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Forest Health Monitoring Program  
February Monthly Update  
February 11, 2009  
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**Recent Happenings**

The Forest Health Monitoring Program website has a new home URL: <http://ww.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/fhm/>. You can still use the URL <http://fhm.fs.fed.us/> to connect to the FHM website, but <http://www.fhm.fs.fed.us/> is currently disabled.

**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](mailto: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.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/fhm/](http://www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/fhm/)). We have also added a document describing the focus group discussion topics ([http://www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/fhm/mtgs/wg/09/FG\\_AB\\_FINAL09\\_rev.pdf](http://www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/fhm/mtgs/wg/09/FG_AB_FINAL09_rev.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 the newly revised detailed instructions for preparing poster submissions at: [http://www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/fhm/posters/fhm\\_poster\\_submission\\_2009.pdf](http://www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/fhm/posters/fhm_poster_submission_2009.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](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](mailto: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](mailto:palmieri@nature.berkeley.edu)

*Registration*

- Janice Alexander, California Oak Mortality Task Force  
415 /499-3041, [JAlexander@co.marin.ca.us](mailto:JAlexander@co.marin.ca.us)

*Program Content*

- Susan Frankel, USDA Forest Service Pacific Southwest Research Station  
510-559-6472, [sfrankel@fs.fed.us](mailto: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](http://www.nafew2009.org).

## **Publications of Interest**

Adams, G.C.; Catal, M.; Trummer, L.; Hansen, E.M.; Reeser, P.; Worrall, J.J. 2008. *Phytophthora alni* subsp. *uniformis* found in Alaska beneath thinleaf alders. Online. Plant Health Progress doi:10.1094/PHP-2008-1212-02-BR. <http://www.forestpathology.org/pdfs/adams2008Palni.pdf>

Cumming, A.; Twardus, D.; Hoehn, R.; Nowak, D.; Mielke, M.; Rideout, R.; Butalla, H.; Lebow, P. 2008. National Forest Health Monitoring program Wisconsin street tree assessment 2002-2003. NA-FR-02-08. Newtown Square, PA: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Northeastern Area. [http://na.fs.fed.us/pubs/fhm/street\\_trees/wi\\_street\\_tree\\_assessment\\_lr.pdf](http://na.fs.fed.us/pubs/fhm/street_trees/wi_street_tree_assessment_lr.pdf)

Smith, C. 2008. Invasive plants of North Carolina. North Carolina Department of Transportation. <http://www.ncdot.org/doh/preconstruct/pe/neu/NEUProcedures/default.html>

## **Job Announcements**

The USDA Forest Service, State and Private Forestry, Pacific Northwest Region, Mt. Hood National Forest anticipates filling a plant pathologist position (GS-0434-12) in the Westside Forest Insect & Disease Service Center. This position is the pathologist position on a 5-person Service Center Team that includes expertise in plant pathology, entomology, hazard tree management, and aerial survey. The primary responsibilities of this position include:

- Serves as advisor on plant pathology and forest health protection covering a broad geographical area, across multiple federally administered and tribal lands.
- In conjunction with Team members, is responsible for integrating information on the roles of pathogens as disturbance agents into an ecosystem-based approach to resource management. Examines and evaluates forest health relationships, and provides technical assistance and advice to Forest Supervisors and their staffs, other Federal agencies, and Tribal nations.
- Participates in project and administrative level planning, providing advice on “disease ecology”, effects of pathogens on forest resources, and effects of management upon disease-causing agents.
- Coordinates all aspects of disease detection, evaluation, prevention, and suppression programs within the Service area.
- Responsible for the Service Center hazard tree program, including training of field personnel on evaluation, management, and monitoring of hazard trees, and keeping abreast of all hazard tree issues within the Service Center area.
- Provides technical assistance (and funding resources when available) to federal agency field units in their efforts in planning and conducting prevention, suppression or restoration projects, while providing them advice on the development and implementation of such projects.
- Serves as a vital link between research scientists, universities, and others in forest health protection and related fields.
- Provides leadership and cooperates with research scientists to conduct significant studies designed to solve important forest health related problems in resource management.
- Provides technology transfer information through a variety of methods, including presentations, teaching, and publications.
- Keeps field personnel informed on emerging issues and approaches in the plant pathology arena, and incorporates “state-of-the-art” science appropriately into a resource management framework.
- Is responsible, in conjunction with other Team members, in serving the primary customers on a continuous basis, and negotiating expectations with these customers about the services provided.

This position is supervised by the Westside Service Center Manager, and is located at the Mt. Hood Forest Headquarters in Sandy, Oregon. Interested applicants or those desiring further information should contact Bruce Hostetler, Entomologist/Service Center Manager at [bhostetler@fs.fed.us](mailto:bhostetler@fs.fed.us) or 503-668-1475; Beth Willhite, Entomologist at [bwillhite@fs.fed.us](mailto:bwillhite@fs.fed.us) or 503-668-1477; or Keith Sprengel, Regional Aerial Survey Manager at [ksprengel@fs.fed.us](mailto:ksprengel@fs.fed.us) or 503-668-1476. Please respond by **February 27, 2009** using the Outreach Notice Form, which is attachment 1 of this Monthly Update. When the position is advertised, the announcement will be posted on the Office of Personnel Management web site: [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov). The USDA is an equal opportunity employer.

The USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region, State and Private Forestry, Forest Health Protection (FHP) is currently advertising a Biological Scientist (Aerial Survey Specialist) GS-0401-09/11 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 collecting aerial survey data, summarizing results, assisting 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](mailto:zheath@fs.fed.us) or by phone at 530-759-1751. The application deadline is **February 26, 2009**. The position announcements are ADS09-R5-RO5SP-00103DP (open to U.S. citizens) and ADS09-R5-RO5SP-00103G (open to current federal employees). Access the announcements at [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov). The USDA is an equal opportunity employer.

The USDA Cooperative State Research, Education & Extension Service (CSREES) is currently advertising a Program Specialist (Forests, Wildlife, Range, and Ecology) position (GS-0401-09/11) located in the Washington DC Metro Area, DC. The position is located in the Natural Resources and Environment (NRE) unit of CSREES. The closing date is **February 27, 2009**. For a complete listing of job duties and instructions for applying, go to [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov). The vacancy announcement number is CSREES-2009-0027 and is open to US citizens. The USDA is an equal opportunity employer.

The USDA Forest Service, Forest Health Protection, Region is currently advertising for an Aerial Survey/Forest Technician position (GS-0462-07/09). This is a permanent, full-time position located at Lakewood, CO. For a complete listing of job duties and instructions for applying, go to [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov). The position announcements are ADS09-R2RO-RR-1152G (open to Federal employees – closes **March 9, 2009**) and ADS09-R2RO-RR-1152DP (open to U.S. citizens – closes **February 23, 2009**). If you desire further information about this position, please contact Jeri Lyn Harris (USDA Forest Service) at [jharris@fs.fed.us](mailto:jharris@fs.fed.us) or 303-275-5155 OR Brian Howell (USDA Forest Service) at [behowell@fs.fed.us](mailto:behowell@fs.fed.us) or 303-236-8001. The USDA is an equal opportunity employer.

**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**

Mt. Hood National Forest

Your response to this outreach will assist us in determining the area of consideration for this position, therefore, your response is very critical. **Send your response form to Bruce Hostetler by February 27, 2009.**

**email:** [bhostetler@fs.fed.us](mailto:bhostetler@fs.fed.us),  
**fax:** (503) 668-1423  
**or postal mail:** Mt. Hood National Forest  
16400 Champion Way  
Sandy, OR 97055

### PERSONAL INFORMATION

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

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

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

**Government Employee:** Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

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

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

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

**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.*