

USDA Forest Service, Bent Creek Experimental Forest

Presents

A two day Silviculture Workshop



Oak Regeneration in Upland Hardwood Forests

July 24-25, 2012

Asheville, NC

Research Scientists from the US Forest Service, Southern Research Station, will be conducting a two day workshop for resource managers working in oak-dominated ecosystems who are interested in learning more about oak ecology and silvicultural techniques to regenerate oak on upland hardwood sites. The two day workshop will include indoor lecture and field trips.

Bent Creek Experimental Forest is part of the USDA Forest Service, Research and Development branch, managed by the Southern Research Station. It is on the Pisgah National Forest and located in Asheville, NC. Scientists at this important historical research facility have been conducting research for over 85 years on upland hardwood ecosystems.

Workshop Logistics:

Registration:

- Participants must register for this workshop.

Cost:

- There is no cost for the two day workshop but seating is limited.

Lunches:

- Participants are responsible for lunches.

Field Trips:

- Participants will go to the field rain or shine.

Vehicles:

- Personal vehicles will be used for both field trips. 4-wheel drive vehicles are needed for the field trip July 25. Please specify on the registration form if you have a 4-wheel drive and if you are willing to take passengers on the field trip.

Equipment Needs:

- Hard hat (one can be provided if you do not have one)
- Rain Gear
- Water Bottle
- Participants will need to be dressed appropriately for the field each day. The following are recommendations: long pants, shirt, and sturdy boots. Participants will perform an exercise in the woods off the trails.
- Small backpack to store rain gear and other items.
- Laptop

AGENDA

Tuesday, July 24

- 8:00 - 8:25 **Registration**
- 8:25 - 8:30 **Welcome**
- 8:30 - 9:00 **Introduction**
Katie Greenberg will give an overview of problems associated with sustainability of oak-dominated forests, including oak (and other hardwood species) regeneration and recruitment into the canopy, oak decline, and mortality.
Speaker: Katie Greenberg, Research Ecologist
- 9:00 - 9:45 **Forest Site Classification, Environmental Gradients and Forest Composition**
Henry McNab, Research Forester, will discuss where different forest types occur on the landscape looking at classification techniques and forest compositions.
Speaker: Mr. Henry McNab, Research Forester
- 9:45 - 10:00 **Break**
- 10:00 - 10:30 **Silvicultural Systems**
Tara Keyser will review and discuss several silvicultural methods currently used in the management of upland hardwood forests.
Speaker: Tara Keyser, Research Forester
- 10:30-11:30 **Regeneration Ecology**
Tara Keyser will discuss the regeneration ecology of the predominant hardwood species in upland oak ecosystems
Speaker: Tara Keyser, Research Forester
- 11:30-12:30 **Lunch on your own**
There are several restaurants and fast food establishments located within 2 miles of the training facility or bring a lunch and sit outside at the picnic table.
- 12:30-3:30 **Field Trip to Bent Creek Experimental Forest**
Participants will travel in their personal vehicles to Bent Creek Experimental Forest (5 minute drive) to view research projects, silvicultural treatments and discuss regeneration problems.
The field trip will cover the following topics:
- Silviculture and regeneration strategies of oak and other upland hardwood species
 - Acorn and native fruit production
 - Participants will participate in a field exercise collecting data
- 3:45 **Return to Training Facility & break**
- 4:00 - 5:00 **REGEN Model**
Tara Keyser will use data collected in the field to model regeneration potential and likely response to disturbance in upland hardwood stands. Participants will need to bring a laptop.
- 5:00 **Adjourn**

Wednesday, July 25

- 8:30-9:30 **Regeneration Response of Oak and Other Hardwood Species to Fire and Other Fuel Reduction Treatments**
- Tom Waldrop will discuss regeneration response of oak and other hardwood species after single and multiple burns in upland hardwood forest.*
Speaker: Tom Waldrop, Research Forester
- 9:30 – 10:30 **Artificial Regeneration**
- Stacy Clark will discuss options and procedures for introducing oaks that are not currently present into stands. American chestnut restoration project will also be discussed.*
Speaker: Stacy Clark
- 10:30 – 3:00 **Field Trip to Cold Mountain Game Lands**
- Participants will have an opportunity to see and learn about oak regeneration treatments, including prescribed fire, and discuss preliminary results of studies.*
- 11:30 **Arrive at Cold Mountain Game Lands**
- Participants will travel to Cold Mountain Game Lands for the day to see and discuss the NC Regional Oak Study, collaboration between Bent Creek scientists and NC Wildlife Resources Commission employees. The Game Land is located near Canton, NC (about a 45minute drive) and requires 4-wheel drive vehicles. Participants please indicate on the registration form if you have a 4-wheel drive and are willing to transport participants. Everyone will need to bring a lunch or you may preorder a box lunch on the registration form.*
- 3:00 **Closing Remarks**
- 3:15 **Leave Cold Mountain Game Lands**
- Participants are welcome to leave from this location or return to the Bent Creek training center.*
- 4:00 **Return to Bent Creek Training Center/Adjourn**