

## **Take a Stand For Hemlocks: HWA Sampling Instructions**

**1. Identify a stand to sample:** You only need to monitor one forest stand with hemlocks. The monitoring should be done annually. The stand can be less than 10 acres. However, the larger the stand (the more hemlocks it has) the better. In situations where stands exceed 200 acres and you have the time and resources, one sampling survey for each 100 acres is preferable. The more trees that get sampled the better the chance of detecting HWA. If you have a GPS unit available, take a GPS reading of the stand and record this info on the report form.

**2. Recon the site:** Before proceeding with the sampling roughly ascertains the location of 4 blocks. Don't spend much time doing this.

**3. Sample the stand:** Refer to the enclosed HSP "field sheet" for sampling instructions. Sampling should be done on an annual basis as an ongoing survey. You only need to sample once a year. This can be done any season of the year provided site conditions permit access to trees. Searching is easier when the new HWA wool is most visible in spring and summer. Suspicious looking twig samples should be placed in a plastic bag and can be mailed with the stand report form to: **Allison Kanoti, Insect and Disease Laboratory, 48 Hospital Street, Augusta, Maine 04330**. It's important that the suspect tree can be found in case of a positive HWA find. The branch should be flagged. I've enclosed pieces of flagging in case you need it. You were given plastic bags at the training session.

**4. Submit the report:** The report is on the back of the Sampling Plan Sheet. Be sure to draw a rough map or directions to the site with a GPS reading of the stand if you have one available. Your sampling results are a piece of the state wide HWA survey.

**Please include any comments you have about using the sampling plan. The sampling plan is under a continual improvement process. Your comments or questions will be shared with Scott Costa at the University of Vermont, the plan developer.**

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