
Forest Health Monitoring Program
July Monthly Update
July 22, 2009

Recent Happenings

Looking for Help with the Next Insect and Disease Risk Map: Evaluating Tree Species Basal Area Distributions – The Forest Health Monitoring (FHM) program is working with partners to develop the next iteration of the National Insect and Disease Risk Map (NIDRM). Working with the Forest Health Technology Enterprise Team (FHTET), we hope to base the next NIDRM on improved host maps. The purpose of this request is to (1) review selected species maps as they become available to confirm species basal area distribution and (2) determine the “usability” of the host parameter maps in creating risk maps for specific pests. For more information and to learn how to participate, see attachment 1 of this Monthly Update.

John Anhold (USDA Forest Service, Arizona Zone leader, Forest Health) is pleased to announce that Ryan Hanavan has joined the team of Forest Health professionals at the AZ Zone office in Flagstaff. Ryan comes with a wealth of knowledge in insect ecology, surveys, identification, etc., and has been involved in landscape level projects. He also has a background in modeling and GIS.

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

July 28-31, 2009. Gulfport, MS. The Southern Forest Insect Work Conference. The conference will include presentations about hurricane impacts, risk model development, host resistance to invasive plants, adaptive management, southern pine beetle, storm damage and forestry, landscape ecology, hardwood defoliators, and the state of *Sirex*. There will also be graduate student sessions, award presentations, and business sessions. Rooms have been reserved in a block with a special rate that is only valid until June 30, 2009 and for a limited number of rooms. Pre-registration will be accepted until July 13, 2009. Complete details including housing and registration information, and a program summary are available on the conference website: <http://sfiwc.org/>.

Publications of Interest

Fettig, C.J.; Munson, A.S.; McKelvey, S.R.; DeGomez, T. 2009. Drift resulting from ground-based sprays of carbaryl to protect individual trees from bark beetle attack in the western United States. University of Arizona, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Bulletin AZ1493. Tucson, AZ: The University of Arizona, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Arizona Cooperative Extension. Available online at: <http://cals.arizona.edu/pubs/insects/az1493.pdf>

Hayes, C.J.; Hofstetter, R.; DeGomez, T.E.; Wagner, M.R. 2009. Effects of sunlight exposure and log size on pine engraver (Coleoptera: Scolytidae) reproduction in ponderosa pine slash in Northern Arizona. Agricultural and Forest Entomology. 11: 341-350.

Schall, M.J.; Davis, D.D. 2009. *Ailanthus altissima* wilt and mortality: etiology. Plant Disease. 93: 747-751.

Job Announcements

The USDA Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station, Forest Inventory and Analysis Program intends to advertise a vacancy for a Supervisory Biological Scientist (GS-0401-14) to fill the Deputy Program Manager position. The position will be located at the Portland Forestry Sciences Laboratory in Portland, OR. The Deputy

Program manager shares the overall responsibility for and participates fully in administering all activities within the Program. The position will support the Program Manager in formulating and directing a complex research program designed to provide clear, comprehensive and accurate analysis of the changing forest resource situation in the Pacific region, which includes the States of Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, Washington and the Pacific Islands. The incumbent also provides expert advice to the Program Manager on resource inventory, monitoring, and evaluation concerns as well as to the National FIA headquarters, National Forest Systems, other Federal land management agencies, State Forestry Organizations, forest industry and individuals. This is just a preannouncement. When the position is advertised, the announcement will be posted on the Office of Personnel Management web site: www.usajobs.opm.gov. The announcement will contain all of the information needed to apply for the position. If you are interested in this position, please use the outreach response form (attachment 2 of this Monthly Update) to express your interest by **August 1, 2009**. You can send your response electronically or by regular mail to the following address: Sue Willits, (503) 808-2066, swillits@fs.fed.us, PNW Research Station, 620 SW Main, Suite 400, Portland, OR 97205.

The USDA Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station, Forest Inventory and Analysis Program (PNW FIA) intends to advertise a vacancy for a Supervisory Biological Scientist (GS-0401-13) to fill the Inventory Reporting Team Leader position. The position will be located at the Portland Forestry Sciences Laboratory in Portland, OR. This position serves as the team leader for a team of approximately six employees including several analysts, a statistician, a forest technician, and a computer assistant. The team is responsible for preparing State and regional reports that summarize inventory data; for analyzing data to address specific issues; and for contributing to national and international assessments of forest condition and health. Other reporting team responsibilities include assessing data quality for data collected each year; responding to client requests for data, data summaries, or data analyses; developing workshops, database tools, or websites to transfer data or other inventory information to clients; organizing and facilitating annual client meetings; and providing statistical assistance to PNW FIA staff and the national FIA program. State, federal, and other key clients are consulted to determine issues of concern and to ensure accurate and meaningful reporting of forest status and change. The team leader is responsible for planning and managing the team work and budget to achieve team and program objectives. The position is supervisory in nature and involves hiring, performance appraisals, and overseeing personnel actions. This is just a preannouncement. When the position is advertised, the announcement will be posted on the Office of Personnel Management web site: www.usajobs.opm.gov. The announcement will contain all of the information needed to apply for the position. If you are interested in this position, please use the attached outreach response form (attachment 3 of this Monthly Update) to express your interest by **August 1, 2009**. You can send your response electronically or by regular mail to the following address: Sally Campbell (503) 808-2034, scampbell01@fs.fed.us, PNW Research Station, 620 SW Main, Suite 400, Portland, OR 97205.

