

# Forest Health Monitoring Program Monthly Update April 2014

## WHAT'S NEW

**The Forest Health Monitoring Program Biennial Workgroup Meeting** was held March 25-27, 2014 near Jacksonville, FL. The agenda included Jim Karels (Florida State Forester) as the keynote speaker; a panel discussion titled *Current Forest Health Issues in the South and How to Translate to the rest of the Country*; FHM program accomplishments and plans (Borys Tkacz, FHM National Program Manager); regional breakout sessions; several Forest Health Technology demonstrations presented by the Forest Health Technology Enterprise Team (FHTET); and four working focus groups – *Restoration and use of forest health data*; *Forest declines: defining it, delimiting it, and delivering the data*; *Monitoring and analyzing urban forests as gateways for invasive species*; and *Southern forest health issues*. There were also an optional field trip to the Kingsley Plantation grounds, and an ending field trip to observe and discuss forest health issues in northern Florida. Approximately 34 posters, including posters from active Evaluation Monitoring projects, were displayed. Congratulations to all the poster award winners. Resolutions regarding recommendations for future plans and activities of FHM were formulated, agreed on by the attendees, and will be submitted to the FHM Management Team for consideration. Thanks are expressed to everyone who helped make the workgroup meeting a success.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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

**June 15-20, 2014.** Ft. Collins, CO. IUFRO Joint Conference of 2.02.15 Breeding and Genetic Resources of Five-Needle Pines, 7.02.05 Rusts of Forest Trees, and Strobosphere. The joint meeting will bring together scientists working with genetics and conservation of white pine species (five-needle pines), and those working with rusts of forest trees. Great changes/advances have happened since each of these groups last met (e.g., genome sequencing, gene conservation efforts, rust resistance advances), so it is extremely timely to bring these groups together. In addition, the conference includes two field trips to see some unique forest ecosystems in the Rocky Mountains and an additional optional 1-day field trip immediately following the conference. Abstracts for oral presentations and posters were accepted until March 5, 2014. Early registration was open until April 7, 2014. For complete conference information please visit the [IUFRO Pine-Rust-Genomics conference website](#). If you have questions you may also contact Anna Schoettle (USDA Forest Service) at [aschoettle@fs.fed.us](mailto:aschoettle@fs.fed.us) or Richard Sniezko (USDA Forest Service) at [rsniezko@fs.fed.us](mailto:rsniezko@fs.fed.us).

**July 6-10, 2014.** St. Thomas, the U.S. Virgin Islands. 50<sup>th</sup> Caribbean Food Crop Society (CFCS) Annual Meeting and American Phytopathological Society – Caribbean Division (APS-CD) Annual Meeting. These two scientific regional meetings will be held together in St. Thomas. More information about each of these meetings will be available soon on their respective websites: [50th Caribbean Food Crop Society \(FCS\)](#)

[Annual Meeting](#) and [American Phytopathological Society - Caribbean Division \(APS-CD\) Annual Meeting](#).

**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 was 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](#).

**\*October 5-11, 2014.** Salt Lake City, UT. International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) – World Congress. The Congress title is Sustaining Forests, Sustaining People: The Role of Research. The scientific program for the XXIV IUFRO World Congress will consist of plenary sessions, sub-plenary sessions, technical sessions, and themed poster sessions. The Congress Scientific Committee (CSC) is developing a program to highlight how forest science is helping address significant environmental, social, and economic challenges facing the world. The program will reflect diverse contributions from the forest science community across the full range of natural and social science disciplines. Early-bird registration is now open. For complete information, visit the [IUFRO XXIV World Congress](#).

