

Forest Health Monitoring Program Monthly Update April 2012

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

***April 16-19, 2012.** Tucson, AZ. The 2012 Forest Health Monitoring Work Group meeting. The workshop theme is “Human Influences on Forest Health”. The workshop will include theme-relevant panel presentations and several concurrent focus groups designed to address emerging issues related to integrating pest reporting, monitoring climate change effects, and pest risk mapping. There will also be time and opportunities to share information about State, regional, and national program status, needs and accomplishments. A poster session will include posters from FHM funded Evaluation Monitoring (EM) projects and other topics of interest. Registration for the workshop and poster session was due April 6, 2012. Lodging reservations were due by April 4, however, some rooms may still be available at the meeting rate. Please contact Valerie Cooper at 919-549-4014 for the latest updates. Files containing the workshop invitation, agenda, meeting and poster session registration material, and meeting location information including lodging are available on the FHM website: www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/fhm/. Portions of the meeting will be available as remote access webinars. Please see FHM website for log-in information.

Online registration is available at

<http://www.growthmodel.org/wfca/login.asp?theevent=Forest%20Health%20Monitoring&eventregistrationurl=./events/foresthealthmonitoring.asp>.

June 13-17, 2012. Urumqi, China. International Symposium on Invasive Plants and Global Change. The symposium will occur in Urumqi, which is the capital city of Xinjiang Province, China. Xinjiang Institute of Ecology & Geography, Chinese Academy of Sciences is the local host. The ecology and management of invasive plants is of world-wide concern. Much research and speculation has focused on which abiotic and biotic factors promote plant invasions, including biotic factors that affect population dynamics, weather variability and climate change, and land use/disturbance regimes. The goals of this International Symposium are to (1) assess mechanisms of plant invasions; (2) evaluate how potential global changes may influence these mechanisms and alter plant invasions; and (3) project how plant invasions may be managed as global changes occur. To achieve these goals, a distinguished group of international scientists will explore these issues through presentations and discussions. Because arid ecosystems are especially susceptible to plant invasions and global changes due to low resilience and extreme sensitivity to environmental changes, this International Symposium places special emphasis on plant invasions in dry

regions of the world. Topics include (1) Mechanisms of plant invasions - understanding the "why" of plant invasions - including: intra- and interspecific interactions, population dynamics, evolutionary processes, plant-soil-microbial feedbacks, trophic interactions, environmental variability, and human activities; (2) Global changes and invasion processes - what the future holds and how will these changes influence underlying mechanisms of invasion - including: changing climate (temperature and precipitation), changing atmospheric CO₂, and changing land use and disturbance; and (3) Managing plant invasions in a changing world - putting it all together - including: conceptual understanding to frame strategies and policies, and predicting plant invasions with numerical models. Registration forms should be submitted before **March 31, 2012**. Abstracts may be submitted before **May 31, 2012**. For more information, contact in USA: Bob Nowak - Email: nowak@cabnr.unr.edu. For updated information, registration form, and further details, visit <http://lcbatunr.wordpress.com/2012/02/05/preliminary-announcement-international-symposium-on-invasive-plants-and-global-change/>

June 19-21, 2012. Petaluma, CA. The Fifth Sudden Oak Death Science Symposium. The Fifth Sudden Oak Death Science Symposium (SOD 5) brings together scientific and management communities from throughout the world working on *Phytophthora ramorum* and SOD. It will provide a scientific update on the state of our knowledge about *P. ramorum* and its associated diseases in forest, urban, nursery, and landscape settings. The broad scope will foster cooperation between individuals working in various disciplines and geographic areas, and provide current research findings for scientists, managers, regulators, and policy makers. Abstracts (up to 1-page) of proposed papers or posters were sought by February 17, 2012. Submissions should have focused on one of the following SOD topic areas: biology and pathology; organisms associated with *P. ramorum*; ecology; economic, social, and environmental impacts; modeling and risk assessment; restoration; management and control strategies; monitoring; silviculture; arboriculture and urban forestry; nursery management; policy; or other related topics. Complete information about the symposium including abstract submission is available on the symposium website at www.suddenoakdeath.org.

September 24-27, 2012. Amherst, MA. IUFRO Small-Scale Forestry Conference: Science for Solutions. The first call for papers has been issued for this conference. Both oral and poster presentations are being sought. Abstracts to be considered were due by January 31, 2012. For more information, visit the conference website: <http://iufrossf2012.org/>.

