



MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE INITIATIVE

Is the Private Forestlands Rehabilitation Program for you?

The Mountain Pine Beetle Initiative, led by the Canadian Forest Service's Pacific Forestry Centre, is a five year \$40 million program to address the mountain pine beetle epidemic in British Columbia.

Developed as a partnership among departments of the federal government, the BC provincial government, national research institutes, First Nations and industry, the Initiative is providing

- i) technical and funding assistance to rehabilitate affected federal and private forestlands and
- ii) research to quantify the impacts of the current epidemic and reduce the risk of future epidemics.

Under the Initiative's ***Private Forestlands Rehabilitation Program***, owners of non-industrial private forestland, between 10 and 2000 hectares in size, can apply for technical and funding assistance to help them manage and control the mountain pine beetle and rehabilitate their infested forestland.

There are four beetle management strategies in British Columbia:

suppression (aggressive direct control) in very lightly infested areas;

holding (keeping the outbreak from getting any worse) in areas where the infestations are too large for single-tree treatment;

salvage (harvesting of infested trees) in areas where extensive outbreaks have left a high proportion of dead and dying trees; and

monitor (keeping track) in areas where management efforts would be ineffective in reducing beetle populations.

What are the objectives of the program?

The purpose of the program is to assist landowners in early mountain pine beetle control efforts and rehabilitation of mountain pine beetle infested areas on private forestlands. The primary objectives are to assist landowners to control and reduce the spread of the mountain pine beetle on private forestlands and to rehabilitate areas that have been affected. Through the program, private landowners are also able to enhance their understanding and knowledge of mountain pine beetle control and sustainable forest management.

What activities are eligible?

Eligible management activities to mitigate the impact of the mountain pine beetle, in both the short term and the long term, include ground surveys, treatment surveys and prescriptions, sanitation harvesting, salvage harvesting, fall and burn, debarking, beetle proofing, pheromone baiting, purchase of pheromones, site preparation, seedling acquisition, reforestation, brushing and weeding and minor road improvements.



Mountain Pine Beetle devastation in British Columbia



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What's not eligible?

Assistance will not cover landowner labour; the cost of landowner-owned equipment; the purchase of non-expendable equipment (pruners, power saws, ATVs, GPS receivers, etc.); pesticide treatment; research activities; aerial surveys by helicopter or fixed-wing aircraft; the purchase of satellite imagery or aerial photography; full management plan development, including either initial or updated forest inventories; road and bridge construction, reconstruction, or repair; and the purchase and use of anti-aggregation semiochemicals.

Annual maximum is \$25 000

The **Private Forestlands Rehabilitation Program** will contribute up to 80% of eligible costs up to an annual maximum of \$25 000 per landowner on approved projects. A maximum of up to 10% of the funds may be used for project management and administration and up to 5% for minor capital items (i.e. field equipment, planting tools, safety gear, etc.). The landowner must contribute at least 20% of the approved eligible costs. This contribution could be in the form of cash or in-kind. Examples of in-kind contributions include labour, supervision, equipment, supplies, office space and materials, management and technical or professional services. Revenue from merchantable timber accruing from harvesting will be factored into the cost-sharing of the project.

Implementing approved projects will require hiring a forestry consultant to supervise and monitor project activities and treatments, carry out environmental assessments where necessary, and ensure appropriate treatment standards and procedures are followed.

Landowners who do not have a forest management plan that is current or a mountain pine beetle strategy for their property should apply for assistance in developing a mountain pine beetle Management Strategy and Report for their forestlands. In most of these cases, a first project proposal to the Private Forestlands Rehabilitation Program would be to hire a forestry consultant to carry out surveys and prepare the strategy and management report. Subsequent treatments and activities that are proposed should be derived from this management report.



Area of British Columbia affected by Mountain Pine Beetle

Contact the Canadian Forest Service

For Operational Guidelines and a Funding Application Form:

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Private Forestlands Rehabilitation Program
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Or contact the Forest Liaison Officer nearest you:

Prince George, BC

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Kamloops, BC

Maureen Scott
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**For more information
on the mountain pine beetle:**
www.pfc.cfs.nrcan.gc.ca/entomology/mpb