Forest Health Monitoring Program
Monthly Update
February 2013

WHAT'S NEW

Borys Tkacz, the National Program Manager for Forest Health Monitoring (FHM) is heading to Portland, OR for a 4-month detail as Special Assistant to the Director of the Pacific Northwest Research Station starting February 11. Coverage of the FHM National Program Manager duties during Borys' absence is still being determined. Please contact Anne Hoover, Deptuy Director for Forest Health Protection in the Washington Office if you have any questions regarding the national program. Anne can be reached via phone at 703-605-5332 or email at ahoover@fs.fed.us.

Climate change tool reaches a "grand" milestone to aid forest planning and management. The Template for Assessing Climate Change Impacts and Management Options (TACCIMO) continues to expand and provide land managers, planners, and other decision makers with the best climate change science available. TACCIMO's scientific literature database now contains information from more than **1,000** peer-reviewed sources describing the effects of climate change on natural resources as well as land management options that can help forests adapt to changing conditions. In addition to expanding TACCIMO's scientific literature database, the TACCIMO development team is generating information to support Land and Resource Management Plan revision processes for El Yunque, Francis Marion, Nantahala-Pisgah, and Southern Sierra National Forests. The TACCIMO team is also partnering with the California Landscape Conservation Cooperative to develop a Vulnerability Assessment for the Sierra Nevada region. TACCIMO is a collaborative effort among the USDA Forest Service Eastern Forest and Western Wildland Environmental Threat Assessment Centers and the National Forest System. It offers a suite of web-based tools that enable users to review climate change forecasts, consider relevant literature-based science, and generate customized reports that assist with decision making related to long-term forest sustainability. Please also visit the Eastern Threat Center website for additional information, including a one-page TACCIMO fact sheet.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

May 15-17, 2013. Save the Dates. Bethel, ME. 2013 Northeast Forest Health Workshop. The workshop will be held jointly with the Maine and New England Society of American Foresters Field Meeting at Sunday River Resort near Bethel, ME. The program will start with a joint session from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. on May 15. The Northeast Forest Health Workshop will have its own indoor session from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. for reports. An all-day field trip is planned for May 16. In the morning, Isabel Munck (USFS, Durham) and William Ostrofsky (Maine Forest

Service) will host a tour of white pine needle damage/defoliation and Sirococcus shoot blight of eastern hemlock and red pine. In the afternoon, Bill Livingston (UMaine), Kara Lorion (UMaine), Colleen Teerling (Maine Forest Service), and Nate Siegert (USFS, Durham) will host a tour involving ash dieback/decline and monitoring for the emerald ash borer, including hands-on demonstrations for girdling EAB trap trees. Friday morning will conclude with additional station reports (if needed) or another field trip. Preliminary registration costs are $135 including field trip transportation and all meals on Thursday and breakfast & box lunch on Friday. Hotel rooms will be $79 per night at a nearby inn or $94 per night at the Summit Resort, which has the meeting rooms. As more information is available, it will be included in future Monthly Updates.

June 16 – 20, 2013. Bloomington, IN. The 9th North American Forest Ecology Workshop will be held at the Bloomington Convention Center in Bloomington, Indiana. The conference will allow forest ecologists, silviculturists, wildlife biologists, and other forest researchers and managers from Canada, Mexico, Central America and the United States to gather and exchange current research and management approaches within the backdrop of the US central hardwood forests. Further details are available at the NAFEW 2013 website: http://nafew.org/.

June, 2014. Colorado, USA. IUFRO joint international meeting of three groups. An international joint meeting of the following groups will be held in Colorado: IUFRO 2.02.15 (Breeding and Genetic Resources of Five-Needle Pines), IUFRO 7.02.05 (Rusts of Forest Trees), and Strobusphere. This will be the first time these three groups have met together to share research in genetics-pathology of five-needle pines. The conference will feature advances in gene conservation, genomics, rust resistance, evolutionary dynamics and other related topics. There will be some joint sessions as well as concurrent sessions organized by each respective group for other topics of interest. The joint sessions will deal with white pine species and white pine blister rust genetics/resistance. In addition, each IUFRO group will have separate sessions in their broader areas of interest (Rust of forest trees; 5-needle pine genetics). Please pass this information along to your colleagues. The organizers are putting together a new mailing list and hope to have interested people contact them at this early stage so they can more effectively plan the meeting. If you have ideas for the meeting, contact one of the individuals mentioned in the announcement or rsniezko@fs.fed.us.
2.02.15 – Breeding and genetic resources of five-needle pines
http://www.iufro.org/science/divisions/division-2/20000/20200/20215/
7.02.05 – Rusts of forest trees
http://www.iufro.org/science/divisions/division-7/70000/70200/70205/
Strobusphere http://dendrome.ucdavis.edu/strobusphere/

JOB

OPPORTUNITIES

The Texas A&M Forest Service (formerly Texas Forest Service) is seeking a professional forest entomologist or equivalent to serve as Coordinator of the Forest Pest Management Cooperative (FPMC), headquartered in Lufkin, Texas. The FPMC, supported by dues-paying members and research grants, conducts applied research and technology transfer on major pests of southern forests and urban trees. The Coordinator plans, conducts, analyzes, and reports results of studies on those insects and diseases that members deem of importance and provides leadership for a small staff. Target pests include pine bark beetles, seed orchard insects, leafcutting ants, regeneration weevils, and pine tip moths, among others. The Coordinator writes research proposals to generate additional funding and is responsible for carrying funded projects to completion and formulating research results and project analyses into papers, reports, scientific and technical publications and presentations. Applicants should be proficient in computer software (MS Word, MS Excel, MS Access) and statistical analysis programs and be proficient at oral and written communications. Minimum educational requirement is a Master of Science degree, with a Ph.D. in forest entomology or related biological science preferred. Knowledge and experience with southern forest pests is considered a plus. Travel (10-25%) within and outside Texas is required. Starting salary is $60,000 or commensurate with education level and experience. For more information, contact Dr. Ron Billings, Forest Health Manager, at rbillings@tfs.tamu.edu. To apply, visit https://greatjobs.tamu.edu/applicants/Central?quickFind=188249. *The Texas A&M Forest Service is an equal opportunity employer.*

Mountain Studies Institute (MSI) seeks a Research Director to lead, coordinate, and promote research projects for a mountain research and education non-profit based in Silverton, Colorado. The ideal candidate will facilitate the growth of MSI's research program through collaboration with MSI's partner institutions, land managers, scientists, and students. PhD (preferred) or masters in a relevant field to MSI's research areas and grant writing/funding experience required. Applications accepted until **February 18, 2013** for full consideration. Please see www.mountainstudies.org under Opportunities for more information. MSI is a not-for-profit mountain research and education institution with a high elevation field station in Silverton and additional offices and laboratory access in Durango, Colorado. MSI's mission is to enhance understanding and sustainable use of the San Juan Mountains through research, education, and outreach. MSI facilitates and conducts field research, academic courses, and experiential learning. Additionally, MSI provides facilities and support for researchers, educators, and the general public who are interested learning from and experiencing the San Juan Mountain region. MSI collaborates with its partners to provide problem-oriented, interdisciplinary research, monitoring, public forums, courses, and conferences that address relevant community challenges, evaluate information needs, and seek solutions for natural resource issues. *MSI is an equal opportunity employer.*

PUBLICATIONS

OF INTEREST

1. **Linn, R.R; Sieg, C.H.; Hoffman, C.M.; Winterkamp, J.L.; McMillin, J.D.** in press. Modeling wind fields and fire propagation following bark beetle outbreaks in spatially-heterogeneous pinyon-juniper woodland fuel complexes. Agricultural and Forest Meteorology (2012), doi: 10.1016/j.agrformet.2012.11.007

2. **Más, E.G.; Lugo-Torres, M. de L**. 2013. Malezas comunes en Puerto Rico e Islas Vírgenes Americanas/Common weeds in Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands. Universidad de Puerto Rico, University of Puerto Rico, Recinto Universitario de Mayagüez/ Mayagüez Campus. USDA Servicio de Conservación de Recursos Naturales. Natural Resources Conservation Service. Área del Caribe/Caribbean Area.

3. **Mehl, H.K.; Mori, S.R.; Frankel, S.J.; Rizzo, D.M.** 2013. Mortality and growth of dwarf mistletoe-infected red and white fir and the efficacy of thinning for reducing associated losses. Forest Pathology. Early View. doi:10.1111/efp.12020 (2013)

4. **Parker, B.L.; Skinner, M.; Dodds, K.; Bohne, M.** 2012. Asian longhorned beetle and its host trees. NA-PR-05-12. Newtown Square, PA: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Northeastern Area, State and Private Forestry. This pictorial guide is available online: http://na.fs.fed.us/pubs/alb/alb-and-host-trees-09-12-2012-screen.pdf and as a high resolution document suitable for printing: http://na.fs.fed.us/pubs/alb/alb-and-host-trees-09-12-2012-print.pdf

5. **Sniezko, R.A.; Yanchuk, A.D.; Kliejunas, J.T.; Palmieri, K.M.; Alexander, J.M.; Frankel, S.J., tech. coords.** 2012. Proceedings of the fourth international workshop on the genetics of host-parasite interactions in forestry: Disease and insect resistance in forest trees. Gen. Tech. Rep. PSW-GTR-240. Albany, CA: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station. 372 p.

FOR MORE FHM INFORMATION

Visit the FHM homepage: www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/fhm/
or access via the USDA Forest Service homepage at www.fs.fed.us