

Woodland Owners Update

Keeping NC Woodland Owners In The Loop



BOLO for Surviving Hemlocks!!!!

Posted on [November 22, 2011](#) by [jajeuck](#)

Be On the Look Out for Surviving Hemlocks

Have you seen a surviving hemlock in an area where hemlocks have been devastated by hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA)?

The Alliance for Saving Threatened Forests* is looking for naturally occurring eastern and Carolina hemlock trees that have survived HWA infestations. Occasionally, a few healthy looking hemlock trees persist in areas where massive mortality has occurred. Some of these trees may be lucky and were just missed and others may have some naturally occurring resistance. The Alliance aims to take and propagate cuttings from survivors and evaluate them for natural resistance to HWA. Any resistant hemlocks will be bred to produce adelgid resistant plants.

You could be the one who finds the hemlock(s) that will be used to someday reintroduce native hemlocks back to their natural range. If during work or recreational activities you see hemlocks that fit the criteria below please contact the Alliance at threatenedforests@ncsu.edu and provide the following information:

Tree location (required)

GPS coordinates preferred, or detailed directions/map

Tree diameter (required) estimated DBH

Contact name and telephone number of person finding the tree (required in case investigator needs help locating the tree)

Landowner information (preferred if known) Name and contact info

Here are the criteria for potentially resistant hemlocks:

Untreated by pesticides or horticultural oils

Deep green needles, full and thick branches

Very little sky visible when looking up through the canopy

Mature tree (greater than 30 feet tall)

Greater than 95% mortality of surrounding mature hemlock trees or surrounded by more than 10 mature dead hemlocks

Few or no adelgids at the needle bases

Eastern or Carolina hemlock

Naturally occurring (not planted or landscape tree)

If you have questions, contact Ben Smith at NC State University at 828-456-3943 or at the email address above.

Thank you for being on the look out.