BUREAU OF FORESTRY FOREST HEALTH PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORT, FISCAL YEAR 2009 CHARLES M. BURNHAM, PROGRAM SUPERVISOR

THIS IS AN ABBRIVITED REPORT AS ALL FOREST HEALTH PERSONNEL HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED TO ASSIST WITH THE SURVEY OF THE RECENTLY DISCOVERED ASIAN LONGHORNED BEETLE IN WORCESTER.

SUMMARY OF INSECT/ DISEASE ACTIVITY

AERIAL SURVEY: The annual aerial survey was completed in accordance with the requirements of our cooperative agreement with the USDA Forest. A complete list of the disturbances documented has not been completed at the time this report is being compiled.

ASIAN LONGHORNED BEETLE (ALB): On August first, I was notified by the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (DAR) of a possible infestation of the Asian Longhorned Beetle in Worcester. The next day, August second, I received a follow-up call from DAR that they and the USDA APHIS had visited Whitmarsh Avenue in the Greendale section of Worcester and confirmed the presence of this invasive insect. A meeting was held on Monday August 4 between the USDA, APHIS, DAR and the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR). At this meeting it was decided that the USDA would be the lead agency and that DCR would serve as the lead state agency. The organizational structure would use the incident command system with APHIS providing the incident commander and DCR would provide a deputy incident commander. In as much as Mr. Kenneth Gooch of the DCR Forest Health Staff had extensive knowledge for ALB from is work in New York, New Jersey, and Chicago, he was chosen to serve as the deputy incident commander.

On August seventh a meeting was held with federal, state and local officials and a plan to attempt eradication was developed. All staff from the forest health program was assigned to the Worcester program and extensive tree by tree surveys begun. As time progressed several public meetings were held to keep the residents informed of the plan and restrictions being implemented to prevent the spread. The DCR had legislative authority to impose a quarantine which was initially 16 square miles. This area included the northern section of Worcester, as well as neighboring sections of Holden and West Boylston. As a result of the initial surveys parts of Shewsbury and Boylston were added bring the total area under quarantine to 32 square miles. Because of this quarantine all woody plant material was being prohibited from being removed from the quarantine area. A disposal area was setup on Ararat Street and a contract was developed to have a commercial company handle the grinding of all woody materials. Survey work continued with all personnel from the DCR Bureau of Forestry being rotated from their regular assignments to the Worcester survey on a two week assignment. As surveys were being conducted contracts were being organized to begin the removal of infested trees. Working from an already approved contract list, two companies were selected to conduct

the removals. Because of the scope of this project these companies employed many sub contractors. Tree removal began in December but this part of the operation was hampered by a severe ice storm which caused many companies to respond with utility companies to restore power. This ice storm further complicated the ALB project because of the lack of qualified tree companies as well as increasing the demand at the disposal site because of the restriction on removing woody debris from the quanantine area.

This report has been prepared from notes taken during the initial planning of the eradication program and from newspaper articles as the request to the deputy incident commander for a detailed report was not received. During this fiscal year the Forest Health Program provided 1,054 man days to the ALB eradication project.

ICE STORM RESPONSE: To assist in restoring electricity and open roadways blocked by downed trees and branches, all DCR tree crews were places at the disposal of the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA). Communities requesting assistance contacted MEMA who in turn would dispatch crews at they became available. These crews provided 72 man days of assistance to this emergency situation.

TREE WORK: Prior to being assigned to the ALB program the tree crews removed 1988 hazard trees from within the State Park System and pruned an additional 616 trees.

PERSONNEL

Eric Reynolds was hired to fill the vacant Forester One position in the Connecticut Valley.

This will be the last annual report I will complete as I have announced my plan to retire after 42 years and 9 months of service to DCR and its preceding agency agencies, Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Environmental Management. My retirement will be effective in January of 2009.

