

# Forest Health Monitoring Program Monthly Update February 2015

## WHAT'S NEW

**The 2014 Western Bark Beetle Mitigation Accomplishment Report** has been released by the U.S. Forest Service. The Executive Summary from that report follows:

The Forest Service is aggressively implementing projects to mitigate the effects of the bark beetle in Regions 1-6 under the 2011 Western Bark Beetle Strategy (WBBS). The strategy is being achieved through three well-defined goals: human safety, forest recovery, and long-term forest resiliency. This report presents bark beetle mitigation accomplishments during FY 2014. During the year, the Forest Service exceeded its bark beetle mitigation goals. Mitigation efforts resulted in a total of 320,930 treated unified acres across the three goals. A total of 10,667 acres were treated to improve human safety (safety goal), 18,406 acres were reforested (recovery goal), and 291,857 acres were treated to improve resiliency (resiliency goal). In addition, 206 miles of roads and trails had hazard trees removed to improve human safety. The treatments resulted in 176.2 million board feet of timber sold and 59,337 green tons of biomass produced. A total of 24 research publications and tools were developed to increase the effectiveness of forest management practices towards bark beetle mitigation. The Forest Service spent \$ 101.5 million supporting safety, recovery and resiliency activities during the year.

[Note: As soon as it is available, the link to the full report will be in an upcoming issue of the Monthly Update.]

**Using Landsat to improve estimates of forest disturbance.** Each year the Forest Service's Forest Inventory and Analysis program takes a census of trees, chronicling the nation's forest health and timber resources. The tree census enables forest managers to understand how climate change, population expansion and timber harvest impact the forests and the ecosystem services they provide. A recent study published in "Remote Sensing of Environment" found that managers could use Landsat data to discern stress caused by insects, drought and disease; fire; harvest; mechanical brush clearing such as "chaining;" and an "other" class that captures non-categorized disturbance for all plots. By providing supplemental disturbance history, Landsat data improves understanding of current forest conditions. (from The Chief's Desk, People, Places and Things, January 16, 2015)

## NEWS ABOUT FHM PARTNERS

**The Oregon Department of Forestry** would like to welcome Dr. Christine Buhl as the new Natural Resource Specialist 4 - Forest Entomologist. Christine holds a Ph.D. in entomology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison where her research focused on plant-insect interactions and plant chemical defenses. Christine brings a great deal of experience from her previous work in a variety of research efforts on insect biocontrol and insect biodiversity, among other projects. Christine has agency-wide responsibility to all programs and also provides support to cooperative interagency forest health programs in Region 6. Her start date was February 2, 2015.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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

**March 10-12, 2015.** Hanover, NH. The 77<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Northeastern Forest Pest Council. The meeting will be held in Hanover, NH at the Hanover Inn Dartmouth and will run from Tuesday (March 10) at noon to Thursday (March 12) at noon. Hotel rooms are being held for us until January 23 and reservations can be made by calling the Inn at 603-643-4300. A draft agenda and registration form can be found on the [meeting website](#). [Hotel information](#) is also available.

**\*March 30-April 2, 2015.** Santa Fe, NM. The Western Forest Insect Work Conference (WFIWC). The theme of the 66<sup>th</sup> annual WFIWC is *Forest Entomology at the Borders* and discussions will focus on a broadly interpreted definition of “the border”. Presentations will focus on bridging the gap between political, physical, biological, and other perceived borders that affect our understanding of forest entomology. A draft agenda is available and will be adjusted as changes are made. There will be a poster session and an outdoor field trip to visit Bandelier National Park and the Valles Caldera. See the [WFIWC website](#) for information about registration, lodging, the poster session, and the draft agenda.

**\*April 21, 2015.** FHM will be hosting a virtual workgroup session. Please mark your calendars and join us for some exciting topics and interactive technology sessions. A detailed agenda and additional information on how to attend the workgroup session will be posted in the March Monthly Update.

**\*July 21-24, 2015.** Fayetteville, AR. EARLY ALERT! The 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Southern Forest Insect Work Conference. We have chosen The Chancellor Hotel for our meeting. Although meeting registration is not yet open, I encourage you to make your hotel reservation as soon as possible. We have a block of 75 rooms set aside for the group until June 20, so make your

reservations by this date. Don't miss out on the special pricing! Here are the details: Date: 21-24 July 2015; Place: The Chancellor Hotel, 70 North East Ave., Fayetteville, Arkansas; Phone reservations: 1-855-285-6162 (or 479-442-5555). Mention that you are attending the *Southern Forest Insect Work Conference*. Visit the [hotel website](#) for hotel information. Room rates are \$83.00 per night plus tax. Remember, this low rate is valid only until June 20, and only for the first 75 rooms (first 30 on Monday, July 20). Make your reservation right away! **IMPORTANT NOTE:** If you reserve your hotel room now, we will be able to determine if we need to open additional rooms at the \$83.00 rate, and can ensure that everyone who needs a room gets one! Please be considerate to your fellow attendees and reserve your room as soon as possible. **YOUR INPUT IS NEEDED FOR THE 2015 PROGRAM!!!** Please contact Bob Coulson (r-coulson@tamu.edu) or John Riggins (jriggins@entomology.msstate.edu), our 2015 Program Co-Chairs, if you have any program or session topic suggestions, or would like to volunteer as a session moderator. More program details coming soon!

**\*August 23-28, 2015.** Orléans, France. The 5<sup>th</sup> International Workshop on the Genetics of Tree-Parasite Interactions. The call for abstracts is now open. This workshop is intended to foster collaboration and communication among all scientific disciplines working on tree-parasite interactions, and between science and management. Forest trees will be the main focus, but contributions regarding ornamental or fruit trees are also welcome. For more information including the main topics, visit the workshop website: <https://colloque.inra.fr/tree-parasite-interactions2015>.

**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)).

**\*December 8-10, 2015.** Portland, OR (location tentative). 2015 Forest Inventory and Analysis Science Symposium. The US Forest Service, Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) Program is pleased to announce the 2015 FIA Science Symposium. The theme of the 12<sup>th</sup> biennial Science Symposium is *Pushing Boundaries – New Directions in Inventory Techniques & Applications*, emphasizing the development of innovative approaches to incorporating non-traditional approaches and uses of inventory information. The Symposium brings together international forest scientists, managers, and stakeholders to share insights on a wide variety of topics, including contemporary issues, science policy, mensuration, geospatial products, and inventory methods. The first call for sessions and papers has been issued. All abstracts and proposals are due **March 11, 2015**. Please send submissions to [pnw\\_iram@fs.fed.us](mailto:pnw_iram@fs.fed.us). For more information about the symposium, including details about submitting abstracts, visit [the symposium website](#) or contact Sharon Stanton ([sharonMstanton@fs.fed.us](mailto:sharonMstanton@fs.fed.us)).

## UPCOMING WEBINARS

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

**\*Learn at Lunch Webinar: Elms are Back!** (Sponsored by the Utah State University Forestry Extension and Utah Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands) Speaker: Dr. Bruce R. Fraedrich, Vice President of Research at Bartlett Tree Experts. Elms were once the dominant shade and street tree throughout the majority of the United States but the introduction of Dutch elm disease changed that. Elms have been seldom planted in urban landscape in the last fifty years. However, through intensive breeding and selection work, there are many desirable disease resistant and tolerant elms that are now commercially available. This presentation will explore options for commercially available elm species and cultivar selections that are suitable for the landscape. The presentation will include a discussion of species/cultivar susceptibility to Dutch elm disease, elm yellows and other pests. This webinar will be conducted at **12:00 p.m. (MT) on February 24, 2015**. To access this free webinar, visit [the meeting room log-in site](#) for more details. (Google chrome is not recommended)

**Webinars offered by the U.S Forest Service Remote Sensing Applications Center (RSAC)** include three varieties. The lightning talks (**Lightning Talk**) are very short presentations that will last approximately 15 minutes; they will focus on specific geoprocessing tasks and are designed to provide concise and useful information in a very efficient manner. The Awareness Sessions (**Awareness**) are designed to build your knowledge base on the particular topic and enable you to further explore the technology with realistic expectations. The Technical Training Webcasts (**Technical**) are designed to provide you with the technical skills and tools to complete remote sensing geoprocessing tasks. **Note: If you don't have access to the Forest Service Intranet, the registration links will not work. Please email Brent Mitchell ([brentmitchell@fs.fed.us](mailto:brentmitchell@fs.fed.us)) directly after Jan. 26 to make accommodations. Before Jan. 26, please contact Brenna Schwert ([bmschwert@fs.fed.us](mailto:bmschwert@fs.fed.us)) to ensure you can register for the classes you want.**

- **[Orthorectification of Scanned Aerial Imagery](#)** (**Technical**) Do you have a stack of aerial photos that you would like to use in your GIS with your other data? This 2-day workshop provides an overview of orthorectifying scanned imagery using ERDAS Photogrammetry (formerly known as Leica Photogrammetry Suite). The course will also include information about scanning aerial photos and using them after they have been orthorectified. The course material includes presentations, demos, and exercises. This webinar will be conducted from **10:00am – 4:00pm (Mountain Time) on February 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015.** **[Click here to register or for additional information.](#)**
- **[Introduction to Raster Geoprocessing](#)** (**Technical**) This 2-day course is designed to enable GIS users to efficiently use raster datasets by providing an overview of the logic behind raster datasets and their associated characteristics. In addition, the course provides an introduction to general processing skills in Arc Map, including, but not limited to: converting, clipping, georeferencing, and mosaicking; and advanced skills such as surface analysis and raster math. This webinar will be conducted from **10:00am – 4:00pm (Mountain Time) on March 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015.** **[Click here to register or for additional information.](#)**
- **[RSAC Webinar Series – Integrating Lidar Derived High Resolution DEMs into Geospatial Workflows](#)** (**Awareness**) You finally got lidar for your forest but what does that mean for you and how can you integrate some of the delivered products into your resource management workflows? This one-hour awareness webinar will provide information on how lidar derived high resolution DEM surfaces (Lidar BareEarth (BE) surfaces) are created, their accuracy and how they can and should be integrated into geospatial workflows. As lidar datasets become more common place it is imperative that we understand the advantages and limitations of the available products and take advantage of the information they provide. This webinar will be conducted from **10:00am – 11:00pm (Mountain Time) on March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015.** **[Click here to register or for additional information.](#)**

- [RSAC Webinar Series – Integrating Lidar Derived 3-D Canopy Structure Derivatives into Geospatial Workflows](#) (**Awareness**) You finally got lidar for your forest but what does that mean for you and how can you integrate some of the delivered products into your resource management workflows? This one-hour awareness webinar will provide information on how lidar derived 3-D canopy structure derivatives (canopy cover, canopy height, understory density, etc.) are created, their accuracy and how they can and should be integrated into geospatial workflows. As lidar datasets become more common place it is imperative that we understand the advantages and limitations of the available products and take advantage of the information they provide. This webinar will be conducted from **10:00am – 11:00pm (Mountain Time) on March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015**. [Click here to register or for additional information.](#)

## **Job Opportunities**

**The U.S. Forest Service, State and Private Forestry/Tribal Relations, Region 2** is currently advertising an Entomologist (GS-0414-09/12) full-time, permanent position to be located in Rapid City, SD. Duties: Coordinates all aspects of a complex major insect detection, evaluation, prevention, and suppression program such as mountain pine beetle, budworm, gypsy moth, etc. Exercises scientific judgment of a high order to conceive and conduct special evaluations, often collaborating with research, to gain additional specific knowledge concerning insect biology, ecological relationships, parasitic effects, survey methodology, or new control techniques. Uses knowledge of forest insect prevention, detection, evaluation, and suppression methods and procedures; and knowledge of forest inventory methods and sampling procedures to assess insect problems. Develops guidelines by identifying and determining the present amount of damage caused, and exercises scientific judgment of a high order in evaluating the actual or potential seriousness of the infestation. Where reduction of pest effects is desirable, incumbent develops current, effective, environmentally safe, and economically sound pest management alternatives which are consistent with specific land management objectives. Works with pathologists and the forest silviculturists in identifying pest problems, determining their impacts on resources, and developing integrated control methods of suppressing and/or preventing forest pest infestations present or imminent. Coordinates all aspects of a complex major insect detection, evaluation, prevention, and suppression program such as mountain pine beetle, budworm, gypsy moth, etc. Prepares plans designed to meet technical objectives, organizes assigned staff members, collects field data, supervises seasonal field crews, processes and analyzes data, consults with other professionals, evaluates the results, and makes recommendations. Exercises insight, initiative, and ingenuity in deviating from established methods to deal with specific issues or problems and modify broader guidelines to resolve

specific complex problems. Uses working knowledge of research techniques in order to understand, interpret, and apply highly complex original research data, formulas, and information in developing management direction, and in planning administrative studies and demonstration areas. Organizes, plans, and conducts forest insect related training programs, presentations, or seminars, for various Federal, State, and private individuals. Presentations are tailored to the specific needs and objectives of the requesting unit and involve summarization and presentation of complex scientific forest insect subject matter for new research developments in a concise, understandable manner. Has contact with Federal, State, and private forest managers; State cooperators; research entomologists; the general public; contractors; and members of professional organizations or academia. Often has to influence persons who are skeptical of or uncooperative with the proposed methods, and therefore must be skilled in negotiation to gain compliance with established policies. Prepares technical reports and manuscripts of which incumbent is responsible for technical adequacy and soundness of conclusions and recommendations. Provides site-specific, technical assistance concerning forest insects to land managers. Assistance usually is documented by incumbent in written guidelines which are incorporated into various resource project plans. Develops guidelines by identifying and determining the present amount of damage caused, and exercises scientific judgment of a high order in evaluating the actual or potential seriousness of the infestation. Duties are listed at the full performance level. For additional information about the duties of the position, please contact Kurt Allen at 605-716-2781 or email at [kallen@fs.fed.us](mailto:kallen@fs.fed.us). 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 U.S. Government's official site for jobs and employment information. The job announcement number for **any U.S. citizen** is [15-0200-119496DP-BWM](#). The job announcement number for **federal career and status eligible applicants** (see announcement for a full list) is [15-0200-119496G-BWM](#). The open period for this job announcement number is **Friday, February 13, 2015 to Monday, February 23, 2015**. *USDA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

**The U.S. Forest Service, Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry, Morgantown Field Office**, is conducting outreach for one GS-0414/0434-13 Forest Health Group Leader (Supervisory Entomologist/Pathologist) position. This is a permanent position stationed at the Morgantown Field Office in Morgantown, West Virginia and will be **open to candidates internal to the USDA Forest Service**. The Forest Health Group leader leads a team providing technical advice, assistance and guidance on various forest entomology/pathology issues, and other forest health disturbance factors, to state and federal, and non-governmental cooperators throughout the Mid-Atlantic States, OH, and the District of Columbia. Responsibilities include developing program direction, coordination, evaluation of program activities and grant administration, staff supervision, and working in integration with other State & Private forestry programs in the Morgantown Field Office and the broader

Northeastern Area. Some other key aspects of this supervisory position include working with staff to accomplish:

- Development of reports and publications such as insect and disease conditions, forest pest leaflets, and other special publications to meet state, private, and federal land manager's needs; and is responsible for meeting national forest health program (FHP) reporting requirements;
- Delivery of the technology development phase of the program including pilot projects, impact studies, administrative studies and technology transfer projects. The group leader works cooperatively with Forest Service research, universities and federal/state resource managers to identify information and technology development transfer project opportunities. The Field Office operates two small diagnostic laboratories (entomology/pathology).
- Oversight of forest health related grant development and monitoring for the Field Office; and planning, budgeting and management information for identifying work force and organizational needs and staff priorities. The position is also responsible for ensuring program expenditures are legal, meet charged-as-worked and congressional intent, and remain within budget limits.
- In the conduct of this work, travel and occasional field work is required. The Group Leader is responsible for promoting a culture of safety and facilitating safe practices for the Field Office's forest health work.

To express interest in this position or for additional information please contact via email Robert Lueckel at [rlueckel@fs.fed.us](mailto:rlueckel@fs.fed.us); phone (304)-285-1540. The vacancy announcement, when open, will be posted at the [U.S. Office of Personnel Management website](#), the U.S. Government's official site for jobs and employment information. Once the announcement is posted, all who responded to the outreach notice will be contacted by email to let you know what the vacancy announcement number will be for this position. Send the Outreach Response Form (attached to this Update as attachment 1) by **February 23, 2015** to: [rlueckel@fs.fed.us](mailto:rlueckel@fs.fed.us); or fax to Robert Lueckel at 304-285-1505. *USDA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

**The U.S. Forest Service, State and Private Forestry, Forest Health Protection, Region 8**, is conducting outreach for one GS-0434-09/11/12 Plant Pathologist position to be located in Pineville, LA. This is a permanent, full-time professional Plant Pathologist position in the Alexandria Field Office, Forest Health Protection. The incumbent will provide assistance and training in detection, prevention, suppression, and evaluation of forest diseases to National Forest, State and other Federal resource managers in the western half of the Southern Region of the USDA Forest Service. This area includes the States of Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma and Texas. This position is located in the Forest Health Protection Unit, Pineville, Louisiana, which provides entomological and pathological assistance and training to natural resource managers. The unit is co-located with the Kisatchie National Forest Supervisor's Office and several units of the Southern Research Station. The office and laboratory complex containing all

three units is known as the Alexandria Forestry Center. For more information about the job or the area please contact: Forrest L. Oliveria, Field Office Representative ([foliveria@fs.fed.us](mailto:foliveria@fs.fed.us)). If you are interested in this position and want to receive a copy of the Vacancy Announcement, please complete the Outreach form (attached to the Update as attachment 2) and return to Forrest Oliveria no later than **February 27, 2015**. *USDA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

**The USDA Forest Service, Northern Region, Forest Health Protection** is conducting outreach for a Forest Health Protection Group Leader position in Coeur d'Alene, ID. The purpose of this Outreach Notice is to inform prospective applicants of this upcoming opportunity for a GS-0414/0434-13 supervisory position. This position is located on the Idaho Panhandle National Forest, Coeur d'Alene, ID. The Forest Health Protection Group Leader leads a team providing technical advice, assistance and guidance on various forest entomology/ pathology issues, and other forest health disturbance factors, to federal, state and non-governmental cooperators throughout principally northern Idaho. The position has responsibility for providing long-range planning, program direction, coordination, evaluation of program activities and staff supervision. The program includes professional assistance to all Federal, State, and private agencies and working in integration with other State & Private forestry programs in the Northern and Intermountain Regions. To express interest in this position, please complete the Outreach form (attached to this Update as attachment 3) and return it to John Shannon at [jtshannon@fs.fed.us](mailto:jtshannon@fs.fed.us) by the close of business on **February 27, 2015**. For more information contact John Shannon at (406) 329-3280 or [jtshannon@fs.fed.us](mailto:jtshannon@fs.fed.us) . *USDA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

**The US Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station, Resource Monitoring and Assessment Program** anticipates filling one (1) Permanent-Seasonal (18/8) Biological Scientist Crew Leader/Gear/Fleet/Safety Liaison position to support the Forest Inventory and Analysis Data Collection Team based in Anchorage, AK. The purpose of this Outreach Notice is to inform prospective applicants of this upcoming opportunity, to determine the potential applicant pool for this position, and to establish the appropriate recruitment method and area of consideration for the advertisement. Responses received from this outreach notice will be used to make these determinations. The Crew Leader/Gear/Fleet/Safety Liaison position is with the Data Collection Team of the PNW Research Station's Resource Monitoring and Assessment (RMA) Program, Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) unit. The FIA unit is part of a nationwide program which collects, processes, analyzes, evaluates, and publishes comprehensive information on forest and other related renewable resources. During the field season (~9 pay periods per year), the Crew Leader position leads a crew of two to four people collecting field data for annual inventory and forest health monitoring in all parts of the state. Crew leaders share duties as helicopter managers and will receive training leading to helicopter manager certification. For the remainder of the year (~9 pay periods), this position is responsible for inventory, maintenance, record keeping, and other tasks associated with maintaining the Data Collection Team's gear, fleet, and safety. Positions with FIA in Alaska are adventurous, challenging, and rewarding. The terrain traversed

