

Forest Health Monitoring Program Monthly Update - Supplement October 25, 2016

Job Opportunities

The U.S. Forest Service Northeastern Area, State and Private Forestry, St. Paul Field Office, anticipates filling a permanent, full-time GS-414-11/12 pathology position. The position is located at the St. Paul Field Office in St. Paul, MN. If you are interested in this position please respond by **October 28, 2016**, because the responses to this outreach notice will help managers decide how to advertise this position. If you are interested in this position, use this [link](#) and click on the respond button, fill out the requested information and click on the submit response button. Note of Clarification: the Position Description for this job indicates it is part of a Regional organization. The Northeastern Area organization is unique. Therefore, some differences apply. Specific information about the Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry can be found on [the Northeastern Area web site](#). This is a pathologist position and the individual serves as a member of a team of entomologists, pathologists and a forester that reports to the Forest Health Group Leader. This position includes the following duties: plan, coordinate and conduct disease detection, evaluation, prevention and suppression projects for native and non-native pathogens; provide site-specific technical assistance to land managers concerning forest pathogens, including the development of pest management recommendations and alternatives to reduce pest impacts; organize, plan and conduct forest disease related training programs, presentations, or seminars for various Federal, State, and private land managers; plan, organize and conduct pilot projects and field tests to determine the value of new technologies to detect, evaluate or manage forest pathogens; and coordinate with researchers on new findings and transfer this information to resource managers. The St. Paul Field Office is one of three Field Offices of the [Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry](#). The field office delivers both forest health and forest management programs (stewardship, watershed, urban/community forestry) to seven mid-western states. The Forest Health staff also provides assistance to ten National Forests, one national tall grass prairie, and other federal sites managed by the National Park Service, Department of Defense, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service. The large diverse geographic area is part of the challenge and the excitement of working in a productive and highly regarded State and Private Forestry unit. Forests within the Field Office area vary from northern boreal forests to southern hardwoods. Early detection and response to non-native insect and disease invasive species, cooperative pest detection surveys, urban forest health, and invasive plants are part of the workload in the Northeastern Area. Some examples of forest and shade tree pathology and entomology issues

occurring within the St. Paul Field Office are: beech bark disease, oak wilt, *Heterobasidion* root disease, numerous declines, bur oak blight, gypsy moth, spruce budworm, forest tent caterpillar, emerald ash borer, and hemlock woolly adelgid, as well as detection and survey efforts for walnut twig beetle and exotic/introduced bark beetles. The following [link](#) connects to a document that provides the basic requirements to qualify for the various grade levels in the professional and scientific series. These qualifications for a pathologist can be met through a combination of education and experience. To express interest in this position please respond directly through the hiring notice. This will ensure that the hiring manager receives your response. If you need additional information please contact Michael Connor; by email mconnor@fs.fed.us or by phone (651)-649-5180. When this job is announced the vacancy announcement for this position will be posted on the U.S. Government's official website for employment opportunities at: [USAJobs](#). Once the announcement is posted, all who responded to the outreach notice will be contacted by email to let you know the vacancy announcement number so individuals who are interested in this position can submit their applications. *USDA is an Equal Employment Opportunity Provider and Employer.*

The U.S. Forest Service Northeastern Area, State and Private

Forestry, St. Paul Field Office, anticipates filling a permanent, full-time GS-0414 (Entomologist) or 0434 (Pathologist) -13 Group Leader, Forest Health position. The position is located at the St. Paul Field Office in St. Paul, MN. If you are interested in this position please respond by **October 28, 2016** because the responses to this outreach notice will help managers decide how to advertise this position. Note of Clarification: the Position Description for this job indicates it is part of a Regional organization. The Northeastern Area organization is unique. Therefore, some differences apply. Specific information about the Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry can be found on the [web page](#). The Forest Health Group Leader is responsible for supervising a team of Forest Entomologists, Pathologists and a Forester and coordinating all aspects of the Forest Health program for the St. Paul Field Office. The St. Paul Field Office is one of three Field Offices within [the Northeastern Area, State and Private Forestry](#). The field office delivers both forest health and forest management programs (stewardship, watershed, urban/community forestry) to seven mid-western states. The Forest Health staff provides assistance to ten National Forests, one national tall grass prairie, and other federal sites managed by the National Park Service, Department of Defense, and the US Fish and Wildlife. Approximately 75% of the federally managed land within the Northeastern Area is located within the St. Paul Field Office. The office conducts annual insect and disease aerial surveys on about 18 million acres of federal lands, gypsy moth treatments on approximately 250,000 acres, and provides financial assistance through oversight of approximately 50 forest health grants/year. Forests within the Field Office area vary from northern boreal forests to southern hardwoods. Early detection and response to non-native insect and disease invasive species, cooperative pest detection surveys, urban forest health, and

invasive plants are part of the workload in the Northeastern Area. Some examples of the major complex of forest and shade tree entomology and pathology issues occurring within the St. Paul Field Office are beech bark disease, oak wilt, *Heterobasidion* root disease, numerous declines, gypsy moth, spruce budworm, forest tent caterpillar, emerald ash borer, and hemlock woolly adelgid, as well as detection and survey efforts for walnut twig beetle and exotic/introduced bark beetles. Responsibilities include development of forest health program direction in conjunction with Field Office and Northeastern Area staff. Following are some of the specific aspects of program implementation:

- Program delivery of technical assistance to state and federal resource managers. This includes oversight and budget management for insect and disease detection surveys (including aerial surveys), evaluations and recommendations to minimize impacts of insect and disease outbreaks, implementation of prevention and suppression projects, development of environmental analyses, and provision of training sessions.
- Coordination of the 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 responsibility 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.
- Development and monitoring of forest health related grants in the St. Paul Field Office, planning, budgeting and management of information to identify 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.
- Coordination with researchers to identify new findings and transfer this information to resource managers.
- Travel and occasional field work are required to accomplish these tasks. The Group Leader is responsible for promoting a culture of safety and facilitating safe practices for the Field Office's forest health work.

The following [link](#) connects to a document that provides the basic requirements to qualify for the various grade levels in the professional and scientific series. These qualifications for an entomologist or pathologist can be met through a combination of education and experience. To express interest in this position please respond by directly through the Outreach system at this [link](#). This will ensure that the hiring manager receives your response. If you need additional information please contact Michael Connor, Forest Health Group Leader or Carleen Yocum, Field Representative; by email mconnor@fs.fed.us, cyocum@fs.fed.us or by phone (651) 649-5180, (651) 649-5276,

respectively. When this job is announced the vacancy announcement for this position will be posted on the U.S. Government's official website for employment opportunities at [USAJobs](#). Once the announcement is posted, all who responded to the outreach notice will be contacted by email to let you know the vacancy announcement number so individuals who are interested in this position can submit their applications. *USDA is an Equal Employment Opportunity Provider and Employer.*

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