

# 59th Annual North Central Forest Pest Workshop

October 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> – Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin



NCFPW 2010 Group photo, taken on the field trip.

## Overview

The 2010 North Central Forest Pest Workshop was held October 4-7<sup>th</sup> at the Osthoff Resort in Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin. Indoor sessions took place in various meeting rooms at the Resort. The theme of the meeting was “Changing Challenges and Innovation to Meet Them”, with talks related to climate change, invasive species and other challenges. Some of the innovations include Landsat image use, policy decisions, and genetic approaches. The field trip gave opportunity to view and discuss challenges such as EAB, Heterobasidion root disease, and exotic earthworms at the River Edge Nature Center and Kettle Moraine State Forest.

## Schedule

The meeting began on **Monday, October 4<sup>th</sup>**, with a fungal foray to a nearby parcel of State land. Registration was available on Monday evening during the Social at the Osthoff Resort.

Presentations began 8:00 a.m. on **Tuesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>** with a session on potential effects of climate change on forests and forest health. Speakers were from Wisconsin DNR, US Forest Service, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, and the University of Minnesota. We completed the morning session with a series of presentations on recent observations of forest health trends across the region. After lunch, we had opportunity to hear about some of the recent innovations that might help us meet forest health challenges, including remote sensing, policy/firewood regulations, social networking tools, genetic modification, and genetic selection. We followed the presentations with a brief business meeting.

Posters were available for viewing throughout the day.

On Tuesday evening, we enjoyed a banquet meal at the Osthoff Resort.

**On Wednesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>**, in the morning **the field trip** toured an EAB management area at the River Edge Nature Center and an adjacent private property. We were able to view and discuss various management strategies, including sink trees, insecticide trials, and ash reduction. A local food cooperative catered a wonderful lunch at the Nature Center. In the afternoon we proceeded to the Northern Unit of the Kettle Moraine State Forest for a demonstration of mitigation measures that can be used to prevent Heterobasidion Root Disease, a discussion on conversion of ash stands in advance of EAB, and a demonstration of the effects of exotic earthworms on native vegetation.

## Schedule (continued)

**On Wednesday evening**, some people participated in the traditional “**fun run**”, then groups went out for dinner on their own.

An indoor session on the morning of **Thursday, October 7<sup>st</sup>** consisted of updates on new and continuing regional forest health issues, including beech bark disease, thousand cankers disease of black walnut, hickory mortality, tick-borne Lyme disease, urban preparedness for EAB, Diplodia shoot blight on pine, and spruce decline.

The meeting adjourned at noon.

Link to detailed agenda: [AGENDA](#)

Note that the agenda includes e-mail addresses of many of the presenters, in case you would like to request copies of their presentation/powerpoint or ask questions.

## Highlights and notables

- There were 76 participants.
- Each participant received a “boot pick” for cleaning our boots to slow the spread of invasives, a field guide to terrestrial invasive plants in Wisconsin, and a package of Door County chocolate covered cherries.
- The fungal foray: Many rotten treasures were collected to bring back and display.
- The accommodations: The Osthoff provided very nice rooms at government rates, and good meeting space for our presentations and meals.
- The Bonfire: A casual evening by the lake, enjoying conversation with colleagues and friends.
- The field trip: A lovely day in the northwoods, with lots of good information. See the pictures at the end of the webpage.
- The Business Meeting
  - Election of three new Members-at-Large on the Board of Representatives: James Buck, APHIS in Michigan; John McLaughlin, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (Research); Simeon Wright, Missouri Department of Conservation.
  - 2011 and 2012 meeting locations are still being discussed.
  - Read the complete minutes, posted here: [MINUTES](#)



Bounty from the fungal foray. The giant puffball won the most attention, but other specimens were adequately admired.



## Thanks to the organizing committee

**Workshop Coordinator: Andrea Diss-Torrance, Wisconsin DNR**

WI DNR: Jane Cummings Carlson, Renee Pinski, Tim Beyer, Luke Saunders,  
Julie Peltier, and Colleen Robinson Klug

WI DATCP: Bob Dahl, Melody Walker

Univ of WI: Glen Stanosz and Ken Raffa (Madison), and Holly Petrillo (Stevens Point)

## Registration details

Registration for the 2010 NCFPW was US\$130, which included the ice-breaker, meeting breaks, light breakfast on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings, lunch on Tuesday and Wednesday, dinner on Tuesday evening, bonfire refreshments on Wednesday evening, and field trip transportation. A reduced rate of \$50 was available for participation in a single day. A reduced rate of \$100 was offered for students. Accommodation was available at the Osthoff Resort at the special meeting rate of \$70/ night plus tax.

## Images from the 2010 NCFPW Field Trip



At Riveredge Nature Center, we talked about EAB management, including use of sink trees (1), monitoring the development of the infestation (2), and potential insecticide and biocontrol treatments. Jane Cummings Carlson spoke under the cap of the structure known as "the mushroom" (3).



On the adjacent "Welcome H.O.M.E." bed and breakfast (4) property, Luke Saunders discussed options for management of low value ash (5) stands to reduce the impact of EAB. Is the



correct answer behind the middle door? (6) (note that the door is creative "yard art"). In the face of such complex questions, we couldn't help but stop to admire the simple spheres of puffballs (7) on the forest floor.



# Images from the 2010 NCFPW (continued)



On the Kettle Moraine State Forest, Tim Beyer talked about stand conversion from ash to other species in a manner that meets the many demands placed on a popular recreation site.

Yoko Scanlon organized a demonstration of the means to treat conifer stumps to prevent infection by *Heterobasidion irregulare*, the cause of Heterobasidion Root Rot.



Todd Lanigan uses a backpack sprayer to apply liquid DOT (Cellu-Treat) to the cut stump surface. Note that a blue dye is added so you can see what you've treated.



Todd uses a hand-held shaker/ applicator to apply granular Sporax to the cut stump surface.



Aaron Burmeister demonstrates use of a perforated bar fitted with a hydraulic attachment to treat stumps during cutting with a mechanized harvester. More photos of the operation are continued on the next page. The compound used to treat the stumps is Cellu-Treat, which is forced into the cut surface under pressure.



# Images from the 2010 NCFPW (continued)



Closer view of the perforated bar on the cutting head. Aaron shows how the solution (and dye) penetrate into the stump surface.



In a stand with heavy impacts from invasive plants and exotic earthworms, Tom Boos discussed survey methods to determine the distribution of invasives prior to stand entry, then mitigation practices that can be used to minimize redistribution of the pests.



Quinn Williams demonstrates earthworm sampling methodology.

A suspension of mustard poured over the soil will cause worms to come to the surface.



"Middens" are distinctive piles of worm "poop" and remains of undigested leaf petioles that accumulate outside the burrows of nightcrawlers.