



Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry



News Notes

July 31, 2009



From the Director's Desk

Think big! Think across large landscapes!

That was one of the bold messages that came out of the Chief's Review of the East held last month in Waterville, NH. The Chief's Review was designed to explore how the Forest Service in the East fulfills the agency mission to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. Restoration of ecosystem function and sustainability of eastern forests as well as an informed citizenry emerged as the two strategic themes for the Review.

I am thrilled with the Chief's Review findings about landscape-scale concepts. NA has always assisted in managing large landscapes with States as the basic building blocks that we work within. State assessments will be critical platforms for our State partners to frame their future forest management, watershed, and forest health activities.

Starting in 2007, Redesign proposals and projects pulled States together to seek efficiency and have a greater impact on multistate landscapes. An important part of our vision to reform the stewardship program is a focus at the landscape level. We have provided leadership and technical assistance to large-scale landscape assessments such as The Highlands Project and the Chesapeake Bay watershed, and our spatial analysis is being applied in the Upper Mississippi River watershed.

The many facets of NA's work and our partnerships are being linked into place. We have shown that we understand the driving principle of landscape-scale conservation—the need for a strong foundation of landscape-scale assessments. Now, when the State assessments are completed, those State building blocks can be compared and studied by others due to the significant consistencies among them.

To NA's and the State planners' credit, all the States have had the benefits of a sound framework and common data sets for their assessments. Processes and methods that the Forest Service develops to address long-term issues such as climate change will be part of our toolbox to further assist and focus Federal investment in forest health and management.

Invasive species, climate change, ecological restoration, ecosystem services markets, biomass utilization, conservation education, open space protection, traditional forest markets, and management of the *Nation's* forests are the responsibility of ALL of the U.S. Forest Service. The future conservation of



the eastern forests will depend on a new alignment of roles and expectations for Forest Service leaders, State foresters, private forest landowners, land trusts, cities, communities, and investors. Our contribution to sustainable non-Federal land stewardship will be essential in the East.

So, think big! Continue what you do so very well—collaborate with others to make a difference on the land! And validate our agency's motto of *Caring for the Land and Serving People* in all you do every day.

— Kathryn P. Maloney
Area Director

Sustainable Operations Tip of the Month

Buying "Green"

Both Congress and the President have directed Federal agencies to be good stewards of the environment by conserving energy and other precious natural resources. The Federal government's requirements to purchase products with environmental and energy saving attributes are known as "green purchasing."

Green purchasing encompasses the following product categories:

- Recycled content products
- Energy efficient products: ENERGY STAR, FEMP designated, and low standby power devices
- Biobased products
- Environmentally Preferable Products (EPP)
- Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT) products
- Water-efficient products
- Non-ozone depleting substances
- Alternative fuel vehicles and alternative fuels

When making office purchases, always think "green" at the start of the acquisition process, for example, by looking for products with recycled content, energy efficient electronics, and biobased products. For example, when you are flipping through the GSA or OfficeMax catalog, look for the green recycling symbol for products made out of recycled content.

Find out more:

- NRS and NAS&PF Acquisition Management Web site with resources and tips on green purchasing: <http://fsweb.nrs.fs.fed.us/aqm/acquisitions/index.php#gp>
- USDA Green Purchasing Policy and Training: <http://greening.usda.gov/purchasing.htm>
- EPA Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Web site: <http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/epp/>



Newtown Square Headquarters Office

Northeastern Area Association of State Foresters (NAASF) and Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry (NAS&PF) Guide for State Strategies Now Available

