
Forest Health Monitoring Program
July Monthly Update
July 14, 2008

Recent Happenings

Gary Smith, Invasive Plant Program Manager with Forest Health Protection in the Washington Office, will be leaving the Forest Service on August 4th to join the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Plant Protection and Quarantine Emergency and Domestic Programs Staff in Riverdale, MD. Gary will serve as the Director of Plant Pathogen and Weed Programs. We congratulate Gary on his promotion and look forward to working with him in his new position.

Florida initiates action as part of a Southern States Cogongrass Project funded by Region 8 (USDA Forest Service, Forest Health Protection). The Florida Division of Forestry's Forest Health Staff has conducted three organizational workshops with stakeholders and cooperators across northern Florida to develop contacts and develop strategies for identifying, prioritizing, and treating cogongrass populations in the northern part of the State. Part of a "regional multi-State" effort funded by Region 8, this project will be in full swing in FY2009. Other States involved in the project include Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina. Interest and cooperation in Florida are at a very high level. Logistical details are complicated, but a developing multi-agency "Management Team" will facilitate action to treat 'manageable' cogongrass populations threatening the State of Georgia and important natural areas in Northern Florida.

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

October 21-23, 2008. Park City, UT. The 2008 FIA Symposium. The USDA Forest Service, Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) program is pleased to announce the 2008 FIA Symposium. The symposium will emphasize innovative uses of FIA data that shed new light on contemporary issues, such as carbon, climate change, fire, bio-energy/biomass, forest health, and other contemporary issues. Plenary and breakout sessions from a variety of disciplines will be presented. The goals of the symposium are to: present ways that FIA has aided in policy and management decisions; provide a forum for linking issue-focused analyses with techniques development; exchange science and technology between FIA regions; showcase collaborative ventures and foster continued work with FIA partners; display state-of-the-art science and tools; and communicate utility of FIA data and analyses to the broader user community. Papers and breakout sessions on applications or technologies related to the symposium theme – *Climate Change, Fire, and Other Hot Topics* – are invited. The 2nd call for papers and other information about the symposium are available on the symposium web page: <http://www.fia.fs.fed.us/symposium>. Abstracts for papers and breakout sessions were due May 30, 2008 and should have been submitted to Will McWilliams (USDA Forest Service, Northern Research Station) at wmcwilliams@fs.fed.us. Visit the symposium web site for updated information.

November 17-20, 2008. Hot Springs, AR. The 15th Biennial Southern Silvicultural Research Conference. The conference will consist of concurrent technical sessions, a poster session, and an optional field trip. Abstracts for offered papers and posters currently are being accepted. For more information about the conference and specifics about submitting abstracts, please visit the conference website at <http://www.srs.fs.fed.us/bssrc2008/index.htm>.

Publications of Interest

Allender, C.J.; Clancy, K.M.; DeGomez, T.E.; McMillin, J.D.; Woolbright, S.A.; Keim, P.; Wagner, D.M. 2008. Lack of genetic differentiation in aggressive and secondary bark beetles (Coleoptera: Curculionidae, Scolytinae) from Arizona. *Environmental Entomology*. 37(3): 817-824.

Rogers, P.C.; O'Connell, B.; Mwang'ombe, J.; Madoffe, S.; Hertel, G. 2008. Forest Health Monitoring in the Ngangao Forest, Taita Hills, Kenya: A five year assessment of change. *Journal of East African Natural History*. 97(1): 3-17.

United Nations Environment Programme. 2008. Africa: Atlas of our changing environment. For more information, visit <http://www.na.unep.net/AfricaAtlas/>.

Job Announcements

The USDA Forest Service, State and Private Forestry, Forest Health Protection (FHP) will soon be advertising an Aerial Survey Program Manager GS-401-11/12 position. This is a permanent full-time position. The duty station for this position is located in Davis, California and requires a large amount of traveling throughout the State. This 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. This position is responsible for program management and supervising permanent and temporary/seasonal employees to conduct annual and special aerial surveys in support of Forest Health Protection. The program manager will manage a centralized aerial survey 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, and 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. If you are interested or desire further information about this position, please contact Lisa Fischer at lisafischer@fs.fed.us or by phone at 530-759-1748. USDA is an equal opportunity employer.

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