

# Forest Health Monitoring Program Monthly Update December 2019

## WHAT'S NEW

**Get to know FHM.** This month get to know some highlights from the FHM program in 2019. The FHM Management Team and the FHM Working Group Meeting planning team worked hard planning the 2020 national workshop to be held February 25-27, 2020 in Raleigh, NC. See the listing under the Upcoming Events section for more information about this mission operational event. The 2018 survey data were compiled and analyzed. In the 2018 highlights of tree mortality and other damage from insects and diseases, seven forest types stood out because of acute or continuing concerns about mortality: eastern oak, pine, ash, western firs, spruce, and 'Ōhi'a. More information is available on the [Forest Health Assessment and Applied Sciences Team website](#). The Forest Health Highlights were compiled by State across the U.S. and made available to each State. The [Forest Health Monitoring: National Status, Trends, and Analysis 2018](#) was published. The Forest Health Monitoring: National Status, Trends, and Analysis 2019 was drafted and a draft copy will be available on the [FHM publications web page](#) soon. The FHM Program's Management Team and all program participants and partners look forward to another successful year in 2020.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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

**\*SAVE THE DATE! February 25-27, 2020.** Raleigh, North Carolina. **The National Forest Health Monitoring (FHM) Workshop.** To be held at the Nature Research Center at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences in downtown Raleigh, NC. This will be a working meeting that will draw State and Federal cooperators together to discuss forest health issues and make recommendations about the future direction of the FHM Program. The focus of the workshop will be on integrating State, academic, and Federal partners in the FHM Program. The official invitation letter, which includes the lodging and other travel information, and the draft agenda are now available on the [workshop webpage](#). Please check the site periodically for updated information. You may also contact Chris Asaro (FHM South Regional Program Manager) at [christopher.asaro@usda.gov](mailto:christopher.asaro@usda.gov) or 404-347-2718 with questions.

**January 8-10, 2020.** Valparaiso, Chile. 2020 World Conference on Natural Resource Modeling. This conference is organized annually by the Resource Modelling Association and brings together scientists, stakeholders, and students interested in mathematical modeling of renewable and exhaustible resources. The theme of the 2010 conference is *Decision support methods for natural systems at risk*. Early registration was open until November 29, 2019. The



deadline for abstracts was October 15, 2019. For complete information, visit the [conference web site](#).

## **UPCOMING** **WEBINARS**

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

\*Webinars and other information from **The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine study, *The Potential for Biotechnology to Address Forest Health***, are posted on the [study web site](#). Visit the web site for more information.

\*Webinars and other information about **Citizen Science and the U.S. Forest Service** are posted on the [Citizen Science web site](#). Visit the web site for more information.

\***December 17, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. Eastern time. What are Forestry Contribution Reports? Making Sense of the Terms and Numbers in Economic Contribution Reports.** (Sponsored by North Carolina State University Extension Forestry, Mississippi State University Extension, Louisiana Tech University, Southern Region Extension Forestry) Speakers: Dr. Rajan Parajuli (Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist, North Carolina State University), Dr. Shaun Tanger (Assistant Professor, Mississippi State University), and Dr. Eric McConnell (Assistant Professor Louisiana Tech University). Economic contribution reports vary widely in the scope of the forest sector, IMPLAN modeling, results presentation and interpretation. This webinar covers practical guidelines for report users to better understand the terms and numbers in those reports, so that they can communicate the economic importance of the forest sector to their clientele. Specifically, the speakers will discuss the terminology of input-output modeling, aspects of IMPLAN software and modeling, and interpretation of numbers in the reports. Pre-registration is not required! CEU available: Georgia Master Timber Harvester - Continuing Logger Ed. (GaMTH CLE) - 1 hour CLE - MTH Category B Credit; Certificate of Participation, CEU credits applied for: New York Logger Training - Trained Logger Certification (NYLT-TLC) - .25 hour NYLT TLC Credit; Society of American Foresters - Certified Forester Education (SAF-CFE) - 1 hour Category 1 Credit. Plan to [join the webinar](#) 15 minutes early.

\***Webinars offered by the U.S Forest Service Geospatial Technology and Applications Center (GTAC)** include three varieties. The lightning talks (**Lightning Talk**) are very short presentations that will last approximately 15-30 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 geospatial tasks. The courses are also divided into five categories. The

categories are indicated after each web link in the list below as follows: **GIS-Desktop; GIS-Web; GIS-Mobile; Remote Sensing; and Data management.**

All class registrations can be accessed via the [CATALOG WEBPAGE](#).

**Note: If you don't have access to the Forest Service Intranet, the registration links will not work. Please email what class you want to take to ([SM.FS.geotraining@usda.gov](mailto:SM.FS.geotraining@usda.gov)) and they will register you manually.**

- **December 10, 2019 at 10:00am – 4:00pm (Mountain Time). ArcGIS Pro for ArcMap Users (Technical - GIS-Desktop) **Forest Service Only**** \*\*USFS organizational account for AGOL and ArcGIS Pro required, see other info for more details\*\* This course is designed as a crosswalk between using ArcGIS Desktop and ArcGIS Pro. This course provides a hands on introduction to participants of Pro's new user interface and project management. Participants will walk through common workflows previously performed in ArcMap/Catalog such as navigation, editing, analysis, sharing, symbolizing, creating a layout, geoprocessing, importing maps and data, and querying. ArcGIS Pro is a projects based application. A project contains maps, layouts, layers, tables, tasks, tools, and connections to servers, databases, folders, and styles. Projects can also incorporate content from your organization's Portal or ArcGIS Online accounts.
- **December 11, 2019 at 10:00am – 4:00pm (Mountain Time). ArcGIS 10.5 – Editing (Technical - GIS-Desktop)** This class demonstrates editing environment in ArcMap. You will be exposed to the new editing environment. The course covers editing attribute data, performing spatial edits, and creating new data (digitizing). The hands-on exercises teach basic editing functionality. The objective of the course is for students to be able to edit values from the table window, edit values outside of an edit session, edit values from the attributes dialog window, create a frequency table, prepare the edit environment, point edits, line edits, polygon edits, use map topology, create a geodatabase, create a feature class, populate a feature class with records derived from digitizing, create and populate user defined attribute fields for a feature class, and populate them with the calculate geometry function.
- **December 11, 2019 at 10:00am – 11:30am (Mountain Time). Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS's) for Resource Applications (Lightning Talk - Remote Sensing).**
- **December 12, 2019 at 10:00am – 4:00pm (Mountain Time). ArcGIS 10.5 – Advanced Editing (Technical - GIS-Desktop)** Participants will learn how to work with the Advanced Editing Toolbar in ArcMap; practice using geodatabase topology to find and fix errors; and automate editing through a vertical integration tool that aligns Forest Service data with existing reference data. The objective of this course is to learn to use the specified tools available within ArcMap to more efficiently and accurately edit GIS data.

- December 16, 2019 at 10:00am – 4:00pm (Mountain Time).**  
**Introduction to ArcGIS Online (Technical - GIS-Web) Forest Service Only** This course covers the basics of using ArcGIS Online (AGOL). Students will learn how to make a map in AGOL, how to work in groups, what roles are, and then how to take a map offline to use in a mobile app like collector. Finally we will create a web app to view our completed map. The objectives of this course are to understand the role of ArcGIS Online as a component of the US Forest Service's implementation of web-based services; and to gain an understanding of the administration of ArcGIS Online, publishing of map services, and the process to create web maps and web applications that we can share with others. \*\*Note: This is not an introductory course for ArcGIS Desktop. If you are interested in an introductory training in ArcGIS, please see our ArcGIS 10.3 Quick Start course
- December 17, 2019 at 10:00am – 4:00pm (Mountain Time).** **Collector for ArcGIS in the Forest Service (Technical - GIS-Mobile) Forest Service Only** This introductory webinar covers GPS data collection using the Collector app on a tablet or cell phone. The GIS data and online map setup for Collector are also introduced.
- December 18, 2019 at 10:00am – 4:00pm (Mountain Time).**  
**Intermediate ArcGIS Online (Technical - GIS-Web) Forest Service Only** \*\*US Forest Service organizational account for AGOL required, see other information listed in catalog for more details\*\* A general understanding of ArcGIS Online (AGOL) and ArcMap is assumed for this course. This course will look at some of the more advanced options available in AGOL A closer look at map and feature services will be explored. An examination and exploration of the Living Atlas will be conducted. Lastly, an overview of the analysis tools and geocoding will be covered. The objective of this course is to expose users to the breadth of AGOL and improve their skill set to utilize AGOL as an additional GIS tool.
- December 19, 2019 at 10:00am – 4:00pm (Mountain Time).** **Survey123 Form Creation, an Introduction (Technical - GIS-Mobile) Forest Service Only.** What is Survey123? Part of the ESRI Geospatial Cloud, Survey123 for ArcGIS is a complete, form-centric solution for creating, sharing, and analyzing surveys. Use it to create smart forms with skip logic, defaults, and support for multiple languages. Collect data via web or mobile devices, even when disconnected from the Internet. Analyze results quickly, and upload data securely for further analysis. This webinar introduces the Survey123 App and the tools used to create forms. Come explore this data collection workflow and see if it is the right tool for your project. The objective of this course is to build and publish survey forms for use in the Survey123 field app. The Survey123 website and Survey 123 Connect for desktop will be used to create simple smart forms with drop down lists.
- December 20, 2019 at 10:00am – 10:30am (Mountain Time).** **ArcGIS Online Dashboard App Lightning Talk (Lightning Talk - GIS-Web) A**

