

Forest Health Monitoring Program Monthly Update January 2014

WHAT'S NEW

Bill Smith (U.S. Forest Service, Southern Research Station), Research Quantitative Ecologist with the Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center, retired effective December 31, 2013. Bill began his professional career with the Weyerhaeuser company in Hot Springs, AR in 1973. He was also a faculty member of the Department of Forestry at North Carolina State University where he taught both undergraduate and graduate courses and served as a mentor to many students. In 1994 Bill joined the U.S. Forest Service and worked with the Forest Health Monitoring Program. Among Bill's many contributions to the FHM program were statistical support of plot design and data analysis, helping develop the first national sudden oak death risk map, and working cooperatively with scientists in all parts of the U.S Forest Service, States, and Universities. Congratulations and best wishes to Bill as he begins his retirement.

John Schwandt (USFS, State & Private Forestry) Forest Health Protection (FHP), Forest Pathologist with Region 1, Coeur d'Alene Field Office will retire January 11, 2014. John began his nearly 40-year career in 1976 when he became the first State Pathologist for Idaho. In 1990 John was hired by FHP to start the new Coeur d'Alene Field Office. John devoted a major portion of his career to whitebark pine and was instrumental in the development of the National Whitebark Pine Restoration Program, which he coordinated for 5 years. He also initiated and chairs local Arbor Day programs that have distributed over 60,000 seedlings to 4th graders throughout the county over the past 25 years. As a tribute to his work, John has been the recipient of several prestigious local, regional, national and international awards. Congratulations and best wishes to John as he begins his retirement.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

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 was December 1, 2013. For more information including registration, lodging, and all deadlines, visit the [Southwide Forest Disease Workshop website](#)

***February 10-21, 2014.** A FREE e-conference. A free e-conference titled "Visualizing Sudden Oak Death" will provide updates on *Phytophthora ramorum* research and management while also illustrating disease impacts. A SOD status webinar (February 11), Google Hangout with SOD experts (February 13), and videos of sudden oak death

infection development through time will be featured. The e-conference will be hosted at the [California Oak Mortality Task Force sudden oak death](#) website and is being co-organized by the California Oak Mortality Task Force and the USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station. Sudden oak death art and the fourth “Art of Saving Oaks” online galleries will display how artists have interpreted SOD and the beauty of California coastal forests. The conference is geared to professionals, students and the general public, so please invite your friends and colleagues to participate. More details are available at the ["Visualizing Sudden Oak Death" e-conference](#) website or from Katie Palmieri, kpalmieri@berkeley.edu.

March 18-20, 2014. Quebec City, Quebec, Canada. The 2014 Northeastern Forest Pest Council (NEFPC) Meeting. The meeting will be held in Quebec City - Tuesday March 18 A.M. to Thursday March 20 noon (2.5 days) and include a student forum, state and province forest health updates, and presentations on current research of forest health issues in the U.S. and Canada. Topics planned include emerald ash borer, spruce budworm and white pine blister rust. If you have a topic you would like to see covered or would like to present your research please contact Julie Coop. ph: 617-797-3392 Email: julie.coop@state.ma.us. If you are a student and would like to be a part of the student forum please see the website and contact Dr. William H. Livingston by January 17, 2014. ph: 207-581-2990 Email: WilliamL@maine.edu. The Delta hotel has set up links for room reservations (Deadline is February 18):
English: [Delta Hotel link for room reservations in English](#)
French: [Delta Hotel link for room reservations in French](#)
If you are traveling from the US don't forget to make sure your passport is in order: [U.S. government link to passport information](#)
More information about the NEFPC can be found at: [Link to more information about the Northeastern Forest Pest Council](#)

March 25-27, 2014. SAVE THE DATE! The Forest Health Monitoring Program Biennial Meeting Workgroup Meeting is being planned to be held on March 25-27, 2014 near Jacksonville, FL. Please stay tuned for more details in future Updates.

