
Forest Health Monitoring Program
October Monthly Update
October 17, 2008

Recent Happenings

The Forest Health Monitoring (FHM) Management Team (MT) held its annual fall meeting on October 8 and 9 in St. Louis, MO. The first morning was a joint meeting with the Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) MT. Topics discussed with the FIA MT included use of FHM and FIA data for national and State assessments, urban inventory and monitoring pilots, and developing new host data models for the next revision of the Insect and Disease Risk Map. Topics for the remainder of the FHM MT meeting included program and budget updates, progress on resolutions from the 2008 work group meeting in San Antonio, risk map revision timeline, and plans for 2009 work group meeting. This MT meeting was the first for Tom Smith from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. Tom will be replacing Roger Burnside from the Alaska Department of Natural Resources as the West Coast FHM Region State representative on the MT. Both Tom and Roger participated in the St. Louis meeting to ease the transition. We welcome Tom to the MT and thank Roger for his service on the MT during the last two years. Full contact information for all the MT members is available on the FHM website <http://fhm.fs.fed.us>.

The US Forest Service - Rocky Mountain Region (R2) is pleased to announce the hiring of a new Aerial Survey Program Manager – Brian Howell. Brian brings to this work a tremendous amount of experience with a Masters degree in forestry and post graduate training in pathology, entomology, and aviation. He currently serves as the forest health technician for the R2 - Lakewood Service Center and performs multiple tasks in GIS, data analysis/reporting, project/program planning, and aerial survey. Brian has a shown great skill at coordinating and working well with all federal and State cooperators in forest health work in R2. He will be starting as the R2 Aerial Survey Program Manager on November 10, 2008. We wish Brian all the best in his new position.

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

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>.

*November 18-19, 2008. Woodland, CA. The California Forest Pest Council (CFPC) 2008 Annual Meeting will be held at the Heidrick Ag Center in Woodland, CA. The 57th annual meeting will review 2008 CA forest health issues including innovative forest health monitoring techniques, on the ground management of forest insects and pathogens, and a case study in managing forest health issues: The Lake Tahoe Basin. Tuesday highlights include a poster session featuring “What’s wrong with my tree? Stump the Experts” and a social. COST: Before November 3, 2008 - \$85; Late Registration and at the Door - \$100; Students and Retirees - \$40. Make checks payable to CFPC. Register online or mail completed registration and payment to: Kim Camilli, CFPC secretary, CDF Fire Station #36, 4050 Branch Road, Paso Robles, CA 93446. (Registration cost includes meetings and refreshments on Tuesday and Wednesday, social event on Tuesday, and luncheon on Wednesday.) Check for updates and registration materials at: <http://www.caforestpestcouncil.org>. If you have questions about the conference, please contact Susan Frankel, USDA-Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station, at 510-559-6472 or sfrankel@fs.fed.us.

* January 27 – 29, 2008. Savannah, GA. **Mark your calendars** for the 2009 FHM Work Group Meeting to be held in Savannah, GA on January 27 – 29, 2008. The chair of this year’s Meeting Planning Committee is Rob Cruz (US Forest Service, R4) (rcruz@fs.fed.us). More details regarding this meeting will be included in future Updates.

Publications of Interest

DeGomez, T.E.; Hayes, C.J.; Anhold, J.A.; McMillin, J.D.; Wagner, M.R. 2008. Using verbenone and non-host volatiles to prevent Ips bark beetle colonization of ponderosa pine slash, 2005-2006. *Arthropod Management Tests*. 33:H3.

Gandhi, K.J.K.; Gilmore, D.W.; Katovich, S.A.; Mattson, W.J.; Zasada, J.C.; Seybold, S.J. 2008. Catastrophic windstorm and fuel-reduction treatments alter ground beetle (Coleoptera: Carabidae) assemblages in a North American sub-boreal forest. *Forest Ecology and Management*. 256: 1104-1123.