dashboard is a view of geographic information that helps you monitor events or activities. Dashboards are designed to display multiple visualizations that work together on a single screen. They offer a comprehensive and engaging view of your data to provide key insight for at-a-glance decision-making. This lightning talk will introduce you to what a dashboard is and how to design and create one. We will look at dashboard examples and demonstrate how to create and use a dashboard.

- **December 20, 2019 at 11:00am – 12:00pm (Mountain Time). Get Your Message Out with Story Maps (Lightning Talk - GIS-Web)** The Story Maps platform has become a go-to solution for creating immersive narrative-based presentations and reports. In this lightning talk, we will go over how to create vibrant, multi-media Story Maps. Topics covered include how to create a story map using the interactive builder, how to add multi-media content, how to create narrative text, and how to effectively summarize a project using a Story Map. The objective of this course is to learn how to effectively use story maps to create engaging presentations and project summaries.

## Job Opportunities

**The U.S. Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Region (R2), State and Private Forestry** anticipates filling the Assistant Director of State & Private Forestry and Tribal Relations (GS-0401-14) position. They are looking for a motivated individual who can help them build collaborative solutions to large-scale forest management issues across federal, state, and private lands. The Rocky Mountain Region will be filling the Assistant Director for State & Private Forestry and Tribal Relations Position permanently – estimated to be spring 2020. They are currently outreaching this position to determine interest in the permanent vacancy and detail/temporary promotion for up to 120 days. The detail/temporary promotion is expected to begin in February 2020. Response deadline to this outreach is **January 2, 2020**. This position is located in the Rocky Mountain Region Office, Lakewood, CO, with State and Private Forestry and Tribal Relations (SPFTR). Incumbent serves as the Group Leader for Forest Health Protection (FHP) and assists with Coop Forestry and Tribal Relations Programs within SPFTR. The incumbent is responsible for assisting with program leadership and management across the Rocky Mountain Region's five states for forest health, cooperative forestry, and tribal relations programs. Primary duties of the position include providing technical forest health advice to Regional leadership and overall direction to the Region's FHP program and integration with Renewable Resources, Fire/Fuels, Recreation and other program areas to address forest health priorities. The Assistant Director communicates with National Forest Health Leadership and leads efforts to promote and implement forest health initiatives with internal and external partners to prevent, control, or suppress potential, threatening or emerging native and non-native insects, diseases and invasive plants. The position is responsible for direct supervision of 6 Forest Health Protection permanent employees and second-line supervision for approximately 15 employees. Forest

Health Protection staff includes specialists in forest entomology, forest pathology, and aerial survey. If you are interested in the position, please provide a response to the Outreach (submit the form attached to this Update as Attachment 1 or complete in the [electronic outreach system](#)) and submit a resume to Sylvia Bierman, Acting Director of State & Private Forestry and Tribal Relations, at [sylvia.bierman@usda.gov](mailto:sylvia.bierman@usda.gov) by **January 2, 2020**. If you would like additional information on this position, please contact Sylvia Bierman – Acting Director, State & Private Forestry and Tribal Relations, at 303-275-5750 or [sylvia.bierman@usda.gov](mailto:sylvia.bierman@usda.gov). *USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

