

# Forest Health Monitoring Program Monthly Update September 2013

## WHAT'S NEW

**Evaluation Monitoring (EM) Request for Proposals** – The Forest Health Monitoring Program is requesting proposals for FY 2014 EM projects designed to determine the extent, severity, and causes of undesirable changes in forest health. Project proposals for new and continuing projects should be submitted by **September 30, 2013** to the FHM Regional Managers: Jim Steinman for Northeast FHM Region ([jsteinman@fs.fed.us](mailto:jsteinman@fs.fed.us)), Manfred Mielke for North Central FHM Region ([mmielke@fs.fed.us](mailto:mmielke@fs.fed.us)), Dale Starkey for Southern FHM Region ([dstarkey@fs.fed.us](mailto:dstarkey@fs.fed.us)), Jeri Lyn Harris for Interior West FHM Region ([jharris@fs.fed.us](mailto:jharris@fs.fed.us)), or Alison Nelson for West Coast FHM Region ([asnelson@fs.fed.us](mailto:asnelson@fs.fed.us)). The FHM Regional Managers will, in turn, forward their top selected proposals to the Washington Office by November 4, 2013. Detailed instructions and a template for project proposals are available on the FHM website at:

[http://www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/fhm/em/instructions/em\\_instructions14.pdf](http://www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/fhm/em/instructions/em_instructions14.pdf) .

**Gail Durham is retiring.** Gail has been the Forest Health Specialist with the Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF) since 2004. Prior to that she worked for the US Forest Service and the Natural Resources Conservation Service as well as serving as the Forest Stewardship Program Coordinator for NDF for 3.5 years. Gail served as the Interior West State representative on the FHM Management Team for several years and was an active participant in the development of the 2012 National Insect and Disease Risk Map. We thank Gail for her efforts in support of the FHM program in Nevada and the Interior West and wish her well in her retirement.

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

**October 7-11, 2013.** Waterton Lakes National Park, Alberta, Canada. The 2013 Western International Forest Disease Work Conference. The agenda is a reflection of the unique area with panels on whitebark and limber pine health, air pollution, aspen, and genomics. The agenda also includes a full day field trip on Wednesday to explore the beautiful area and will complement the panel on whitebark pine and limber pine as well as the aspen panel. A pre-meeting hike is being planned on October 7. The meeting will take place at the Bayshore Inn where rooms were reserved until August 20 at the conference rate. Please visit

the conference website for more information:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/technology/wif/index.htm> or you can contact Kristen Chadwick (USDA Forest Service) at [klchadwick@fs.fed.us](mailto:klchadwick@fs.fed.us).

**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](http://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 6<sup>th</sup>. 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](http://www.arborday.org/pcf)) and select the option for the Continental Dialogue Meeting. The agenda is available at [www.continentalforestdialogue.org](http://www.continentalforestdialogue.org). For more information about the meeting visit the meeting website or contact Leigh Greenwood at The Nature Conservancy ([lgreenwood@tnc.org](mailto:lgreenwood@tnc.org)), or the meeting facilitation team at RESOLVE: Debbie Lee ([dlee@resolv.org](mailto:dlee@resolv.org)) or Beth Weaver ([bweaver@resolv.org](mailto:bweaver@resolv.org)).

**January 14-16, 2014.** Conecuh National Forest, southern AL. The Southwide Forest Disease Workshop. The meeting will be held at the Solon Dixon Education Center, a 5000 acre demonstration forest used by a number of

universities, and State and federal agencies interested in natural resources. Plans are to have research abstracts for paper presentations, project reviews/station reports, a field trip, a poster session, and graduate student competition. The deadline for registration is December 1, 2013. For more information including registration, lodging, and all deadlines, visit the meeting website: <https://fp.auburn.edu/sfws/enebak/swfdw/swfdw.html>.

**\*March 18-20, 2014.** Quebec City, Quebec, Canada. The 2014 Northeastern Forest Pest Council Meeting. **SAVE THE DATE!** The meeting will be held in Quebec City - Tuesday March 18 A.M. to Thursday March 20 noon (2.5 days) at the Delta Quebec <https://www.deltahotels.com/Hotels/Delta-Quebec>. Don't forget that all U.S. members will need to have a current passport. More information about the NEFPC can be found at: <https://sites.google.com/site/northeasternforestpestcouncil/>.

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

**The USDA Forest Service Forest Health Protection, Alexandria Field Office** is currently conducting outreach for a Plant Pathologist (GS-0434-09/11/12). This is a professional Plant Pathologist position in the Alexandria Field Office, Forest Health Protection. The incumbent will provide assistance and training in detection, prevention, suppression, and evaluation of forest diseases to National Forest, State and other Federal resource managers in the western half of the Southern Region of the USDA Forest Service. This area includes the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma and Texas. This position is located in the Forest Health Protection Unit, Pineville, Louisiana, which provides entomological and pathological assistance and training to natural resource managers. The unit is co-located with the Kisatchie National Forest Supervisor's Office and several units of the Southern Research Station. The office and laboratory complex containing all three units is known as the Alexandria Forestry Center. For more information about the job or the area please contact: Forrest L. Oliveria, Field Office Representative (e-mail: [foliveria@fs.fed.us](mailto:foliveria@fs.fed.us); telephone: 318-473-7294). Complete the outreach form (attached to this Update as Attachment 1) if you are interested in this position, and return it by **October 4, 2013** to [foliveria@fs.fed.us](mailto:foliveria@fs.fed.us). When advertised, the job announcement will be available on [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov). *USDA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

**The USDA Forest Service Forest Health Protection, Alexandria Field Office** is currently conducting outreach for a Biological Science Technician (GS-0404-07/08/09), permanent full-time. The incumbent serves as a biological technician in planning and carrying out complex and specialized work associated with the full range of Forest Pest Management activities on forest lands of all ownerships

in Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma and Texas. Ground survey and data collection are an integral part of the program. Extensive overnight travel is required. This position is located in the Forest Health Protection Unit, Pineville, Louisiana, which provides entomological and pathological assistance and training to natural resource managers. The unit is co-located with the Kisatchie National Forest and the Southern Research Station. The office and laboratory complex containing all three units is known as the Alexandria Forestry Center. For more information about the job or the area please contact: Forrest L. Oliveria, Field Office Representative (e-mail: [foliveria@fs.fed.us](mailto:foliveria@fs.fed.us); telephone: 318-473-7294). Complete the outreach form (attached to this Update as Attachment 2) if you are interested in this position, and return it by **October 4, 2013** to [foliveria@fs.fed.us](mailto:foliveria@fs.fed.us). When advertised, the job announcement will be available on [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov). *USDA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

**The USDA Forest Service Forest Wallowa-Whitman National Forest** is currently conducting outreach for a Blue Mountain Province Entomologist position (GS-0414-11/12), permanent, full-time. The incumbent is responsible for providing forest health and entomology program management and oversight throughout the Blue Mountain Province, which includes the Wallowa-Whitman, Umatilla, and Malheur National Forests; the Bureau of Land Management Vale and Burns Districts; and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. The incumbent works directly for the Wallowa-Whitman Natural Resource Staff Officer, but coordinates closely with the Region 6 Forest Health Protection Director. The position is located in the Insect and Disease Service Center at the Pacific Northwest Forestry and Range Sciences Lab in La Grande, Oregon. This position requires a great deal of travel throughout the greater Blue Mountain area, and incumbent must be fit for a significant amount of field work, including hiking into wilderness and other relatively remote locations. The incumbent provides expert advice on forest health protection relating to entomology throughout Federal lands in eastern Oregon and southeastern Washington. Forest insects and diseases are two of the main drivers in Blue Mountains forest ecology; therefore, providing detailed knowledge on the microclimates of the Blue Mountains and the associated activity and occurrence of various forest insects is critical to success of forest management in the province. Incumbent responsibilities include (1) advising land managers on the adequacy of Forest and District land management plans; (2) training Federal agency, Tribal, and State agency employees in the use of forest pest management/forest health protection principles, theories, and practices in order to encourage sound management of forest resources; and (3) evaluating local forest health projects and programs. In addition, the incumbent: provides leadership to, and cooperates with, research scientists conducting studies designed to solve resource management issues related to forest health; works with various groups to develop understanding of rationales for forest health proposals, and to facilitate consensus on issues; develops solutions to complex insect ecology problems; coordinates closely with other forest health specialists

in the Region; develops applications for new forest entomology and forest health information, and alternative solutions to particularly difficult technical problems; reviews, evaluates, adapts, and applies new research findings; provides guidance on forest management planning, insect training, and risk rating. If you are interested in being considered for this challenging opportunity, complete the outreach response form (attached to this Update as Attachment 3), and send it to [kgebhardt@fs.fed.us](mailto:kgebhardt@fs.fed.us) by close of business **September 23, 2013**. For additional information on this position, please contact Ken Gebhardt, Acting Natural Resources Staff, at 541-523-1242 or Lia Spiegel, Entomologist at 541-962-6574. When advertised, the job announcement will be available on [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov). *USDA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

