
Forest Health Monitoring Program
January Monthly Update
January 9, 2007

Upcoming Events (items beginning with * indicate a new listing or new information added)

*January 29 – February 1, 2007. San Diego, CA. The 13th Annual Forest Health Monitoring Work Group Meeting will be held at the Doubletree Hotel Mission Valley in San Diego, CA. The theme for this year's meeting will be "Recovery from Catastrophic Mortality and Fires". The Chair of this year's Meeting Planning Committee is Jeri Lyn Harris (USDA Forest Service, Forest Health Protection, R2) (jharris@fs.fed.us). There is a block of 125 rooms at the Doubletree Hotel (800-445-8667 or 619-297-5466) being held for the meeting at the federal per diem rate of \$131 per night until 01/12/2007. When making your reservation, indicate that you would like one of the rooms being held for the "USDA - Forest Health Monitoring" to get this rate. Please make your reservation as soon as possible to ensure a room at the meeting site. Please contact Valerie Cooper (tel. no. 919- 549-4014, fax no. 919-549-4047 or email: vcooper@fs.fed.us) for additional information. Additional information along with a draft agenda and registration forms are posted on the FHM website: <http://fhm.fs.fed.us>.

Additional meetings scheduled during the Forest Health Monitoring Work Group Meeting:

- West Coast Forest Health Monitoring (FHM) Region: AK, WA, OR, CA, HI & Pacific Islands will be meeting as a group at the FHM Work Group Meeting. All conference participants within our broad "west coast" geographic area -- from Alaska to California, Hawaii, Pacific Islands, from State governments, universities, research, federal agencies and individuals -- are welcome to join the discussion. The group will have several hours during the "Regional Breakout" session to discuss issues of regional importance, priorities for the FHM Management Team, regional analysis, and reporting. One specific task this year will be to identify reports the regional participants want to complete, including the scope of the reports and who will contribute. Please contact Alison Nelson, West Coast FHM Coordinator, asnelson@fs.fed.us or (503) 808-2976 if you have questions or suggestions, and we look forward to dialog in San Diego.

June 5-8, 2007. Austin, TX. The 2nd National Oak Wilt Symposium. Presented by the Texas Chapter, International Society of Arboriculture, in cooperation with the Texas Forest Service, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, Texas Cooperative Extension, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, Texas Nature Conservancy, and USDA Forest Service, Forest Health Protection. Oak wilt researchers and management specialists from across the United States will come together to present the latest findings about the biology and management of this devastating tree disease. Topics will include: the genus *Quercus* and the genus *Ceratocystis*; oak wilt biology and host-pathogen relationships; oak wilt impacts in different regions of the U.S.; oak wilt vector relationships; modeling oak wilt on a landscape scale; managing inoculum sources on a landscape scale; impact on the endangered golden-cheeked warbler; wounds as infection courts for oak wilt; hypovirulence as a potential biocontrol; suppression tactics, including trenches and trench inserts; microinjection of fungicides and movement in trees; chemical control from both arborist and industry perspectives; longevity of propiconazole injections for preventing oak wilt; USDA Forest Service perspectives on oak wilt research and suppression; and other threats to oaks, including sudden oak death and bacterial leaf scorch. For the latest information and to register for the meeting, visit the Texas oak wilt web page at <http://www.texasoakwilt.org>.

*November 5-7, 2007. Montpellier, in southern France. The ForestSat'07 conference. This conference is intended to bring together remote sensing and geographic information specialists with foresters and other forest stakeholders to foster exchanges towards an operational and fruitful use of remote sensing techniques and products for forest applications. Previous conferences were ForestSat'03 held in Edinburgh, Scotland, and ForestSat'05 held in Boras, Sweden. Papers are expected on topics related to the development of remote sensing methods (mapping, assessment of biophysical parameters, change detection), and applications of remote sensing to forest resources assessment and indicators of sustainable management; forest functioning

and carbon cycle; monitoring of the impacts of global change; landscape ecology; biodiversity. For more information including important dates, visit the ForestSat'07 conference home page at <http://forestsatsat07.teledection.fr>.

Publications of Interest

Voelker, S.L.; Muzika, R-M.; Guyette, R.P.; Stambaugh, M.C. 2006. Historical CO₂ growth enhancement declines with age in *Quercus* and *Pinus*. *Ecological Monographs*. 76(4): 549-564.

Job Announcements

The Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources at the University of Vermont is pleased to announce the availability of a 12-month/year Research Assistant Professor with a broad interest in forest ecosystem health, and specific expertise in biological threats at the ecosystem and landscape levels. The position is located in the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources and is jointly funded with base dollars from the University of Vermont and the USDA Forest Service. The individual will participate in research, teaching and outreach in the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources at the University of Vermont. Candidates with (1) a strong interest in forest health research, (2) a desire to work in a setting that features cross-disciplinary research with ecologists, modelers, and social scientists, and (3) a commitment to the University's pursuit of ethnic and gender diversity and equity are encouraged. The successful candidate will maintain an active research program focused on the protection and enhancement of forest health with an emphasis on biological threats at the ecosystem and landscape levels. This research will be conducted in close collaboration with scientists and staff of the USDA Forest Service Northern Research Station. The successful candidate also will develop and teach two undergraduate courses: one a general class on forest ecosystem health and the other on emerging biological threats to forest health. Additional responsibilities include advising graduate students and teaching a graduate seminar on a biennial basis in the candidate's area of expertise. Outreach to the state in areas of forest health will also be expected. Although a primary focus of this position will be research collaboration with USDA Forest Service scientists, the candidate will also collaborate with scientists from across campus and from other relevant state and federal entities. For more information including qualifications and application requirements, please contact Dr. Clare Ginger, Forest Health Search Committee at clare.ginger@uvm.edu.

Post-doctoral Researcher in Spatial Modeling of a Biological Invasion, Center for Applied Geographic Information Science, University of North Carolina at Charlotte. We seek a post-doctoral associate who will collaborate on research studying the spread and impacts of Sudden Oak Death, an emerging forest disease that has reached epidemic levels in coastal forests of California. The position will focus on spatially-explicit epidemiological modeling of disease dynamics at multiple spatial scales. Data from ongoing field, greenhouse, and laboratory experiments will be integrated with GIS and mathematical modeling approaches to examine the spatial and temporal dynamics of feedbacks between the pathogen, its host systems, and environmental heterogeneity. This work is part of a new NSF-funded collaboration between the University of North Carolina-Charlotte, University of California-Davis, University of California-Berkeley, and Cambridge University. The position will be located at UNC Charlotte in the Center for Applied Geographic Information Science (www.gis.uncc.edu) with an appointment of 2 to 4 years pending performance. As part of a rapidly growing research university, the Center is integrally involved in several federally funded projects on both basic research and management of Sudden Oak Death. For more information, please feel free to contact Dr. Ross Meentemeyer via email at rkmeente@email.uncc.edu. Review of applications begins February 1, 2007, but the position will remain open until a suitable candidate is identified. The start date of the position is anticipated to occur between June and August of 2007. Competitive salary and benefits are offered. University of North Carolina at Charlotte is an AA/EOE.

Research Assistantships (Landscape Ecology and Spatial Modeling, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Department of Geography and Earth Sciences)- Two PhD research assistantships are available for highly motivated graduate students interested in landscape ecology and spatial modeling. The assistantships are part of a new award from the National Science Foundation to study the spread and ecological impacts of

Sudden Oak Death, an emerging forest disease that has reached epidemic levels in coastal forests of California. Our multidisciplinary group from the University of North Carolina-Charlotte, University of California-Davis, University of California-Berkeley, and Cambridge University will use a combination of field, greenhouse, and lab experiments along with GIS and mathematical modeling to examine the spatial and temporal dynamics of feedbacks between the pathogen, its host systems, and environmental heterogeneity. A variety of research topics are available for study, such as (1) examining how land use and spatial heterogeneity of host habitat influence disease spread, (2) modeling effects of weather and climate change on disease dynamics, (3) predicting ecological consequences of extensive tree mortality at multiple spatial scales, and (4) landscape genetics of host-pathogen interactions. In pursuit of integrating field and lab data with GIS modeling, students will gain extensive field experience in the beautiful coastal landscapes of Big Sur, Santa Cruz, and Sonoma. The two assistantships will begin in fall 2007 in the recently established PhD program in Geography. Working with Dr. Ross Meentemeyer (www.geoeearth.uncc.edu/people/rmeentemeyer) students will join the research team and ongoing projects in the Center for Applied Geographic Information Science (www.gis.uncc.edu). As part of a rapidly growing research university, the Center is integrally involved in several federally funded projects on both basic research and management of Sudden Oak Death. For more information, contact Ross Meentemeyer via email at rkmeente@email.uncc.edu and see www.geoeearth.uncc.edu. Applications will be reviewed upon receipt, but will continue until candidates are chosen. Applications received by **January 15, 2007** will be guaranteed consideration. The University of North Carolina-Charlotte is an AA/EOE.

FHM Homepage: : www.fhm.fs.fed.us
or access via the USDA Forest Service homepage at www.fs.fed.us