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

Attachment 1

Looking for Help with the Next Insect and Disease Risk Map: Evaluating Tree Species Basal Area Distributions

The Forest Health Monitoring (FHM) program is working with partners to develop the next iteration of the National Insect and Disease Risk Map (NIDRM). Working with the Forest Health Technology Enterprise Team (FHTET) we hope to base the next NIDRM on improved host maps. The purpose of this request is to 1) review selected species maps as they become available to confirm species basal area distribution and 2) determine the “usability” of the host parameter maps in creating risk maps for specific pests.

The next version of the NIDRM will be based on the distribution and intensity of tree species mapped at a 30 meter resolution. This includes the development of basal area (BA), stand density index (SDI), and quadratic mean diameter (QMD) layers by US Geological Survey map zones. FHTET is updating maps for each species by map zone as needed, linked to on-the-ground testing of the latest modeled distributions. Map grids and documents are available at: <T:\FS\S&PF\FHP\Project\ForestParameters>. Please note that T: drive is only accessible by FS employees. Partners will need to contact their local Forest Health Protection (FHP) office for assistance in downloading map data.

What we need for these ground tests are geo-referenced, stand level data of BA and average diameter by species. These data may already exist in stand data bases. The data need to be recent (2002 or later), and stands cannot have been subjected to any recent catastrophic insults, such as logging, fire, weather events. Your assistance in locating such data sets is appreciated.

Additional, very useful sources of information are new ground data acquired by anybody visiting the woods during the normal course of their work. A crew must have a GPS, (set to WGS 84 in decimal degrees), a basal area factor (BAF) prism, a clinometer (for slope adjustments), and a copy of the data sheet. More detailed instructions and data sheets are available at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/technology/pdfs/ForestHostParameterMapValidationv5.pdf>

The completed data sheets should be submitted to Frank Sapio at FHTET (fsapio@fs.fed.us). A password protected website is also available to upload data if you chose to submit it that way: <http://svinetfc12.fs.fed.us/HostMapReview2011/login.aspx> . To get a password, please contact Frank Sapio (email: fsapio@fs.fed.us). If you have any questions, please contact: Frank, me or your Regional FHM Program Coordinator (see: <http://www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/fhm/staff/staff.shtml>).

We would greatly appreciate any assistance you can provide and look forward to working with all of you to help improve risk mapping in the future.

Sincerely,

/s/ Borys Tkacz
Borys Tkacz
National Program Manager
Forest Health Monitoring
Email: btkacz@fs.fed.us
Phone: 703-605-5343

OUTREACH NOTICE FORM

Deputy Program Manager
Forest Inventory and Analysis Program
Pacific Northwest Research Station
Portland Forestry Sciences Laboratory

If you are interested in this position and want to receive a copy of the Vacancy Announcement, please complete this form and send via e-mail to swillits@fs.fed.us . If you are not a current Forest Service employee or do not have access to e-mail please complete the form and mail to: Sue Willits, PFSL, 620 SW Main, Suite 200, Portland, OR 97205. Please respond no later than **August 1, 2009**. The position will be advertised on the OPM USAJobs website www.usajobs.opm.gov after the outreach is completed.

NAME:

EMAIL ADDRESS:

MAILING ADDRESS:

TELEPHONE NUMBER:

If you are currently employed by the Federal Government:

WHAT AGENCY ARE YOU EMPLOYED BY:

TYPE OF APPOINTMENT:

PERMANENT _____ TEMPORARY _____ TERM _____ OTHER _____

If employed by the Forest Service:

WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT REGION/FOREST/DISTRICT/STATION:

CURRENT SERIES AND GRADE:

CURRENT POSITION TITLE:

OUTREACH NOTICE FORM
GS-13 PNW-FIA Reporting Team Leader
Forest Inventory and Analysis Program
Pacific Northwest Research Station
Portland, OR

If you are interested in this position and want to receive a copy of the Vacancy Announcement, please complete this form and send via e-mail to scampbell01@fs.fed.us. Please respond no later than August 1, 2009. The position will be advertised on the OPM USAJobs website www.usajobs.opm.gov after the outreach is completed.

NAME:

EMAIL ADDRESS:

MAILING ADDRESS:

TELEPHONE NUMBER:

If you are currently employed by the Federal Government:

WHAT AGENCY ARE YOU EMPLOYED BY:

TYPE OF APPOINTMENT:

PERMANENT _____ TEMPORARY _____ TERM _____ OTHER _____

If employed by the Forest Service:

WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT REGION/FOREST/DISTRICT/STATION:

CURRENT SERIES AND GRADE:

CURRENT POSITION TITLE: