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Forest Health Monitoring Program  
October Monthly Update  
October 16, 2009  
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**Recent Happenings**

Request for data and reports from the Pest Trend Impact Plot System (PTIPS): As part of a Forest Health Monitoring Analysis project, we are creating a repository for PTIPS data, reports, and summaries of forest pest trends. If you have any PTIPS plot data or write-ups, please contact Susan Frankel, Pacific Southwest Research Station at [sfrankel@fs.fed.us](mailto:sfrankel@fs.fed.us). We are looking for any publications or data from the Pest Trend Impact Plot System. The project is being conducted in cooperation with David Rizzo, UC-Davis and Lisa Fischer, Pacific Southwest Region, Forest Health Protection.

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

**November 3-4, 2009.** St. Louis, MO. Thousand Cankers of Black Walnut National Conference. This national conference is being planned by the Missouri Department of Agriculture and the Missouri Department of Conservation. Researchers, forest health professionals, regulatory officials and various other stakeholders are being invited to raise the awareness and understanding of thousand cankers disease of black walnut. Presentations will be given by professionals in walnut industries, forest pathology, forest entomology, and state and federal regulatory agencies. A panel discussion will be held on the afternoon of November 4 to discuss future actions needed to protect our black walnut resource. For more information or to register for the conference, please visit the following website: <http://mda.mo.gov/plants/pests/thousandcankers.php>. Registration before **October 23, 2009** is \$75, and registration after October 23 is \$100. The hotel reservation deadline was October 13, 2009.

**\*November 17-18, 2009.** Woodlands, CA. The 2009 California Forest Pest Council 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting. Highlights will include presentations about the goldspotted oak borer, thousand canker disease of walnuts, and "Firewood: A risk to California Forest health." The early registration deadline is **November 3, 2009**. For more information, contact Tom Smith, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection at [tom.smith@fire.ca.gov](mailto:tom.smith@fire.ca.gov). You may also visit the conference website at: <http://caforestpestcouncil.org>.

**\* January 25-28, 2010.** Albuquerque, NM. **Mark your calendars** for the 2010 FHM Work Group Meeting to be held at the Hyatt in Albuquerque, NM on January 25 – 28, 2010. The chair of this year's Meeting Planning Committee is Rob Cruz (USDA Forest Service, R4) ([rcruz@fs.fed.us](mailto:rcruz@fs.fed.us)). More details regarding this meeting will be included in future Updates.

**Publications of Interest**

Rose, A.K.; Coulston, J.W. 2009. Ozone injury across the southern United States, 2002-06. Gen. Tech. Rep. SRS-118. Asheville, NC: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Southern Research Station. 25 p. Available online at: <http://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/pubs/33601>.

McWilliams, W.; Moisen, G.; Czaplowski, R., comps. 2009. 2008 Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) Symposium; October 21-23, 2008: Park City, UT. Proc. RMRS-P-56CD. Fort Collins, CO: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station. 1 cd. Also available online at: <http://www.treesearch.fs.fed.us/pubs/33326>.

Williams, K.K.; McMillin, J.D.; DeGomez, T.E. 2009. Relative and seasonal abundance of three bark beetle predators (Coleoptera: Trogositidae, Cleridae) across an elevation gradient in ponderosa pine forests of north central Arizona. *Western North American Naturalist*. 65: 351-363.

**CRAFT is Launched** - The Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center (EFETAC) recently launched the Comparative Risk Assessment Framework and Tools (CRAFT), a user-friendly, Web-based support system that helps natural resource managers address uncertainties inherent in land management decisions. CRAFT offers a structured, simplified approach to determine objectives and calculates risks and tradeoffs associated with different management scenarios. CRAFT builds on the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) framework for managing public lands and approaches forest issues comprehensively. EFETAC soon will offer training workshops on CRAFT, which is available on-line at <http://CRAFT.forestthreats.org>. EFETAC partnered with the University of North Carolina-Asheville's National Environmental Modeling and Analysis Center (NEMAC) to develop CRAFT. The tool features a wealth of online resources created by NEMAC, including a tutorial and CRAFTiPedia—a “wiki” style reference database and glossary.

## **Job Announcements**

The USDA Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station is currently advertising a supervisory biological scientist (GS-0401-14) located in Portland, OR, and **the advertisement has been extended** an additional 4 weeks. Both the internal and external announcements are open until **November 2, 2009**. The incumbent serves as the Deputy Program Manager, Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) Program of the Pacific Northwest (PNW) Research Station. As Deputy, the incumbent shares the overall responsibility for and participates fully in administering all activities within the PNW - FIA Program. Some duties of the position are accomplishing work related to the conceptualization, design, documentation, and management of forest inventory development programs or projects; planning, developing, and implementing program/project development activities that affect broad mission areas associated with the PNW - FIA Program; serving as consultant to the Program Manager on complex resource analysis problems involved in achieving the Forest Service's program objectives; representing the Program Manager in any activity affecting the FIA Program with the same degree of authority to make commitments and provide policy as the Program Manager; performing the administrative and human resource management functions relative to the staff supervised; planning, scheduling, and assigning work to subordinates; establishing guidelines and performance expectations for staff members; providing feedback and periodically evaluating employee performance; providing advice, counsel, and/or instruction to staff members; recommending or approving appointments, selections, or reassignments to positions appropriate to the selection authority delegated; effecting disciplinary measures as appropriate to the authority delegated; and carrying out Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) policies and program activities. For complete information about the position, visit the website: [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov). The vacancy number is ADS09-PNW-I/A-00520G. This announcement is for status candidates; see the announcement for eligibility. The vacancy number for all U.S. citizens is ADS09-PNW-I/A-0052DP. You may contact Susan Willits (USDA Forest Service) at [swillits@fs.fed.us](mailto:swillits@fs.fed.us) for more information about the duties of this position. The USDA is an equal opportunity employer.

