



# **NATIONAL FORESTS IN NORTH • CAROLINA**

**USDA FOREST SERVICE, 160A ZILICOA STREET, ASHEVILLE, NC 28801**

## **NEWS • RELEASE**

Contact: Terry Seyden, 828-257-4202

**MEDIA ADVISORY: March 29, 2004**

### **Beetles to be Released April 7<sup>th</sup> at Whitewater Falls in Effort to Save Hemlocks**

#### **WHO:**

**Rusty Rhea, USDA Forest Service Forest Health Protection Specialist**

**Dr. Joe Culin, Entomology, Soils, and Plant Sciences Department Chairman , Clemson University**

#### **WHAT:**

**Experimental release of the predatory beetle, *Pseudoscymnus tsugae*, at Whitewater Falls, as part of a biological control effort to save the Eastern and Carolina Hemlocks in the Southern Appalachians from being wiped out by the introduced, non-native hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA). A number of hemlocks in the vicinity of Whitewater Falls are infested with the hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA), and if left untreated, will likely be killed in a few years by this exotic pest.**

#### **WHEN:**

**Wednesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 11am (bring lunch)**

#### **WHERE:**

**Whitewater Falls, NC, Highlands Ranger District, Nantahala National Forest.**

**With a 411 feet plunge, Whitewater Falls is the highest waterfall east of the Rockies.**

**-more-**

## **DIRECTIONS:**

**From Brevard:** Drive west on U.S. 64. At Sapphire, turn left on NC 281 and go south to Whitewater Falls entrance.

**From Cashiers:** Drive south on NC 107 for 9.3 miles. Shortly after crossing the State line, turn left at the sign for Whitewater Falls. Continue 2.3 miles to the intersection with SC 130. Make another left and drive north on SC 130, which becomes NC 281 at the North Carolina State line. Just beyond this point is a sign for the entrance to Whitewater Falls.

**From South Carolina:** Drive north on SC 130, which becomes NC 281. The Whitewater Falls entrance is on the right after driving into North Carolina.

**From Walhalla, SC:** Use SC 107 and cross over to SC 130 and NC 281.

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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## **Web Resources:**

<http://www.cs.unca.edu/nfsnc> National Forests in North Carolina (NFsNC) website

[http://www.cs.unca.edu/nfsnc/nepa/hwa\\_dm.pdf](http://www.cs.unca.edu/nfsnc/nepa/hwa_dm.pdf) NFsNC HWA Biocontrol Decision

[http://clemsonews.clemson.edu/WWW\\_releases/2004/March/Hemlock\\_Woolly\\_Adelgid.html](http://clemsonews.clemson.edu/WWW_releases/2004/March/Hemlock_Woolly_Adelgid.html)

“Clemson scientists raise beetles to save South Carolina's hemlocks” 3/15/04 news release

<http://www.fs.fed.us/na/morgantown/fhp/hwa/hwasite.html> USDA Forest Service Hemlock Woolly Adelgid website

<http://www.invasivespecies.gov/profiles/hemlockwa.shtml> National Invasive Species Council web site on hemlock woolly adelgid

<http://www.saveourhemlocks.org> Southern Appalachian Man and Biosphere Cooperative website on hemlock woolly adelgid.