

# Forest Health Monitoring Program

## Monthly Update

### November 2014

#### WHAT'S NEW

**President's Climate Action Plan introduces Private and public commitments to support resilient natural systems:** The Obama Administration is announcing a Climate and Natural Resources Priority Agenda that represents a first of its kind, comprehensive commitment across the Federal Government to support resilience of our natural resources. For example there is a partnership on restoring damaged forest areas in which the Arbor Day Foundation will plant an additional 20 million trees to improve the health and resilience of public forest lands by July 1, 2019. The Foundation focuses on restoring trees and enhancing climate resilience in areas of national and state forests damaged by insects, disease, and wildfires. For more information and additional Private and public commitments to support resilient natural systems please see the full [press release](http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/ceq/Press_Releases/October_8_2014) ([http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/ceq/Press\\_Releases/October\\_8\\_2014](http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/ceq/Press_Releases/October_8_2014)).

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

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

\***November 20, 2014.** Webinar. [Large LIDAR Acquisition Processing - Advanced Work-flows](#). This one day webinar conducted by the USDA Forest Service Remote Sensing Applications Center (RSAC) will explore the complexities, and potential work-flows, for processing large LIDAR datasets to extract canopy structure metrics in the form of seamless ArcGIS raster products. Participants will walk away with the tools and knowledge to apply the workflow to their existing lidar datasets. This webinar will be conducted from **10:00am – 4:00pm (Mountain Time) on November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014**. If you are a Forest Service employee, [click here to register or for additional information](#). All other interested individuals should email Brent Mitchell (LIDAR Specialist/RSAC Training Group Leader) at [brentmitchell@fs.fed.us](mailto:brentmitchell@fs.fed.us) for more information and registration instructions.

\***December 4, 2014.** Webinar. [Introduction to eCognition](#). This one-day workshop conducted by the USDA Forest Service Remote Sensing Applications Center (RSAC) is designed to provide a conceptual overview of eCog software and give students hands-on instruction pertaining to software installation, project setup and image segmentation workflows. In addition there will be some time spent on advanced techniques and basic image classification. This webinar will be conducted from **10:00am – 4:00pm (Mountain Time) on December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014**. ***Note: The course will be limited to a maximum of 15 students because of a limited number of eCognition licenses.*** If you are a Forest Service employee, [click here to register or for additional information](#). All other interested individuals should email Brent Mitchell (LIDAR Specialist/RSAC Training

Group Leader) at [brentmitchell@fs.fed.us](mailto:brentmitchell@fs.fed.us) for more information and registration instructions.

**\*December, 11-12, 2014.** Webinar. [Introduction to Change Detection Tools](#). In this two-day workshop conducted by the USDA Forest Service Remote Sensing Applications Center (RSAC), participants will have the opportunity to learn fundamental concepts for conducting change analyses and be introduced to a variety of tools for acquiring and processing imagery and mapping changes in land-cover. This course focuses primarily on bi-temporal change detection methods appropriate for moderate and coarse resolution satellite data. It is recommended that participants have some remote sensing experience and are familiar with ERDAS Imagine and ArcGIS software. This webinar will be conducted from **10:00am – 4:00pm (Mountain Time) on December 10<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014**. If you are a Forest Service employee, [click here to register or for additional information](#). If you are a Forest Service employee, [click here to register or for additional information](#). All other interested individuals should email Brent Mitchell (LIDAR Specialist/RSAC Training Group Leader) at [brentmitchell@fs.fed.us](mailto:brentmitchell@fs.fed.us) for more information and registration instructions.

**September 17-20, 2015.** 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 plant pathologist position (GS-0434-09/11). This is a full-time permanent position located in Region 6, at the Forestry Sciences Lab in Wenatchee, WA. The incumbent serves as a Forest Pathologist for the Wenatchee Forest Insect and Disease Service Center. The team includes two Forest Pathologists, 2 Entomologists, and one Technician/GIS Specialist. Duty statement is at the full performance GS-11 level: plans, coordinates, and conducts evaluation surveys on Federal, State, and private lands to determine the status of forest pathogens; analyzes data and prepares complete and comprehensive reports; makes recommendations on pathogen management methods; participates in suppression and prevention projects where the conduct of the projects can reduce the adverse effects of a pathogen; makes recommendations on proven reforestation, harvesting, and silvicultural practices which will reduce losses. 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 all U.S. citizens is 15-0617-72299DP-RH and the job announcement for federal career and status eligible applicants (see announcement for a full list) is 15-0617-72299G-RH. The open period is **Thursday, October 30, 2014 to Monday, November 17, 2014**. *USDA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