The USDA Forest Service Southern Research Station anticipates filling a permanent full time position for an Entomologist (GS-0414-09/11) in Starkville, MS. The incumbent will be a member of the Wood Products Insect Research Team of the Insects, Diseases, and Invasive Plants Research Unit (SRS-4552). This team conducts research to protect wood and wood products from insect pests and to better understand the impact of these organisms on forest health. The “Termite Project” is the oldest of its kind in the country, providing important affiliations with numerous partners and cooperators. Research priorities of the team include (1) providing efficacy data on termiticides for federal and state registration, (2) investigating the effects of control treatments on pest biology, ecology, and behavior, (3) investigating the effects of the environment on treatment efficacy, and (4) investigating aspects of insect biology, ecology, and behavior that affect ecosystem health and productivity. Under the direction of the team leader, and depending on interests and abilities, the incumbent will be involved in aspects of research supporting these mission objectives. He/she will work independently and as a team member,

applying a range of professional knowledge on insect biology, ecology, and behavior in planning, conducting, and reporting research on termites and/or other wood-destroying insects. The position is expected to strengthen and enhance numerous ongoing affiliations with partners, cooperators, and clients. Working closely with a research entomologist, specific duties of the position include but are not limited to formulating viable researchable topics for study, conducting literature reviews, developing research study plans, installing new field and laboratory studies, reading ongoing studies, maintaining scientific equipment, analyzing and interpreting data, writing reports and manuscripts, giving presentations, and directing technicians. The position will require moderate physical activity, handling insecticides, and routine travel to and from research sites. Interested applicants, or those desiring further information, should contact Terry Wagner (Team Leader, Wood Products Insect Research) at 662-338-3112 (email: [twagner01@fs.fed.us](mailto:twagner01@fs.fed.us)) or Lolette Welch at 662-338-3106. Interested applicants should return the outreach response (attached to this Update as attachment 1) via email to Terry Wagner **no later than October 16, 2009**. When the position is advertised, the announcement will be posted on the Office of Personnel Management web site: [www.usajobs.opm.gov](http://www.usajobs.opm.gov). The USDA is an equal opportunity employer.

**Funding Opportunity** - The 2010 Joint Fire Science Program (JFSP) request for applications is open. The announcement will close **November 20 at 5 p.m. Mountain time**. There are three distinct task statements. The primary solicitation seeks research proposals for the following 10 topics (1) Mastication of fuel treatments – effectiveness and effects; (2) Conifer canopy fuels estimation; (3) Public perceptions of smoke management; (4) Improved fuels mapping in non-forested ecosystems; (5) Organizational learning – prescribed fire escapes; (6) Compatibility of fuel treatments and fire management with conservation of threatened and endangered wildlife species; (7) Fire weather forecast accuracy; (8) Fuel moisture influences on combustion; (9) Ethno-ecological fire traditions – understanding and demonstration; (10) Re-measurement opportunities – carbon budgets and insect outbreaks. The second solicitation seeks synthesis proposals for two topics (1) Eastern oak restoration; (2) Guides to fuel treatment practices. The third solicitation seeks new science proposals related to social science topics: the Joint Fire Science Program (JFSP) is interested in sponsoring projects that stimulate and support activities that lead to or advance innovative ideas in fire social sciences. JFSP is particularly interested in collaborative projects with international partners, partnerships with scientists and institutions in closely allied fields that have not been heavily involved in fire research (e.g., natural hazards and disaster research), and innovative cross-disciplinary activities to enhance understanding of fire and fuel management policy options. The goal is to push the frontiers of knowledge and understanding and to generate new ideas and concepts. The types of activities appropriate to this task statement are broad, and could include: articulation of new concepts or frameworks; a synthesis of information to generate new hypotheses; field activities involving diverse scientists, policy-makers, managers, and citizens; or development of an experimental design to test an innovative hypothesis. Please read each solicitation carefully. Your proposal will be submitted electronically to the JFSP website at <http://www.firescience.gov>. Full instructions are available on the website. Do not submit proposals to Grants.Gov. Each announcement provides contact email and phone numbers if you have questions or need guidance.

**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

USDA Forest Service  
Southern Research Station

**Optional Reply Due by October 16, 2009**

*Position Title/Series/Grade:* **Entomologist/0414/9/11**

*Location:* **Starkville, MS**

## **PERSONAL INFORMATION**

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

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

Current title/series/grade/location: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Type of appointment you are currently under \_\_\_\_\_

(e.g., *Career, Career-Conditional, Excepted, Excepted VRA, etc*)

### **Interested applicants should return this form to:**

*Terry Wagner, Research Entomologist*

E-Mail: [twagner01@fs.fed.us](mailto:twagner01@fs.fed.us)

Phone: (662) 338-3112 Fax: (662) 338-3101

***Thank you for your interest in employment with the Southern Research Station.***

**USDA is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer**