
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): January 30, 2009

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
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

**One Belvedere Place
Suite 300
Mill Valley, California 94941**
(Address of principal executive offices and 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 (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- 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))
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Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.

On January 30, 2009, Redwood Trust, Inc. issued a press release announcing dividend tax information for 2008. A copy of the press release is attached as Exhibit 99.1 to this current Report on Form 8-K.

The information contained in this Item 7.01 and the attached Exhibit 99.1 is furnished to and not filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, and shall not be incorporated by reference into any registration statement or other document filed under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits

Exhibit 99.1 Press Release dated January 30, 2009

SIGNATURES

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

Date: January 30, 2009

REDWOOD TRUST, INC.

By: /s/ MARTIN S. HUGHES
Martin S. Hughes
President, Co-Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial
Officer

Exhibit Index

Exhibit No.

Exhibit Title

99.1

Press Release dated January 30, 2009

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Redwood Trust, Inc.
January 30, 2009

CONTACTS:

Martin S. Hughes
(415) 389-7373

Mike McMahon
(415) 384-3805

REDWOOD TRUST, INC. ANNOUNCES DIVIDEND TAX INFORMATION FOR 2008

MILL VALLEY, Calif. – January 30, 2009 – Redwood Trust, Inc. (NYSE:RWT) today announced tax information regarding its dividend distributions for 2008.

Shareholders should check the tax statements they receive from brokerage firms to make sure the Redwood dividend information reported in those statements conforms to the information reported here. Furthermore, shareholders should consult their tax advisors to determine the amount of taxes that should be paid on Redwood's dividend distributions.

Under the tax rules applicable to real estate investment trusts (REITs) such as Redwood, the \$0.75 per share fourth quarter 2007 regular common stock dividend that had a record date of December 31, 2007 and a payment date of January 22, 2008 was reportable on shareholders' 2007 tax returns.

All of the other common stock dividends paid during 2008 are reportable on shareholders' 2008 tax returns, including three \$0.75 per share quarterly regular dividends. In addition, the \$0.75 per share fourth quarter 2008 common stock regular dividend with a record date of December 31, 2008 that was paid on January 21, 2009 is also reportable on shareholders' 2008 tax returns.

Thus, for 2008, Redwood shareholders that held stock for this entire period should report a total of \$3.00 per share of common stock dividends for tax purposes.

Under the tax rules applicable to REITs, Redwood's 2008 dividend distributions are characterized for tax purposes as 91.7% ordinary income and 8.3% return of capital. None of Redwood's 2008 dividend distributions are characterized for tax purposes as long-term capital gain dividends.

As a REIT, the portion of Redwood's dividends that is characterized as ordinary income is generally taxed at full ordinary income rates. The portion of Redwood's dividends characterized as a return of capital is not taxable, and reduces shareholders' basis for shares held at each quarterly distribution date.

The table below provides more detailed information for each of Redwood's common stock dividends that are taxable in 2008.

Common Stock (CUSIPs 758075 40 2)

Dividend Type	Declaration Dates	Record Dates	Payable Dates	Total Distribution Per Share	Ordinary Income	Return of Capital	Long Term Capital Gains	# of Shares	Total \$ Paid
Regular	3/5/2008	3/31/2008	4/21/2008	\$0.75	\$0.6875	\$0.0625	\$0.00	32,709,963	\$ 24,532,472
Regular	5/22/2008	6/30/2008	7/21/2008	\$0.75	\$0.6875	\$0.0625	\$0.00	33,184,317	\$ 24,888,238
Regular	8/21/2008	9/30/2008	10/21/2008	\$0.75	\$0.6875	\$0.0625	\$0.00	33,237,676	\$ 24,928,257
Regular	11/10/2008	12/31/2008	1/21/2009	\$0.75	\$0.6875	\$0.0625	\$0.00	33,470,557	\$ 25,102,918
			Total	\$3.00	\$2.7500	\$0.2500	\$0.00		\$ 99,451,885

For shareholders that are corporations, Redwood's dividends are not generally eligible for the corporate dividends-received deduction.

No portion of Redwood's 2008 dividends consisted of unrelated business taxable income (UBTI), which is subject to specialized tax reporting and other rules applicable for certain tax exempt investors.

For more information about Redwood Trust, Inc., please visit our website (www.redwoodtrust.com).

CAUTIONARY STATEMENT: This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 including statements related to the closing date of the offering and the use of the net proceeds. Forward-looking statements involve numerous risks and uncertainties. Redwood's actual results may differ from our expectations, estimates, and projections and, consequently, you should not rely on these forward-looking statements as predictions of future events. Forward-looking statements are not historical in nature and can be identified by words such as "anticipate," "estimate," "will," "should," "expect," "believe," "intend," "seek," "plan," and similar expressions or their negative forms, or by references to strategy, plans, or intentions. These forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties, including, among other things, those described in Redwood's Prospectus Supplement dated January 21, 2009, the accompanying Prospectus dated November 23, 2007, and the documents incorporated in the Prospectus Supplement and the Prospectus by reference. We undertake no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise. Important factors, among others, that may affect our actual results include: changes in interest rates; changes in mortgage prepayment rates; the timing of credit losses within our portfolio; our exposure to adjustable-rate and negative amortization mortgage loans; the state of the credit markets and other general economic conditions, particularly as they affect the price of earning assets and the credit status of borrowers; the concentration of the credit risks we are exposed to; the ability of counterparties to satisfy their obligations to us; legislative and regulatory actions affecting the mortgage industry; the availability of high quality assets for purchase at attractive prices; declines in home prices and commercial real estate prices; increases in mortgage payment delinquencies; changes in the level of liquidity in the capital markets which may adversely affect our ability to finance our real estate asset portfolio; changes in liquidity in the market for real estate securities, the re-pricing of credit risk in the capital markets, inaccurate ratings of securities by rating agencies, rating agency downgrades of securities, and increases in the supply of real estate securities available-for-sale, each of which may adversely affect the values of securities we own; the extent of changes in the values of securities we own and the impact of adjustments reflecting those changes on our income statement and balance sheet, including our stockholders' equity; our ability to maintain the positive stockholders' equity necessary to enable us to pay the dividends required to maintain our status as a real estate investment trust for tax purposes; changes in our investment, financing, and hedging strategies and the new risks that those changes may expose us to; changes in the competitive landscape within our industry and for the personnel we need to retain or attract; our failure to manage various operational risks associated with our business; our failure to maintain appropriate internal controls over financial reporting; our failure to properly administer and manage our securitization entities; risks we may be exposed to if we expand our business activities, such as risks relating to significantly increasing our direct holdings of loans; limitations imposed on our business due to our REIT status and our status as exempt from the Investment Company Act of 1940; our ability to raise additional capital to fund our investing activity; and other factors not presently identified.