NPB Firewood Initiative

Progress to NPB Firewood Working Group

National Plant Board Annual Meeting, Kalispell MT

By Ann Gibbs ME & Piera Siegert NH,
EAB Deregulation and firewood

- In 2017, APHIS approached NPB membership about interstate firewood movement in the absence of an EAB regulation.
- NPB members favored development of a firewood quarantine template and toolkit that states could use to develop their own approach to the pathway.
- In 2018, a workgroup was formed to begin development of materials.
- Final product expected by January 1, 2020
Firewood Working Group

- Charged with developing a framework of activities for states to help prevent the movement of pests on firewood.
- Provide firewood references to states.
- Suggest best practices for states in:
  - Regulation
  - Best management practices
  - Outreach strategies
- Make information available to states to **promote and enable**, but **not require**, a more unified approach to firewood pathway.
Firewood Working Group Members:

Co-chairs: Ann Gibbs, Maine and Piera Siegert, New Hampshire
Support & Facilitation: Lora Katz, Steve Shearer, and Paula Henstridge, APHIS PPQ

Regulatory:
- Helmuth Rogg, Oregon
- Steve Hildebrandt, Florida

Best Management Practices:
- Dan Kenny, Ohio
- Anni Self, Tennessee
- Jonathan Shields, Ohio
- Mary Beute Glover, Tennessee

Outreach Techniques:
- Piera Siegert, New Hampshire
- Tim Allen, Wisconsin
- Leigh Greenwood, Don’t Move Firewood, The Nature Conservancy
This effort will **NOT**:  

- Require states to implement an exterior firewood quarantine.  
- Dictate how a state regulates firewood, or doesn’t.  
- Supersede existing state or federal quarantines with a firewood component.  
- Provide funding or resources for firewood-pathway activities.
Regulatory

- Provides references for states contemplating developing a firewood regulation or looking at revising existing regulations
- Covers all aspects from stakeholder engagement to suggested regulation verbiage
- The documents under development include a quarantine template and further guidance documents on specific aspects of regulating firewood:
  - Definitions
  - Compliance agreements
  - Heat treatment standards
  - Certification programs
  - Labelling
Best Management Practices

- Focus on firewood consumers, producers and individuals cutting wood used for heating structures
- A guidance document has been produced describing suggested audiences and how to promote BMPS
- Specific BMPs have been developed for:
  - Commercial producers of firewood
  - Cutting firewood for personal use
  - Consumers of firewood
Outreach Strategies

- Target recreational users of firewood (campers etc.) to change behavior
- A tool kit has been developed including recommendations for:
  - Best practices to deliver a consistent firewood outreach message
  - Effective outreach techniques and mechanisms
  - Managing a firewood directory through Firewood Scout
  - Materials available through Don’t Move Firewood
  - State firewood webpages
  - Audience outreach list
  - Working with campground owners
Next Steps

- Complete the regulatory templates
- Pull together all the sections and have them reviewed by the committee
- Ask a few states at different stages of regulating firewood to review the draft
- Working Group Meeting as needed
- Plan on having the final document completed by January 1, 2020