

Forest Health Monitoring Program Monthly Update April 2011

NEWS ABOUT FHM PARTNERS

Michael Bohne (USDA Forest Service, Northeastern Area) is pleased to announce that Dr. Ryan Hanavan (rhanavan02@fs.fed.us) has accepted the Forest Entomologist position at the Durham Field Office with a start date of May 23. Ryan is currently Forest Entomologist with the Arizona Zone Office of Forest Health Protection where his responsibilities include the annual aerial detection survey and the development and coordination of all aspects of major forest insect detection, evaluation, prevention, and suppression programs on Federal, Tribal, State, and Private forest lands. Ryan has a strong background in the spatial ecology of native and non-native insect pests across large matrix landscapes which will be useful in applying to the many forest health challenges in the northeast.

Kathleen Knight and Jim Slavicek (USDA Forest Service, Northern Research Station) are working together on the restoration of American elm (*Ulmus americana*). American elm was a dominant species in many swamp and floodplain forests in the eastern United States and Canada before Dutch elm disease (DED) reduced its populations. At their laboratory, Knight and Slavicek have a small plantation of elms in various stages of testing for DED tolerance. Several genotypes have been shown to tolerate DED, and a large portion of the progeny from crosses among these trees are DED-tolerant as well. Knight and Slavicek are currently testing the potential of seedlings from DED-tolerant crosses to be used for restoration plantings. It is their hope that large, stately American elm trees will someday grace our floodplain and swamp forests once again. Knight and Slavicek need more DED-tolerant genotypes of American elm to use as parent trees for their plantation in order to have enough genetic diversity to use it as a seed orchard for large-scale plantings. They are looking for healthy American elm trees larger than 24 inches DBH (diameter at breast height) that are growing in areas that have had DED and that have not been treated with fungicides to prevent DED. They are only interested in American elm trees growing within its native range. If you see a survivor elm that fits this description, please enter its location and DBH at their website: http://nrs.fs.fed.us/disturbance/invasive_species/ded/survivor_elms. Knight and Slavicek will compile these entries in a database, prioritize the elms for sampling, contact landowners, and then collect small branches from the trees to propagate and test them for DED-tolerance.

UPCOMING EVENTS

(Items beginning with * indicate a new listing or new information added)

April 19-21, 2011. Loveland, CO National Insect and Disease Risk Mapping Workshop. The Forest Health Monitoring (FHM) program is currently in the midst of revising the 2006 National Insect and Disease Risk Map (NIDRM). Regional modeling sessions have been conducted through virtual meetings and video/teleconferences. To meet the goal of completing the revision by 2012, it is critical that the federal and State forest health experts working on the NIDRM have an opportunity to evaluate a preliminary national map, discuss problems and issues, and develop final revision plans. To do this we have organized a workshop to provide an opportunity for federal and State forest health experts to collaborate on the completion of the 2012 NIDRM. Primary objectives of the workshop are to:

- Provide updates on host data and pest risk model enhancements
- Present the first compilation of the draft 2012 NIDRM
- Use Regional breakout groups to review and develop recommendations for improving the final 2012 NIDRM

Please contact your respective Regional Coordinator (see the FHM website at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/fhm/staff/staff.shtml>) if you are interested in participating in this workshop.

May 3-5, 2011. Lexington, KY. Joint Meeting of the 2nd Kentucky Invasive Species Conference and the 13th Annual Southeast Exotic Pest Plant Council Conference. This meeting will encompass topics related to the research, management, outreach, education, and policy of invasive species in the eastern and central regions of the United States. Contributions in the following major areas are welcomed: (1) Ecology of invasive species and their impact on ecosystem functions and processes, (2) Invasive species management, and (3) Invasive species education and policy. Deadline for oral and poster presentation abstracts was February 7, 2011. Please submit your abstract electronically via <http://invasives2011.org>, including the following information (1) type of submission – Oral Presentation or Poster, (2) title of the submission, (3) the author(s) and their affiliations, (4) corresponding author's mailing address, telephone number, fax number, and email address, and (5) abstract (250 words or less). The conference will publish electronic proceedings. All presenters are encouraged to submit a full-length paper. All presentations will be published online unless a waiver form is signed. Questions may be directed to Songlin Fei at songlin.fe@uky.edu. Complete conference information is available at <http://invasives2011.org>.

***June 19-13, 2011.** Roanoke, VA. The 8th North American Forest Ecology Workshop. The 8th North American Forest Ecology Workshop will be held at

the Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center, in Roanoke, Virginia. The conference will allow forest ecologists from Canada, Mexico, and the United States to gather and exchange current research and management approaches with the backdrop of the hardwood forests of the Blue Ridge Mountains. The conference theme, "Forest Ecology in a Managed Landscape," reflects some of the challenges and opportunities faced by forest ecologists working in the southeastern United States – a region dominated by short-rotation pine plantations. Mid-conference field trips will allow attendees to tour local production-oriented pine forests, naturally regenerated hardwood forests, and nature preserves established to conserve some of the high biodiversity of the southern Appalachian Mountains. For complete information, visit the workshop website (<http://www.cpe.vt.edu/nafew/index.html>).

***July 13-14, 2011.** Calaveras Big Tree State Park, CA. The California Forest Pest Council will have their summer Weed Tour. For more information contact Tom Smith (California Department of Forestry and Fire) at 916-599-6882 or tom.smith@fire.ca.gov, or visit the California Forest Pest Council website at <http://caforestpestcouncil.org>. Information will be posted soon.

***July 26, 2011.** Fort Bragg, Mendocino County, CA. The California Forest Pest Council will have their summer Insect Disease and Animal Damage Tour. For more information contact Tom Smith (California Department of Forestry and Fire) at 916-599-6882 or tom.smith@fire.ca.gov, or visit the California Forest Pest Council website at <http://caforestpestcouncil.org>. Information will be posted soon.

JOB **OPPORTUNITIES**

The USDA Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station, Forest Sciences Laboratory will soon be advertising a vacancy for a GS-401-12/13 Biological Scientist position, to be located in Ogden, UT. This is a full-time permanent position. The job assignment includes being the Team Leader of the Information Management group of the Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) unit. The incumbent is responsible for supervising a staff of 7 to 9 people in developing and managing computer software to support the Rocky Mountain Research Station FIA unit. The job entails working with staff from the other FIA units to develop national systems with regional enhancements. Requires knowledge of both natural resource inventory and computer systems. A major area of responsibility (40%) is to assemble, interpret and disseminate regional forest inventory information to a national database which can be used a variety of users. Must have an understanding of natural resource inventory in order to assure that database systems are compatible with data collection procedures and to be able to discern anomalies in inventory data. Another significant area of responsibility (40%) involves being a project manager and supervisor. The incumbent must develop program priorities, prepare short- and long-range

plans, assign personnel and assure that deadlines are met. Develops and implements methodologies for inventory data from field data collection through data compilation and summarization. The incumbent will provide technical advice and guidance with regard to computer systems, data management and provide solutions to critical data management problems. Resolves technical difficulties that can be overcome by changes in approach, techniques or requirements. For more information regarding duties for the position, please contact Renee O'Brien, Deputy Program Manager, at 801-625-5371 or robrien@fs.fed.us. If you are interested in this opportunity, please fill out the Outreach Notice Form (attachment 1 of this Update) and send to (robrien@fs.fed.us) or fax to (801-625-5723) by **April 14, 2011**. When the position is advertised, the announcement will be posted on the Office of Personnel Management web site www.usajobs.opm.gov and will include instructions and a list of required application materials. The announcement will contain all of the information you need to apply for the position. *USDA is an Equal Employment Opportunity Provider and Employer.*

The USDA Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station, Forest Sciences Laboratory will soon be advertising a vacancy for a GS-0460/0408-11 Forester/Ecologist position, to be located in Ogden, UT. This is a full-time permanent position. The job assignment is a forester/ecologist for the Interior West Forest Inventory and Analysis unit (IW-FIA) of the Inventory and Monitoring Program, headquartered in Ogden, Utah. IW-FIA conducts forest land resource inventories activities throughout the Interior West States including Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, New Mexico, Nevada, Montana, Utah, and Wyoming. The incumbent will work in the Information Management Section and be responsible for processing and managing inventory data in Oracle database systems. Duties will include running, and/or modifying programs to move field data from handheld data recorders to a national Oracle database; running compilation procedures and checking results for reasonableness. Knowledge of forest inventory, ecology, and natural resource data is required. Familiarity with various programming languages and GIS software is needed. Incumbent must have the ability to document and test computer programs. The incumbent will work with other Information Management staff in Ogden and will also work with national teams developing software systems to be used by all the FIA units across the U.S. Therefore, the incumbent must be able to work as part of a team. For more information regarding duties for the position, please contact Sharon Woudenberg, Information Management Team Lead, at 801-625-5379 or swoudenberg@fs.fed.us. If you are interested in this opportunity, please fill out the Outreach Notice Form (attachment 2 of this Update) and send to (swoudenberg@fs.fed.us) or fax to (801-625-5723) by **May 1, 2011**. When the position is advertised, the announcement will be posted on the Office of Personnel Management web site www.usajobs.opm.gov and will include instructions and a list of required application materials. The announcement will contain all of the information you need to apply for the position. *USDA is an Equal Employment Opportunity Provider and Employer.*

PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST

- 1. Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center.** Winter, 2011. Forest ThreatNet. The winter edition of the EFETAC's newsletter is now available online: <http://www.forestthreats.org> , under "What's New."
- 2. Koch, F.H.; Yemshanov, D.; Colunga-Garcia, M.; Magarey, R.D.; Smith, W.D.** 2011. Potential establishment of alien-invasive forest insect species in the United States: where and how many? *Biological Invasions*. 13: 969-985.
- 3. Magarey, R.D.; Borchert, D.M.; Engle, J.S.; Colunga-Garcia, M.; Koch, F.H.; Yemshanov, D.** 2011. Risk maps for targeting exotic plant pest detection programs in the United States. *OEPP/EPPO Bulletin*. 41:46-56.

FOR MORE FHM INFORMATION

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



OUTREACH NOTICE FORM
Rocky Mountain Research Station
Forestry Sciences Laboratory
Ogden, UT
Biological Scientist
GS-0401-12/13

If you are interested in this opportunity, please complete this form and send it by e-mail to robrien@fs.fed.us. (Please include “*GS-0401-12/13, Biological Scientist Outreach*” on the subject line of your message.) Please respond no later than **April 15, 2011**. The permanent position will be advertised on the OPM USA Jobs website www.usajobs.opm.gov shortly.

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Name:

Date:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Are you currently a Forest Service employee: YES NO

Current title/series/grade/location/classification:

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

Briefly describe why you will be a quality candidate for this position:

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all of its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's Target Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION: The USDA Forest Service provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please contact the point of contact listed above. The decision on granting reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.



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GS-0460/0408-11

If you are interested in this opportunity, please complete this form and send it by e-mail to swoudenberg@fs.fed.us. (Please include “*GS-0460/0408-11, Forester/Ecologist Outreach*” on the subject line of your message.)

Please respond no later than **May 1, 2011**. The permanent position will be advertised on the OPM USA Jobs website www.usajobs.opm.gov shortly.

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