



NPB Firewood Initiative

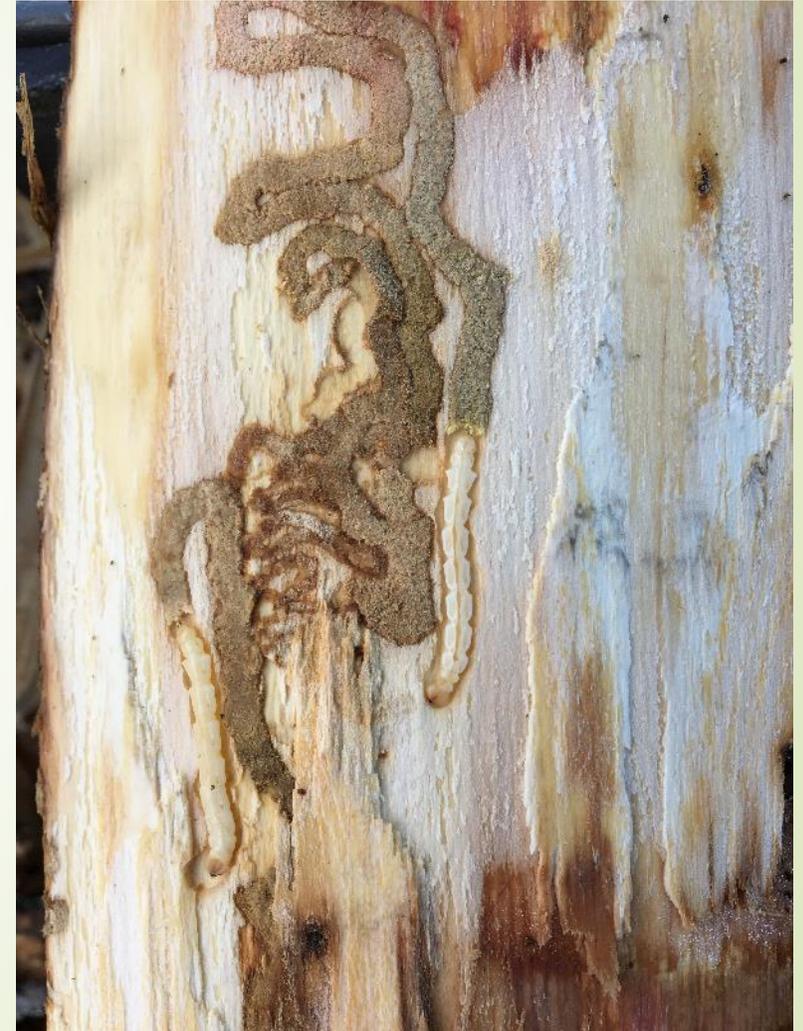
Progress to NPB Firewood Working Group

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

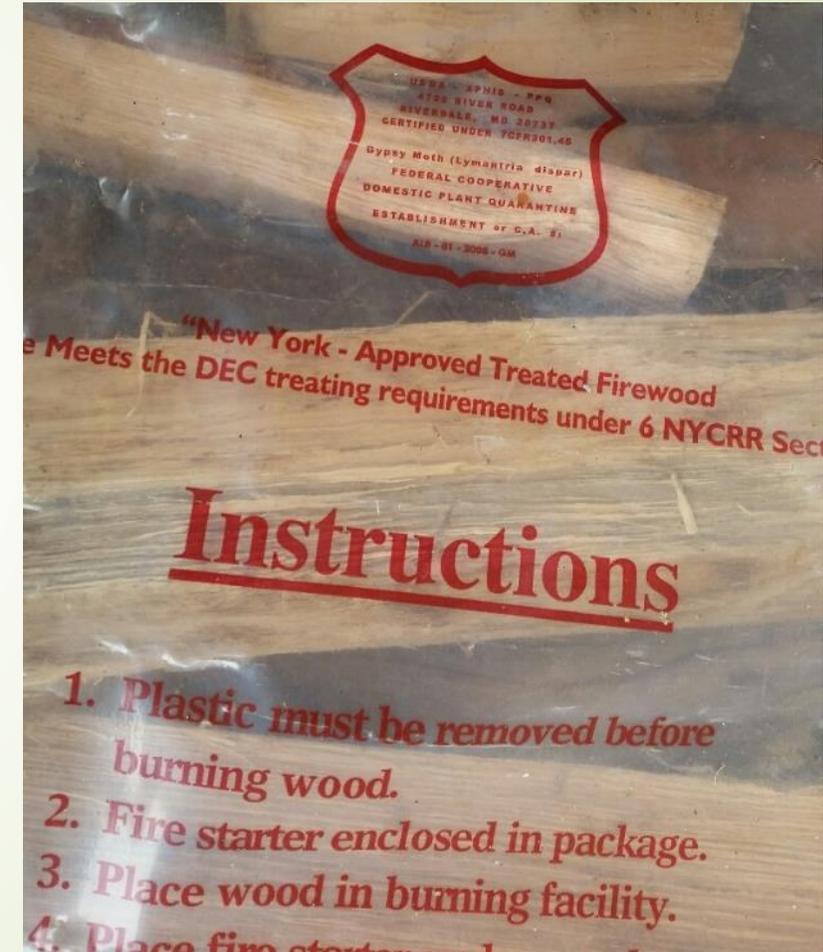
This effort will **NOT**:

- 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