

Forest Health Monitoring Program Monthly Update March 2015

WHAT'S NEW

The Forest Health Monitoring (FHM) Program is planning a first ever Virtual FHM Workgroup Session on April 21, 2015. Because 2015 is not a year for a regular FHM Workgroup Meeting, the virtual session is intended to maintain contact within the FHM community and foster sharing of and discussion about on-going forest health research. Please see the listing about the virtual session in the *Upcoming Events* section.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

March 30-April 2, 2015. Santa Fe, NM. The Western Forest Insect Work Conference (WFIWC). The theme of the 66th 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 10:00 A.M. -5 P.M. EDT (tentative). Please mark your calendars and join us for some exciting topics and interactive technology sessions. Sessions will include: (1) National FHM update; (2) A tablet near you – changing the way aerial and ground surveys/monitoring is conducted; (3) Near real time monitoring and planning via the web – successes and limitations; (4) Supplementing aerial surveys with operational remote sensing; (5) Where did all my data go? Streamlining the distribution of survey and monitoring data and supporting Forest Action Plans. Connection and other logistical information will follow in a supplement to the March Monthly Update.

July 21-24, 2015. Fayetteville, AR. EARLY ALERT! The 57th 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 5th International Workshop on the Genetics of Tree-Parasite Interactions. The call for abstracts is open and the deadline for submission is **04/01/2015**. The deadline for early bird registration is **04/15/2015**. To help the organizers with this event AND if you are considering attending the meeting but still waiting for money/approval, **please create a user account** on the conference's website. Creating a user account on the website does not imply registration to the conference or abstract submission, it is just a way to let organizers know that there is a fair probability that you will come. **To create your user account, just click [on this link](#)**, (if the link does not work, go to the conference website <https://colloque.inra.fr/tree-parasite-interactions2015> and you will find a link in the "Abstract submission" section. Although the link states "I want to create an account to submit" you will not be forced to submit an abstract once your account is created.) 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), Jen Beck (Jen_Beck@nps.gov) or Richard Sniezko (rsniezko@fs.fed.us).

***November 3-7, 2015.** Baton Rouge, LA. Society of American Foresters 2015 National Convention. The theme of the convention is *Recreating Forestry: The Confluence of Science, Society, and Technology*. The 2015 call for presentations is currently posted. The deadline for presentation submissions is **March 31, 2015**. The deadline for poster submissions is **September 30, 2015**. For complete information about the convention, visit the [Society of American Foresters convention website](#).

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 12th 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 were due March 11, 2015. Please send submissions to 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).

UPCOMING WEBINARS

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

***Learn at Lunch Live Webinar: Bird Friendly Tree and Shrub Pruning and Removal** (Sponsored by the Utah State University Forestry Extension and Utah Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands) Speakers: Janice H. Gardner, Great Salt Lake Audubon Volunteer and Biologist for Ecology and Environment Inc. and Melissa Burns, Ecologist and Migratory Bird Coordinator for the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Utah Ecological Services Field Office. Do you know your responsibilities to protect birds under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act? Melissa Burns of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Janice Gardner of Great Salt Lake Audubon and an environmental consultant, will discuss how both private and public personnel can avoid "take" of birds during tree trimming, brush removal, and other habitat-altering projects. The webinar will use case studies to discuss basic bird biology, how birds are impacted, and project planning as it relates to professionals in the tree care and forestry industry. No registration required for the webinar! CEUs are available from the following organizations: International Society of Arboriculture, and Society of American Foresters. This webinar will be conducted at **12:00 p.m. (MST) on March 24, 2015**. To access this free webinar, visit [the webinar information site](#) for more details. Plan to access the site a few minutes early.

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) directly after Jan. 26 to make accommodations. Before Jan. 26, please contact Brenna Schwert (bmschwert@fs.fed.us) to ensure you can register for the classes you want.**

- [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 18th, 2015**. [Click here to register or for additional information.](#)

Job Opportunities

The U.S. Forest Service, Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, will soon be advertising one permanent full-time Forest Pathologist, GS-434-12/13 position located at the Forestry Sciences Lab in Wenatchee, Washington. The response to this outreach will determine how the position will be advertised. The incumbent serves as a Forest Pathologist for the Wenatchee Forest Insect and Disease Service Center. The team also includes one GS-13 and one GS-11 Forest Entomologist, one GS-9/11 Forest Pathologist, and one GS-9 technician/GIS specialist. Those who are interested must meet the qualification requirements for the listed series that is covered by the Technical and Medical Support standards. Basic requirements can be found on the Office of Personnel Management website, [Group Coverage Qualifications Standards for Professional and Scientific Positions](#). Requirements specific to the occupational series are also on the OPM website, [Individual Occupational Requirements for the Plant Pathology Series](#). If you are interested in applying for this position, please respond on the Outreach Notice Form (attached to this Update as attachment 1) by **April 6, 2015**. If you are interested in this position and would like more information, please contact Forest Entomologist Darci Dickinson at email darcimdickinson@fs.fed.us. *The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202)720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST

1. **Coleman, Tom W.; Grulke, Nancy E.; Daly, Miles; Godinez, Cesar; Schilling, Susan L.; Riggan, Philip J.; Seybold, Steven J.** 2011. Coast Live Oak, *Quercus agrifolia*, susceptibility and response to goldspotted

oak borer, *Agrilus auroguttatus*, injury in southern California. Forest Ecology and Management. 261 (11): 1852-1865

2. **Hansen, E. Matthew; Amacher, Michael C.; Van Miegroet, Helga; Long, James N.; Ryan, Michael G.** 2015. Carbon dynamics in central US Rockies lodgepole pine type after mountain pine beetle outbreaks. Forest Science. Fast track article. First published online January 30, 2015.
3. **Monleon, Vicente J.; Lintz, Heather E.** 2015. Evidence of tree species' range shifts in a complex landscape. Plos one. January 29, 2015. DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0118069.

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

Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest

Send your response form by **April 6, 2015** to Darci Dickinson - by email, fax, or mail
email : darcimdickinson@fs.fed.us
fax: 509-665-8362 (please also phone 509-664-1724 or email to notify of fax transmission)
address: Forestry Sciences Lab
Attn: Darci Dickinson
1133 N. Western Ave.
Wenatchee WA 98801

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: _____

Internet Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Are you currently a Federal Employee? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, name of Agency _____

Current Duty

Location: _____

Current Position

(title/series/grade): _____

Current type of appointment: Permanent _____ Temporary _____

If no, Current Position: _____

Current Location: _____

Name of Current Employer _____

Eligible for Other Hiring Authority (check one), such as:

30% Disabled Vet _____ Reinstatement Eligible _____ Peace Corps _____

Handicap Authority _____ Other (describe) _____

Thank you for your interest in our vacancy!