flying, hiking, and working can be immensely spectacular, but it can also be very physically and mentally challenging. Physical fitness and flexibility to changing situations are key qualities for success. This permanent seasonal position is 18/8, meaning that a minimum of 18 two-week pay periods of work per year (about eight months) are guaranteed. Additional work may be possible. The Alaska field season usually lasts 9 pay periods, so the guaranteed 18 pay periods of work includes approximately 9 additional pay periods of work in Anchorage. Appointees may be offered the opportunity to work longer depending on workload and funding. This position is career ladder with the full performance level at a GS-09. A majority of the duties will be devoted to data collection operations of which, between two and four months will be spent in the field. Crews of two to four people will collect field data for inventory and forest health monitoring. Duties include photo interpretation, locating inventory plots, and measuring various tree and site information. Measurements taken by crews include: tree/sapling/seedling data (species, diameter, height, defect, insect & disease, damage, etc.); understory vegetation (shrub, herb, grass species and percent cover, etc.); down woody material (line transects, litter depth, and fuels measurement, etc.); and site index and site attributes (site tree selection, slope, aspect, topographic position, distance to water, etc.). Crews use portable, handheld computers to collect data in the field and then process the data later using laptop computers to address any inconsistencies or errors. Duties also include daily documentation, downloading, and editing of field data. The Alaska field season usually lasts from May through early or mid-August. After a series of trainings in Anchorage, the field season generally consists of a work schedule with 11 days in the field, working 8-12 hours per day, and 4 days off in Anchorage. Before and after the Alaska field season, this position is responsible for the inventory, organization, repair, replacement, and general maintenance of field equipment and the vehicle fleet used and maintained by the AFSL Data Collection Team- including FIA projects in Alaska, Hawaii, and the Pacific Islands. This position will also serve as a standing member on the PNW Safety Committee and will maintain detailed records of employee safety trainings in order to ensure compliance with regional and national standards. If you would like additional information about duties and work conditions of this position, or have questions, please contact Dan Irvine at [danielirvine@fs.fed.us](mailto:danielirvine@fs.fed.us). If you are interested in this position with the Pacific Northwest Research Station, please send the attached response form (attached to this Update as attachment 4) and a resume (optional) to express your interest by **March 6th, 2015** to Dan Irvine at [danielirvine@fs.fed.us](mailto:danielirvine@fs.fed.us), and you will be notified when the position is advertised. To apply for this position, you must apply when vacancy announcements are posted on the [U.S. Office of Personnel Management website](#), the U.S. Government's official site for jobs and employment information. You may also send in the attached response for by regular mail to: Dan Irvine, Coastal Alaska Coordinator, Anchorage Forestry Sciences Lab, 161 East 1st St., Door 8, Anchorage, AK 99501. *USDA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

**The Texas A&M Forest Service, Lufkin, TX**, is seeking a Program Coordinator I - Forest Pest management Cooperative. The Texas A&M Forest Service (TFS, formerly Texas Forest Service) is seeking a professional forest entomologist or

equivalent to serve as Program Coordinator I with the Forest Pest Management Cooperative (FPMC), headquartered in Lufkin, Texas. The FPMC, supported by dues-paying members and research grants, conducts applied research and technology transfer on major pests of southern forests and urban trees. The Coordinator plans, conducts, analyzes, and reports results of studies on those insects and diseases that TFA and members deem of importance and provides leadership for a small staff. Target pests include pine bark beetles, seed orchard insects, leafcutting ants, regeneration weevils, and pine tip moths, among others. The Coordinator is responsible for carrying funded projects to completion and formulating research results and project analyses into papers, reports, scientific and technical publications and presentations. Applicants should be proficient in computer software (MS Word, MS Excel, MS Access) and statistical analysis programs and be proficient at oral and written communications. Minimum educational requirement is a Bachelor's degree in forestry from a SAF-accredited university. A Master of Science degree or a Ph.D. in forest entomology or related biological science is preferred. Knowledge and experience with southern forest pests is considered a plus. Travel (10 - 25%) within and outside Texas is required. For more information, contact Dr. Ron Billings, Forest Health Manager, at [rbillings@tfs.tamu.edu](mailto:rbillings@tfs.tamu.edu). To apply, visit the [Texas A&M University jobs website](#) and search for the position title Program Coordinator I with the Texas A&M Forest Service. *Texas A&M AgriLife is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action/Veterans/Disability Employer.*

