

Northeastern Area



News Notes



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Area Director

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A LIVING OR A LIFE?

Turn your mind back to your childhood and what the dawn of summer meant to you. Perhaps you would fish from sunrise to sunset, adventure in the nearby woods, or spend day after day at the shaded playground of an urban park. Add family camping trips, picnics, and Fourth of July fireworks to the rites of passage that define our lives as Americans.

Now we're all grown up and there's this thing we do called work. I lament it too, sometimes. At the end of the day though, I know my efforts have gone toward something greater than myself. My sincere hope is that you see also the wide and worthy impact of your efforts. They make for a better homeland, and in many cases, through direct links, a more secure homeland.

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give," Sir Winston Churchill said. I dare say it is a life we forge by the benevolent and honorable work we do, because our labors benefit the land and natural resources that define America, and foster the American experience with the natural environment.

As you look forward to Independence Day and the summer ahead, do so with the anticipation of your childhood and pride in what you accomplish in your adult life. Take time to bring your partners, children, and loved ones to a rural forest or urban natural sanctuary that exists in part, because of you and your peers in the Northeastern Area. Take time again to fish, explore, and recreate, then celebrate the impact we have on the land, its resources, the strength of our nation, and our unified experiences as Americans. Celebrate what we each give, and the benefits we enjoy!

— Kathryn Maloney



Army Environmental Center Notes



ROB WHETSELL RECEIVES NEW CENTURY OF SERVICE AWARD

Robert Whetsell is the National Forest Systems Eastern Region winner of the 2002 New Century of Service Award. Rob is a historian/archeologist on the Army Environmental Center Team, but is based at the Monongahela National Forest, WV. District Ranger Pat Kowalewycz nominated Rob for his outstanding efforts to promote and celebrate Forest Service culture and history through his ability to design and prepare imaginative, creative, and professional displays/exhibits for public education and enjoyment.

Rob created the “Forest Service Wildland Fire Fighting Techniques from the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) to Present”, which was enjoyed by thousands of visitors during the Mountain State Festival held in Elkins. This exhibit displayed historic wildland firefighting uniforms and equipment from the CCC era and those used by present wildland fire fighters to highlight the differences and similarities in fire fighting techniques over the years. Historic photos, along with narratives, illustrated the role of the Forest Service and CCC in promoting fire prevention across the U.S. and locally in West Virginia.

Rob also created the “Stemwinders, Woodhicks, and The Tree Army” exhibit, which is on display at the Gauley Ranger Station through 2004 (see photo). This exhibit interweaves the history of the logging and lumber industry of the region with the role of the Forest Service and CCC in transforming a denuded landscape into the present Monongahela National Forest. Rob coordinated planning and developed partnerships with individuals, companies, and State of West Virginia officials.

Rob’s nomination has been forward to the Washington Office to compete for the New Century of Service Chief’s Award.



ERIC WOLTERS PRESENTED WITH THE COMMANDER’S AWARD

On June 4, Eric Wolters received the Commander’s Award for Civilian Service from Major General R. L. Van Antwerp, the Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management, and Colonel Stanley Lillie, Commander, Army Environmental Center. Eric received the award for his leadership and outstanding accomplishments in executing the Private Lands Initiative - an innovative solution that balances the Army’s legal mandate to manage and protect





Eric Wolters (center) is presented the Commander's Award by Major General Van Antwerp (R) and Colonel Lillie (L) at a Town Hall meeting.

endangered species with its readiness mission. This award is the fourth highest Department of the Army honorary award and is comparable to the military Army Commendation Medal.

The Private Lands Initiative is similar to the Forest Legacy Program, and the Fort Bragg, North Carolina project is the prototype. The goals are to maintain military training and readiness and to restore the longleaf pine ecosystem, thereby protecting the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker. The Nature Conservancy matches Army money and uses the funds to purchase permanent conservation easements on private forestlands adjacent to Fort Bragg. Other partners include the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, and the Sandhills Ecological Institute.

FIRE TRAINING FOR THE WV ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

During May 13-17, fire personnel from the Monongahela National Forest taught basic wildland fire fighting courses (S-130/S-190) at Camp Dawson, WV. The West Virginia Army National Guard proposes to use prescribed fire to maintain certain training areas at Camp Dawson and needed to train their personnel in fire fighting techniques. Eighteen people went through the training put on by Gary Bustamente, Fire Management Officer, and Tim Scherm, both of the Monongahela NF. Gary remarked that "it was nice to see some new faces getting into the fire program; we all are better off because of it," and he is looking forward to working with Camp Dawson personnel on future projects. The training was arranged through the Interagency Agreement between the Army National Guard and the Forest Service administered through NA.



Trainees at Camp Dawson listen to instructions for the fire fighting field exercises.



Durham Field Office Notes

DURHAM FIELD OFFICE WELCOMES SUMMER INTERN

Christina Burgos Diaz, a student from the University of Puerto Rico, has accepted an internship with the Durham Field Office staff this summer. Christina is pursuing a Bachelor of Natural Science degree in General Biology. She will be working with Connie Carpenter, John Parry, Florence Petersen, and Tom Luther on a variety of sustainability, urban forestry, and forest health projects. The Forest Service and the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) jointly sponsored her internship. HACU internships are intended to supplement the academic study of students with practical applications in the world of work, to provide them information on career opportunities in the Federal government, and to provide professional work experiences that will enable students to make more educated career choices.

45,000 AND COUNTING

On occasion, a small project has enormous cumulative effects. Such is the case for a project **Dean Huber** was involved with while working in the Forest Service's Pacific Southwest Region.

The Northern California Society of American Foresters initiated "Forest Conservation Days" in conjunction with the Santa Clara County school district to provide inner-city 5th grade students exposure to the basic elements of forestry, forest management, and wood products. In a county park, several stations were set up at intervals along a forest trail to address topics such as old growth forests, harvesting, regeneration, effects of wildfire, watershed protection, and wildlife habitat management. Dean ran the station on Wood Products and Your Home.

The students arrived by bus and were greeted by hosts who led them along the forest trail. As Dean recalls, "Those yellow buses just kept showing up." Approximately 400 students per day participated during the weeklong annual project.

At a recent national meeting, Dean met one of the project's founders, who was eager to report that the project is still going strong. More than 45,000 students have participated during the past 11 years. For Dean, the news was both gratifying and encouraging. Perhaps some of NA's current projects will have similar results in a few years.

NEW YORK REPLANTS TREES AFTER ALB LOSSES



Peter Frank, New York DEC, and Rob Clark inspect trees in Brooklyn's McCarren Park.

The New York Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), Trees New York, the New York City Parks Department, and other partners are continuing reforestation efforts to replace trees lost due to the Asian longhorned beetle (ALB) infestation. More than 800 trees have been replanted in parks, on streets, and on private property since 1997, with funding from the Forest Service. Peter Frank and Bob Beamin of the New York DEC and Joe Bernardo of Trees New York hosted a visit for Durham field office staff to see the planting progress first hand. **Bernie Raimo, Rob Clark, Dennis Souto, and John Parry** were able to see a sampling of the planting sites, discuss the planting process, and visit with homeowners who were recipients of replacement trees. Funding received in 2001 will help continue the reforestation effort.



URBAN CONNECTIONS MADE IN MICHIGAN

Forest Service staff from the Ottawa, Huron-Manistee, and Hiawatha National Forests met recently in Escanaba, Michigan, to discuss how they can build relationships with urban constituents in Detroit. The effort is part of a program being tested in Detroit, Minneapolis, and Boston to involve urban residents with the national forests. **Lisa Burban** (St. Paul Field Office) will provide continuing support to the Michigan effort. **John Parry** attended the meeting to share information from the Boston Urban Connections experience.

MAINE ECONOMIC ACTION PROGRAM REVIEW

An Economic Action Program Review was conducted in Maine in mid-May. **Roxane Palone** (Morgantown Field Office) led the review team, assisted by **Rob Clark** and **Dean Huber** from the Durham Field Office. State Forester Tom Doak, along with members of his program staff, represented the State of Maine. One day was spent in the office discussing program topics such as objectives, grant processes, and agency working relationships. A full day of site visits included stops at a large vertically integrated softwood sawmill, a small family operated shingle manufacturing operation, and a “store front” retail business for a local woodworking craftsman. The third day consisted of a brief but focused exit discussion of the review’s findings. Both agencies found the review to be worthwhile and beneficial, with commitments to continue working together. A formal report is being prepared.

NATIONAL REPORT ON SUSTAINABLE FORESTS REVIEW WORKSHOP

The National Roundtable on Sustainable Forests hosted a workshop to review the first draft of a national report based on the internationally recognized sustainability criteria and indicators. **Connie Carpenter**, Sustainable Forests Coordinator, provided her comments along with those of others representing a broad spectrum of stakeholders and traditional Forest Service partner agencies at the workshop in Washington, DC, May 28 through May 31. The report is available for public comment at www.fs.fed.us/sustained/index.html.

The Northeast Center for Urban & Community Forestry Notes

STREETSCAPE DESIGN WORKSHOP HELD IN RHODE ISLAND

A daylong workshop on trees and streetscape design was recently coordinated by the Northeast Center for Urban and Community Forestry, in cooperation with the Rhode Island Division of Forests and Parks and the Rhode Island Tree Council. Attended by more than 70 urban foresters, planners, and landscape architects, the symposium included a series of presentations on the latest tree planting specifications, construction details, and construction techniques. **David Bloniarz** conducted sessions on infrastructure implications and planting techniques. Other presenters included Dr. Dennis Ryan, University of Massachusetts; John Campanini, City of Providence; and Peter Wells, Principal, Berkshire Design Group, Northampton, MA.

TECHNOLOGY AND URBAN FORESTRY SYMPOSIUM

More than 80 attendees participated in a daylong symposium in Marlboro, Massachusetts, focusing on state-of-the-art technologies available to urban and community forest managers. The symposium showcased many of the recent technological advances that are currently being used in public and private urban and community forest management, including the Mobile Community Tree Inventory, a tree inventory program developed for use with personal digital assistants (PDA’s).

The symposium was co-sponsored by the Northeast Center for Urban and Community Forestry, the University of Massachusetts Department of Natural Resources Management, and UMass Cooperative Extension. Presenters included **David Bloniarz**, **Bill Frament** and **Tom Luther** of the Durham Field Office, and several State partners.



INTERNS BEGIN SUMMER DUTIES

Sean Terry, a student at Alabama A&M University, and **Jonathan Meacham**, from the University of Massachusetts Department of Natural Resource Management, have begun summer internships with the Northeast Center for Urban and Community Forestry. Sean will be working on a variety of projects, focusing primarily on city planning issues related to urban and community forestry, while Jonathan will be assisting with communication, project delivery, and technical assistance at the center.

PROJECT: CityTrees



A Kids Adventure into Urban and Community Forestry

PROJECT CITY TREES RECEIVES FUNDING

The Forest Service's National Civil Rights Program has selected Project City Trees, an educational initiative of the Northeast Center for Urban and Community Forestry, as a model of excellent public outreach and collaborative stewardship through urban and community forestry programs.

The project, which is being developed as a tool to teach urban youth in grades K-3 about various aspects of the urban forest, will include a series of short stories for broadcast via public access television, transfer to video, an interactive activity guide, Internet Web programming, and tutorial materials. This project will provide the opportunity to raise awareness of environmental topics, issues, and resources in urban communities.

TREE INVENTORY TRAINING IN BALTIMORE

David Bloniarz and **Anne Cumming** (Morgantown Field Office) recently traveled to Baltimore to conduct a training program for summer interns working for the Parks and People Foundation. The students will be conducting a street tree inventory in several Baltimore neighborhoods. The training included classroom and field instruction on condition assessment, tree identification, and data collection procedures that will be used in conducting the inventory.

Grey Towers Notes

DELAWARE RIVER SOJOURN "KICKS-OFF" FROM GREY TOWERS

A 10-day sojourn along the Delaware River from New York State through Pennsylvania had its "kick-off" celebration at Grey Towers. Visiting dignitaries, including New York Congressman Benjamin Gilman, Delaware River Basin Commission Executive Director Carol Collier, and Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Secretary John Oliver, were on hand to designate the Delaware Pennsylvania's River of the Year. Grey Towers Acting Director **Alice Carlton** had an opportunity to share insight about the significant role that the Delaware River played in the Pinchot family history.

RECENT CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS HELD AT GREY TOWERS:

- ❑ *Pinchot Institute Board of Directors*: Annual Spring meeting, included committee meetings with productive discussion about future programs at Grey Towers.



- ❑ *Executive Committee meeting of Delaware River Basin Commission:* The regular business meeting of the Delaware River Basin Commission, which is comprised of governor-appointedees from the states that make up the Delaware River watershed from New York to Delaware, was held at Grey Towers. The members were in Milford, PA, to help kick-off the Delaware River Sojourn that same weekend.
- ❑ *Pennsylvania Department of Conservation & Natural Resources, State Parks:* Environmental Educators from Pennsylvania State Parks gathered at Grey Towers for a 2-day session that included a close-up look at the site and how the Forest Service offers conservation education programming, how they can partner with the Forest Service and share resources, and a hands-on look at some CE programs. Their Regional Meeting followed on Day 2.
- ❑ *Delaware Water Gap Citizens Advisory Committee meeting:* A citizen's group that oversees management of the Delaware Water Gap National Recreational Area, this group met at Grey Towers to discuss water quality issues in the region.



VOLUNTEERS MAKE BOOKMARKS FROM GREY TOWERS ANNUALS

A team of volunteers is helping preserve a bit of the Grey Towers landscape in a unique program that also is helping raise funds for the site. Volunteers are pressing petals from the hundreds of annual flowers that grace the Grey Towers gardens and making them into bookmarks. The bookmarks are being sold through the Eastern National Forests Interpretive Association at the Grey Towers gift shop. The project enables visitors to “take home” a piece of Grey Towers, while contributing to the programs. Interested? Call Tower Shop Manager Lynn Dennis at (570) 296-9677. (They only cost \$2 each!)

GREY TOWERS FARMHOUSE RENOVATED AND READY FOR SERVICE



The original farmhouse at Grey Towers has been renovated and is ready for service following a ribbon-cutting ceremony attended by community members, Forest Service staff, and Pinchot Institute for Conservation staff and board members, including Gifford Pinchot's grandsons Gifford III and Peter Pinchot.

Not much information on the origins of the farmhouse exists, but it is likely that tenant farmers occupied the home prior to 1886 when James Pinchot constructed Grey Towers. After 1960, Gov. Gifford Pinchot's chauffeur was given life tenancy in the building. The Forest Service will now use the building to house seasonal employees and research and scholar fellows for the Pinchot Institute for Conservation.



Some interesting artifacts were revealed during the construction work. An old elixir bottle and "dime-store" romance novel were discovered behind a second-story wall. The signature "JW Pinchot" was revealed on the inside of an exterior wall plank, which could indicate that the wood was obtained from the Pinchot dry goods store in Milford.

The \$342,000 renovation, completed by L.R. Costanzo Construction Service of Scranton, is one of a series of projects included in the overall historic renovation of Grey Towers.



GREY TOWERS VISITORS LEARN ABOUT BIRDS AND HUMANKIND

Jim Lockyer, manager of Creative Services at Newtown Square, treated visitors to Grey Towers to a special presentation on birds and humankind. This monumental effort of information gathering took participants through time and illustrated how birds have affected humankind and vice versa. The program, co-sponsored by the Gifford Pinchot Chapter of the Audubon Society, was one in a series of outreach programs conducted at Grey Towers as part of its Off-The-Shelf program, a cultural program that, in essence, takes a topic "off the shelf" of the historic Pinchot library. Gifford Pinchot was an avid birder and several Audubon editions are in his collection.

PINCHOT TRAIL OF TIME READY FOR WALKERS

Interpretive material is now available for Grey Towers visitors who walk the trail from the entrance of the estate to the historic amphitheatre. Dubbed the Pinchot Trail of Time, this half-mile path now has numbered posts and a corresponding brochure that brings walkers from the time the Pinchot family arrived in Milford in 1818 to 1963 when the Pinchot family donated the estate to the Forest Service. Eventually, permanent signs will replace the markers and brochure.

The Trail of Time is one of four trails being developed at Grey Towers to enhance the visitor experience, offer additional recreational opportunities and augment the conservation education program.

Morgantown Field Office Notes

CONGRESSMAN HOBSON'S STATE OFFICE VISIT

On June 11, Ohio State Forester John Dorka, Lew McCreery, **Karen Sykes**, and **John Hazel** visited Bob Clark, Congressional Assistant for Congressman David L. Hobson (R-OH, 7th District), in his Lancaster, OH office. The meeting was held at the suggestion of Robert Mullen, District Staff Director for Congressman Ralph Regula (R-OH, 16th District), made at an earlier visit to Congressman Regula's office in Canton, OH. Robert Mullen is interested in pursuing opportunities for Forest Service State and Private Forestry programs linkages between the Ohio 7th and 16th Districts. The meeting with Bob Clark was an introduction to the Forest Service and Ohio DNR Division of Forestry, with an explanation of the NFS, Research, and S&PF roles, partnership with the Division of Forestry, as well as office locations in the State of Ohio. Key messages included a description of S&PF programs, what is happening with gypsy moth in Ohio, the importance of the wood industry in Ohio, and its tie to the Economic Action Program.



PERKEY RECOGNIZED FOR NEW CENTURY OF SERVICE

Arlyn Perkey has been named as the recipient of the Northeastern Area's New Century of Service Award for an individual. NA's New Century of Service award for a group is the Asian Longhorned Beetle Team (Noel Schneeberger, Dennis Haugen, Manfred Mielke, Don Duerr (R-8), and Brian Kopke (R-1). The awards are presented by the Washington Office to recognize employee service, excellence, relationships, and innovation leading the Forest Service 100th anniversary in 2005. Arlyn has been recognized for his leadership in landownership programs and the development and promotion of the silvicultural approach to forest management called Crop Tree Management.

BRANCHING OUT TO THE YOUTH OF AMERICA

The New Jersey Forest Service and the Northeastern Area are partnering in the Branching Out to the Youth of America program. Student interns Amy Williams and Kelly Reeves, under the supervision of New Jersey Forest Resource Education Center Director, Elizabeth Faircloth, are conducting on-the-ground conservation education activities. The interns will visit schools and summer camps throughout New Jersey from June through August promoting Conservation Education concepts and messages. They began their work with a session in Asheville, NC the first week in June to receive training with other Branching Out to the Youth of America interns from other regions of the country. **Dan Kincaid** and **Melissa Emerson** are the Morgantown Field Office contacts for the summer program, working closely with Elizabeth Faircloth and John Benton of the NJ Forest Service.

MFO HOSTS S-203 TRAINING

The Morgantown Field Office, in cooperation with the Mid-Atlantic Fire Compact, represented by Coy Mullins and Matt Dillon of the WV Division of Forestry, hosted S-203 Incident Information Officer Training in Gettysburg, PA June 3-7. Twenty-five students from the states served by the Morgantown Field Office and Virginia, as well as several USDA Forest Service employees, participated as a first step in getting certified to serve as trainee Type III Incident Information Officers. **Dan Kincaid**, who is certified as a Type II Incident Information Officer, served as the Lead Instructor for the course. His instructor cadre included Forest Service instructors from Louisiana and the Washington Office, as well as instructors from the Wisconsin DNR and the Florida Division of Forestry. **Tinathan Cogger** and **Melissa Strother** of the Morgantown Field Office were Course Assistants for the training session. The welcoming remarks were made by John Plonski, the Executive Deputy Secretary of the PA Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources; and an opening address was made by John Berst, who is the PA Bureau of Forestry's Division Chief for Forest Fire Protection. A media panel was featured, with representatives from newspapers, TV, radio, and the AP wire service addressing the students. Also, a current issues panel addressed the students; the panel included **John Hazel** of the MFO; John Pasquantino, WO-Legislative Affairs; Jim Barresi, NJ State Forester; and Dale Dunshie, Assistant Forest Supervisor of the Allegheny National Forest. Instruction included modules on the roles and responsibilities of an incident information officer; organizing during the initial stages of an incident; gathering and assembling information; the role of the media during incidents; field information duties; how to run an information center; internal communications; working with cooperating agencies; community relations; and special situations, such as handling fatalities, aircraft crashes, loss of buildings, etc. There were practical exercises on TV and radio interviews, as well as a half-day simulated incident with students working in groups to handle information responsibilities for the incident.

MAINE ECONOMIC ACTION PROGRAM REVIEW

The Maine Economic Action Program Review was held on May 14-16 in Augusta. **Roxane Palone** of the Morgantown Field Office led the Review Team. Other members of the team included Rob Clark and Dean Huber of the Durham Field Office. Thomas Doak, State Forester, and Don Mansius, George Bourassa, and Peter Lammert met the team. Mr. Lammert led the team on a field tour of Robbins Lumber Company in Searsmont, Longfellow Cedar Shingles in Winslow, and the Sugarwood Gallery in Farmington. Specific objectives of the Maine EAP review were to identify issues and opportunities to strengthen the EAP state-federal partnership, review program highlights since the inception of the EAP, review selected grant narratives and accomplishments, identify



accomplishments and actions, and recommend specific actions and timelines to be implemented by the Maine Forest Service, the USDA Forest Service, and others as appropriate.

St. Paul Field Office Notes

THE NORTHEASTERN AREA HOSTS THE STATE AND PRIVATE FORESTRY LEADERSHIP MEETING

Leaders in State and Private Forestry from all over the country recently convened in St. Paul, Minnesota to share information, address issues, and plan for the future of State and Private Forestry. Joel Holtrip, Deputy Chief for State and Private Forestry, led the meeting and the Area and all regions were well represented. In addition, the Cooperative Forestry Directors and the Forest Health Directors held their annual meeting in concert with the Leadership meeting. The St. Paul Field Office staff were the local hosts for the meeting and coordinated meeting facilities, and with the assistance of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and the Minnesota Forest Resources Council, developed a tour of urban sprawl and arranged an evening social.

NEW VOICE FOR THE ST. PAUL FIELD OFFICE

Next time you call the St. Paul Field Office, welcome Scott Olson, our new Business Management Assistant. Scott grew up in Alexandria, Minnesota and spent the last seven years as the Instructional Materials Coordinator for the University of Maryland University College (UMUC) in Tokyo, Japan. Scott spent ten years with the United States Air Force and has lived in Tokyo, Fairbanks, the Aleutian Islands, Nebraska and North Dakota. Scott enjoys sightseeing and traveling with his wife of eleven years and hopes to learn how to kayak.

SUMMER INTERN ASSISTS THE ST. PAUL FIELD OFFICE WITH FIELD WORK

Luis Rivera-Gonzalez is a new summer intern sponsored by the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities. Luis is from San Juan, Puerto Rico and has a B.S. in Biology and a Minor in Environmental Science. He is currently finishing up his Master's Thesis on nitrogen and phosphorous concentrations in a drainage channel in Puerto Rico. Luis arrived only two weeks ago and already has been incredibly helpful on field projects. Luis hopes to finish his thesis soon so he can begin work on his Ph.D.

NORTHEASTERN AREA PARTICIPATES IN THE 16TH ANNUAL PROJECT LEARNING TREE CONFERENCE

Teri Heyer (Conservation Education Program Manager) and **Susan Cox** (Durham Field Office Conservation Education Specialist) represented the Northeastern Area at the Annual Project Learning Tree Conference held in historic Charleston, South Carolina. The conference focused on building partnerships and highlights included the roll out of the updated K-8 activity guide, the grade 3-6 Energy and Society Kit, and an updated secondary Solid Waste Management module. Three new secondary modules are in development: Exploring the Places We Live, World Forests, and Biodiversity. New partnerships with the Urban League and the National Association of Black School Educators will help in reaching urban youth. Speakers included Judy Braus with the World Wildlife Fund, Andre Hornsby from the National Alliance of Black School Educators, and Rudy Mancke, naturalist and host of Nature Scene. Next year's conference will be hosted by the Ohio PLT staff and the Ohio Division of Forestry; the Area has already promised financial assistance to help make the 17th conference in the 17th state an event to remember. For more information go to PLT's newly revised website at www.plt.org.



BUGS IN THE NEWS

The Flint Journal in Michigan quoted **Dennis Haugen** (Entomologist) in its Sunday, June 9th article on Asian Longhorned Beetle. The newspaper article titled "Longhorned Beetle Bringing its Destructive Habits Our Way" described the potential threat of the Asian longhorned beetle to the forests of Michigan. Dennis was quoted regarding the biology of the beetle and current eradication methods. In addition to Dennis, the Flint Journal also quoted one of our partners, Deb McCullough, Associate Professor of Entomology at Michigan State University. Dennis, Deb and the St. Paul Field Office website provided much of the background material for the newspaper article.

NORTHEASTERN AREA STAFFS A NEW MEXICO FIRE PREVENTION TEAM

Teri Heyer (Conservation Education) spent early May in Albuquerque, New Mexico on a fire prevention team assignment. Teri and three others comprised the first 2002 statewide fire prevention team deployed in New Mexico. The team coordinated fire prevention activities within the five prevention zones in the state, and assisted with public outreach about fire conditions and fire restrictions. Using rental car agencies, soda distributors, as well as the local news media, Teri and her team were able to jumpstart the outreach necessary to inform residents and tourists about fire prevention. Four person teams are expected to continue to rotate into the fire prevention team until early July when rains will hopefully lessen the extreme fire danger.

