

# Forest Health Monitoring Program

## Monthly Update

### August 2014

#### WHAT'S NEW

**The U.S. Forest Service, State & Private Forestry, Southern Region** welcomes Don Duerr as the new Director of Forest Health Protection in the Southern Region, effective July 14, 2014. He has worked in forest health protection as an entomologist in the southern region for 16 years. Don's experience includes working with southern pine beetle, a growing number of non-native invasive species, and a detail in Chicago working on Asian long-horned beetle. Prior to his Forest Service career, he worked for the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality. Please welcome Don to his new position.

**The U.S. Forest Service, State & Private Forestry, Pacific Northwest Region** welcomes Rob Flowers, the Region 6 Regional Office new Forest Health Protection Entomologist effective September 22, 2014. Rob comes most recently from the Oregon Department of Forestry where he has provided State-wide forest entomology and forest health expertise and guidance since 2006. He has also been involved with the cooperative aerial and ground surveys for detection and monitoring of forest insects and diseases. Please welcome Rob to Region 6.

**The U.S. Forest Service, State & Private Forestry, Rocky Mountain Region** welcomes Jim Kruse as the new Forest Health Protection Lakewood Service Center Leader in the beginning of October, 2014. Jim is currently a Forest Health Protection entomologist in Alaska, and has been in that post since 2003. He has served as a regional lead in Region 10 and on multiple national programs and initiatives including the Risk Map, Early Detection and Rapid Response, Special Technology Development Program and the Western Bark Beetle Initiative. He is experienced in silvicultural practices, entomology, and has extensive experience with science/technology transfer (bringing research and technology to resource managers). Please welcome Jim to Region 2.

**The U.S. Forest Service, State & Private Forestry, Southwestern Region, Arizona Zone** welcomes Dr. Monica Gaylord as a new entomologist in AZ, effective July 28, 2014. She comes from Northern Arizona University where she has been an Assistant Research Professor in the School of Forestry since 2010. Monica has vast knowledge and experience with bark beetles and other forest health issues in the southwest. Please welcome Monica to her new position.

**Update about the progress made on the insect and disease section of the Farm Bill:** The 2014 Farm Bill contains a wide range of provisions in the Forestry Title that will aid the Forest Service in increasing the pace and scale of forest, watershed and grassland restoration, including Section 8204 of the Farm Bill, which provided the opportunity for Governors to request designation to areas in their State that are experiencing, or at risk of, an insect or disease epidemic. The Forest Service received letters from 35 States requesting designations. In response to the State's requests, the Chief has designated

approximately 45.6 million acres of National Forest System lands across 94 national forests in 35 States. These designations will not immediately result in more work being accomplished, nor are the designations a commitment by the Agency to treat all 45.6 million acres. They will allow the Agency to use NEPA [National Environmental Policy Act] streamlined procedures to plan future projects within designated areas. Restoration projects in these designated areas have to be developed in collaboration with a diverse group of stakeholders and must meet environmental safeguards. The Forest Service will work with States, Tribes, partners, stakeholders and the public to develop and implement landscape scale restoration projects within designated areas that reduce the risk of insect and disease infestations. For more information about the Farm Bill and the Forest Service, visit the [Forest Service website](#) location that contains additional details.

## **NEWS ABOUT FHM PARTNERS**

**The U.S. Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station:** Interior Alaska inventory returns this summer. The station's Forest Inventory and Analysis Program is launching a large-scale, systematic tree inventory this summer in Alaska's Tanana Valley. It's the first time this inventory has been conducted since the 1980s and it will benefit from a partnership with NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center. NASA personnel will be flying a state-of-the-art airborne remote sensing system over the inventory field plots in an area spanning approximately 57,000 square miles. (from The Chief's Desk, People, Places and Things, July 18, 2014) More information about this partnership in Alaska is available on the [NASA Earth Observatory website](#).

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

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

**\*September 8-12, 2014.** Cedar City, UT. 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Western International Forest Disease Work Conference (WIFDWC). Information about the conference is available at the [conference website](#). Please see the registration form for registration or mail in instructions. The deadline for early registration was August 1. Travel and Lodging information is available at the conference website. Room reservations for the conference rate need to be made by August 8th.

