

Farm Bill Accomplishment Report Template

Farm Bill Midyear Accomplishment Report

Year:	FY2014
State:	Maine
Cooperative Agreement Name:	Forest Pest Outreach and Survey Project
Cooperative Agreement Number:	14-8223-0662-CA
Project Funding Period:	9/20/2014 – 9/19/2015
Project Report:	Farm Bill FPOSP Midyear Report
Project Document Date:	4/30/2015
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 are deemed high risk due to characteristics suitable for easy introduction. Maine will also focus on select geographic areas that have not previously received a significant amount of outreach.

Two communities have been approached (Camden and Belfast) to develop community management plans for invasive tree pest introductions, primarily emerald ash borer. We are currently communicating and meeting with active members in each community who are planning to develop a management plan and facilitate municipality involvement. Camden and Belfast were chosen because they each have an extensive ash resource, are high-risk due to numerous out-of-state visitors to campgrounds and harbors, are underserved as the state urban forester focuses on larger municipalities, and both towns have active natural resource stewards.

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

We are working with Don't Move Firewood to develop state-specific rack cards and large-size stand-alone posters. 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.

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 are planning new information formats designed for different high-risk sectors. An education kit has been developed and has been used by a number of different schools. Other materials are in development.

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 partnered with Soil and Water Conservation Districts around the state to host the trainings and provide logistical support (e.g. registrations). We have scheduled six trainings, and have conducted two by midyear (3/31/15).

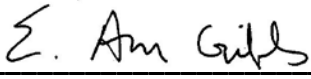
Date	Location	Trainer	Host	Other organizations represented	# trained
2/11/15	Greenville, Piscataquis Co.	ME DACF	Piscataquis Co. SWCD	Licensed private foresters, District forester, hardwood dealers, SWCD directors, forest rangers, master gardeners, Student Envirothon competitors...	26
3/18/15	Waldoboro, Knox Co.	ME DACF	Knox-Lincoln SWCD	Licensed private foresters, District forester, Bureau of Parks and Lands, Coastal Mountains Land Trust, SWCD staff, Merryspring Nature Center, woodlot owners, tree farm managers...	25
4/1/15	Lewiston, Androscoggin Co.	ME DACF	Androscoggin Valley SWCD		
5/5/15	Baxter State Park, Millinocket, Penobscot Co.	ME DACF	Baxter State Park and Penobscot Co. SWCD		
5/19/15	Farmington, Franklin Co.	ME DACF	Franklin Co. SWCD		
7/22/15	Whitneyville, Washington, Co.	ME DACF	Washington Co. SWCD		

5. 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 in reports 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. Currently, there are approximately 300 names in the database. The FOSP

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.

Approved and signed by



Cooperator

Date: 5/6/2015

ADODR

Date: _____

Some Outreach Events FY2014

Tabling - Maine Bug Watch/Invasive Forest Pests:

Late September 2014 - Common Ground Fair – tens of thousands of people

October 2015 – Fryeburg Fair – thousands of people

November 2014 – Invasive Species Forum; Massabesic Middle School

January 2015 – Maine Agricultural Trades Show – hundreds of people

March 2015 – Eastern Maine Sportsmen’s Show – hundreds of people

Presentations:

October 2014 – Utility Arborist Workshop Day

November 2014 – Belgrade Lakes Association

November 2014 – Blue Hill/Ellsworth

March 2015 – Hidden Valley Nature Center

Volunteer Efforts:

Oxford Co. SWCD – monthly outreach to community via fairs, schools, workshops, community planning

City of South Portland Parks Department – community outreach, esp. K-12

Downeast Lakes Land Trust – newsletters, displays

Quoddy Tides article on EAB

Damariscotta Chamber of Commerce – ALB and EAB brochures

Other:

Education Kits – loaned to 5 middle and high schools

Fall 2014 – Spring 2015 - Children’s Book on EAB – Cascade Brooks Elementary School

