

# Forest Health Monitoring Program

## Monthly Update

### September 2012

#### WHAT'S NEW

**Evaluation Monitoring (EM) Request for Proposals** – The FHM program is requesting proposals for FY 2013 EM projects designed to determine the extent, severity, and causes of undesirable changes in forest health. Project proposals for new and continuing projects should be submitted by **September 30, 2012** to the FHM Regional Managers: Jim Steinman for Northeast FHM Region ([jsteinman@fs.fed.us](mailto:jsteinman@fs.fed.us)), Manfred Mielke for Northcentral FHM Region ([mmielke@fs.fed.us](mailto:mmielke@fs.fed.us)), Dale Starkey for Southern FHM Region ([dstarkey@fs.fed.us](mailto:dstarkey@fs.fed.us)), Jeri Lyn Harris for Interior West FHM Region ([jharris@fs.fed.us](mailto:jharris@fs.fed.us)), or Alison Nelson for West Coast FHM Region ([asnelson@fs.fed.us](mailto:asnelson@fs.fed.us)). The FHM Regional Managers will, in turn, forward their top selected proposals to the Washington Office by November 1, 2012. Detailed instructions and a template for project proposals are available on the FHM website at: [http://www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/fhm/em/instructions/em\\_instructions13.pdf](http://www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/fhm/em/instructions/em_instructions13.pdf).

**The Rocky Mountain Region (R2)** welcomes Angie Ambourn to the position of Entomologist in Rapid City, South Dakota. She currently works on the latest regional issues such as aspen decline and mountain pine beetle epidemics in South Dakota. Angie is a great new addition to Forest Health Protection in R2.

**The State and Private Forestry Forest Health Protection Region 6** will be welcoming Joshua Bronson as a Plant Pathologist at the Southwest Oregon Forest Insect and Disease Service Center, reporting October 22, 2012. Included in his list of experience is research and monitoring work with white pine blister rust. Please join Region 6 in welcoming Joshua to Forest Health Protection in southwest Oregon.

**The State and Private Forestry Forest Health Protection Region 3** will be welcoming James Jacobs to the position of New Mexico Zone Forest Pathologist in Albuquerque, New Mexico, effective January 13, 2013. He brings regulatory experience in nursery pests and research experience with white pine blister rust.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

(Items beginning with \* indicate a new listing or new information added)

**\*September 24-27, 2012. Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada.** The 61<sup>st</sup> North Central Forest Pest Workshop. The North Central Forest Pest Workshop (NCFPW) theme is *Invasive Species – What's next?* The workshop is planned to be of interest to a variety of forest health scientists including plant pathologists, entomologists, foresters, and students. The workshop will include a plenary session, several symposia, a poster session, a field trip, and other activities. For complete information about the workshop include registration, lodging, and the agenda, visit the workshop website at

<http://www.eomf.on.ca/ncfpw>.

**September 24-27, 2012.** Amherst, MA. IUFRO Small-Scale Forestry Conference: Science for Solutions. The first call for papers has been issued for this conference. Both oral and poster presentations are being sought. Abstracts to be considered were due by January 31, 2012. For more information, visit the conference website: <http://iufrossf2012.org/>.

**October 8-12, 2012.** Tahoe City, CA. The 60th Western International Forest Disease Work Conference (WIFDWC) will hold its annual program at the Granlibakken Lodge and Conference City in Tahoe City, California. Contemporary forest disease issues will be featured in over 20 formal presentations in the Granlibakken conference center and via a series of field trips to local forest pathology situations in the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit. To learn more about this conference, go to <http://www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/technology/wif/>. If you would like to get on the mailing list for this conference, and receive all of the most recent information on the full program, please send a brief note to John Browning at ([john.browning@weyerhaeuser.com](mailto:john.browning@weyerhaeuser.com)).

**October 30-31, 2012.** Utah State University, Logan, UT. Restoring the West Conference 2012: Balancing Energy Development and Biodiversity. The 2012 Restoring the West Conference will examine how the boom in energy development occurring in many parts of the West is affecting or may affect the well-being of plant and animal species found in the region. From sage grouse to the hookless cactus to shrubby reed-mustard, many creatures that are rare or uncommon are under increased pressure, or will be, as energy resources are developed. We invite biologists, land managers and owners, energy development firms, and students to come together to talk about which plants and animals are at risk, how energy development affects these creatures, and how we might mitigate these effects to maintain biodiversity and promote responsible energy development. There will be plenary sessions on both days and a poster session Tuesday afternoon. Poster submissions are requested. For more information including registration deadlines, visit the conference website at <http://restoringthewest.org/>.