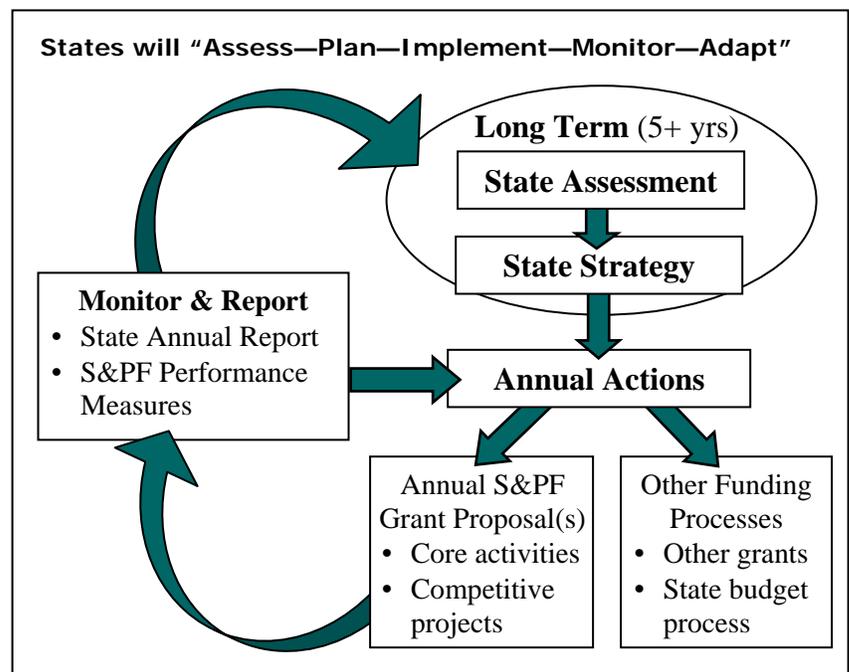
State forestry agencies of the Northeast and Midwest regions of the United States are in the midst of developing statewide forest resource assessments and strategies. As required by the 2008 Farm Bill, State Assessments and Strategies are due June 2010 for States to be eligible to receive Cooperative Forest Assistance Act funding.

NAS&PF continues to provide support for State Assessments and Strategies. **Sherri Wormstead** provides Area-wide support and coordination, and **Tom Luther** provides Area-wide GIS support. NAS&PF Field Office personnel who maintain ongoing contact with States in their service area and are available to assist with State Assessments and Strategies are **Anne Archie** for Durham, **Bob Lueckel** for Morgantown, and **Dennis McDougall** and **Jill Johnson** for St. Paul.

Last year, a work group of State forest planners and GIS specialists developed a guide and suggested framework for State Assessments. This year, Sherri and Tom pulled together an NAASF and NAS&PF State Strategy team made up of State planners, representatives from each NAASF Committee, and NAS&PF program specialists (**Maureen Brooks, Mark Buccowich, Mike Huneke, Deirdre Raimo, Phillip Rodbell, and Jim Steinman**). **Steve Davis** and **Susan Cox** also contributed. The State Strategy team drafted the [*NAASF & NA Guide for Statewide Forest Resource Strategies*](#), which was approved by NAASF in July 2009. This guide provides an overview of the requirements, regional guidance, and tips for meeting those requirements.

The State Strategy serves as the strategic planning document for all S&PF programs, taking the place of prior 5-year S&PF program plans. States are encouraged to integrate S&PF programs to address their priorities and are required to show how their strategies contribute to the national objectives. There is also ample flexibility for developing the State Strategy so it is relevant to address the needs, structure, and capacity of the State.

The *NAASF & NA Guide for Statewide Forest Resource Strategies* as well as the regional guidance developed for State Assessments and other resources are available on the NAASF Forest Resource Planning Committee Web site: <http://www.northeasternforests.org/FRPC>.



NAS&PF Employees Participate in I-PED Training

In June, the U.S. Forest Service and Davey Tree Company sponsored an urban forestry workshop in Syracuse, NY, to train State, city, and Federal staff in the use of I-PED (Inventory Pest Evaluation and Detection software). The training was conducted by **Joe O'Brien** (SPFO), Al Zelaya (Davey Tree Company), **Anne Cumming** and **Donna Murphy** (MFO), Jessica Call (WO), and other partners. I-PED is a new pest detection survey tool that is a component of the i-Tree inventory software suite. The intent is to encourage communities to use I-PED to survey for insect and disease signs and symptoms as they are doing street tree inventories. Jen Wiemer from New Hampshire Division of Lands and Forests also attended, along with DFO staff **Margaret Weeks** and **John Parry**. Each of the Field Offices will be conducting i-Tree/I-PED training for State and local partners.



Joe O'Brien (white shirt, center) leads an outdoor training session on how to use I-PED software in Syracuse, NY.



Urban forest health specialists learn how to use I-PED software for street tree evaluation during a training session in Syracuse, NY.

College of Menominee Nation Sustainable Development Model Used to Organize International Forest Policy and Management Seminar

Mike Dockry, U.S. Forest Service Liaison to the College of Menominee Nation, collaborated with U.S. Forest Service International Programs, the U.S. Agency for International Development, and the University of Florida to design and participate in an international forest management and policy seminar. One of the main goals was to teach participants about multiple perspectives of sustainable forest management.

The Latin America Seminar on Forest Policy & Management, the first regional seminar of its kind, took place June 14-27, 2009, in Santa Cruz, Bolivia. Bolivia is one of Latin America's leading sustainable timber producers. Participants interacted with local and international experts to study and analyze the Bolivian experience in forestry.

Out of more than 60 applicants for the seminar, 20 men and women were selected from industry, government agencies, indigenous organizations, nongovernment organizations, and academic institutions from throughout Latin America. Participants were mid- to



U.S. Forest Service Liaison Mike Dockry leads a discussion during a recent international forest management and policy seminar held in Santa Cruz, Bolivia.

senior-level forest resource management professionals from the Dominican Republic, Colombia, Bolivia, Ecuador, Honduras, Guatemala, Mexico, and Peru.

At the beginning of the 2-week seminar, Dockry presented the group with an overview of the sustainable development model developed by the College of Menominee Nation's Sustainable Development Institute. The model was then used by participants throughout the seminar to reflect upon multiple aspects of sustainable forest management and policy. Course participants were extremely engaged with the model and used it to structure their individual learning and group projects.

The College of Menominee Nation Sustainable Development Institute Model defines sustainability as a process that includes six discrete, but highly interrelated, dimensions: 1) land and sovereignty; 2) natural environment (which includes human beings); 3) institutions; 4) technology; 5) economics; and 6) human perception, activity, and behavior. According to the model, sustainability is defined as the process of maintaining a balance and reconciling the inherent tensions within and among the six dimensions of sustainability. Sustainable development is an iterative and ongoing activity, according to this model.



Mike Dockry and seminar attendees participate in a field trip during an international forest management and policy seminar held in Santa Cruz, Bolivia.

The seminar was comprised of a combination of classroom lectures, panel discussions, field site visits, and group projects in order to present and create meaningful dialogue on a variety of forest policy and management themes from Bolivia and throughout Latin America.

The seminar offered a variety of excellent learning experiences that included hearing expert analyses of national and international market trends of forest products, considering new ways of examining community forest management, discussing remote sensing with experts from forest research institutions, meeting with rural communities to discuss their experiences with forest management and certification, and even hearing from large certified timber companies with concessions in Bolivia. Participants also learned first hand valuable lessons from Bolivian

organizations that build capacity in everything from monitoring forest health to improving productive efficiency of saw mills and wood products manufacturing.

This intensive Spanish-based seminar was highly participatory and divided into three phases with distinct teaching methodologies to engage participants dynamically. The first portion of the course set the stage; participants learned about forest management in Bolivia as well as legal frameworks from other Latin American countries.

During the second portion of the seminar, emphasis was placed on analyzing case studies utilizing the Sustainable Development Institute model of sustainability, presented by Dockry. The third portion focused on the application of lessons learned to projects in the participants' home countries.

Throughout the entire seminar, participants were expected to interact and bring their perspectives to the table. They were even provided uniquely formatted opportunities to represent their home institutions and present their work.

The Center for First Americans Forestlands is a partnership between the College of Menominee Nation's Sustainable Development Institute and four divisions of the U.S. Forest Service: Forest Products Laboratory, Northern Research Station, Eastern Region of the National Forest System, and Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry. Mike Dockry serves the partnership as the U.S. Forest Service Liaison and is located on the College of Menominee Nation campus in Keshena, WI.



Durham Field Office

Working with New Hampshire School Districts to Build Science Literacy

For the 2008-2009 school year, the New Hampshire Education and Environment Team (NHEET) worked with two school districts to map their science curriculum with outdoor field experiences and strong inquiry activities. At the wrap-up of the first year, teachers were very positive about their experiences and the assistance they received from NHEET to help them become comfortable using the outdoors as a place to learn.



Getting teachers outside gets students outside. First grade teacher Carol Cohen, wearing her borrowed raincoat, hat, and shoes, participates in the summer teacher institute.

Carol Cohen, first grade veteran teacher, exclaimed, “I thought I was just going to learn about how to teach science. I didn’t know I was going to change my practice!”

Prior to participating in the program with her science team, Carol never took her students outdoors other than for recess. She didn’t even own a raincoat or close-toed shoes, a requirement for her participation in the summer institute for teachers.

Through the school year, she worked with her team and identified age- and curriculum-appropriate activities, books, and projects for her students. Her first graders charted the snowmelt in the schoolyard and mapped the first night spring peepers were heard around town. Not only have her students improved in science, they also have improved social skills from exploring the outdoors together.

For the second year, NHEET will continue to work with the original two school districts. They have also begun working with four other districts in the State. Thirty-four teachers attended a weeklong institute session in June, and workshops and planning will continue within the four districts during the school year.

NHEET includes **Susan Cox** (NA), Clare Long (White Mountain National Forest), and staff from New Hampshire Project Learning Tree, New Hampshire Project WET, New Hampshire Project WILD, HOMES, and the GLOBE Program. The program is funded by a Math and Science Partnership grant through the New Hampshire Department of Education.



Carol Cohen's first grade students collect snowmelt data.

Tree Planting to Replace Asian-longhorned Beetle Removals Begins

Replanting efforts are underway in Worcester, MA, to replace some of the tree canopy lost to the Asian-longhorned beetle. The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) was awarded



a grant in April to plant trees on both public and private property. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) provided \$500,000 through the Forest Service for tree planting over the next three seasons. One hundred thirty-two of the government-funded trees were planted in June at a variety of sites, including the Odd Fellows Home, Quinsigamond Community College, and the Mount Avenue neighborhood. Larger planting projects will follow in the fall and next spring.

Hundreds of people turned out at events sponsored this spring by the Worcester Tree Initiative (WTI) to receive free trees to replace those destroyed by the beetle infestation and a December ice storm. WTI is a nonprofit group that began earlier this year with the help of city and State officials and donations by area businesses. Their goal is to plant 30,000 trees over the next 5 years and to provide homeowners with training on how to plant and maintain the trees. Information about WTI is available at www.treeworcester.org.

Partners involved in the Asian-longhorned beetle program to replant trees include the Massachusetts DCR, city of Worcester, WTI, APHIS, and the U.S. Forest Service, among others. Forest Service staff in the Durham Field Office have been assisting since last fall with various aspects of the program.



Alan Snow from the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation demonstrates how to plant a tree at a Worcester Tree Initiative event.

Massachusetts Staff Tour Asian-longhorned Beetle Tree Planting Projects in New York City and New Jersey

In June, Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation staff members Eric Seaborn and Alan Snow joined Worcester Tree Initiative Project Coordinator Peggy Middaugh on a 2-day field tour of trees planted on sites in New York City and New Jersey following Asian-longhorned beetle (ALB) infestation. These three individuals are involved in planning ALB restoration work in Worcester, and the tour was planned to help them learn about how restoration work has been conducted in other ALB-infested areas.



These replacement trees were planted in 2005 in New Jersey.

They toured sites and visited with staff members from Trees New York, the New York Parks Department, New York Department of Environmental Conservation, and the New Jersey Division of Forestry to view past tree planting techniques. The exchange of information and expertise between these ALB partners was very educational to all. **John Parry** from the DFO assisted with the tour.



More Kids in the Woods

Groundwork Lawrence, a nonprofit group in Lawrence, MA, has been awarded a More Kids in the Woods Grant (MKITW) from the U.S. Forest Service. They were one of only 17 grant recipients selected from 197 applicants. MKITW funds are intended to get more kids outside and up close and personal with nature so they can have fun, get dirty, get healthy, and learn!

The \$40,000 award to Groundwork Lawrence will be used to support outdoor recreational experiences for 30 high school-aged members of their Green Team program, and their subsequent interpretation and sharing of information about the value of natural habitats present in and around urban communities with over 1,000 of their peers. These funds will build on the organization's successful track record in providing innovative, hands-on service learning opportunities for urban youth aged 14-18. The Durham Field Office supported the proposal and will assist with the project.

Sketchmapping Project

Bill Frament, DFO Remote Sensing Specialist, has been working with Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) staff to develop a method to use sketchmapping as a way to efficiently map tree planting locations. Sketchmapping involves using a tablet PC with GPS, base maps, and aerial photos loaded onto it. The maps move as the inspector moves through the neighborhood and talks with homeowners.



Bill Frament explains how to use sketchmapping to track tree planting locations.

Users can easily map tree locations and data on the tablet to identify planting spots, species, access, and followup inspection maintenance needs, among others. DCR is interested in this technology to help them efficiently plan and document the large number of replacement trees that will be planted in the Worcester area following Asian-longhorned beetle tree removals.



Morgantown Field Office

Insect and Disease Survey, Biosurveillance Training Provided to West Virginia Agriculture Staff

Rick Turcotte provided a training session for employees of the West Virginia Department of Agriculture at Moncove Lake and Greenbrier State Forest. He talked about conducting insect and disease surveys at recreational areas and using biosurveillance. The training covered data collection and how to find *Cerceris fumipennis* colonies to survey for the presence of emerald ash borer.

C. fumipennis is a wasp that preys exclusively on metallic, wood-boring beetles and occurs throughout Eastern and Central North America. This wasp is a ground-nesting species that has become a novel detection and monitoring tool for the emerald ash borer in Canada and the United States. If emerald ash borers are present, this wasp preys on them and stores them in its underground nest.

Wasp nests have been detected in mainly disturbed sites such as roadsides; footpaths; and soil around baseball diamonds, fire pits, and sand volleyball courts. Biosurveillance for emerald ash borer involves observing colonies of these native wasps and collecting some of the prey they bring back to determine if emerald ash borer is part of their diet.

St. Paul Field Office

Teri Heyer was selected as a Fellow in the Society of American Foresters (SAF) this past June, joining more than 900 other SAF members that have been similarly honored. The award was established in 1971 to recognize SAF members for their outstanding service to forestry and the Society. A member since 1984, Teri has actively participated in the SAF, primarily in outreach and conservation education. Teri was a Minnesota SAF Outstanding Member in 2002 as well as 2005 and has been continually recognized for her outstanding work as well as her constant efforts to improve her leadership skills. She also volunteers her time as a co-chair of the Como Woods outdoor classroom advisory committee, working to convert 14 acres of woods in St. Paul's largest park into an outdoor classroom.



Teri Heyer was recently honored as a Society of American Foresters Fellow for her outstanding service to forestry and the Society.



Editor's Notes

DEADLINE! The deadline for the next issue of the Northeastern Area News Notes is noon, Monday, August 24, 2009. News articles submitted after this time and date will be published in the next month's edition. Please e-mail final articles to Nancy Lough at nlough@fs.fed.us.

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