

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

| OMB APPROVAL | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|
| OMB Number: | 3235-0104 | | | |
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| nours per response | | | | |

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| (Print or Type Responses) | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|---|---|---|---|--|
| Name and Address of Reporting Person * Merdian Diane | 2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year) 08/21/2008 | | | 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol REDWOOD TRUST INC [RWT] | | | | |
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 1 BELVEDERE PLACE, SUITE 300 | | | | 4. Relationship of Reporting Person Issuer | | | endment, Date Original nth/Day/Year) | |
| (Street) MILL VALLEY, CA 94941 | | | | (Check all applicable) _X_Director | | cify Applicable _X_Form f | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) | |
| (City) (State) (Zip) | | Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned | | | | | | |
| 1.Title of Security (Instr. 4) | | Be (Ir | Amount of Se eneficially Ownstr. 4) | rned | | 4. Nature of Indire (Instr. 5) | ect Beneficial Ownership | |
| Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class Persons who respondent to the form distribution of the form distribut | ond to the o splays a cu | collection or rrently val | of information of inf | on contained in t | | · | | |
| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4) 2. Do and 3. | | Date Exercisable 3. Tit | | Amount of Securition Derivative Security | es 4. Conversion or Exercise Price of | 5. Ownership Form of Derivative | 6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) | |
| | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | Derivative Security | Security: Dire (D) or Indirec (I) (Instr. 5) | | |
| Stock Units in Deferred Compensation | (1) | (2) | Common | 2,489.83 | \$ 18.09 | D | | |

Reporting Owners

| Depositing Owner Name / | Relationships | | | | |
|--|---------------|--------------|---------|-------|--|
| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other | |
| Merdian Diane 1 BELVEDERE PLACE SUITE 300 MILL VALLEY, CA 94941 | X | | | | |

Signatures

| Harold F. Zagunis | 08/25/2008 |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| **Signature of Reporting Person | Date |

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. *See* 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) Units 100% vested at grant
- (2) No expiration.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, See Instruction 6 for procedure.

Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.