## **PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST**

1. **Hanavan, R.P.; Pontius, P.; Hallett, R.** 2015. A 10-Year assessment of hemlock decline in the Catskill Mountain region of New York State using hyperspectral remote sensing techniques. *Journal of Economic Entomology*. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/jee/tou015> First published online: 21 January 2015 (11 pages).
2. **Morin, Randall S.; Randolph, KaDonna C.; Steinman, Jim.** 2015. Mortality rates associated with crown health for eastern forest tree species. *Environmental Monitoring and Assessment*. (2015) 187:87. DOI 10.1007/s10661-015-4332-x (11 pages)
3. **Oswalt, C.M.; Fei, S.; Guo, G; Iannone, B.V.; Oswalt, S.; Pijanowski, B.C.; Potter, K.M.** 2015. A subcontinental view of forest plant invasions. *NeoBiota*. 24: 49-54. DOI: 10.3897/neobiota.24.8378.
4. **Trejo-Torres, Jorge. C.; Caraballo-Ortiz, Marcos A.; Vives-Heyliger, Miguel A.; Torres-Santana, Christian W.; Cetzal-IX, William; Mercado-Díaz, Joel A.; Carlo, Tomás A.** 2014. Rediscovery of *Eugenia fajardensis* (Myrtaceae), a rare tree from the Puerto Rican bank. *Phytotaxa*. 191 (1): 154-164.

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

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

**Outreach for Forest Heath Group Leader Position  
Morgantown Field Office (GS-414/434-13)**

Name:

Email Address:

Telephone no:

Are you currently a Federal employee:  Yes  No

Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Position (title/series/grade) \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent or  Temporary?

Eligible for Other Hiring Authority (check one)

- Veteran Eligible
- Reinstatement Eligible
- Peace Corps
- Derived Preference Eligible
- Other (describe)

The vacancy announcement for this position will be posted on the U.S. Government's official website for employment opportunities at: [www.usajobs.com](http://www.usajobs.com). **Once the announcement is posted, all who responded to the outreach notice will be contacted by email to let you know what the vacancy announcement number will be for this position**

Email or Fax

[rlueckel@fs.fed.us](mailto:rlueckel@fs.fed.us) (Robert Lueckel, USDA FS)

Or

FAX-304-285-1505 Attn: Robert Lueckel, USDA FS

# OUTREACH NOTICE FORM

If you are interested in this position and want to receive a copy of the Vacancy Announcement, please complete this form and send via email to [foliveria@fs.fed.us](mailto:foliveria@fs.fed.us). Or you may complete the form and mail or fax to:

**Forest Health Protection  
Attn: Forrest L. Oliveria  
2500 Shreveport Highway  
Pineville, LA 71360  
Phone: (318) 473-7294  
Fax: (318) 473-7292**

**I am interested and would like to receive a copy of the Vacancy Announcement for the following position:**

Position Title/Series/Grade: Plant Pathologist, 0434, GS-09/11/12

Location: Pineville, LA

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

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

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

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Title/Series/Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently a Federal Employee: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

If YES, current Agency and location: \_\_\_\_\_

If not a current permanent employee (career or career conditional), are you eligible to be hired under any of the following special authorities? (Place an X by appropriate selection)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Person with disabilities                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran's Reemployment Act   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disabled Veteran's w/30% compensible disability | <input type="checkbox"/> Former Peace Corps volunteer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran's Employment Opportunities Act of 1998  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                        |

*Thank you for your interest in our Vacancy!*

**Please return this form to us no later than February 27, 2015.**

**NORTHERN REGION  
OUTREACH NOTICE  
POSITION TITLE: Group Leader  
UNIT: Forest Health Protection, Coeur d'Alene, ID**

<b>NAME:</b>	
<b>E-MAIL ADDRESS:</b>	
<b>MAILING ADDRESS:</b>	
<b>STREET ADDRESS:</b>	
<b>CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE:</b>	
<b>TELEPHONE:</b>	

Are you currently a Federal Employee? Yes  No

If you are a Federal Employee, please fill in below:

Agency:	<input type="checkbox"/> USFS	<input type="checkbox"/> BLM	<input type="checkbox"/> Other			
Type of Appointment:	<input type="checkbox"/> Permanent	<input type="checkbox"/> Temporary	<input type="checkbox"/> Term	<input type="checkbox"/> VRA	<input type="checkbox"/> PWD	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
Region:						
Forest:						
District:						
Series:						
Grade:						
Position Title:						

