****

Forest Health Monitoring Program
April Monthly Update
April 15, 2009

****

Recent Happenings

Rob Mangold, Director of Forest Health Protection (FHP), is pleased to announce that Stephen Covell will be joining the FHP-WO Staff as the Pesticide/Invasive Plant National Manager. Steve comes to FHP from the Air Force Air National Guard, at Andrews Air Force Base. He has a broad array of experience and will be starting in his new position on May 11. Please help Rob in welcoming Steve to the FHP staff.

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

*June 2-5, 2009. Winter Harbor, ME. Northeast Forest Health Field Workshop (formerly the Northeast Forest Pathology Workshop). The Northeast Forest Field Workshop will be held at the Schoodic Educational and Research Center (http://acadiapartners.org/) in Winter Harbor, ME. The theme for Wednesday's field trips is "Using Silviculture to Reduce Risk from Pests" and will focus on spruce/fir, American beech, and eastern white pine forest types. Thursday's field trips will examine the "Forest Health of Acadia National Park" on Mount Desert Island and will focus on invasive species, air pollution damage, and forest health monitoring. There will also be time available in the evenings and Friday morning for activity reports from the attendees. Registration and lodging reservations are due May 1, 2009. Late submissions will be considered on a space-available basis. More information about registration and lodging is available at: http://www.forest.umaine.edu/education/livingston/NFHFW/NFHFW09.html. Come and spend a few days in the forest and along the spectacular coast of Maine.

June 15-18, 2009. Santa Cruz, CA. The Fourth Sudden Oak Death Science Symposium. This Symposium is intended to bring together scientific and management communities from throughout the world working on *Phytophthora ramorum* and Sudden Oak Death. The goal is to provide a scientific update on the state of our knowledge about Sudden Oak Death and *P. ramorum* in forest, woodland, urban forestry, nursery, and horticultural settings, and to analyze the implications of the findings. The Symposium will be comprised of completed research studies as well as updates on projects currently underway, and panel discussions. This broad overview will foster closer cooperation between individuals working in various disciplines and geographic areas, and provide an update for managers, regulators, and policy makers about the focus of current research efforts. The Symposium is sponsored by the USDA Forest Service Pacific Southwest Research Station and the California Oak Mortality Task Force, and will be held at the Hilton Santa Cruz/Scotts Valley (http://www1.hilton.com/en_US/hi/hotel/SJCSVHF-Hilton-Santa-Cruz-Scotts-Valley-California/index.do) in Santa Cruz, CA. The call for papers, case studies, speakers, and posters has been issued. The organizers are seeking abstracts (up to 1-page) of proposed papers or posters by **February 13, 2009**. These should be submitted via e-mail using the format (including font size and style) specified in the Call for Papers and should **clearly state if you would like to present a paper or a poster**. Abstracts and requests for an example abstract should be sent to: Katie Palmieri, California Oak Mortality Task Force, e-mail: palmieri@nature.berkeley.edu, ph.: 510-847-5482 or 530-344-7530. A peer-reviewed, Symposium proceedings will be produced. Authors are expected to provide manuscripts. **For authors with research results submitted to other journal outlets, the organizers will accept extended abstracts instead of manuscripts.** Complete instructions for paper preparation will be sent out with abstract acceptance notifications. Submissions should focus on one of the following areas addressing Sudden Oak Death/*P. ramorum*: biology and pathology; organisms associated with *P. ramorum*; ecology; economic and social impacts; modeling and risk assessment; restoration; management and control strategies; monitoring; silviculture; arboriculture and urban forestry; nursery management; policy; or other related topics. Authors of accepted papers and posters will be notified by March 13, 2009. Registration materials will be available soon. For more information, visit the conference website (http://nature.berkeley.edu/comtf/sodsymposium4/) or contact:

Submission of Abstracts, Conference Logistics, and Facilities

• Katie Palmieri, California Oak Mortality Task Force
510-847-5482, palmieri@nature.berkeley.edu

Registration

• Janice Alexander, California Oak Mortality Task Force
415 /499-3041, JAlexander@co.marin.ca.us

Program Content

• Susan Frankel, USDA Forest Service Pacific Southwest Research Station
510-559-6472, sfrankel@fs.fed.us

June 22-26, 2009. Logan, UT. The 7th North American Forest Ecology Workshop (NAFEW). The meeting will take place at Utah State University. The Workshop will bring forest ecologists from around the world to share ideas and knowledge on forest ecosystems in North America. The ecological backdrop of the 7th NAFEW will be the semi-arid and montane forests of North America's Interior West. The program will feature four days of oral presentations – with a mid-workshop ½ day break for field trips – consisting of invited speakers and volunteer presentations and posters. The first call for papers has been distributed. Workshop topics include: forest detritus under changing climate and disturbance scenarios; mixed-severity fire regimes; ecological applications of stand density indices; advances in North American aspen ecology; linking fuel heterogeneity to fire behavior and effects; ecological classification systems in forests; ecological impacts of mastication fuel treatments; disturbance interactions during ecological change; ecosystem recovery following disturbance; and root disease and bark beetle interactions. For more information about the meeting including submitting a paper, visit the meeting web page at www.nafew2009.org.

