
Forest Health Monitoring Program
February Monthly Update
February 15, 2007

The 13th Annual Forest Health Monitoring Work Group Meeting was held January 29 – February 1, 2007 in San Diego, CA. Approximately 105 attendees participated in the focus groups: aerial detection survey; analysis and reporting: leading forest health indicators; invasive plants; standardizing ground surveys; and detection of exotics in communities. Each focus group prepared resolutions (recommendations) related to the topic that will be presented to the FHM Management Team for consideration and action. Attendees also had the opportunity to go on two field trips, one to Torrey Pines State Reserve, and one to the Cleveland National Forest. Approximately 32 posters were displayed, many related to evaluation monitoring projects from the previous year. Copies of the posters are posted on the FHM web site.

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

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://forestsat07.teledetection.fr> .

Publications of Interest

Condeso, T.E.; Meentemeyer, R.K. 2007. Effects of landscape heterogeneity on the emerging forest disease sudden oak death. *Journal of Ecology* (2007). doi: 10.1111/j.1365-2745.2006.01206.x

Lake, M.; Marshall, P.; Mielke, M.; Cumming, A.B.; Twardus, D. 2006. National Forest Health Monitoring program monitoring urban forests in Indiana: pilot study 2002, Part 1. Analysis of field methods and data collection. Gen. Tech Rep. NA FR-06-06. Newtown Square, PA: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Northeastern Area. Available at: <http://www.fhm.fs.fed.us/pubs/ufhm/indianaforests02/indianaforests02.html>

Manley, P.N.; Van Horne, B.; Roth, J.K.; Zielinski, W.J; McKenzie, M.M.; Weller, T.J.; Weckerly, F.W.; Vojta, C. 2006. Multiple species inventory and monitoring technical guide. Gen. Tech. Rep. WO-73. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Washington Office. 204 p.

Pilz, D.; Ballard, H.L.; Jones, E.T. 2006. Broadening participation in biological monitoring: handbook for scientists and managers. Gen. Tech. Rep. PNW-GTR-680. Portland, OR: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station. 131 p. A PDF file of the entire publication may be downloaded from the link: http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/pubs/pnw_gtr680.pdf (large file - may take a few minutes to load). Printed color hardcopies may be obtained for free by contacting the Publications department of the Pacific Northwest Research Station using the website form: <http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/publications/order.shtml> .

The October through December 2006 edition of the Pennsylvania *FPM News* is available at the Division of Forest Pest Management web site link: <http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/forestry/leaflets/fpmnews-dec06.pdf> .

Job Announcements

The U.S. Forest Service State and Private Forestry, Forest Health Protection (FHP) will soon be advertising an Aerial Survey Program Manager GS-404-11/12 position. This is a permanent full-time position. The duty station is located in McClellan, CA (with relocation to Davis, CA in spring/summer 2007), and requires a large amount of traveling throughout the State. The position is with the State and Private Forestry Unit, Forest Health Monitoring Programs staff area. The primary duties of this position are to manage the Regional aerial survey program and conduct aerial surveys and field visits on the ground. The position is responsible for program management and supervising permanent and temporary/seasonal employees to conduct annual and special aerial surveys in support of FHP. The program manager will develop and manage a centralized program, prepare an annual program of work, provide direction to aerial survey personnel, ensure safety standards are being met by all personnel conducting surveys and manage an annual budget. The incumbent will be responsible for planning and conducting annual and special aerial surveys, collect data to national standards, train personnel in data collection methods, compile data and results into clear and concise reports. The incumbent will be skilled in forest vegetation and damage agent recognition, have experience with GIS, and background in forestry or other natural resources. When advertised, the position information will be available at <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov>. For more information, contact Lisa Fischer (U.S. Forest Service) at lisafischer@fs.fed.us . The United States Government does not discriminate in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, age, membership in an employee organization, or other non-merit factor

The U.S. Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station is currently advertising for a Supervisory Ecologist/Forester position (GS-0408, 0460-12/13). This is a permanent full-time position located in Ogden, UT. This position serves as the team leader of the Field Operations Team for the Interior West Forest Inventory and Analysis Program, with full responsibility for inventory and monitoring activities conducted in eight Interior West States. The incumbent supervises the collection of all field data used by the Program for the computation and reporting of forest resource statistics in the Interior West. The incumbent prepares or directs the preparation and revision of short and long-range inventory and monitoring work plans that include budget, data collection, and quality control phases; and coordinates inventory and monitoring activities with cooperators. The incumbent provides technical and administrative supervision to 7-8 permanent employees, and second level supervision to approximately 80 permanent and temporary employees. The position is advertised to the public under announcement number RM-D002-07 on the USAJOBS website: <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov>. The position is advertised to current federal employees under announcement number RM-002-07. The United States Government does not discriminate in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, age, membership in an employee organization, or other non-merit factor.