## Job Opportunities

**The USDA Forest Service Intermountain and Northern Regions** will be filling one Pesticide Specialist at the GS-0401- 12/13 level. If selected at the GS-12 level, the incumbent will be promoted to the GS-13 level upon successful performance at the GS-12. This position has equal responsibilities in both the Northern and Intermountain Regions of the Forest Service. The position is the regional technical authority on all aspects of toxicology, mode of action, environmental fate and impact of pesticides used for forest and range management. The incumbent provides leadership for planning, organizing, coordinating and implementing the safe and effective use of pesticides, and coordinates portions of both Regions' invasive plant management programs. The position is a member of the forest health staff and works closely with regional National Forest Systems invasive specialists and the regional biocontrol specialist. The incumbent will report to the deputy director or director for the Northern and Intermountain Regions, State and Private Forestry (SPF), dependent upon the final applicant pool and selected location. (**Note:** The incumbent must be able to obtain and retain a pesticide license in the duty-station state. The incumbent must obtain the license within 1 year of the initial appointment of the position.) State and Private Forestry is a combined staff group that reports to Region 1 and Region 4 Regional Foresters. Staff is located in the regional offices in Missoula and Ogden with forest health field offices located in Missoula, MT, Coeur d'Alene, ID, Boise, ID and Ogden, UT. The staff serves the states of Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, Nevada, Utah, and in coordination with Region 2 the state of Wyoming. The vacancy announcement for this position will

soon be posted on the U.S. Government's official website for employment opportunities; expected posting date is late April 2014 at ([U.S. Office of Personnel Management website](#)). Interested applicants, or those desiring further information, should contact Mike Dudley, Director of State and Private Forestry at (801) 625-5253 or email at [mdudley@fs.fed.us](mailto:mdudley@fs.fed.us) by **April 21, 2014**. Those interested should complete the Outreach Response Form (attached to this Update as attachment 1). *USDA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

## **PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST**

1. **Bentz, Barbara; Vandygriff, James; Jensen, Camille; Coleman, Tom; Maloney, Patricia; Smith, Sheri; Grady, Amanda; Schen-Langenheim, Greta.** 2014. Mountain pine beetle voltinism and life history characteristics across latitudinal and elevational gradients in the western United States. *Forest Science*. 60(2). <http://dx.doi.org/10.5849/forsci.13-056>
2. **Felton, Karen; Twardus, Dan; Turcotte, Rick; Thomas, Vern.** 2014. Use of the forest disturbance mapper (FDM) to detect and evaluate gypsy moth defoliation within the Allegheny National Forest. Internal report available by contacting Daniel Twardus (USDA Forest Service, Forest Health Protection, Northeastern Area) at [dtwardus@fs.fed.us](mailto:dtwardus@fs.fed.us).
3. **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*. 60:345-359. DOI: 10.5849/forsci.12-156

## **FOR MORE FHM INFORMATION**

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

**OUTREACH RESPONSE FORM**  
**Pesticide Specialist, GS-0401-12/13**  
**USDA Forest Service, Intermountain / Northern Regions**

*DEADLINE FOR RESPONDING TO OUTREACH: April 21, 2014*

If you are interested in this position, please complete this outreach form and send via e-mail to [mdudley@fs.fed.us](mailto:mdudley@fs.fed.us) or by surface mail to: Mike Dudley, State and Private Forestry, 324 25<sup>th</sup> St., Ogden, UT 84401. Additional questions may be directed to Mike Dudley, State and Private Forestry 801-625-5253 or at the email address noted above.

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PERSONAL INFORMATION:**

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

**E-Mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Work Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Alternate Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Work Location:  Missoula, MT  Ogden, UT

Federal Agency Employed with:  USFS  Other (Please list):

Type of appointment currently under (please check one):

Permanent  Temporary  Term  Other (Please list):

**Current Title:**

**Current**

**Series/Grade:**

**Current Region/Forest/District:**

If not a current permanent (career or career conditional) employee, are you eligible to be hired under any of the following special authorities:

Persons with Disabilities

Veterans Recruitment Appointment

Disabled Veteran w/30% Compensable Disability

Veteran Employment Opportunities Act of 1998

Former Peace Corp Volunteer

Student Career Experience Program

Other (explain):

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.