
Forest Health Monitoring Program
November Monthly Update
November 9, 2009

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. 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 17-18, 2009. Woodlands, CA. The 2009 California Forest Pest Council 58th 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 was November 3, 2009. For more information, contact Tom Smith, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection at 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 Forest Health Monitoring 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). More details regarding this meeting will be included in future Updates and on the FHM website: www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/fhm/.

***March 9-11, 2010.** West Lafayette, IN. A Symposium on Ash Trees in North America. The USDA Forest Service and Purdue University are sponsoring this symposium to explore the value and preservation of ash (*Fraxinus sp.*) in North America. The symposium is open to all, but will be of special interest to researchers, industries and businesses that use ash, nursery growers, urban resource specialists, community leaders, educators, forest managers, and regulators. The symposium brings together experts on the many facets of the ash resource to highlight the overall significance of ash trees to life in North America. The meeting will feature a versatile agenda that addresses the distribution of ash throughout North America, the role of ash species in natural areas, forest management both before and after the arrival of emerald ash borer (EAB), ash in today’s hardwood markets, novel methods of ash utilization, resistance mechanisms in ash to EAB, climate change as a threat to the resource, the role of ash in Native American culture, and management of ash in the presence of EAB. Students and professionals may also exhibit posters on work addressing ash utilization, research, education, or extension work in North America. Poster abstracts submitted before the December 1 deadline and accepted for publication will be published in the symposium proceedings. For more information including registering for the meeting and submitting poster abstracts, please visit: <http://www.fnr.purdue.edu/ashsymposium/index.htm> .

Job Announcements

The USDA Forest Service Region 5 will soon be advertising for a permanent, full-time Aerial Survey Specialist (Biological Scientist, GS401-9/11). This position is located in the Forest Health Protection unit within the State and Private Forestry staff in Davis, CA. The primary duties of this position are to conduct aerial surveys and field visits on the ground in support of Forest Health Protection. Duties of this position are to collect information on forest damage types including mortality, defoliation, and various others while using a digital sketch mapping

system operated from light aircraft. The incumbent will also capture and compile aerial survey data, summarize results, assist in development of map products and maintenance of databases in support of monitoring current tree mortality and other statewide forest health surveys, and provide related geographic information systems (GIS) support and quality control of data captured during aerial surveys. The incumbent will be skilled in forest vegetation and damage agent recognition, have experience with GIS and GPS technology, and have a background in forestry or other natural resources. Previous experience working in light aircraft is highly desired. The majority of duties required are to be performed while the incumbent is in travel status. 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 State and Private Forestry, Forest Health Protection Region 5 anticipates filling a permanent full time position for a Forest Health Ecologist (GS-0408-11/12) in Davis, CA. This position is located in the Forest Health Protection unit within the State and Private Forestry staff. The primary duties of this position are to provide leadership in detection monitoring, evaluation monitoring and research on monitoring techniques for Forest Health Protection. The position has a key role working with States to assure their participation in forest health monitoring activities and implementation of national standards. The position administers the Region's competitive Evaluation Monitoring proposal process, coordinates the Region's input into the national Risk Modeling and Mapping process, and develops annual pest condition reporting to meet national and regional requirements, and forest health highlight reporting in cooperation with the States. The position will serve as a point person to develop condition and trend information from forest health monitoring data to be incorporated into Forest Plan Revisions. The position will also work on new and emerging activities such as early detection of invasive pests in urban forests. Interested applicants, or those desiring further information about this position, should contact Lisa Fischer at (530) 759-1748 or lisafischer@fs.fed.us. If you want to receive a copy of the Vacancy Announcement, please complete the outreach response form (attached to this Update as attachment 1) and send via E-Mail to: lisafischer@fs.fed.us, **no later than November 20, 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.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/fhm/
or access via the USDA Forest Service homepage at www.fs.fed.us

OUTREACH NOTICE FORM

**Forest Health Ecologist, GS-0408 -11/12
(R5 Regional Office, Davis, CA– S&PF Staff)**

NAME: _____

E-mail ADDRESS: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE NO.: _____

TYPE OF APPOINTMENT: ___ PERMANENT ___ TEMPORARY ___ OTHER

**CURRENT REGION/
FOREST/DISTRICT** _____

CURRENT SERIES and GRADE: _____

CURRENT POSITION TITLE: _____

LIST ALL SERIES/GRADES YOU QUALIFY FOR: _____

**IF NOT A CURRENT PERMANENT (CAREER or CAREER CONDITIONAL) EMPLOYEE,
ARE YOU ELIGIBLE TO BE HIRED UNDER ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL
AUTHORITIES:**

_____ **Person with Disabilities**
_____ **Veteran's Readjustment**

_____ **Disabled Veteran's w/30% compensable disability**
_____ **Former Peace Corps Volunteer**
_____ **Other**

Return forms to: lisafischer@fs.fed.us

Thank you for your interest in our Outreach Notice