		<u> </u>	
FY 09			
Discription	Man Days		
Federal Projects		•	
Administrative Work(Federal)	69		
Aerial Survey	19.75		
Asian Longhorned Beetle	1053.438		
Bark Beetle Survey	6.5		
Cercis Wasp Survey	5.5		
Champion Trees	3.375		
Emerald Ash Borer Survey	38.125		
Equipment Maintenance	146.625		
Ground Survey	68.25		
Gypsy Moth Survey	70.5		
Hemlock WoollyAdelgid	9.5		-
Training	13.875		-
Landowner Assistance	2.5		
Municipal Assistance	3.5		
State Projects			
Other Admin	233.5		
Assist Other DCR Programs	2.5		
Pesticide Applications	22.875		
Recreation Work	4.5		
Regional Assignments	50.625		
Sick/Vacation/Personal	444.875		
Sirex Survey	15.25		
Sudden Oak Death Survey	3.5		
Tree Work	501		
Out of State Fire	12		
Ice Storm	72.625		
		FEMA Rates	Total Cost
Trees Removed	1988	\$600.00	\$1,192,800.00
Trees Pruned	616	\$72.00	\$44,352.00
Totals			\$1,237,152.00

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Title	No of Positions	Hourly Wage	Annual Salaries	Fringe	Indirect	Total
Insect Pest Control Spec, 1		17.62	299.	0,377.17	9,585.	\$113,261.92
Insect Pest ControlSpe. II		i •	739.	4,399.49	3,063.1	\$191,201.81
Forester		1 -	105.	6,733.35	4,917.8	\$259,756.77
Forester II		27.63	470.	5,976.77	5,356.0	\$88,8
Forester III		1 •	\$67,849.60	\$18,862.189	129.	\$104,841.20
Total			,464	36,348.9	1,051.9	
Total Personnel						\$757,864.97

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		Poor	Western	29 Tree Crew Region 5	Bucket Truck	Tree 1
		Excellent	Western		228 2008 Ford Kanger 69B 2008 Ford F150	shade Tree 12 Shade Tree 16
•	ar old, per lift mfg	or deadlined when 25 year				
	e replaced	Fair condition: Lift must be	Central	ire, Central Region	1988 Internatio	shade Tree 55
		Needs body work	Central	Tree Crew Central Region	Landscape Tra	Tree
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			Central	9.460 Tree Crew C	1988 Chew B	
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			Northeast	in Free Crew Nonneast	1999 Landscal	ree
			S	ee Crew Northeast	1988 Chevy Bucket	Tree
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Cooperative Forest Health Grants				
Requires Complete Match				
Year	Base Funding	Special Projects	Total	
200	370,930.00	\$51,400.00	\$122,330.00	
200	370,500.00	\$45,000.00	\$115,500.00	
200	355,450.00	\$40,000.00	\$95,450.00	
200	358,300.00	\$32,000.00	\$90,300.00	
200	352,300.00	\$57,600.00	\$109,900.00	
200	369,600.00	\$28,000.00	\$97,600.00	
APHIS-No Match Required				
200)7	\$29,080.00	\$29,080.00	
200)8	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	
200)9	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	_

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FEDERAL			
	Salaries Fringe and Payroll Taxes Indirect Charges Total Personnel	\$18,414 $5,119$ $4,920$ $$28,453$	
	Aircraft Rental Indirect Cost on aircraft rental Intern Salary Indirect Payroll Taxes (other)	\$6,000 1,603 12,800 3,420 179	
	University of Massachusetts Parasite Rearing Coop Extension Tree Failure Study Forest Resource Plan Total Contract	10,000 5,000 5,000 10,000 \$54,002	
	Miscellaneous Supplies Travel Total Miscellaneous	\$ 5,145 <u>10,000</u> \$15,145	
Total Federal STATE Person Total State	nnel Salaries Fringe and Payroll Taxes Indirect Charges	\$97,600 \$63,163 17,560 <u>16,877</u> \$ 97,600	

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FY10 Expense Budgets

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