Jovan, S. 2008. Lichen biomonitoring of biodiversity, air quality, and climate: Baseline results from monitoring in Washington, Oregon, and California. Gen. Tech. Rep. PNW-GTR-737. Portland, OR: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station. 115 p. Available online:

www.fs.fed.us/pnw/fia/publications

Job Announcements

Auburn University is advertising a Research Assistant II/III-Associate I/II position (Requisition No.: 22816). Position Summary: This position is committed to 100% research associated with the Auburn University Forest Health Cooperative. The Forest Health Coop's mission will be to address important, current and pertinent forest health issues in a way that addresses real world management problems in the southeastern United States. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to: an ongoing research and technology transfer program involving industry, State, and private forest landowners; engage actively in research, collection and analysis of data, development of experimental designs and/or protocols that address Coop priorities. The incumbent will participate in writing research reports, technical notes and newsletter articles for Forest Health Coop Members. Will participate in presentations at Forest Health Coop meetings and at regional or national meetings of relevance. Will be required to travel to field sites across the Southeastern United States to install experiments, collect data and serve as a liaison with Forest Health Coop Members in a limited diagnostic capacity. Minimum Qualifications: Designation as a Research Assistant requires a Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution in Forest Pathology, Forest Entomology or Forestry and two years experience in forest health issues. Designation as a Research Associate requires a Master's Degree from an accredited institution in the subject areas listed above. Employer will consider advanced degrees in lieu of experience. Desired Qualifications: The following qualifications are desired: a strong understanding of the interactions of forest health and insects and diseases that affect tree health; and an understanding of silviculture. Requisition No.: 22816. The "Review Date" indicates the date after which the hiring department will begin reviewing applications of qualified candidates. Salary will be commensurate with education and experience. Minorities and women are encouraged to apply. Refer to the above Requisition # and apply on-line at: www.auemployment.com on any computer with Internet access. If you need any assistance, contact Auburn University's Department of Human Resources at (334) 844-4145 or your local state employment service office. Internet Access is also available through your public library. Auburn University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

University of Idaho – Graduate student opportunity in forest ecosystems, climate change, and insect outbreaks at the University of Idaho. Funding is available for an M.S. or Ph.D. student in the area of forest ecosystems, climate change, and insect outbreaks. Possible research topics include using lidar remote sensing to quantify beetle disturbance impacts to forest carbon stocks and determining the effects of climate change on recent bark beetle outbreaks. The student will participate in a statewide interdisciplinary research project addressing climate change in Idaho. Candidates will have a background in geography, ecology, entomology, biogeosciences, or a related field. Desired qualifications include a quantitative background and an interest in fieldwork in mountainous regions of Idaho. Students have the opportunity to receive a degree in either Geography (www.uidaho.edu/geography) or the Environmental Science Program (www.uidaho.edu/envs). The position provides salary support of \$22,000-25,500 annually for two years plus health insurance, tuition, and fees. Interested applicants should send a cover letter, CV, GPA, GRE scores, and a personal statement that describes the candidate's interest in the position and relevant education and experience to Dr. Jeffrey Hicke (jhicke@uidaho.edu). Inquiries via email or phone (208-885-6240) are welcome.

Forest Health Specialist position – The North Dakota Forest Service is seeking a qualified individual to coordinate and direct the North Dakota Forest Health Management Program. This is a full-time, benefitted position. Position Description: The specialist conducts State-wide surveys of insect and disease problems, with a special emphasis on pests that may be introduced from other regions of the country (Gypsy Moth, Emerald Ash Borer). Other duties include providing public and private forest managers with technical assistance targeting detection, identification and control of insect and disease pests. The specialist conducts training sessions on a wide range of appropriate topics including insects and diseases of North Dakota, pest management, tree health care, tree planting, and others. The specialist will be located in the Department of Plant Pathology and North Dakota State University (NDSU) and will assist the NDSU Plant Diagnostic Lab in tree pest diagnosis. The position includes both office and field duties promoting forest health education outreach. Minimum Qualifications: Bachelors of Science in Forestry, Entomology, Plant Pathology, Natural Resources, or related field; demonstrated information and technology skills necessary to reach and teach diverse audiences; ability to work independently and effectively; willingness to travel; demonstrated communication and writings skills. Valid driver's license required. Preferred Qualifications: Masters of Science in Entomology or Plant Pathology OR 2 years professional experience in forestry, entomology or plant pathology. Go to <http://jobs.ndsu.edu> to view this position and learn how to apply. Applications must be received by 12/31/2008. Human Resources, SGC, 1919 N. Univ. Dr., Fargo, ND 58102 (701) 231-5677. NDSU is an EO/AAE. Women & traditionally underrepresented groups are encouraged to apply.

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