

Bark Beetle Technical Working Group Meeting

October, 16-19, 2012

Boise National Forest, Sunset Mountain Room

1249 Vinnell Way, Ste 200

Boise, Idaho

Greetings! This meeting now has Regional Forester approval, and is no longer “Tentative”. Please review the draft [agenda](#) for the 2012 BBTWG meeting in Boise, ID. If you have agenda items that you would like added, changed, or removed, please let Carl Jorgensen know (see contact information below). If you plan on attending, please let Carl know so he can have the room set up appropriately for correct number of people.

The annual BBTWG meeting will be at the Boise National Forest Supervisor’s Office in the Sunset Mountain Room. The BNF SO is on the second floor above Social Security at 1249 Vinnell Way, Ste 200, Boise, ID 83709.

A block of rooms are being held at the nearby Oxford Suites – 1426 S. Entertainment Ave., Boise, Idaho 83709 – 208-322-8000; <http://www.oxfordsuitesboise.com/>. This hotel is a short walk across the Lowes and Wal-Mart parking lots. Let me know if you need alternative arrangements from the hotel to the meeting site. We have reserved 15 guest rooms for nights of October 16-19 (Tues-Friday) at the GSA per diem rate of \$77/night.

Reservations can be made by calling the hotel directly at (888)322-8001 and mentioning “BBTWG Forest Service” in order to obtain the negotiated group rate.

Reservations must be made prior to **October 2, 2012**. Please try to make your room reservation as early as possible. If demand exceeds the number of rooms in our block, we can only add rooms as long as they are available. The sooner that we know we need more, the better our chances of getting additional rooms at the government rate.

The Oxford Suites has a shuttle from Boise International Airport to the hotel from 7:00 AM to 11:00 PM. If your flights are outside of that time, taxi service is readily available at the airport.

Other Hotels within walking distance of the SO also include - Howard Johnsons - (208) 322-4404, or 1-800-221-5801, rates starting at \$55-60/night; Hampton Inn and Suites – 208-323-2500-GSA Rate \$77; Homewood Suites – 208-375-8500; and Hilton Garden Inn – 208-376-1000.

Carl Jorgensen has received a few responses regarding the [BBTWG Research Priorities List](#) that was developed at the 2006 meeting, and is now looking for a few more. A summary of those responses is that the list lacked a unified vision of purpose. Comments about its purpose included: a formal list of current data gaps, wish list of resource manager’s needs, and funding priorities. Critiques of the list included that it lacked a general strategic vision, regionalized/individual priorities, and most noted was a lack of identified responsibility of items on the list. What are your thoughts? In particular, is this how we (BBTWG) want to

present this list, or should we outline by bark beetle species the individual projects with this list, or should we scrap the list all-together? What are the questions not being addressed by the completed or on-going projects? Which of the items in the 2007 list have been sufficiently completed and which need more work? Send Carl your thoughts by Sept 8th, and he will compile/summarize those comments for his next reminder email in September.

We are planning the meeting for Wednesday and Thursday. Optional field trips are being planned for Tuesday and Friday. Tuesday afternoon, we plan to meet with Boise City Forester, Brian Jorgenson, to discuss walnut twig beetle in the urban setting. Hopefully, we will meet Brian at one of Boise's Parks at 3 PM. If the weather is bad, then we will meet with him at the SO.

Friday will be an all-day field tour over to Stanley, ID to see lodgepole and whitebark pine stands after mountain pine beetle, or MCH Flake Project on Sun Valley Ski Area for those that can stay all day Friday.

Suggestions, questions or comments about the agenda and local arrangement should be directed to Carl Jorgensen, 208-373-4225, cljorgensen@fs.fed.us.