Coalition Against Forest Pests—updated & prepared for action

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Survey of members
14 surveyed; 13 replied

• Alliance for Community Trees
• American Forest and Paper Association
• American Forests
• AmericanHort
• California Forest Pest Council
• Center for Invasive Species Prevention
• Hardwood Federation
• National Association of Conservation Districts
• Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
• Society of American Foresters
• Southern Group of State Foresters
• A university professor who had been active in Dialogue
• Vermont Woodlands Association

[not surveyed: National Association of State Foresters]
Responses to survey - issues

• Most pressing threats:
  – Insufficient federal funding for forest health protection activities
  – Inadequate measures for preventing IAS introductions
  – Insufficient public awareness and care regarding IAS
  – Insufficient strategic vision among federal and state agencies
  – Inadequate measures for preventing interstate spread
Responses to survey - activities

• Preferred coalition activities
  – Annual appropriations testimony for submission to Congress
  – Info sharing re: proposed legislation & regs
  – Congressional briefings
  – Development of letters & comments re: legislation or proposals
  – Convening of periodic meetings with key agency officials
Responses to survey – types of organizations

• … we hope will work with us:
  – National level organizations focused on national level policy issues
  – Groups representing stakeholders
  – Regional organizations focused on regional and national policy issues
  – State & local groups focused on local, state, regional, & national policy issues
2016 actions

• Letters to appropriate Congressional subcommittees supporting appropriations for APHIS & USFS
Activities Under Discussion

• Developing and providing guidance for the selection of USDA Undersecretary for Marketing and Regulatory Affairs & USDA Undersecretary for Natural Resources

• Addressing pending APHIS actions involving restrictions on plant imports (NAPPRA lists and revision of Q-37)

• Consideration of Farm Bill proposals – primarily RRISC set; individual organizations have objected to several of the “Tree-Smart Trade” proposals