**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](#).

**November 3-4, 2014.** Charlotte, NC. SAVE THE DATE! The Tenth 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. Planned updates and expert discussions will include: emerging international and regional issues in forest health; Healthy Trees, Healthy Cities efforts; Don't Move Firewood, the Firewood Outreach Coordinating Initiative, and industry-led firewood certification; lightening-round presentations by national leaders; Apps, social media, and forest pests; and facilitated group discussion on the Continental Forest Dialogue's next 10 years. Information about the Continental Dialogue Meeting as well as the Arbor Day Partners Conference can be found online at [www.arborday.org/pcf](http://www.arborday.org/pcf) and [www.continentalforestdialogue.org](http://www.continentalforestdialogue.org).

**\*September 17-20, 2014.** Ashland, OR. 2015. EARLY ALERT! 2015 Whitebark Pine Ecosystem Foundation Annual Science and Management Workshop. This will be the first time the Whitebark Pine Ecosystem Foundation (WPEF) has had their scientific meeting in the Pacific Coast range of whitebark pine – a chance to feature unique aspects of this part of the range (California, Oregon, Washington, British Columbia), the other high elevation white pine species, and to hear key information from scientists and managers from other areas. The hope is to feature not only whitebark pine, but also the other high-elevation 5-needle pines (foxtail, limber, southwestern white pine, the two bristlecone pines – many of which occur in this area [and notably in California]). Also, the definitive (through 2015) information on genetic blister rust resistance will be available. The Crater Lake National Park field trip will feature many things, including the successful restoration plantings they have established, the dramatic impacts of mountain pine beetle on whitebark pine, the selection of trees for resistance testing and gene conservation, and much more. Tentative schedule:

Thursday: WPEF board meeting; and optional field trip to foxtail pine area in Northern California?

Friday: WPEF Science meeting (all day) at Southern Oregon University

Saturday: Field trip to Crater Lake National Park

Sunday: Optional fieldtrip to Dorena Genetic Resource Center (see all 9 U.S. species of white pines in blister rust testing) + fieldsite

Monday: Alternate day for Dorena Genetic Resource Center field trip (if Sunday is used for foxtail pine trip, etc.).

**If you have topics (and speakers) to suggest for the Friday indoor session,** please send information to Kristen Chadwick ([kchadwick@fs.fed.us](mailto:kchadwick@fs.fed.us)), Jen Beck ([Jen\\_Beck@nps.gov](mailto:Jen_Beck@nps.gov)) or Richard Sniezko ([rsniezko@fs.fed.us](mailto:rsniezko@fs.fed.us)).

## Job Opportunities

**The U.S. Forest Service, State and Private Forestry (SPF)** is advertising a biological scientist (pesticide specialist) position (GS-0401-12/13). This position is located within the State and Private Forestry staff which serves R1 and R4 covering five states. The position will be located in either Missoula, MT or Ogden, UT and will be negotiated at the time of hire. Only one position will be filled. 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 assigned portions of both Regions' invasive plant management programs. This position serves as the recognized authority for the pesticide and SPF invasive plant grant program area within the two Regions; provides significant and innovative recommendations to the Deputy Regional Forester and Director for SPF in establishing policy and direction for the safe, effective, and legal use of pesticides; and provides Regional Office staffs, Forest Supervisors, and Ranger Districts in the Regions with expert advice and information about pesticide use. The position periodically reviews and provides field units with information needed for sound decision making; reviews project plans and procedures for monitoring the beneficial and adverse effect of pesticides applications; and exercises professional leadership and has substantial responsibility in assisting the National Forests and Grasslands to establish and implement public information and education efforts to gain public understanding and acceptance of planned pest management programs. The position provides review of environmental documents for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) sufficiency when pesticides are involved; provides input and direction and serves on teams that prepare environmental statements involving pesticide use; provides input on recommended dosages, potential environmental impacts, and human health hazards; advises regional and local staff on new laws and regulations; prepares reports on pesticide incidents and regional pesticide use; and interprets broad legislative requirements and formulates Regional policy for pesticide use on National Forest System (NFS) lands. 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. For additional information about the position, including how to apply, view the full vacancy announcements on the [U.S. Office of Personnel Management website](#). The job announcement for federal career and status eligible applicants (see announcement for a full list) is 14-0451-46391G-RC. The open period is **Monday, July 21, 2014 to Monday, August 11, 2014**. *USDA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

