## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Sept. 18, 2015 Contact: John Erixson Impact of Climate Change on Nebraska's Forests Nebraska Forest Service 402-472-6601 Jerixson2@unl.edu

## The Impact of Climate Change on Nebraska's Forests

LINCOLN, Neb.—As wildfires and flooding continue to cause damage throughout North America, the Nebraska Forest Service moves to better understand and prepare for change with a free public lecture on "Climate Change: Implications for Nebraska's Forests" Oct. 13 in Lincoln.

Dr. Linda Joyce, Climate Scientist for the United States Forest Service, will talk about the impact of climate change on ecosystems, plants and animals, as well as the socioeconomic implications of those effects. Joyce said the goal is to be proactive, "to identify management, research, education and policy actions that can be implemented now and in coming years to enhance resilience and minimize damage from climate change."

This event grew out of a 2014 University of Nebraska report on "Understanding and Assessing Climate Change: Implications for Nebraska," which summarized current understanding of climate change science, projected changes in climate for Nebraska and looked at the implications and challenges for some of the state's primary sectors. Joyce's presentation focuses more specifically on the impact of climate change on Nebraska's forests and trees.

Hosted by the Nebraska Forest Service, the talk will be held at 7 p.m. Oct. 13 in Lincoln at the Hardin Hall Auditorium, 3310 Holdrege. The event is free but participants are encouraged to sign up at <u>http://go.unl.edu/climatechange</u>.

The Nebraska Forest Service, an affiliate of the University of Nebraska, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources (IANR), works to enrich lives by protecting, restoring and utilizing Nebraska's tree and forest resources. More at nfs.unl.edu.

# # #