

Forest Health Monitoring Program Monthly Update December 2015

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

April 3-7, 2016. Asheville, NC. SAVE THE DATE! The US_IALE 2016 Annual Meeting. The theme of this meeting is Landscape Change. Program highlights will include plenary sessions with featured speakers, symposia and contributed papers, in-depth workshops on key topics, field trips, and networking events. The plenary session and keynote speakers have been announced. For this and other information including deadlines, see the [meeting website](#).

***May 9-13, 2016.** Sitka, AK. SAVE THE DATE for the Western International Forest Disease Work Conference (WIFDWC)! This meeting is generally a gathering of forest pathologists and forest health specialists from the western United States and Canada. Fieldtrips and special panels are both important components of the meeting, as well as committee meetings on specific pathology topics (mistletoes, climate change, rusts, twig and foliage diseases, hazard trees, root diseases, and nursery diseases). The planning committee is working on the agenda. Among other topics, panels are likely to focus on boreal forest health and forest declines. Please see the conference website at [this address](#) for information about lodging, travel arrangements, contributed papers and posters, graduate student introductions and presentations, field trips planned for before and during the meeting, and Meeting Management deadlines for FS participants.

May 16-19, 2016. Chicago, IL. Gene Conservation of Tree Species: Banking on the Future. Early Alert! The USDA Forest Service is sponsoring a workshop that will bring together a mix of land managers, conservation and restoration practitioners, researchers, and non-governmental organizations who share the goal of conserving tree species. The workshop will include invited and contributed presentations and posters, and a field trip hosted by The Morton Arboretum. More information including the call for papers and posters is available at the [workshop website](#).

UPCOMING WEBINARS

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

The Sustainable Forest Roundtable offers periodic webinars. For information about accessing past and future webinars, please visit [the Webinar Portal for Sustainable Forests](#).

Job Opportunities

The U.S. Forest Service, Forest Health Protection, Forest Health Technology Enterprise Team is currently advertising one permanent full-time Invasive Species Program Manager, GS-0401-13 position located in Fort Collins, CO. Duties: Serves as Program Manager for Invasive Species Risk Analysis and Special Technology Development Program on the staff of Director, Forest Health Technology Enterprise Team; represents the Forest Health Technology Enterprise Team on various committees and working groups; applies new scientific findings, developments, and advances, and solves critical problems for which current information is inconclusive, or is in the form of suppositions or theories as to their effectiveness in detecting and monitoring specific forest pest management/forest health problems; applies agency policies and data requirements and technical data to evaluate alternative approaches to problem solutions; modify and adapt precedent solutions to unique or specialized requirements; develops, oversees and implements within broad administrative oversight, the long-range plan and annual program of work for the program; addresses work priorities, personnel, and budgets dedicated to solving internal and external invasive species information needs, problems, or concerns as they relate to short and long-term effects on forest health; coordinates program development and implementation with diverse organizations; formulates and justifies program budget requests amidst a very competitive budgeting environment; develops and supervises the implementation of activities to enhance invasive species information access within the forest service and its cooperators; recommends modifications to existing program direction as necessary based on results of these activities. For additional information about the duties of this position, please contact Frank Sapio at 970-295-5840 or fsapio@fs.fed.us. This position is open to the public (vacancy number 16-WO-SPF-197651DP-BL, [at this web address](#) on the USAjobs site), and the open period is **Monday, December 14, 2015 to Friday, December 18, 2015**. The position is open to status candidates (vacancy number 16-WO-SPF-197651G-BL, [at this web address](#) on the USAjobs site) – see announcement for description of eligibility, and the open period is **Monday, December 14, 2015 to Wednesday, December 23, 2015**. *USDA is an Equal Employment Opportunity Provider and Employer.*

The Virginia Department of Forestry (DOF) is currently advertising for a Natural Resource Specialist II – Forest Health Program Manager. This is position #332 – Charlottesville, Virginia. The hiring range is commensurate with experience. Duties: The Virginia Department of Forestry is seeking an organized, motivated individual to lead the agency's Forest Health Program. The

incumbent will supervise a forest health technician and work with an additional staff of diverse individuals. Duties include: conducting surveys of common and important forest health conditions; providing forest health training to DOF personnel and others; investigating tree and forest health problems and devising appropriate responses; maintaining cooperation and coordination with other state and Federal government agencies to assess and report on forest health status and trends; providing diagnoses and treatment recommendations requested by DOF personnel and their customers; and managing the Program's budget, which includes multiple federal grants and cost-share programs. Qualifications: A Bachelor's degree in entomology, plant pathology or Forestry from an SAF-accredited university is preferred; or a Bachelor's degree in a related field (Natural Resources; Ecology; Environmental Science) plus significant experience in a forest-health-related discipline. A Master's or Ph.D. in forest entomology or forest pathology is highly desirable. Additional qualifications include significant experience in conducting and analyzing forest pest surveys and/or field research; familiarity with and knowledge of diagnostic laboratory instruments and procedures; proficiency utilizing GIS; demonstrated excellent public speaking and presentation skills, both to technical and non-technical audiences; excellent and effective oral, written, and inter-personal communication skills, including ability to communicate effectively in the English language. The candidate will have the ability to effectively interpret aerial and satellite imagery; ability and skill to effectively map forest health conditions from small aircraft. The candidate will have the ability work in forest and field setting which may include adverse conditions including temperature, insects, plants and animals; the ability to negotiate steep, rough terrain on foot, a valid driver's license, knowledge of effective supervisory techniques and practices and proficiency using Microsoft Office software are required. Please apply on-line via the Commonwealth of Virginia's [Virginia Jobs web site](http://virginiajobs.peopleadmin.com/postings/25467) (<http://virginiajobs.peopleadmin.com/postings/25467>). The position is Open Until Filled. *Virginia is an Equal Employment Opportunity / Affirmative Action Employer.*

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry is currently advertising for positions available in Grand Rapids and Bemidji, MN. Responsibilities include: Collaborate with the State Forest Health Implementation Team to design, develop, and implement a comprehensive Minnesota Forest Health Program; develop, analyze, and interpret forest health information; develop and deliver educational/informational resources. Minimum qualifications: Master's degree in forest pathology or forest entomology (or closely related Master's degree in natural science field of study); professional-level experience working with forest health-related issues for a public or private organization advising other forestry professionals; knowledge of entomology, plant pathology, plant physiology, forest management, biometry, weed science, ecology, pesticides and pesticide application technology; knowledge of forest and forest pest management and protection principles. Preferred qualifications: advanced professional experience as an insect and disease specialist. The

positions are open to all qualified job seekers. When posted, the full announcement will be on the [Minnesota jobs web site](#). For more information, contact NE Regional Forest Manager Patty Thielen at Patty.thielen@state.mn.us or 218-999-7841. *The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST

1. **Van Driesche, Roy G.; LaForest, Joseph H.; Barger, Charles T.; Reardon, Richard C.; Herlihy, Megan.** 2013. Forest Pest Insects in North America: a photographic guide. FHTET-2012-02. Location unknown: University of Massachusetts; U.S. Forest Service; The university of Georgia Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health; The University of Georgia. Available online: <http://www.forestpests.org/book/>

FOR MORE FHM INFORMATION

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