**The U.S. Forest Service, Washington Office, Research & Development** will soon be advertising for a National Program Leader for Entomology & Pathology Research (GS-0401-15). The position will be located in Washington, DC. The Forest Service entomology and plant pathology research programs address native and invasive forest pest issues that face managers of public and private forests. Our scientists are engaged in research that ensures our nation's federal, state, and private natural resources continue to provide the goods and services the public desires now and for future generations. The research program encompasses a broad range of research areas, including quantifying forest pest biology, ecology, interactions and impacts; predicting and prioritizing invasive species; identifying and detecting invasive species; and managing forest pests and altered systems. Forest Service Research & Development will soon be advertising a position to provide national leadership for the plant pathology and entomology research program. Strong candidates will have demonstrated written, verbal, and analytical skills, and ability and experience in key functions associated with the mission of Forest Service Research and Development that includes: 1) building strategic alliances with other agencies and organizations to enhance delivery of FS programs, science and information; 2) communicating and marketing to inform other agencies, organizations, and the public

about the importance and value of Forest Service research findings; 3) assisting policy and decision makers in understanding complex scientific issues; and 4) providing leadership on strategic networks to establish program vision and build coalitions both in the Washington Office and across the nation. Work experience that demonstrates a progression of responsibilities from local to regional or national levels, with evidence of effective participation in and leadership of interdisciplinary teams provides the necessary foundation for success in this position. If you are interested in this position please complete the form attached to this Update as attachment 1 and return it to Tanya Brevard as listed on the form no later than **August 22, 2014**. For additional information you may contact the Acting Director, Forest Management Sciences (Linda S. Heath) Washington, DC by email at [Lheath@fs.fed.us](mailto:Lheath@fs.fed.us) . The job announcement will appear on the [U.S. Office of Personnel Management website](#) when available. *USDA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

## **PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST**

1. **Dodds, K. J.; Allison, J. D.; Miller, D. R.; Hanavan, R. P.; Sweeney, J.** 2014. Considering species richness and rarity when selecting optimal survey traps: comparisons of semiochemical baited flight intercept traps for Cerambycidae in eastern North America. *Agricultural and Forest Entomology*. [doi: 10.1111/afe.12078](https://doi.org/10.1111/afe.12078)
2. **Fettig, C.J.; McKelvey, S.R.** 2014. Resiliency of an interior ponderosa pine forest to bark beetle infestations following fuel-reduction and forest-restoration treatments. *Forests* 5:153–176.
3. **Graham, Elizabeth E.** 2013. Luring pests to protect trees. July 14, 2013 issue of *SourDough News*, Forest Service Region 10. Available online: [Luring Pests to Protect Trees](#). This article is a look inside the trapping and study that helps guide forest health specialists in detecting non-native beetles and monitoring native populations of longhorned beetles in a coastal rainforest.
4. **Koch, F.H.; Yemshanov, D.; Haack, R.A.; Magarey, R.D.** 2014. Using a network model to assess risk of forest pest spread via recreational travel. *PLoS ONE* 9(7): e102105. DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0102105

## **FOR MORE FHM INFORMATION**

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

## Outreach Interest

National Program Leader for Forest Entomology and Plant Pathology Research  
GS-0401-14/15

If you are interested in this position, please complete this form and send it to: Tanya Brevard, Staff Assistant, Forest Management Sciences, via one of the following methods **no later than August 22, 2014.**

E-mail: [tbrevard@fs.fed.us](mailto:tbrevard@fs.fed.us)

Fax to: 703-605-5133

### PERSONAL INFORMATION

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

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### EMPLOYMENT

Are you currently a Federal Employee? Yes  No

#### If Yes:

Name of your Agency & Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Current title/series/grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Appointment: Permanent  Term  Temporary

#### If No:

Current Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Position Title & Salary: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Appointment: Permanent  Term  Temporary

Are you eligible for appointment under any of the following special authorities?

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Former Peace Corps                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran's Employment Opportunities Act of 1998 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Person with Disabilities                | <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran's Readjustment                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student Employment Program              | <input type="checkbox"/> Reinstatement Eligibility                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran with 30% Compensable Disability | <input type="checkbox"/> Other  |

Thank you for your interest in this position

**USDA is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer**