prospectus or the Officer's Certificate may affect the conclusions stated herein. In addition, RWT's qualification and taxation as a REIT depend upon RWT's ability to meet the various qualification tests imposed under the Code, including through actual annual operating results, asset composition, distribution levels and diversity of stock ownership, the results of which have not been and will not be reviewed by Latham & Watkins LLP. Accordingly, no assurance can be given that the actual results of RWT's operation for any particular taxable year will satisfy such requirements. In addition, the opinion set forth above does not foreclose the possibility that RWT may have to pay a deficiency dividend, or an excise or penalty tax, which could be significant in amount, in order to maintain its REIT qualification.

March 4, 2025

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LATHAM & WATKINS LLP

This opinion is rendered only to you and is solely for your benefit in connection with the Prospectus upon the understanding that we are not hereby assuming professional responsibility to any other person whatsoever. This opinion may not be relied upon by you for any other purpose, or furnished to, assigned to, quoted to or relied upon by any other person, firm or other entity for any purpose without our prior written consent, which may be granted or withheld in our sole discretion, provided that this opinion may be relied upon by persons entitled to rely on it pursuant to applicable provisions of federal securities law.

We hereby consent to the filing of this opinion as an exhibit to the Prospectus and to the reference to our firm name in (i) the Base Prospectus under the captions "Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations" and "Validity of the Securities," and (ii) the Prospectus Supplement under the caption "Legal Opinions." In giving this consent, we do not hereby admit that we are within the category of persons whose consent is required under Section 7 of the Act or the rules or regulations of the Commission promulgated thereunder.

Sincerely,

/s/ Latham & Watkins LLP
