

Farm Bill Accomplishment Report Template

Farm Bill Midyear Accomplishment Report

Year:	FY2013
State:	Maine
Cooperative Agreement Name:	Forest Pest Outreach and Survey Project
Cooperative Agreement Number:	13-8223-0662-CA
Project Funding Period:	9/20/2013 – 9/19/2014
Project Report:	Farm Bill FPOSP Midyear Report
Project Document Date:	4/29/2014
Cooperators Project Coordinator:	State Survey Coordinator
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Quarterly Report	<input type="checkbox"/>
Semi-Annual Accomplishment Report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Annual Accomplishment Report	<input type="checkbox"/>

1. Approach

a. Describe specific activities and accomplishments...

The cooperator will accomplish the following goals by the end of the agreement period:

1. Identify two communities within the state that are high risk for forest pest introduction and work with these communities to ensure that they are better prepared for the possible arrival of Asian longhorned beetle, emerald ash borer, and other invasive forest pests and pathogens. An effort will be made to select communities that have a significant minority component or other underserved audiences, particularly urban communities. Maine will select geographic areas that have not previously received a significant amount of outreach.

We identified one community so far and organized a tree survey event to be held on Earth Day, April 22, 2014. This community, Yarmouth, ME, is very proud of its street trees, having kept the largest elm alive for years after many have already succumbed to Dutch Elm Disease, and has been contemplating treating its ash trees (which replaced all the elms) to protect them from emerald ash borer. The event we are organizing will raise awareness in the community of emerald ash borer, as well as provide a practical advantage of inspecting its many ash trees (over 330) for signs of EAB.

2. Collaborate with the national Don't Move Firewood campaign to create a clear and consistent regionally specific message to be distributed at the state level. Cooperation with DMF will allow states to:
 - Work with DMF to design state-specific electronic printable versions of DMF posters, brochures, and postcards
 - Receive bulk quantities of DMF pre-printed educational materials (e.g. brochures, stickers, DVDs)
 - Utilize the DMF resource library to find campaign materials to build upon (i.e. prevent "reinventing the wheel")
 - Guest post local information and press releases to DMF's blog and facebook account
 - Access the FPOSP website, now hosted via TNC's contractors' non-profit Google account
 - Use DMF costumes through their costume share program

We have worked with Leigh Greenwood from DMF on a number of issues pertaining to invasive forest pests and outreach. We have ordered many quantities of Don'tMoveFirewood materials, including DVDs, stickers, water bottles, and Frisbees. We were also given the graphic for their EAB temporary tattoo, which we submitted to a tattoo manufacturing company so we could print our own as needed. We also collaborated on hashtag titles so that all Facebook and Twitter posts can be organized by topic. We also cross-post on each other's Facebook pages. There is no need to borrow their costumes as we have our own.

3. Design and implement outreach targeting employees of industries handling potentially regulated materials that are considered to be high risk pathways for the

spread of forest pests and pathogens. This could include people who work in and around warehouses and storage facilities, nursery and garden centers, saw mills and other vulnerable points of pest introduction.

We have not designed anything specifically for this group yet, but we’ve had the opportunity to extend outreach and education to some warehouse facilities that are importing goods on pallets from other parts of or outside the country. One industrial manufacturing warehouse contacted us through our ALB website reporting form because they captured a longhorned beetle that appeared to have traveled up from Texas/Mexico. This was a good opportunity to share information on ALB, EAB, BSLB, and other exotic woodboring pests. We also distribute outreach materials to nurseries, garden centers and saw mills. We have plans to design materials more specific to these groups.

4. Design and administer a training program for volunteer first detectors that targets environmental organizations, the tree care industry, utility companies, educators and concerned community members. First detectors will learn about forest pests of concern, how to respond to potential detections, and who to contact in the event of detection.

We have a well-developed training program for first detectors in the “green”-industry sector. We have scheduled four trainings, and have conducted three by midyear.

Date	Location	Trainer	Host	Other organizations represented	# trained
2/8/14	Dover-Foxcroft, Piscataquis Co.	ME DACF	University of Maine Cooperative Extension, Piscataquis Co.	State Park Manager, Licensed foresters (3), SWOAM, Master Gardeners, Realty Company, Winthrop Cons. Comm. etc.	24
3/11/14	Lewiston, Androscoggin Co.	ME DACF	City of Lewiston, Dept. Public Works	Auburn Public Works, Landscape companies (4), Master Gardeners, Bates College, City Councillors (2), etc.	31
3/13/14	Jefferson, Lincoln Co.	ME DACF	Hidden Valley Nature Center	Appalachian Trail Educator, AT Volunteer, Medomak Valley Land Trust, Licensed foresters, etc.	9
5/14/14	Acadia National Park, Hancock Co.	ME DACF	Acadia National Park		n/a

5. Evaluation Plans: Each state will maintain statistics about the numbers of events, estimated numbers of attendees at events, types of materials generated and distributed, numbers of volunteers recruited and community preparedness plans or activities. This information will be included as part of a final report based on the suggestion’s reporting requirements.

A database of all trained volunteers from 2009 to the present was created in 2009 and is updated frequently. Also included are names and contacts of people that have expressed

interest in receiving information and updates. Currently, there are approximately 260 names in the database. A volunteer helps by entering events into a spreadsheet that we then upload to the database. The FPOSP volunteer coordinator, Lorraine Taft, sends bimonthly emails of program updates, upcoming events, solicitation of feedback, words of encouragement, etc. to all the contacts in the database. Most of the outreach events we participate in include volunteers from this database. We also maintain Facebook and Twitter pages that not only inform followers of pest updates, but help to solicit volunteers and set up new outreach events. More information about number and types of outreach events will be in final report.

6. Multi-state Project Coordinators: The state survey coordinators of Maine, Massachusetts and Vermont and the state plant regulatory official of New Hampshire will serve as project managers and will provide overall guidance and general cohesion for the project. The project manager responsibilities include:
- organizing quarterly conference calls
 - facilitating opportunities for regional cooperation
 - compiling a final report summarizing outreach efforts for all participants

Multi-state project coordination has occurred so far as two conference calls have been conducted. Over 20 states participated on each call.

Approved and signed by



Cooperator

Date: 4/29/2014

Date:

ADODR

Some Outreach Events FY2013



Woodcarver's Show 9/21/13



Common Ground Fair 9/20/13 - 9/22/13



Knox-Lincoln County SWCD Conservation Fair, 9/25/13



Knox-Lincoln County SWCD Conservation Fair, 9/25/13



Agricultural Trades Show 1/8/13 - 1/10/13



Agricultural Trades Show 1/8/13 - 1/10/13



Eastern Maine Sportsman Show 3/8/14 - 3/10/14



Eastern Maine Sportsman Show 3/8/14 - 3/10/14