July 7-11, 2014. Manoa, HI. Island Biology 2014. This international conference will be held at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. The conference will consist of plenary lectures, symposia, contributed talks, and posters. Content will cover a broad range of taxa, regions, and biological disciplines. The deadline for abstract submissions is January 31, 2014. The deadline for notification of acceptance is February 28, 2014. Final acceptance requires that the author register for the conference by April 15, 2014. For more information including instructions for submitting an abstract, visit the conference [Island Biology 2014 internal conference website](#).

Job Opportunities

The Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center (EFETAC) of the USDA Forest Service Southern Research Station is recruiting for an Ecologist position (GS-0408-12) located in Asheville, North Carolina. This is a term, time-limited appointment with an initial duration no less than 13 months and can be extended up to a total of 4 years. This position is located in the Southern Research Station Eastern

Environmental Threat Assessment Center, Southern Research Station work unit. The assignment is directed at improving the understanding of ecological and socioeconomic aspects of broad landscapes extending across a multistate area. Duties include investigating ecological and socioeconomic aspects of interconnected natural and developed landscapes while working in close coordination with associated federal, state, tribal and local government agencies, special interest groups, and the public; conducting a comprehensive status assessment of pre-existing or ongoing efforts that address environmental threats and their relationship to environmental services within the Appalachian region; reviewing and synthesizing results of investigations; producing reports; and delivering scientific information and products developed through research activities to managers and other stakeholders. For complete information about the position including qualifications required and how to apply, see the position is listed on the [USAJOBS website for the position number 14-33630003-0358D-TNC](#). The open period is Monday, January 06, 2014 to **Friday, January 10, 2014**. For additional information about the duties of this position, please contact Danny Lee at 828-257-4854, dcllee@fs.fed.us. *USDA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

The State of Minnesota Natural Resources Department is currently advertising for a permanent, full-time NR Forestry Regional SPEC, Insect and Disease position to be located at the St. Paul, MN Central Region Headquarters. This position exists to manage the Forest Health Programs and the Urban and Community Forestry Programs in the Central Region. Responsibilities include: Collaborate with the State Forest Health Implementation Team to design, develop, and implement a comprehensive Minnesota Forest Health Program which offers training, materials, and assistance to Department of Natural Resources staff; provide administrative and technical oversight of the Region Forest Health Program; help to develop and manage the forest health component of the Urban and Community Forestry Program; design, coordinate and implement forest health surveys and assessments; develop, analyze and interpret forest health information and management strategies to ensure management and the public is informed through public presentations, radio, television, news articles and scientific publications; develop and deliver educational/informational resources and publications to various audiences to integrate and implement ecosystem-based pest management practices and educate selective and proper use of pesticides; coordinate training activities with other divisions and agencies. Operational Support: Monitor the forest health work of Forestry Area Staff; develop and deliver educational programs/materials; train natural resource staff in the administration and implementation of forestry programs. Formal Training: Complete formal Division of Forestry classroom and field training sessions as assigned. Frequent travel is required to implement the Forest Health Program across the entire Central Region, and at times statewide. All qualified job seekers may apply. The posting number is 13DNR000865. The complete job listing including qualifications and how to apply can be accessed via the [Minnesota Natural Resources Department posting 13DNR000865 advertisement](#) webpage. The closing date of the position is **January 13, 2014**. Contact Gregory R. Russell (greg.russell@state.mn.us) for more information.

PUBLICATIONS
OF INTEREST

1. **Dodds, K.J.; Hull-Sanders, H.M.; Siegert, N.W.; Bohne, M.J.** 2014. Colonization of three maple species by Asian longhorned beetle, *Anoplophora glabripennis*, in two mixed-hardwood forest stands. *Insects*. 5(1):105-119. [doi:10.3390/insects5010105](https://doi.org/10.3390/insects5010105)

FOR MORE
FHM
INFORMATION

Visit the [FHM homepage](#) and the [Forest Health Portal](#)
or access both via the [USDA Forest Service homepage](#)