CHESAPEAKE BAY WATERSHED FEATURED ON NBC

"The Watershed and the Network News" initiative is a partnership between NBC4 WRC-TV in Washington DC, EPA, the Chesapeake Bay program, and the National Environmental Education Training Foundation. The purpose of the partnership is to increase the public understanding of watersheds. Meteorologist Dave Jones has developed a program called "Interactive Environment" or "ie" that uses the internet along with nightly weather broadcasts to help the public visualize what a watershed is and actions they can take to improve the health of the Chesapeake Bay watershed. In July, the partnership's website <http://www.watershed.interactive-environment.com/main/> will feature an interview with Chief Bosworth as well as information on the role of trees protecting watersheds.

SAVING REMNANTS OF A CHESTNUT FOREST

A farm in Southwest Wisconsin is home to the largest remaining "natural" stand of American chestnut. This stand, which originated over 100 years ago from a settler's planting, is outside the normal distribution of chestnut, and escaped the chestnut blight disease until about 12 years ago. Since the disease was discovered in the approximately 90-acre stand, scientists first tried to eradicate the disease, then to lessen its impact by introducing a virus to attack the chestnut blight fungus. The Northeastern Area has supported the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and researchers with funding and field assistance for ongoing projects in the stand. May 16-17, **Linda Haugen** (Plant Pathologist) and **Tim Reynolds** (Computer Specialist) assisted with data collection in the stand to help scientists track how well the virus is working. Once the most prevalent tree in the Eastern United States, this forest remains one of the last places a person can experience the beauty and magnificence of a stand of American chestnut.

INCLUDING PESTS IN THE CRYSTAL BALL

Forest managers often want to project forest growth and yield, particularly when developing forest management plans. One tool which National Forests and other land managers can use for predicting forest growth and yield is the Forest Vegetation Simulator (FVS). FVS uses growth and yield models to "grow" trees in the computer and predict the future condition of stands. In order for these projections to be meaningful, the effects of insects and diseases need to be considered. On April 22-26, basic training on use of FVS was conducted in Rolla, Missouri. **Linda Haugen** (Plant Pathologist) and Steve Oak of the Asheville Field Office in Region 8 provided information on forest health during the session. The session included a discussion on how to adjust projections for the impact of oak



decline. Within Region 9 and the Northeastern Area, Linda Haugen and **Bob Acciavatti** (Morgantown Field Office) are responsible for assisting users of FVS to incorporate pest information in their projections.

MINNESOTA FOREST STEWARDSHIP SURVEY RESULTS ARE IN...

The University of Minnesota College of Natural Resources, the University of Minnesota Cooperative Extension, the Minnesota, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the Northeastern Area recently cooperated in a survey of forest landowners to help determine the effectiveness of the Forest Stewardship Program in the Midwest. Landowners numbering 1,782 participated in the survey – a phenomenal rate of return of over 60 percent. The typical landowner surveyed owned 246 acres of land that had been in the family for 18 years. Fifty percent of those surveyed resided on the property, while half of the nonresidents lived within 30 miles of the property. One third of the respondents owned the land for recreation and aesthetics. The Forest Stewardship program has been successful in reaching a large number of new landowners – only 19 percent of those responding previously had a land management plan for their property. In addition, landowners commented on what aspects of stewardship plans had been implemented and suggested improvements for the program. For a copy of the June/July Minnesota Department of Natural Resources newsletter summary of the survey and its results, contact Mimi Barzen at: mimi.brazen@dnr.state.mn.us.

Editor's Corner

THANKS TO:

The following contributors to this issue: **Nancy Martin**, Newtown Square; **Helene Cleveland**, AEC.; **Helen Thompson**, Durham; **Lori Danuff McKean**, Grey Towers; **Dan Kincaid**, **Melissa Emerson**, and **Roxane Palone**, Morgantown; and **Gina Childs**, St. Paul. For her willingness to post the NA News Notes on the Web, **Helen Butalla**.

DEADLINE!

Deadline for the next issue of NA News Notes will be **July 16, 2002**. Please mail articles to Tinathan Coger at tcoger@fs.fed.us.