The Nebraska Forest Service is currently advertising the position of Community Landscape and Forest Health Bureau Chief. The description of work follows. Responsibilities include administering and leading the Urban and Community Forestry and Forest Health Programs; providing statewide leadership in developing and implementing programs to improve Nebraska's forests and trees; working with state, federal, local officials and stakeholders including commercial arborists and landscape professional to accomplish program goals and objectives. General description of the position:

- Serve as Nebraska Forest Service (NFS) Leader, providing strong leadership by ensuring an inclusive culture within the NFS (specifically in the community forestry (UCF) and forest health (FH) programs) that appreciates and recognizes all contributions to the team, encourages collaboration and innovation, and engages the abilities of all to fully realize the potential of the team, and of each team member.
- Supervise NFS staff and seasonal employees related to community forestry and forest health programs in Nebraska.
- Administer, develop and manage NFS UCF and FH forestry grant programs. Moreover, managing financial resources responsibly to maximize the effectiveness of those resources, exhibiting fiscal discipline and utilizing best fiscal management practices.
- Actively seek external funding for program/project implementation.
- Assist with synthesizing a vision for the NFS with input from faculty, staff, and stakeholders that encompasses all programs within the NFS, seeks and deploys personnel and financial resources strategically, and is continuously examined for relevancy and refreshed as needed.

For a description of specific duties, minimum required qualifications, preferred qualifications and instructions about how to apply, see the [posted position description](#). (<https://employment.unl.edu/postings/67660>). Application review will begin on **01/13/2020**. *As an EO/AA employer, qualified applicants are considered for employment without regard to race, color, ethnicity, national origin, sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, marital status, and/or political affiliation. See <http://www.unl.edu/equity/notice-nondiscrimination>.*

**PUBLICATIONS**  
**OF INTEREST**

1. **Rogers, Paul C.; Šebesta, Jan.** 2019. Past management spurs differential plant communities within a giant single-clone aspen forest. *Forests*. 10(12), 1118. Available online [online](https://doi.org/10.3390/f10121118). (<https://doi.org/10.3390/f10121118>)
2. **Snieszko, Richard A.; Johnson, Jeremy S.; Reeser, Paul; Kegley, Angelia; Hansen, Everett M.; Sutton, Wendy; Savin, Douglas P.** 2019. Genetic resistance to *Phytophthora lateralis* in Port-Orford-cedar (*Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*) – basic building blocks for a resistance program. *Plants, People, Planet*. 2019; 00: 1-15. Available [online](https://nph.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1002/ppp3.10081). (<https://nph.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1002/ppp3.10081>)

**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

Rocky Mountain Region (R2)  
State and Private Forestry and Tribal Relations,  
**Assistant Director of State & Private Forestry and Tribal Relations**  
GS-0401-14

**Please reply by January 2, 2020 to: Sylvia Bierman**  
[sylvia.bierman@usda.gov](mailto:sylvia.bierman@usda.gov)

**Interest in:**

- NTE 120 Day Temporary Promotion/Detail
- Permanent Position
- Both

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 TELEPHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_  
 AGENCY EMPLOYED WITH:  USFS  BLM  OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_  
 TYPE OF APPOINTMENT *IF* CURRENT GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE:  
 PERM  TEMP  TERM  VRA  PWD  OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CURRENT REGION/FOREST/DISTRICT (IF APPLICABLE): \_\_\_\_\_  
 CURRENT SERIES AND GRADE (IF APPLICABLE): \_\_\_\_\_  
 CURRENT POSITION TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

**IF NOT A CURRENT PERMANENT EMPLOYEE, ARE YOU ELIGIBLE TO BE HIRED UNDER ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL AUTHORITIES?**

- PERSON WITH DISABILITIES
- VETERANS READJUSTMENT
- DISABLED VETERANS W/30% COMPENSABLE DISABILITY
- VETERANS EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES ACT OF 1998
- FORMER PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER
- STUDENT CAREER EXPERIENCE PROGRAM
- OTHER (SPECIFY): \_\_\_\_\_

**Please provide a short narrative addressing your interest and qualifications relevant to this position and attach a supporting resume to include relevant training, certifications, experience and references:**

