
Forest Health Monitoring Program
January Monthly Update
January 12, 2009

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

***February 24 – 26, 2009.** Savannah, GA. The 2009 Forest Health Monitoring Work Group Meeting will be held at the Hyatt Regency in Savannah, GA on February 24 – 26, 2009. The chair of this year's Meeting Planning Committee is Rob Cruz (US Forest Service, R4) (rcruz@fs.fed.us). The current agenda includes a panel on response to new invaders of forests and urban environments, and focus groups on aerial surveys, State assessments, risk mapping, and early detection of invasives. The optional field trip on Thursday afternoon will feature laurel wilt disease and other invasive species. An added bonus this year will be a workshop on laurel wilt disease on Friday February 27 from 8 A.M. to 2 P.M. The formal invitation letter and registration packet are now available on the FHM website (www.fhm.fs.fed.us). We have also added a document describing the focus group discussion topics (http://www.fhm.fs.fed.us/mtgs/wg/09/focus_group_topics.pdf). **Reminder:** All Evaluation Monitoring Projects are required to present a poster at the FHM meeting. However, posters are also encouraged from non-Evaluation Monitoring projects. The meeting is a good opportunity to share your research work with other scientists in FHM. The poster registration material is included in the registration packet file on the website. All posters will be posted on the FHM website following the FHM meeting. Please note detailed instructions for preparing poster submissions at: http://www.fhm.fs.fed.us/posters/instructions/FHM_poster_submission.pdf.

*April 3-4, 2009. Missoula, MT. The Northern Rockies Aspen Conference 2009 will be held at the University of Montana-Missoula. Topics will be centered around aspen silvics and ecology for this region. Details about the conference can be found on the conference website:
<http://www.aspensite.org/Northern%20Rockies/Northern%20Rockies%20Aspen%20Conference%20Save%20the%20Date.pdf>

*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.

Publications of Interest

Christensen, G.A.; Campbell, S.J.; Fried, J.S., tech eds. 2008. California's forest resources, 2001-2005: five-year Forest Inventory and Analysis report. Gen. Tech. Rep. PNW-GTR-763. Portland, OR: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station. 183 p. Available online at <http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/publications/gtr763/>

The Western Aspen Alliance announces the launch of their new website on January 1, 2009. Visit the new website at: <http://www.western-aspen-alliance.org> .

Job Announcements

The USDA Forest Service, State and Private Forestry, Forest Health Protection Programs, Alaska Region anticipates filling a permanent full-time plant pathologist position (GS-0434-12) on the State and Private Forestry (S&PF) staff. This is a non-supervisory GS-0434-12, permanent, full time position with a duty station of Anchorage, Alaska. State and Private Forestry offices are headquartered in Anchorage and are part of the Alaska Regional Office located in Juneau. This position reports directly to the Assistant Director of SPF, Forest Health Protection (FHP). The incumbent serves as plant pathologist in southcentral and interior portions of Alaska, coordinating and implementing a complex major forest pathogen detection, evaluation, prevention and control program for plant diseases. Applicant must have or be able to obtain state driver's license. Interested applicants or those desiring further information should contact Steve Patterson, Assistant Director, S&PF, FHP by phone (907-743-9451) or by e-mail (spatterson@fs.fed.us). When the position is advertised, the announcement will be posted on the Office of Personnel Management web site: www.usajobs.opm.gov. The USDA is an equal opportunity employer.

The USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region, State and Private Forestry, Forest Health Protection (FHP) anticipates filling a Biological Scientist (Aerial Survey Specialist) GS-401-9/11 position. This is a permanent full-time position. The duty station for this position is located in Davis, California. This position is with the State and Private Forestry unit, Forest Health Monitoring Programs staff area. The primary duties of this position are to assist with the Regional aerial pest detection survey program. This includes conducting aerial surveys from fixed wing

aircraft and helicopters annually, and conducting field visits on the ground. Duties include aerial survey data collection, summarizing results, assist in development of map products and maintenance of GIS data, and quality control of survey data. If you desire further information about this position, please contact Zachary Heath at zheath@fs.fed.us or by phone at 530-759-1751. Please respond by **January 23, 2009**. When the position is advertised, the announcement will be posted on the Office of Personnel Management web site: www.usajobs.opm.gov. The 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