

Forest Health Monitoring Program Monthly Update June 2013

WHAT'S NEW

The USDA Forest Service Region 6 welcomes Ryan Blaedow, who has accepted the position of Forest Health Protection Forest Pathologist at the Wenatchee Insect and Disease Service Center (vice Jim Hadfield) in central Washington State, starting August 5, 2013. Ryan is currently the Forest Health Specialist for Minnesota DNR, and was previously Forest Health Specialist at North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

The USDA Forest Service Region 6 also welcomes Mike McWilliams, who has accepted the Forest Health Protection Plant Pathologist position (vice Craig Schmitt) with Blue Mountain Insect and Disease Pest Management Center in La Grande, Oregon, starting July 15, 2013. Mike has been the Oregon State aerial survey coordinator (Oregon Department of Forestry), and has experience with a range of forest health projects, most notably Sudden Oak Death caused by *Phytophthora ramorum*.

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

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/>.

June, 2014. Colorado, USA. IUFRO joint international meeting of three groups. An international joint meeting of the following groups will be held in Colorado: IUFRO 2.02.15 (Breeding and Genetic Resources of Five-Needle Pines), IUFRO 7.02.05 (Rusts of Forest Trees), and Strobosphere. This will be the first time these three groups have met together to share research in genetics-pathology of five-needle pines. The conference will feature advances in gene conservation, genomics, rust resistance, evolutionary dynamics and other related topics. There will be some joint sessions as well as concurrent sessions

organized by each respective group for other topics of interest. The joint sessions will deal with white pine species and white pine blister rust genetics/resistance. In addition, each IUFRO group will have separate sessions in their broader areas of interest (Rust of forest trees; 5-needle pine genetics). Please pass this information along to your colleagues. The organizers are putting together a new mailing list and hope to have interested people contact them at this early stage so they can more effectively plan the meeting. If you have ideas for the meeting, contact one of the individuals mentioned in the announcement or rsniezko@fs.fed.us.

2.02.15 – Breeding and genetic resources of five-needle pines

<http://www.iufro.org/science/divisions/division-2/20000/20200/20215/>

7.02.05 – Rusts of forest trees

<http://www.iufro.org/science/divisions/division-7/70000/70200/70205/>

Strobosphere <http://dendrome.ucdavis.edu/strobosphere/>

July 4-7, 2013. Manado, North Sulawesi, Indonesia. Biodiversity and Integrated Pest Management: Working Together for a Sustainable Future. This conference is sponsored by Integrated Pest Management Collaborative Research Support Program (IPM CRSP), Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resource Management Collaborative Research Support Program (SANREM CRSP), International Association for the Plant Protection Sciences (IAPPS), and Sam Ratulangi University. There is a need and urgency for proponents of integrated pest management and biodiversity to work together, but they have rarely been considered as partners for a sustainable future. This conference aims to bridge this divide by bringing together these two key groups. The conference is July 4-5, 2013 with field trips on July 6-7, 2013. Abstracts are now being accepted with a submission deadline of April 15. For more information about the conference, please visit www.oired.vt.edu/ipmcrsp/biodivipm2013/.

July 30, 2013. South Lake Tahoe, CA. The California Forest Pest Council will be conducting its annual summer insect, disease and animal damage field tour in the Lake Tahoe Basin on July 30th based at South Lake Tahoe, California. There is no cost for participating in the tour. For more information contact Tom Smith with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection at 916-599-6882 or at tom.smith@fire.ca.gov or check the California Forest Pest Council website at www.caforestpestcouncil.org/.

***August 27-29, 2013.** Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Resources for the Future Conference. The IUFRO Resources for the Future task force is holding a conference at the Faculty of Forestry, University of British Columbia, Forest Sciences Centre. This conference will feature world leaders in the forest resources field and provide them with a venue to collaborate and share ideas with academia, government, industry, and NGOs -- all stakeholders in the future of the world's forests. The goal is to provide a platform where speakers can share their expertise in various areas and identify potential solutions. Four topic areas will be covered: globalization and its implications for forests; plantations;

bio-products and advanced building systems; forest ecosystem services. For complete information about the conference, please visit the conference website: <http://iufro2013.forestry.ubc.ca/>.

September 1-6, 2013. Ilheus, Brazil. IUFRO RG 7.01.00 conference titled Vegetation Response to Climate Change and Air Pollution – Unifying Evidence and Research across Northern and Southern Hemispheres. The deadline for submitting abstracts has been postponed to May 20, 2013. Please visit the conference website for more information: <http://www.iufro2013.ufop.br> .

***October 16-17, 2013.** Logan, UT. Restoring the West Conference 2013. This year's theme is *Change Agents and Managing for Forest Resilience*. The Western Aspen Alliance is one of the current co-sponsors of the conference and will host a welcoming reception October 15 at 5:30 p.m. at the Caine House adjacent to Utah State University. For more details about the conference including all current co-sponsors, registration and the call for posters, visit the conference website: <http://conference.usu.edu/restoring/>.

October 23-27, 2013. Charleston, SC. Society of American Foresters 2013 National Convention. Information about the Society of American Foresters (SAF) 2013 National Convention is now available on the SAF website www.safnet.org . Click on the 2013 National Convention link. Details about the call for presentations and posters, the program, travel, and other topics are available.

November 4-5, 2013. Pittsburgh, PA. The Ninth Meeting of the Continental Dialogue on Non-Native Forest Insects and Diseases. The meeting will be held in conjunction with the Arbor Day Foundation's Partners in Community Forestry National Conference. This year's speakers for the Continental Dialogue will be local partners, educators, business professionals and Continental Dialogue members. All are welcome and a diverse range of topics will be covered. There will be updates and expert discussions on current Continental Dialogue activities: Healthy Trees, Healthy Cities efforts; Don't Move Firewood and Firewood Outreach Coordinating Initiative; solid wood packaging materials, Sentinel Plant network and American Public Gardens; apps, social media, and forest pests; local successes and experiences; implications of expansion of Panama Canal. Attendees are highly encouraged to participate in the planned Arbor Day Foundation field trips on November 6th. At this time, trips to see local examples of emerald ash borer and oak wilt damage are being planned in conjunction with the Arbor Day Foundation. In the coming months, register for the Continental Dialogue meeting by visiting the Arbor Day Foundation Partner and Community Forestry Conference site (www.arborday.org/pcf) and select the option for the Continental Dialogue Meeting. A draft agenda will soon be available at www.continentalforestdialogue.org. For more information about the meeting visit the meeting website or contact Leigh Greenwood at The Nature

Conservancy (lgreenwood@tnc.org), or the meeting facilitation team at RESOLVE: Debbie Lee (dlee@resolv.org) or Beth Weaver (bweaver@resolv.org).

JOB **OPPORTUNITIES**

The USDA Forest Service State and Private Forestry, Intermountain/Northern Regions are currently conducting outreach for a Forest Health Protection Group Leader position at the GS-13 level. Outreach response will determine if the advertisement is open to the public or will be limited to current federal or Forest Service employees. This is a permanent full-time position located in the Boise Field Office of Forest Health Protection at the Boise National Forest Supervisor's Office in Boise, ID. The duty station is non-negotiable. This position serves as the Boise Field Office Group Leader, Forest Health Protection, for the Intermountain and Northern Regions of the USDA Forest Service. The position is mainly responsible for providing the leadership to the Field Office Staff. Primary responsibilities include long-range planning, program direction, budget management, coordination and evaluation of program activities. Program oversight includes professional assistance to all Federal, State, and private agencies in southern Idaho. This position supervises a primary staff of one pathologist, three entomologists, one geographic information specialist, three biological technicians, trainees, and temporary employees assigned to the staff group. The Group Leader also serves as the lead professional in coordination with other Field Office Group Leaders, other federal and non-federal managers, as well as Forest Service and university scientists. The position is supervised by the Director or Deputy Director of State and Private Forestry for Regions 1 and 4 located in either Missoula, MT or Ogden, UT. Those who are interested must meet the qualification requirements for the listed series that is covered by the Technical and Medical Support standards. Basic requirements can be found on the Office of Personnel Management website, Group Coverage Qualifications Standards for Professional and Scientific Positions:

<http://www.opm.gov/qualifications/standards/group-stds/gs-prof.asp>.

Requirements specific to the occupational series are also on the OPM website, Individual Occupational Requirements for the Entomology and Plant Pathology Series: <http://www.opm.gov/qualifications/Standards/IORs/gs0414/0434.htm>.

The vacancy announcement for this position will be posted on the U.S.

Government's official website for employment opportunities

(www.usajobs.opm.gov). Those desiring further information about the position,

should contact Mike Dudley, R1/4 State and Private Forestry Director at 801-

625-5253 or mdudley@fs.fed.us. If you are interested in this position, please

complete the outreach form (attached to this Update as Attachment 1) and send

to Mike Dudley (mdudley@fs.fed.us) by **July 2, 2013**. *USDA is an Equal*

Opportunity Employer.

The USDA Forest Service Southern Research Station is currently conducting outreach for one temporary Forestry Technician (Temporary – Term) to be located in Knoxville, TN. The position will be at the GS-4 level and the incumbent will be expected to work 32 hours per week. The mission of the Forest Inventory and Analysis Unit (SRS-FIA-4801) is, “to conduct a program of research to improve the understanding of Southern forest ecosystems through inventories and analyses of the status and trends in resource conditions, use, productivity, and sustainability; and to conduct research to provide improved technology for timely and accurate resource inventories.” This position has primary responsibilities in the ‘pre-field’ group within SRS FIA, preparing materials for distribution to field personnel. Incumbent independently performs a sequence of operations such as the following: Assists in setting up and operating standard equipment used for performing laboratory tests to make scientific measurements and observations of sample materials gathered from experimental field plots. Gathers and prepares field samples and data from experimental field plots for laboratory and statistical analysis. These samples may involve entomological, silvicultural, seed, fire, recreation, or an array of scientific disciplines utilized throughout the Forest Service. Measures plant coverage, tree height and diameter, fuel loading, tree age, canopy cover, slope, humidity, precipitation, and soil depth. Assists in setting up standard equipment for performing field tests and studies (e.g., flammability of fuels under various conditions, effects of insect infestations, etc.). Locates field plots by interpreting maps and aerial photos, determining scale of aerial photos, running compass lines, and chaining distances. Operates simple scientific or precision instruments, calculating machines, and other apparatus as required. Oversees one or two employees in performing one or more of these duties. If you are interested in the position, please complete the outreach form (attached to this Update as Attachment 2) and send to Ross Helm (rhelm@fs.fed.us) by **June 23, 2013**. For further information, contact Ross Helm, Southern Research Station, via email (rhelm@fs.fed.us) or phone (865-862-2049). *USDA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF), Salem, OR is currently conducting outreach for a temporary, full-time Aerial Surveyor, at the NRS 2 level, to fill a critical vacancy in the Forest Health Management Section. The temporary appointment will be for approx. 10 weeks and will be focused on the immediate work load associated with forest health aerial surveys. The notification is being circulated to inform prospective applicants of an upcoming temporary appointment for the period covering July 1 - September 13, 2013. This outreach will be open from **June 10 – June 17, 2013**. The ODF expects to begin recruiting for a permanent, full-time filling of this position during the temporary appointment period, and the person selected for the temporary appointment would be eligible to apply. The preferred duty station would be at the ODF headquarters in Salem, OR, where they would work with a five-person team that includes a forest entomologist, forest pathologist, invasive species

specialist, and two seasonal technicians. The appointment is non-supervisory and the work will be closely coordinated with that of the other team members. During this appointment, this person will serve as the Department's primary aerial observer for the Statewide, cooperative forest health aerial survey, and may assist with special aerial surveys using both fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters to detect *Phytophthora ramorum*, the cause of sudden oak death. Primary duties will include collecting and pre-processing of aerial survey data and assisting in the preparation of summary reports and digital map products. Proficiency with digital sketchmapping systems and geographic information systems (GIS) is highly preferred. Frequent overnight travel (in-state) for consecutive weeks may be required as well as sustained physical exertion while working in small aircraft or in the field during all types of weather conditions. Desired Training and Qualifications: USDA Forest Service, Fixed-Wing Manager – Special Use (Aerial Surveyor) certification is preferred and/or other experience with federal or state aviation programs involving low-level aerial reconnaissance over forest terrain. The position requires the ability to fly in a small aircraft without incapacitating airsickness, normal color vision, and the ability to identify common forest tree species that occur in the Pacific Northwest. A Bachelor's degree or higher in forestry, entomology, plant pathology, or a closely related discipline is preferred but not required. For more information, visit: <http://www.oregon.gov/odf/Pages/index.aspx>. To be considered for the temporary appointment, please complete the outreach form (attached to the Update as Attachment 3) and send it to Rob Flowers (Oregon Department of Forestry) by **June 17, 2013**. *ODF is an equal opportunity, Affirmative Action employer committed to a diverse work force.*

PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST

- 1. Bates, C.A.; Fraedrich, S.W.; Harrington, T.C.; Cameron, R.S.; Menard, R.D.; Best, G.S.** 2013. First report of laurel wilt, caused by *Raffaelea lauricola*, on sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*) in Alabama. *Plant Disease*, 97(5): 688.
- 2. Leonberger, A.J.; Speers, C.; Ruhl, G.; Creswell, T.; Beckerman, J.L.** 2013. A survey of *Phytophthora* spp. in Midwest nurseries, greenhouses, and landscapes. *Plant Disease*, 97: 635-640.
- 3. Rogers, P.C.; Eisenberg, C.; St. Clair, S.B.** 2013. Resilience in quaking aspen: recent advances and future needs. *Forest Ecology and Management*, 299: 1-5.
- 4. Shinneman, D.J.; Baker, W.L.; Rogers, P.C.; Kulakowski, D.** 2013. Fire regimes of quaking aspen in the Mountain West. *Forest Ecology and Management*, 299: 22-34.

5. **Utley, C.; Nguyen, T.; Roubtsova, T.; Coggeshall, M.; Ford, T.M.; Grauke, L.J.; Graves, A.D.; Leslie, C.A.; McKenna, J.; Woeste, K.** 2013. Susceptibility of walnut and hickory species to *Geosmithia morbida*. Plant Disease, 97(5): 601-607.

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 RESPONSE FORM
Group Leader, Forest Health Protection
USDA Forest Service, Intermountain Region, Boise, ID
GS-0414/0434-13

DEADLINE FOR RESPONDING TO OUTREACH: JULY 2, 2013

If you are interested in this position, please complete this outreach form and send via e-mail to mdudley@fs.fed.us or by surface mail to: Mike Dudley, Director, State and Private Forestry, 324 25th Street, Ogden, UT 84414.

Name:

Address:

E-Mail Address:

Phone:

Are you currently a Federal employee?

If yes, please provide current agency and location:

Type of Appointment: ___Permanent ___Term ___Temporary

Current title/series/grade:

If you are not a current permanent (career or career conditional) employee, are you eligible for appointment under any of the following special authorities?

- PERSON WITH DISABILITIES**
- VETERANS READJUSTMENT**
- DISABLED VETERANS W/30% COMPENSABLE DISABILITY**
- VETERANS EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES ACT OF 1998**
- FORMER PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER**
- STUDENT CAREER EXPERIENCE PROGRAM**
- OTHER (please describe)**

Thank you for your interest in this Forest Service Outreach Notice.

PLEASE NOTE: The purpose of this Outreach Notice is to determine the potential applicant pool for this position and to establish the appropriate recruitment method and area of consideration for the advertisement (e.g., target grade or multi-grade and service-wide, region-wide, government-wide, or DEMO). Responses received from this outreach notice will be relied upon to make these determinations.

Outreach Response Form

USDA Forest Service
Southern Research Station
Forestry Technician GS-0462-04 (Temporary-Term)
Location: Knoxville, Tennessee

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Current Federal Employee? Yes _____ No _____

Current title/series/grade/location: _____

Current type of appointment: _____

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

To obtain more information about this position please contact:

Ross Helm
USDA Forest Service
4700 Old Kingston Pike
Knoxville, TN 37919
E-mail: rhelm@fs.fed.us
Phone: (865) 862-2049

It is anticipated that the vacancy announcement will be posted on OPM's USA Jobs website (www.usajobs.opm.gov). To request a vacancy announcement when it is available, please complete this form and mail to Ross Helm at the above address **by June 23, 2013**.

The USDA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Outreach Response Form:

To be considered for the temporary appointment, please complete the following outreach form and return it by email, fax, or mail to the contact listed below. A current resume may also be included, but is not required. **All forms are due by June 17, 2013.**

Email: rflowers@odf.state.or.us

Fax: 503-945-7416

Mail: Attn: Rob Flowers
Oregon Dept. of Forestry
2600 State St., Bldg D
Salem, OR 97310
503-945-7396

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Numbers: (work) _____ (home/mobile) _____

Are you currently employed? Yes ____ No ____

If yes, name of Current Employer: _____

Current Location: _____

Current Position: _____

Current Appointment: Permanent _____ Temporary _____

Current Work Status: Full-time _____ Part-time _____

Do you have experience doing aerial surveys to monitor damaging agents of forests or other experience doing low-level aerial reconnaissance? Yes ____ No ____

Description (optional):

Do you have experience using digital sketch-mapping computer systems and/or GIS? Yes ____ No ____

Description (optional):

Have you previously held or are you currently certified as a USDA-FS Fixed-Wing Manager – Special Use (Aerial Survey) or do you have equivalent training/certification? Yes ____ No ____

Description (optional):