*July 20-24, 2009. Durango, CO. The 57th Western International Forest Disease Work Conference. The meeting will include a variety of activities including panel discussions, breakfast and lunch meetings with specific discussion topics, a poster session, a student session, and a field trip ending with a barbecue. The panel discussions planned are: Aspen Health; White Pine Blister Rust: the Invasion; High-Elevation Forest Declines; New Pathogens: Are We up the Creek Without our Paddle?; and Back to the Future: New and Historical Perspectives on Wood Decays. The field trip on Wednesday, July 22, will include stops in sudden aspen forest decline in the Dolores Ranger District, and in Mesa Verde National Park. For more information about the agenda, registration, travel and lodging, and more, visit the meeting website at www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/technology/wif/index.htm.

Publications of Interest

Anacker, B.L.; Rank, N.E.; Huberli, D.; Garbelotto, M.; Gordon, S.; Whitkus, R.; Harnik, T.; Meentemeyer, R.K. 2008. Susceptibility to Phytophthora ramorum in a key infectious host: landscape variation in host genotype, phenotype, and environmental factors. New Phytologist. 177: 756-766.

Cushman, J.H.; Meentemeyer, R.K. 2008. Multi-scale patterns of human activity and the incidence of an exotic forest pathogen. Journal of Ecology. 96: 766-776.

Huebner, C.D.; Morin, R.; Zubriggen, A.; White, R.L.; Moore, A.; Twardus, D.T. 2009. Patterns of exotic plant invasions in Pennsylvania's Allegheny National Forest using intensive Forest Inventory and Analysis plots. Forest Ecology and Management. 257: 258_270.

McManus, K.A.; Gottschalk, K.W., eds. 2009. Proceedings 19th U.S. Department of Agriculture Interagency Research Forum on Invasive Species 2008. Gen. Tech. Rep. NRS-P-36. Newtown Square, PA: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Northern Research Station. 100 p. available online www.nrs.fs.fed.us/pubs/9223

Meentemeyer, R.K.; Anacker, B.; Mark, W.; Rizzo, D.M. 2008. Early detection of emerging forest disease using dispersal estimation and ecological niche modeling. Ecological Applications. 18(2): 377-390.

Meentemeyer, R.K.; Rank, N.E.; Anacker, B.L.; Rizzo, D.M.; Cushman, J.H. 2008. Influence of land-cover change on the spread of an invasive forest pathogen. Ecological Applications. 18(1): 159-171.

Meentemeyer, R.K.; Rank, N.E.; Shoemaker, D.; Oneal, C.; Rizzo, D.M. 2008 Impacts of sudden oak death on tree mortality in the Big Sur ecoregion of California. Biological Invasions. 10: 1243-1255.

Negrón, J.F.; McMillin, J.D.; Anhold, J.A.; Coulson, D. 2009. Bark beetle-caused mortality in a drought-affected ponderosa pine landscape in Arizona. Forest Ecology and Management. 257: 1353-1362.

Smith, G.C.; Coulston, J.W.; O'Connell, B.M. 2008. Ozone bioindicators and forest health: a guide to the evaluation, analysis, and interpretation of the ozone injury data in the Forest Inventory and Analysis Program. Gen. Tech. Rep. NRS-34. Newtown Square, PA: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Northern Research Station. 100 p. available online www.nrs.fs.fed.us/pubs/9036

Tobin, P.C. 2008. Cost analysis and biological ramifications for implementing the gypsy moth Slow the Spread Program. Gen. Tech. Rep. NRS-37. Newtown Square, PA: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Northern Research Station. 21 p. available online www.nrs.fs.fed.us/pubs/9238

Worrall, J.J. 2009. Dieback and mortality of *Alnus* in the southern Rocky Mountains, USA. Plant Disease. 93:293-298.

Job Announcements

The USDA Forest Service Southwestern Region is currently advertising a permanent, full-time Entomologist (GS-0414-09/12) on the Forest Health staff located in Flagstaff, AZ. This position performs a variety of field and laboratory tasks in support of pest management and forest health protection, and provides forest land managers with professional advice and technical assistance that is useful in minimizing damage caused by forest insects. The physical demands may require strenuous hiking over rough uneven terrain on occasion. The work environment will be an office setting as well as outdoors. Complete information including application instructions is available at www.usajobs.com. The vacancy number is ADS09-R3DRF-1710DP (open to US citizens). The announcement closes on **April 17, 2009**. If you would like additional information, or have any questions concerning this position, please contact John Anhold, AZ Zone Leader, (928) 556-2073, or e-mail janhold@fs.fed.us. The USDA is an equal opportunity employer.