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

<p><b>Person with Disabilities</b> (A non-competitive hiring authority for hiring persons with physical or mental disabilities certified by the Veterans Administration or a State Rehabilitation Agency as eligible. Initial appointment is into an excepted-service term or temporary position. Upon successful completion of a 2 year trainee period, non-competitive conversion to a career or career-conditional permanent appointment is possible. (Schedule A Authority))</p>	
<p><b>Veterans Recruitment Act</b> (A non-competitive authority for hiring disabled veterans, veterans who served in a declared war, or in a campaign for which a campaign badge has been authorized, or awarded a Armed Forces Service Medal, and separated from active duty in the past 3 yrs. Initial appointment (up to the GS-11 level) is to a VRA excepted-service appointment with the possibility of non-competitive conversion to a career permanent position after a 2 year period.)</p>	

<p><b>Disabled Veterans W/30% Compensable Disability</b> (A non-competitive authority for hiring (1) disabled veterans who were retired from active military service with a 30% or more disability rating or (2) disabled veterans rated by the Veterans Affairs as having a compensable service-connected disability of 30% or more. Initial appointments are time-limited, lasting more than 60 days (there is no grade restriction). However, the appointee can be non-competitively converted to permanent status at any time during the time-limited appointment.)</p>	
<p><b>Veterans Employment Opportunities Act of 1998</b> (Allows eligible veterans to apply for merit promotion vacancies otherwise not open to external candidates without career status. Veterans are not accorded preference as a factor; if selected the VEOA eligible is placed in a career or career-conditional appointment.)</p>	
<p><b>Former Peace Corps Volunteer</b> (A non-competitive authority for hiring former Peace Corp volunteers who have satisfactorily completed 3 years of continuous service into career or career-conditional permanent positions. Former volunteers are eligible up to 3 years after their separation from the Peace Corp.)</p>	
<p><b>Pathways Recent Graduate Program</b> (A competitive authority for hiring recent graduates from qualifying educational institutions. To be eligible, applicants must apply within two years of degree or certificate completion (except for veterans precluded from doing so due to their military service obligation, who have up to six years after degree completion to apply).</p>	
<p><b>Other (Identify)</b></p>	

Provide a brief summary of your qualifications for this position:

**Return your completed Outreach Notice form** via email to John Shannon by **February 27, 2015**

Email:	<a href="mailto:jtshannon@fs.fed.us">jtshannon@fs.fed.us</a>
Subject:	CFO Group Leader

Respondents to this outreach will be informed by email when the vacancy is announced on [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov).



**OUTREACH NOTICE RESPONSE FORM**  
GS-401-7/9 Biological Scientist (18/8)  
**PNW-FIA Field Crew Leader/Gear/Fleet/Safety Liaison**  
**Pacific Northwest Research Station, Resource Monitoring and Assessment Program**  
**Forest Inventory and Analysis**  
**Anchorage, Alaska**

**PLEASE SUBMIT BY March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

If you are interested in this position and want to receive a notice when the Vacancy Announcement is posted, please complete this form and send it, along with a resume (optional), to: Dan Irvine, [danielirvine@fs.fed.us](mailto:danielirvine@fs.fed.us) or 161 East 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Door 8, Anchorage, AK, 99501. Electronic submissions are preferred. These positions will be advertised on the OPM USAJobs website [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov).

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

**If you are currently employed by the Federal Government:**

WHAT AGENCY ARE YOU EMPLOYED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF APPOINTMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

PERMANENT \_\_\_\_\_ TEMPORARY \_\_\_\_\_ TERM \_\_\_\_\_ OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

**If employed by the Forest Service:**

WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT REGION/FOREST/DISTRICT/STATION? \_\_\_\_\_

CURRENT SERIES AND GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_

CURRENT POSITION TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

**If you are not currently a Federal Employee:**

CURRENT EMPLOYER: \_\_\_\_\_

**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 Recruitment Act                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student Employment Program              | <input type="checkbox"/> Reinstatement Eligibility                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran with 30% Compensable Disability | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____                                    |