October 16-18, 2012. Baltimore, MD (venue is yet to be determined). The 2012 Forest Inventory and Analysis Science Symposium. The US Forest Service, Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) Program is pleased to announce the 2012 FIA Science Symposium. The theme of the 2012 FIA Science Symposium is "Moving from Status to Trends." The Symposium will bring together international forest scientists, managers, and stakeholders to share insights on contemporary issues, science policy, mensuration, geospatial products, inventory and monitoring methods, and other topics. Contributed sessions and

papers (limit of two per author) on science, applications, policy, management, or technologies related to the Symposium's broad theme are invited. Abstracts were due March 23, 2012. For more information about the Symposium including details about submitting an abstract, visit the Symposium website: <http://www.fia.fs.fed.us/symposium/>.

JOB **OPPORTUNITIES**

The USDA Forest Service Pacific Northwest and Alaska Regions State & Private Forestry Directorate is conducting outreach to attract a diverse pool of candidates to evaluate for filling the State & Private Forestry Grants and Agreements Specialist position, GS-1109-13, with a duty station of Portland, Oregon. This position provides specialized expertise in Forest Service grant management and the financial processes that support grants management to contribute to the accomplishment of the State & Private Forestry mission. This is a marvelous position that works with a talented staff and a wide array of partner organizations in Oregon, Washington, and Alaska. Interested candidates should review the notice and fill out the attached Outreach Response Form and return it to Shurell Davis at sydavis@fs.fed.us by March 22. For more information about the position, please contact the Director for State & Private Forestry, Peg Polichio, at ppolichio@fs.fed.us. When the position is advertised, the vacancy announcement will be posted on USAJOBS (<http://www.usajobs.gov>). *USDA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

The USDA Forest Service State & Private Forestry Pacific Northwest and Alaska Regions will soon be advertising a Forest Legacy Program Specialist position (GS-301-13) located in Portland, Oregon. This position serves as a Program Specialist for the Forest Legacy and the Community Forest Programs, located within the Cooperative Forestry staff, State and Private Forestry Directorate of the Forest Service, and located within a Regional Office. This position serves both the Pacific Northwest Region and Alaska Region. May also provide leadership for various other programs such as the Forest Stewardship or Urban and Community Forestry Programs within Cooperative Forestry as programs and staff capacity evolve over time. The Forest Legacy Program is a federal/state partnership operating through state lead agencies in Oregon, Washington, and Alaska. The Program Specialist works with a wide variety of conservation partners including land trusts. The program encourages the protection of privately owned forest lands through conservation easements, operating with willing landowners and often with the facilitation of land trusts. The Community Forest Program addresses issues related to the loss of open space, specifically the conversion of private forests to other uses. The Program Specialist is responsible for providing program direction, coordination, advice, advocacy, and assistance, as well as monitoring and evaluating the partnerships. Formulates and recommends policies and actions to improve program operations. If you are interested in this position, return the attached outreach reply form to Shurell Davis by email sydavis@fs.fed.us by March 30, 2012.

For more information about the position, contact Peg Polichio, Director for State & Private Forestry at ppolichio@fs.fed.us. When the position is advertised, the vacancy announcement will be posted on USAJOBS (<http://www.usajobs.gov>). *USDA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

The USDA Forest Service State & Private Forestry Pacific Northwest Region

6, Deschutes National Forest will soon be advertising a Pathologist position with a target grade of GS-0434-12. This position is a permanent full time position, and will be located in Bend, Oregon. This position serves as an Area Pathologist in the U.S. Forest Service Region 6 (Pacific Northwest) Forest Health Resources Program. This position is located with the Central Oregon Forest Insect & Disease Service Center at the Deschutes National Forest headquarters in Bend, OR, where the incumbent serves as a Plant Pathologist. This position is responsible for assistance in all areas of plant pathology to all federal and tribal forest land managers with the Service Center area, including three National Forests, two BLM (Bureau of Land Management Resource Areas), one National Park, one national wildlife preserve and one Tribal Nation. Incumbent also collaborates with plant pathologists for the States of Oregon and Washington on forest health issues. Some of the areas of emphasis for this field office include landscape mapping of forest diseases, root disease risk rating and management, hazard- and danger tree programs and providing support to the National Insect and Disease Risk Map and, upon request, analysis of invasive pathogen risk. If you have any questions regarding this position please contact Helen Maffei (hmaffei@fs.fed.us). When the position is advertised, the vacancy announcement will be posted on USAJOBS (<http://www.usajobs.gov>). *USDA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

