
Forest Health Monitoring Program
September Monthly Update
September 7, 2007

Recent Happenings

Doug Daoust, Director of the U.S. Forest Service Forest Health Protection Region 6, is pleased to announce that James D. Cathcart, PhD, currently with the Oregon Department of Forestry, has accepted the permanent position of Forest Health Analyst in Portland, Oregon. Jim will start work on October 15, 2007. Jim comes to Region 6 as both a scientist and a forester, with very diverse experience and good client sensitivity, including work with forest health specialists, forest landowners and tribes. He is very professionally involved including the Society of American Foresters, and has extensive writing, analysis and publication experience. Jim's former federal experience includes Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Forest Inventory and Analysis, Department of the Army, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). We look forward to working with Jim.

The Forest Health Monitoring program is requesting proposals for Fiscal Year 2008 Evaluation Monitoring projects. Evaluation Monitoring is a component of the Forest Health Monitoring program designed to determine the extent, severity, and causes of undesirable changes in forest health. We are also requesting proposals for Fiscal Year 2008 Intensive Site Monitoring (ISM) Projects. Intensive Site Monitoring is a component of the Forest Health Monitoring program designed to conduct rigorous evaluations of cause and effect relationships by establishing thresholds for indicators of forest health, by investigating strategies for prevention and mitigation of forest health problems, and by linking to studies on the fundamental processes that shape ecosystems. Proposals for Evaluation Monitoring and Intensive Site Monitoring Projects should be submitted by **September 28, 2007** to the FHM Regional Managers or designated person in the region: Jim Steinman for North East FHM Region (jsteinman@fs.fed.us), Manfred Mielke for North Central FHM Region (mmielke@fs.fed.us), Dale Starkey for Southern FHM Region (dstarkey@fs.fed.us), Jeri Lyn Harris for Interior West FHM Region (jharris@fs.fed.us), or Alison Nelson for West Coast FHM Region (asnelson@fs.fed.us). Please see additional instructions posted on the FHM website at: <http://fhm.fs.fed.us>.

Upcoming Events (items beginning with * indicate a new listing or new information added)

* February 11 – February 14, 2007. San Antonio, TX. **Mark your calendars** for the 14th Annual Forest Health Monitoring Work Group Meeting to be held at the St. Anthony Hotel, in downtown San Antonio. The Chair of this year's Meeting Planning Committee is Michael Bohne (USDA Forest Service, Forest Health Protection, R5) (mbohne@fs.fed.us). More details regarding this meeting will be included in future Updates.

November 5-7, 2007. Montpellier, in southern France. The ForestSat'07 conference. This conference is intended to bring together remote sensing and geographic information specialists with foresters and other forest stakeholders to foster exchanges towards an operational and fruitful use of remote sensing techniques and products for forest applications. Previous conferences were ForestSat'03 held in Edinburgh, Scotland, and ForestSat'05 held in Boras, Sweden. Papers are expected on topics related to the development of remote sensing methods (mapping, assessment of biophysical parameters, change detection), and applications of remote sensing to forest resources assessment and indicators of sustainable management; forest functioning and carbon cycle; monitoring of the impacts of global change; landscape ecology; biodiversity. For more information including important dates, visit the ForestSat'07 conference home page at <http://forestsat07.teledetection.fr>.

Job Announcements

Illinois Forest Health Specialist Position Advertisement. The main responsibilities of the position are to: administer and coordinate the implementation of statewide forest health survey, monitoring, and evaluation activities; provide statewide leadership for invasive forest insects and pathogens; provide technical expertise for the DNR on interagency task forces and committees related to forest health and invasive species issues.

Job Duties: provide forest health and technical assistance on forest health problems to DNR foresters, other public land managers, and private landowners; conduct detection and evaluation surveys, and evaluate impacts due to infestations; recommend ecologically sound integrated pest management options; evaluate susceptibility of forest stands to injury by insects, pathogens, and abiotic stresses for the purposes of prevention, suppression, or other treatments; conduct pest management training programs; disseminate forest pest management information; coordinate with field personnel to evaluate and manage forest insect and pathogens; serve as contact and lead for exotic invasive insects, pathogens, and other pests (i.e., emerald ash borer, gypsy moth, SOD, garlic mustard). Must have or be able to obtain: knowledge of the major forest pests including their biology and management; knowledge of forest management including ground and aerial survey procedures; knowledge of equipment and techniques for determining pest distribution and loss assessment; effective interpersonal relationship skills; self-motivated but works effectively on teams; skill in effective oral and written communication; Illinois drivers license; Illinois pesticide applicator license. This position gets program direction and supervision from Illinois DNR forestry; however, the position is directly employed by the Southwestern Illinois RC&D Inc. Starting salary is approximately \$41,000 (plus benefits), commensurate with experience. This is a 1-year position, renewable yearly, dependent on funding. Frequent travel is expected. For additional information related to this position, contact Tom Wilson at 618-498-1627 or tom.wilson@illinois.gov. To apply, send resume, references, and supporting materials to Dave Eustis, Southwestern Illinois RC&D Inc., 406 East Main Street, Mascoutah, IL, 62258 or dave.eustis@rcdnet.net. Applications are due by **September 14, 2007**.

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