**December 4-6, 2012.** Baltimore, MD (venue is yet to be determined). **Note the date change.** The 2012 Forest Inventory and Analysis Science Symposium. The US Forest Service, Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) Program is pleased to announce the 2012 FIA Science Symposium. The theme of the 2012 FIA Science Symposium is "Moving from Status to Trends." The Symposium will bring together international forest scientists, managers, and stakeholders to share insights on contemporary issues, science policy, mensuration, geospatial products, inventory and monitoring methods, and other topics. Contributed sessions and papers (limit of two per author) on science, applications, policy, management, or technologies related to the Symposium's broad theme are invited. Abstracts were due March 23, 2012. For more information about the Symposium including details about submitting an abstract, visit the Symposium website: <http://www.fia.fs.fed.us/symposium/>.

## **JOB** **OPPORTUNITIES**

**The Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest** will soon be advertising one permanent full-time Forest Pathologist, GS-434-13 position located at the Forestry Sciences Lab in Wenatchee, Washington. The response to this outreach will determine how the position will be advertised. If you are interested in applying for this position, please respond on the Outreach Notice Form (attached to this Update at attachment 1) by **September 30, 2012**. The incumbent serves as the lead Forest Pathologist for the Wenatchee Forest Insect and Disease Service Center, and will supervise one GS-11 Pathologist. The team also includes one GS-13 and one GS-11 Forest Entomologist, and one GS-9 technician/GIS specialist. The Okanogan-Wenatchee acts as a “host” forest for the Wenatchee Forest Insect & Disease Service Center, which is a field office of USDA Forest Service, State and Private Forestry, Forest Health Protection. The Service Center is physically located at the Wenatchee Forestry Sciences Laboratory, about three and one-half miles south of the Forest Supervisor’s Office. The Service Center provides forest insect and disease expertise to all federal lands in much of eastern and central Washington. The service area also extends to the west side of the Cascade Mountains. Clients include the Okanogan-Wenatchee, Colville and Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forests, the Colville, Kalispel, Spokane and Yakama Indian Reservations, Mt. Rainier and North Cascades National Parks, Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area, Little Pend Oreille and Turnbull National Wildlife Refuges, Spokane BLM District, Wenatchee BLM Resource Area, and Fairchild Airforce Base. The total land base for all clients is about 16 million acres. Some of the major diseases of concern are dwarf mistletoes, root diseases, and stem decays. If you are interested in this position and would like more information, please contact Forest Entomologist Connie Mehmel at 509-664-9213 (or email [cmehmel@fs.fed.us](mailto:cmehmel@fs.fed.us)), or Forest Pathologist Angel Saavedra at 509-664-9223 (or email [alsaavedra@fs.fed.us](mailto:alsaavedra@fs.fed.us) ). When available, the full position announcement will be on <http://www.usajobs.gov>. *USDA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

**The Wallowa-Whitman National Forest** is seeking candidates for a Blue Mountain Province Pathologist Position (GS-0434-13). The incumbent is responsible for providing forest health and pathology program management and oversight throughout the Blue Mountain Province, which includes the Wallowa-Whitman, Umatilla, and Malheur National Forests; the Bureau of Land Management Vale and Burns Districts; and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. The incumbent works directly for the Wallowa-Whitman Natural Resource Staff Officer, but coordinates closely with the Region 6 Forest Health Protection Coordinator. The position is located in the Pest Management Service Center at the Pacific Northwest Forestry and Range Sciences Lab in La Grande, Oregon. The incumbent may be assigned supervisory responsibilities for other employees in the Pest Management Service Center. This position requires a great deal of travel throughout the greater Blue Mountain area, and incumbent must be fit for a significant amount of field work, including hiking into wilderness and other relatively remote locations. The incumbent provides expert advice on forest health protection relating to plant pathology throughout Federal lands in eastern Oregon and southeastern Washington. Forest insects and diseases are two of the main drivers in Blue Mountains forest ecology;