The Intermountain and Northern Regions (Regions 4 and 1) of the U.S. Forest Service, State & Private Forestry will soon be advertising for a Forest Health Monitoring Coordinator, GS-13 position. Series of consideration include 401 and 2210. The position is permanent full-time located in the Region 4 regional office located in Ogden, Utah. This position is part of the Region 4 / Region 1 State & Private Forestry staff and it is supervised by the Director and Deputy Director of State and Private Forestry, respectively, located in Ogden, Utah and Missoula, Montana. The primary duty of this position is to manage the Forest Health Monitoring program for the two regions. The Coordinator serves as point of contact for Forest Health Monitoring for the four field offices located within the two regions. The four field offices are located in Ogden, Utah; Missoula, Montana; and Boise and Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Other duties of this position are to manage special survey projects, develop regional forest health reports, and coordinate the regions' forest health monitoring program. The position coordinates all forest health monitoring activities including working with the forest health specialists in the regions and State partners, supporting the national Forest Health Monitoring program by collaborating with the Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) program, and coordinating all evaluation monitoring projects for the regions. The incumbent will provide support to annual monitoring reports from federal and cooperative programs, and will drive production of the annual accomplishment reports for national and regional reporting requirements. When advertised, the position information will be available at <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov>. For more information, contact Peg Polichio, Deputy Director for State and Private Forestry, at 406-329-3280 or email ppolichio@fs.fed.us. The United States Government does not discriminate in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, age, membership in an employee organization, or other non-merit factor

Assistantship: An MS level or PhD level Research Assistantship is available at the School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences (SFWS) at Auburn University. The selected student will be working on insect vectors (primarily Hylastes species) of root pathogens and the disturbances that related to their population levels (e.g., fire, thinning, fertilization, etc.) Prospective candidates should be highly motivated and have a solid background in Entomology, Forestry, Plant Pathology, Plant Biology, or Horticulture. Candidates will work closely with U.S. Forest Service Forest Health Protection, Southern Forestry Nursery Management Cooperative and the Forest Health Dynamics Laboratory at Auburn University. Assistantships are \$14,930 (MS) per year with tuition fees waived and \$17,450 (PhD) per year with tuition fees waived. This position opens Fall 2007. Duties include: fulfilling SFWS educational requirements for graduate students; participating in project design and planning; interacting with federal, State, and nongovernmental organization managers; conducting field research/data collection and managing data entry; analyzing data and interpreting results; generating reports for funding sources; and writing a thesis and refereed publications. For more information please contact Dr. Lori Eckhardt, 3301 School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences, Auburn University, Auburn, AL 36849. (334) 844-2720 office, (334) 844-1084 fax, or eckhlg@auburn.edu.

Assistantship: An MS level or PhD level Research Assistantship is available at the School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences (SFWS) at Auburn University. The selected student will be addressing forest health indicators for loblolly pine decline and mortality based on crown conditions and site parameters. These will be addressed by Forest Health Monitoring program/U.S. Forest Service Forest Inventory and Analysis database mining and comparing these results to a hazard and impact rating system. Prospective candidates should be highly motivated and have a solid background in GIS, Entomology, Forestry, Plant Pathology, Plant Biology or Horticulture. Candidates will work closely with U.S. Forest Service Forest Health Protection, Southern Forestry Nursery Management Cooperative and the Forest Health Dynamics Laboratory at Auburn University. Assistantships are \$14,930 (MS) per year with tuition fees waived and \$17,450 (PhD) per year with tuition fees waived. This position opens Summer 2007. Duties include: fulfilling SFWS educational requirements for graduate students; participating in project design and planning; interacting with federal, State, and nongovernmental organization managers; conducting field research/data collection and managing data entry; analyzing data and interpret results; generating reports for funding sources; and writing a thesis and refereed publications. For more information please contact Dr. Lori Eckhardt, 3301 School of

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