The USDA Forest Service, Region 6 is currently advertising a permanent, full-time Forester (GS-0460-11/12) position located in Portland, OR. The position uses a variety of analytical methods and techniques to assess a wide range of scientific, legal, environmental protection, and/or natural resource and environmental management issues; evaluates and tracks data using computer-based software and information systems; provides advice and assistance on forestry resource management policies and practices in order to manage forestry resources so that they are utilized in the combination that will best meet the present and future needs of the public; and gathers, analyzes, and interprets scientific data through development and use of computer software and automated systems. Complete information including application instructions is available at www.usajobs.com. The vacancy number is ADS09-R6RO-4565DP (P-JL) (open to US citizens), and ADS09-R6RO-4565G (P-JL) (open to federal employees). The announcement closes on **April 23, 2009**. The USDA is an equal opportunity employer.

The USDA Forest Service, Washington Office is currently advertising a permanent, full-time Entomologist (GS-0414-13/14) position located in Arlington, VA. This position performs a variety of field and laboratory tasks in support of pest management and forest health protection; provides forest land managers with professional advice and technical assistance that is useful in minimizing damage caused by forest insects; reviews and evaluates scientific research, technical literature, industry studies, or other analyses in the area of regulation; and interprets and evaluates findings for use and applicability to investigation, inspection, or compliance/enforcement activities. Complete information including application instructions is available at www.usajobs.com. The vacancy number is ADS09-WO-ENT-00057DP (CDO) (open to US citizens), and ADS09-WO-ENT-00057G (CDO) (open to federal employees). The announcement closes on **May 11, 2009**. The USDA is an equal opportunity employer.

The USDA Forest Service, Southern Research Station will soon be advertising a vacancy for a GS 12 Research Scientist. The scientist will serve as a research entomologist within SRS-4552: Insects, Diseases, and Invasive Plants. This scientist (located in Asheville, NC) will work as a member of SRS-4552 a unit comprised of three teams: (1) Southern Pine Beetle and Invasive Insects; (2) Termites and Wood-Destroying Insects; (3) Diseases and Invasive Plants. The mission of this unit is to provide the basic biological and ecological knowledge and innovative management strategies required for management and control of native and non-native insect pests, pathogens and invasive plants in changing forest ecosystems. The scientist will be responsible for conceiving, planning, organizing, designing, implementing, interpreting, and reporting personal research on controlling and mitigating the impacts of invasive insects. While the focus of the research will be hemlock woolly adelgid, the scientist may also be called upon to work on other emerging invasive insects such as the Sirex woodwasp, emerald ash borer and Asian ambrosia beetles. If you are interested in this position please respond to the outreach reply (attachment 1 of this Update). If you would like additional information, or have any questions concerning this position, please contact the Assistant Director of Research, Kier Klepzig: kklepzig@fs.fed.us. The vacancy will be listed on the Office of Personnel Management web site: www.usajobs.gov when available. The USDA is an equal opportunity employer.

The USDA Forest Service, Northeastern Area, Office of the Durham Field Representative, Forest Health Protection is looking to fill a GS-0434-11/12 Plant Pathologist position. This is a permanent position stationed at the Durham Field Office in Durham, NH. This employee will serve as part of a team providing technical advice, assistance and guidance on various forest health and forest pathology issues to state, tribal and federal cooperators in New York and New England. The position combines technology transfer, various field surveys and interactions with diverse stakeholders. This is an exciting and challenging opportunity to provide leadership in the coordination and development of a wide variety of new and existing forest pathology projects in northeastern forests. The Durham Field Office is one of three field units of the Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry (fsweb.na.fs.fed.us and www.na.fs.fed.us). The field office delivers both forest health and forest management programs (stewardship, urban/community forestry and watershed) to the six New England States and New York. It is located in Durham, New Hampshire, not far from the University of New Hampshire campus (check out Durham, New Hampshire at www.ci.durham.nh.us and the University of New Hampshire at www.unh.edu). The Durham Field Office is dealing with five of the major national invasive insect threats: emerald ash borer, Asian longhorned beetle, Sirex wood wasp, gypsy moth, and hemlock woolly adelgid, however there is no shortage of complex pathology issues including beech bark disease, oak wilt, Armillaria root rot and butternut canker as well as detection and survey efforts for the rest (e.g., sudden oak death and bacterial leaf scorch). To express interest in this position, please respond by **May 8, 2009** via email to Michael Bohne, Forest Health Group Leader at mbohne@fs.fed.us. For more information about this position, please contact Michael Bohne at 603-868-7708. The USDA is an equal opportunity employer.

Attachment 1

Outreach Response Form

USDA Forest Service
Southern Research Station

I am interested in the position and will call the contact person, in addition to checking http://www.usajobs.opm.gov for the position announcement.

Position Title/Series/Grade: **Research Entomologist GS-0414-12**

Location: **Asheville, NC**

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: _____Date: _____

Address:

E-Mail:

Current Federal Employee? Yes No___

Current title/series/grade/location:

Type of appointment you are currently under:

(Resume attached).

Interested applicants should return this form by March 31, 2009 to:

Kier Klepzig, Assistant Station Director
E-mail: kklepzig@fs.fed.us
Phone: (828) 257-4307 Fax: (828) 257-4313

Thank you for your interest in employment with the Southern Research Station.