**The Department of Environmental Science, Policy, and Management at the University of California, Berkeley** seeks an Assistant Cooperative Extension Specialist (Fiscal Year) in Forest Health. The expected start date is July 1, 2015. The Forest Health Specialist will help create a collaborative, multidisciplinary and multifaceted research and outreach program with UC Cooperative Extension Advisors and Specialists; community partners; government/institutional groups; forestland owners and managers, and land management and advisory agencies with forestland responsibilities. The Specialist will investigate the linkages between policy and planning processes, and environmental outcomes on forests at multiple scales. The completion of all Ph.D. (or equivalent) degree requirements except the dissertation is required at the time of application. The Ph.D. (or equivalent) degree is required by the start date. The successful candidate will have a doctoral degree (or equivalent) in a discipline related to forest health, including, but not limited to, forest science, entomology, disturbance ecology, or integrated pest management. Additional qualifications include demonstrated writing and public speaking skills to communicate to a diverse audience of professional and non-technical clientele, the ability to design and carry out high quality research in a discipline related to forest health, and the capacity to serve as a team member on interdisciplinary projects in forest health and ecosystem sustainability. The candidate should be able to work productively with diverse communities and stakeholders, and to build cross-disciplinary teams to meet the diverse challenges of the interaction of forest pests and diseases with fires, resource management, and public safety. Salary is commensurate with experience. The Specialist will be expected to develop a nationally competitive research program and to obtain extramural grant funds. Meaningful engagement in [University of California's Agriculture and Natural Resource's Strategic Initiatives and Program Teams](#) is also essential for a successful program. The incumbent will be expected to qualify for licensing as a California Registered Professional Forester within three years following

their fulfillment of the licensing prerequisites. To apply, please visit the go to the following link: [University of California, Berkley recruitment site \(https://aprecruit.berkeley.edu/apply/JPF00587\)](https://aprecruit.berkeley.edu/apply/JPF00587). The initial review date is **December 1, 2014**. Applications received by this date will receive priority. To receive full consideration, please submit all materials prior to this date; however, this position will remain open until filled. Please direct questions to the following email address: [espm\\_recruit@berkeley.edu](mailto:espm_recruit@berkeley.edu). The department seeks candidates whose research and service has prepared them to contribute to our commitment to diversity and inclusion in education and outreach. The University of California is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age or protected veteran status. See the [complete University of California nondiscrimination and affirmative action policy](http://policy.ucop.edu/doc/4000376/NondiscrimAffirmAct) at (<http://policy.ucop.edu/doc/4000376/NondiscrimAffirmAct>).

**The U.S. Forest Service, State and Private Forestry (SPF) Region 8 is conducting** outreach for a Plant Pathologist (GS-0434-9/11/12) position to be located at the Forest Health Protection Asheville Field Office in Asheville, NC. This Plant Pathologist position is responsible for providing service to a variety of clients including national forests, other federal agencies, state forestry organizations, private industry, colleges and universities located in the eastern 7 states of the Southern Region. The position will provide these clients with expertise in the prevention, detection, evaluation and suppression of forest tree pathogens and diseases. The position requires field and laboratory work. Travel will be frequent as some work locations are more than a day's drive from the field office. As a member of the Asheville Field Office staff, the plant pathologist will cooperate and collaborate with other plant pathologists, entomologists, biological scientists, technicians, and other specialists to produce reports that address forest pathology issues of local, regional and national importance. The work may involve diseases caused by both native and introduced pathogens. Duty station specifics: This position is part of the Southern Region's Regional Office Forest Health Protection Staff located in the Asheville Field Office. The duty station is the Asheville Field Office 200 W.T. Weaver Boulevard, Asheville, NC 28804, which is located in the headquarters building of the Southern Research Station. Please respond to this outreach using the outreach form attached to this Update as attachment 1 no later than **December 1, 2014** to William Carothers at [wcarothers@fs.fed.us](mailto:wcarothers@fs.fed.us). The vacancy announcement will be advertised on the [U.S. Office of Personnel Management website](http://www.usdoj.gov/opa/). *USDA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

## **PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST**

1. **Krist, Frank J.; Ellenwood, James R.; Woods, Meghan, E.; McMahan, Andrew J.; Cowardin, John P.; Ryerson, Daniel E.; Sapio, Frank J.; Zweifler, Mark O.; Romero, Sheryl A.** 2014. 2013-2027 National insect and disease forest risk assessment. FHTET-14-01. Fort Collins, CO: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, State and Private Forestry, Forest Health Technology Enterprise

Team. 199 p. available online from the [FHTET website](http://www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/technology/nidrm.shtml)  
([www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/technology/nidrm.shtml](http://www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/technology/nidrm.shtml)).

**FOR MORE**  
**FHM**  
**INFORMATION**

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

**Outreach Notices Response Form  
Respond to William A. Carothers  
(wcarothers@fs.fed.us)  
By December 3, 2014**

Title of Outreach Position: Plant Pathologist

Series and Grade of Outreach Position: 0434 09/11/12

Unit Name of Outreach Notice: Forest Health Protection

Outreach Position Location: Asheville, North Carolina

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**RESPONDING PERSON:**

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

Current Agency/Region/Forest/District: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Position Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Series and Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Brief statement of how you think your experience/education meets the duties and basic qualifications of the outreach position.

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