## **PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST**

- 1. Ciesla, William M.; Asaro, Christopher.** 2013. Fall cankerworm. Forest Insect & Disease Leaflet (FIDL) 182. FS/R6/RO/FIDL#182-13/002. Portland, OR: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Region (R6). 8 p.
- 2. Clarke, Stephen R.** 2013. Pine tortoise scale. Forest Insect & Disease Leaflet (FIDL) 57, revised March 2013. FS/R6/RO/FIDL#57-13/003. Portland, OR: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Region (R6). 8 p.
- 3. Jenkins, Michael J.; Runyon, Justin B.; Fettig, Christopher J.; Page, Wesley G.; Bentz, Barbara J.** 2013. Interactions among the mountain pine beetle, fires, and fuels. Forest Science.  
[http://www.fs.fed.us/rm/pubs\\_other/rmrs\\_2014\\_jenkins\\_m001.html](http://www.fs.fed.us/rm/pubs_other/rmrs_2014_jenkins_m001.html)
- 4. Mulvey, Robin I.; Shaw, David C.; Filip, Gregory M.; Chastagner, Gary A.** 2013. Swiss needle cast. Forest Insect & Disease Leaflet (FIDL) 181. FS/R6/RO/FIDL#181-13/001. Portland, OR: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Region (R6). 16 p.
- 5. Rogers, P.C.; Mittanck, C.M.** 2013. Herbivory strains resilience in drought-prone aspen landscapes of the western United States. Journal of Vegetation Science. *In press*. DOI: 10.1111/jvs.12099
- 6. Rogers, P.C.; Landhäuser, S.M.; Pinno, B.D.; Ryel, R.J.** 2014. A functional framework for improved management of western North American aspen (*Populus tremuloides* Michx.). Forest Science. *In press*. DOI: 10.5849/forsci.12-156.

**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)

## **OUTREACH NOTICE FORM**

If you are interested in this position and want to receive a copy of the Vacancy Announcement, please complete this form and send via email to [foliveria@fs.fed.us](mailto:foliveria@fs.fed.us). Or you may complete the form and mail or fax to:

**Forest Health Protection  
Attn: Forrest L. Oliveria  
2500 Shreveport Highway  
Pineville, LA 71360  
Phone: (318) 473-7294  
Fax: (318) 473-7292**

**I am interested and would like to receive a copy of the Vacancy Announcement for the following position:**

Position Title/Series/Grade: Plant Pathologist, 0434, GS-09/11/12

Location: Pineville, LA

### **PERSONAL INFORMATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Title/Series/Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently a Federal Employee: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

If YES, current Agency and location: \_\_\_\_\_

If not a current permanent employee (career or career conditional), are you eligible to be hired under any of the following special authorities? (Place an X by appropriate selection)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Person with disabilities                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran's Reemployment Act   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disabled Veteran's w/30% compensable disability | <input type="checkbox"/> Former Peace Corps volunteer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran's Employment Opportunities Act of 1998  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                        |

***Thank you for your interest in our Vacancy!***

**Please return this form to us no later than October 4, 2013.**

## **OUTREACH NOTICE FORM**

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**Forest Health Protection  
Attn: Forrest L. Oliveria  
2500 Shreveport Highway  
Pineville, LA 71360  
Phone: (318) 473-7294  
Fax: (318) 473-7292**

**I am interested and would like to receive a copy of the Vacancy Announcement for the following position:**

Position Title/Series/Grade:     *Biological Science Technician, GS-0404-07/08/09*    

Location:     *Pineville, LA*    

## **PERSONAL INFORMATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Title/Series/Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently a Federal Employee:    YES \_\_\_\_\_    NO \_\_\_\_\_

If YES, current Agency and location: \_\_\_\_\_

If not a current permanent employee (career or career conditional), are you eligible to be hired under any of the following special authorities? (Place an X by appropriate selection)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Person with disabilities                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran's Reemployment Act   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disabled Veteran's w/30% compensable disability | <input type="checkbox"/> Former Peace Corps volunteer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran's Employment Opportunities Act of 1998  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                        |

***Thank you for your interest in our Vacancy!***

**Please return this form to us no later than October 4, 2013.**

**OUTREACH RESPONSE FORM**  
**Wallowa-Whitman National Forest**

**GS-414-11/12 Blue Mountain Province Entomologist Position, managed on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest.**

*Please Respond, By September 23, 2013, To:*

**Ken Gebhardt**, at Phone: (541) 523-1242, Email: [kgebhardt@fs.fed.us](mailto:kgebhardt@fs.fed.us)

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Internet Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Are you currently a Federal Employee?** Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

**If yes, name of Agency**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Duty**

**Location:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Current Position**

(title/series/grade): \_\_\_\_\_

**Current type of appointment:** Permanent \_\_\_\_\_ Temporary \_\_\_\_\_

**If no, Current Position:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Current Location:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Current Employer** \_\_\_\_\_

**Eligible for Other Hiring Authority (check one), such as:**

**30% Disabled Vet** \_\_\_\_ **Reinstatement Eligible** \_\_\_\_ **Peace Corps** \_\_\_\_

**Handicap Authority** \_\_\_\_ **Other (describe)** \_\_\_\_\_

*Thank you for your interest in our vacancy!*