The Forest Health Section, Private Forests division of the Oregon

Department of Forestry is currently advertising one permanent, full-time position available for a Natural Resource Specialist 3 (Invasive Species Specialist) in located in Salem. The Oregon Department of Forestry's (ODF) Mission is – To serve the people of Oregon through the protection, management, and promotion of a healthy forest environment, which will enhance Oregon's livability and economy for today and tomorrow. ODF is a multi-programmed, multi-funded public agency chartered and structured to administer the forest laws and policies of the State of Oregon, within the framework of sustainable forests, for the benefit of all Oregonians. This position will develop and implement an invasive species program, consistent with Agency goals and objectives, to protect Oregon's forest ecosystems from non-native insects, diseases, and weeds. It will complement the existing programs in the Forest Health section of the Private Forests Program. These duties include managing and coordinating projects to detect, monitor, and manage invasive species; and, developing strategies and tactics to prevent and mitigate damage; providing technical assistance and conducting research investigations related to invasive species. Duties include: Project Management and Coordination: Communicates and collaborates with other state, federal, private, non-governmental and other entities on existing coordinated activities and projects related to the prevention, detection, suppression, or eradication of invasive species in forest ecosystems; Leads and/or supports the implementation of

priority invasive species projects including detection/prevention initiatives as well as other aerial/ground surveys, education, or outreach activities. Planning and Strategy Development: Develops invasive species priorities, plans, and strategies consistent with defined Agency goals and objectives; Reviews and synthesizes technical information to develop future research questions and grant proposals; Develops or adapts Best Management Practices for priority invasive species; Reviews and assesses new legislative rules, regulations, or other initiatives related to priority invasive species; Responds to information requests and provides testimony to the Board of Forestry and State legislature; Represents the Agency on the Oregon Invasive Species Council, and in other invasive species forums. Technical Assistance and Research: Provides technical assistance and advice to the Agency and a wide range of stakeholders on priority invasive species issues; Serves as the primary Agency contact for public, private, and other interested parties related to updates on invasive species program activities or technical resources; Participates in ongoing research and/or field activities; Assists in designing and testing new research and field methods to collect and analyze information on priority invasive species; Reviews invasive species findings and recommends revisions to Agency and other forest land management strategies. The position will be located at the ODF headquarters in Salem, which is in the Willamette Valley of western Oregon. For more information about the area, please visit:

<http://www.cityofsalem.net/Pages/default.aspx> or

<http://www.oregonwinecountry.org/cities/>. All current employment opportunities can be found at www.oregonjobs.org. Please pay special attention to the application Instructions in the announcement to ensure your application materials are submitted correctly. Applications must be completed by **April 13, 2012**. [Click here for full announcement and to apply online.](#)

If you have questions, contact Rob Flowers, Entomologist (503-945-396; rflowers@odf.state.or.us) or Alan Kanaskie, Pathologist (503-945-7397; akanaskie@odf.state.or.us).

Oregon State University, College of Forestry, Department of Forest Engineering, Resources, and Management, and the USDA Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station will be filling the position of postdoctoral scholar with experience in entomology and ecology. **Desired start date is June 1, 2012**. This position will be located in the Forestry and Range Sciences Laboratory in La Grande, Oregon. The incumbent will participate responsibly with research scientists to carry out most phases of complex/multi-disciplinary research projects concerning the ecology of native and exotic insects in northwest conifer and hardwood forests (balsam woolly adelgid), fire and bark beetle mortality of conifers, as well as bio-control of invasive plant species. Desired skills include quantitative data analysis and writing. Successful candidates will assume full technical and operational responsibility for project installations, data collection, data entry, analysis, and writing for multiple studies. The work will require extensive travel throughout OR, ID, MT, UT, WA, and CA during the field season from June through October. The work also requires regular and recurring physical exertion requiring walking on rough terrain, climbing steep banks, and traversing ditches and furrows. The duration of the activity contributes to the arduous nature of the job. Temperatures may

range from very hot and dry to cool and extremely wet. Rain, snow, wind, or dust may be encountered. Work requires the use of safety equipment such as boots, gloves, goggles and hardhats. Employee must exercise safe work practices. For more information, please contact Rob Progar at rprogar@fs.fed.us or 541-962-6578, or David Shaw at dave.shaw@oregonstate.edu or 541-737-2845.

PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST

- 1. Guo, Q.F.; Sax, D.; Qian, H.; Early, R.** 2012. Latitudinal shifts of introduced species: possible causes and implications. *Biological Invasions*. 14(3): 547-556.
- 2. Potter, K.M.; Woodall, C.W.** 2012. Trends in tree evolutionary diversity across life stages indicate change in regional forest biodiversity. *Ecological Applications*. 22(2): 517-531.
- 3. Potter, K.M.; Jetton, R.M.; Dvorak, W.S.; Hipkins, V.D.; Whittier, W.A.; Rhea, J.** 2012. Widespread inbreeding and unexpected geographic patterns of genetic variation in eastern hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*), an imperiled North American conifer. *Conservation Genetics*. 13(2): 475-498.
DOI: 10.1007/s10592-011-0301-2

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