therefore, providing detailed knowledge on the microclimates of the Blue Mountains and the associated activity and occurrence of various forest diseases is critical to success of forest management in the province. Incumbent responsibilities include (1) advising land managers on the adequacy of Forest and District land management plans; (2) training Federal agency, Tribal, and State agency employees in the use of forest pest management/forest health protection principles, theories, and practices in order to encourage sound management of forest resources; and (3) evaluating local forest health projects and programs. If you are interested in being considered for this challenging opportunity, complete the outreach response form (attached to this Update as attachment 2) and send it to [anncarlson@fs.fed.us](mailto:anncarlson@fs.fed.us) by close of business **October 1, 2012**. For additional information on this position, please contact Ann Carlson, Natural Resource Staff, at 541-523-1242. When available, the full position announcement will be on <http://www.usajobs.gov>. *USDA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

**The Oregon Department of Forestry** is currently advertising a limited duration, full-time Natural Resource Specialist 2 (Forest Health-Sudden Oak Death) position available in the Private Forests program located in Brookings, OR. This limited duration position is funded through June 30, 2014. The main purpose of this position is to coordinate the implementation of treatments designed to eradicate the pathogen (*Phytophthora ramorum*) responsible for Sudden Oak Death (SOD). For a complete description of the position including application procedures, see the position announcement at <http://agency.governmentjobs.com/oregon/default.cfm>. The job code is ODF12-0107. The closing date and time of the announcement is Tues. **09/18/12** 11:59 PM Pacific Time. *The Oregon Department of Forestry is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer committed to work force diversity.*

## **PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST**

1. **Potter, K.M; Hargrove, W.W.** 2012. Determining suitable locations for seed transfer under climate change: a global quantitative method. *New Forests*. 43(5-6): 581-599. DOI: 10.1007/s11056-012-9322-z.

## **FOR MORE FHM INFORMATION**

**Visit the FHM homepage:** [www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/fhm/](http://www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/fhm/)  
or access via the USDA Forest Service homepage at [www.fs.fed.us](http://www.fs.fed.us)

**OUTREACH RESPONSE FORM**  
**Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest**

Send your response form by **September 30, 2012** to Connie Mehmel - by email, fax, or mail  
email : [cmehmel@fs.fed.us](mailto:cmehmel@fs.fed.us)

fax: 509-665-8362 (please also phone 509-664-9213 or email to notify of fax transmission)

address: Forestry Sciences Lab  
Attn: Connie Mehmel  
1133 N. Western Ave.  
Wenatchee WA 98801

**PERSONAL INFORMATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Internet Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently a Federal Employee? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

If yes, name of Agency \_\_\_\_\_

Current Duty

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Position (title/series/grade): \_\_\_\_\_

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Current type of appointment: Permanent \_\_\_\_\_ Temporary \_\_\_\_\_

If no, Current Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Current Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Eligible for Other Hiring Authority (check one), such as:

30% Disabled Vet \_\_\_\_\_ Reinstatement Eligible \_\_\_\_\_ Peace Corps \_\_\_\_\_

Handicap Authority \_\_\_\_\_ Other (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

*Thank you for your interest in our vacancy!*

**OUTREACH RESPONSE FORM**  
**Wallowa-Whitman National Forest**

**GS-434-13, Blue Mountain Province Pathologist Position, managed on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest.**

*Please Respond, By OCTOBER 1, 2012, To:*

**Ann Carlson**, at Phone: (541) 523-1242, Email: [annlcarlson@fs.fed.us](mailto:annlcarlson@fs.fed.us)

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Internet Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Are you currently a Federal Employee? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_**

**If yes, name of Agency**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Duty**

**Location:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Current Position**

(title/series/grade): \_\_\_\_\_

**Current type of appointment: Permanent \_\_\_\_\_ Temporary \_\_\_\_\_**

**If no, Current Position:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Current Location:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Current Employer** \_\_\_\_\_

**Eligible for Other Hiring Authority (check one), such as:**

**30% Disabled Vet \_\_\_\_\_ Reinstatement Eligible \_\_\_\_\_ Peace Corps \_\_\_\_\_**

**Handicap Authority \_\_\_\_\_ Other (describe) \_\_\_\_\_**

***Thank you for your interest in our vacancy!***