

# Forest Health Monitoring Program

## Monthly Update

### November 2012

#### WHAT'S NEW

**Dr. John A. Witter retires.** John Witter, forest entomologist with the University of Michigan, was honored for his lifetime achievements in Michigan last month. John, known for his passionate and effusive style at Wisconsin Dells Forest Health Monitoring (FHM) trainings, played a fundamental role in the early development of forest health indicators. John was presented with a lifetime achievement award from the U.S. Forest Service, representing over 10 federal and State agencies involved in Forest Health Protection. Also presented was a letter of congratulation from Robert Mangold, former FHM Program Manager and now acting Associate Deputy Chief of Research and Development for the U.S. Forest Service. We wish John congratulations and all the best in retirement.

**Washington Office of Forest Health Protection** moved to a new location on November 6, 2012. The staff, including Borys Tkacz, National Program Manager for FHM, is now located just across the Rosslyn Plaza in the RPE building on the 7<sup>th</sup> floor in Room 711. While office phone numbers remain the same, the mailing address has changed to 1621 N. Kent St. RPE7 Rm 711, Arlington, VA 22209.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

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

**\*December 4-6, 2012.** Baltimore, MD. The 2012 Forest Inventory and Analysis Science Symposium will be held at the Hyatt Regency Baltimore on the Inner Harbor. 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 lodging and registration, visit the Symposium website: <http://www.fia.fs.fed.us/symposium/>.

**\*June 16 – 20, 2013.** Bloomington, IN. The 9th North American Forest Ecology Workshop will be held at the Bloomington Convention Center in Bloomington, Indiana. The conference will allow forest ecologists, silviculturists, wildlife biologists, and other forest researchers and managers from Canada, Mexico, Central America and the United States to gather and exchange current research and management approaches within the backdrop of the US central hardwood forests. Further details are available at the NAFEW 2013 website: <http://nafew.org/>.

## **JOB** **OPPORTUNITIES**

**The Pacific Northwest Research Station of the USDA Forest Service** expects to advertise a permanent, full-time (PFT) position at the Portland Forestry Sciences Laboratory located in Portland, OR. The full performance level of this Supervisory Information Management (IM) Project Manager is GS-2210-13. This position is the leader of an Information Management team in the Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) work unit, and a member of the program's management team. The incumbent will interact and collaborate with other IM team leaders and IM personnel in the national FIA program, working across functional areas. The position supervises a group of 12 employees performing work at the GS-7 through GS-12 levels that are based in Portland, Oregon and Anchorage, Alaska. The work involves the day-to-day leadership of IM staff to facilitate and manage the transfer, compilation, quality assurance, and delivery of forest inventory data, tools, analyses, geospatial products, and research assistance. Conducts strategic planning and project management activities for the IM team in relation to production inventory and IM research project operations. Facilitates and manages staff activities including conducting needs analyses, developing goals, objectives, and strategies, and initiating strategic and tactical business planning efforts. Develops and implements project management procedures, activities, and infrastructure, and designs tools and planning templates. Provides project management training and assistance to technical staff to ensure all projects are adequately managed. The IM team is responsible for all aspects of data development, working within a coordinated national infrastructure. The team develops and manages large comprehensive databases, generates compilation programs, creates focused applications and software, and implements widespread quality assurance procedures on all IM products. The team works closely with clients that include data collection and analysis groups. For more information, contact Joseph Donnegan, Deputy Program Manager for the Resource Monitoring and Assessment Program at [jdonnegan@fs.fed.us](mailto:jdonnegan@fs.fed.us). If you are interested in this position, complete the Outreach Response Form (attached to this Update as Attachment 1) and return it to [jdonnegan@fs.fed.us](mailto:jdonnegan@fs.fed.us) by close of business on **November 16, 2012**. The vacancy announcement, when open, will be posted on the Office of Personnel Management web page, <http://www.usajobs.gov>. *USDA is an Equal Employment Opportunity Provider and Employer.*

## **PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST**

- 1. Devine, W.; Aubry, C.; Miller, J.; Potter, K.; Bower, A.** 2012. Climate change and forest trees in the Pacific Northwest: guide to vulnerability assessment technology. Olympia, WS: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Region. 49 p.  
This document will only be released electronically (print copies will not be distributed); it is available online (8.8 Mb pdf) at:  
[http://ecoshare.info/wp-content/uploads/2012/04/CCFT\\_Methodology.pdf](http://ecoshare.info/wp-content/uploads/2012/04/CCFT_Methodology.pdf)  
Links to all of the vulnerability assessment documents, including our data and the spreadsheet model, are available at: <http://ecoshare.info/projects/ccft/>
- 2. Riitters, K.H.; Wickham, J.D.** 2012. Decline of forest interior conditions in the conterminous United States. Scientific Reports. 2: 653 (doi: 10.1038/srep00653).
- 3. Wickham, J.D.; Wade, T.G.; Riitters, K.H.** 2012. Comparison of cropland and forest surface temperatures across the conterminous United States. Agricultural and Forest Meteorology. 166-167: 137-143.

## **FOR MORE FHM INFORMATION**

Visit the 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)

