



Joint Communiqué from the Anarchist Mountain Community Society & the Anarchist Mountain Firefighters Society

- Infestations now are effecting 14 million Ha of the 60 million Ha of licensed timber lands in BC

- The Society, in cooperation with Regal Ridge, have hired a forest health forester

Mountain Pine Beetle (MPB) & Western Pine Beetle (WPB) infestations continue to damage huge tracts of forests in BC. Of the 60 million Ha of licensed timberland in the Province, about 14 million are infested with MPB, making this one of the worst pest problems to be recorded in BC.

The effects of these infestations are serious. Ponderosa and lodge pole pine are the main targets of these bugs. The bugs kill over 60% of mature trees in infested areas, which is evident in areas like Kamloops, Quesnel, and eastern Manning Park. We have been asking - where are the beetles now? Are they coming this way? Are there things that we can do if they do come to Anarchist Mountain?

MPB have been confirmed as in Kamloops, Cathedral Park (w of Osoyoos), and in Penticton. There are unconfirmed reports of beetles in the Okanagan Falls area - but so far no "confirmed" sightings in the southern Okanagan.

The Society has been in contact with Dr. John Borden, a leading Canadian expert on MP beetles. His comments were not encouraging, saying that if MPB isn't already on Anarchist Mountain it is likely to happen this year or next. Dr. Borden suggested an assessment by a forest health professional, to determine if infestation is happening here, and if so to assist the community in an integrated pest management strategy next year.

The Society, in cooperation with Regal Ridge, have hired a forest health forester to help us determine if there is a problem here or not. Eric Haupt, a forestry consultant recommended by Dr. Borden, will visit Anarchist Mountain in October to assess infestation status. October has been chosen because MPB is likely flying right now (August) and the effects of any attacked trees will not be evident until late October.

See what we are asking residents and property owners to watch out for — on the next page.



Let Us Know if you have Trees that may have Mountain Pine Beetles

● Please let Mark or Irvin know if you have trees that should be assessed

● If there are MPB infestations on the Mountain, the Society will develop recommendations for property owners to consider

In order to make the assessment by our forest health consultant as efficient as possible, we are asking residents and property owners to let us know if they have trees that they believe may ALREADY be infested with beetles.

We have reproduced the article we wrote in the last Newsletter (see next page) so you can see what signs to watch out for. These are basically dying trees, reddening pine needles, holes in your trees, pitch outs (which are drippings of pine pitch which the tree uses to try to push the beetles out of the core of the tree), increased woodpecker activity and sawdust like material at the base of the tree. You can likely confirm infestation by peeling some bark off the tree and determining if there are tunnels (galleries) of bugs under the bark.

If you have trees, or know the location of any trees that you think may be infested please contact :

- Mark McKenney (250-495-4519) or mckenney@xplornet.com or

- Irvin Redekopp (250-495-6269) or irvdon3@vip.net

Let us know the location of the trees you think may be infested and one of us will have a look at it before the consultant arrives.

We want to get a number of locations for the consultant to look at while he is here, rather than just go out looking to potential trees on the day he is here (and is being paid by us).

What can Be Done?

If we confirm that there are infestations beginning on Anarchist Mountain there are a few things that property owners will be able to consider doing. A proper integrated pest management plan would be developed, which would suggest at least three strategies:

- Destroy infected trees as soon as possible (chip trees to kill beetles)
- Consider the use of Verbenone as deterrent to divert MPB around your property
- Treat "special" trees with Sevin pesticide & Verbenone
- Other strategies as recommended by a professional forester.

The Community Society will recommend further actions if we confirm a problem is occurring with the beetles. If we begin seeing dying trees all residents should be even more diligent with their fire prevention efforts since dead trees are excellent fuel sources.

Community Projects and Activities

Are Nasty Critters on their Way?



The Society organized an evening meeting with two pine beetle experts in May. Ellen Simmons is the Mountain Pine Beetle (MPB) Outreach Coordinator, for the Ministry of the Environment for this region. Also speaking on beetles was Mickey Werstiuk, Manager of the Southern Interior Beetle Action Coalition. A third speaking at this seminar was Jim Moteshaw, Fire Services Manager, BC Ministry of Forests; who spoke on interface fires and fire protection.

This nasty critter has claimed 14 MILLION hectares of pine forests in BC, out of a total 60 million Ha of licensed timber lands. This is a devastating infestation that has effected the forest industry in BC, and the economy of the Province in general. The experts told the meeting that the province predicts that up to 60% of all the ponderosa pines and lodge pole pine in BC may be destroyed by this insect.

Mountain pine beetles are not new to BC. These insects have always been part of the forest ecological cycle, but recent warm winter seasons have prevented the destruction of the insect. Warmer climate is the friend of this beetle and they have done an amazing job at adapting to their new warmer environment. There is also a population of western pine beetle that is native to this area of BC, but their numbers are not out of control at this point in time.

So far infestations in Kamloops, Kelowna, the Thompson Valley and as far south as Penticton and Okanagan Falls have been documented. In some of these communities, massive pine kills have occurred, with many beautiful trees lost. Is this infestation likely to come to Anarchist Mountain -- well the answer is likely, but perhaps not. Adrian Erickson was at the seminar and he spoke about the diversity of tree species at the higher elevations on the mountain. Adrian, commented that his Environmental Manager has been monitoring for mountain pine beetle for the past two years and none have been found yet. The Ministry experts weren't quite as optimistic about our mountain being spared. So what is their advice to residents?

Firstly, watch for the signs of infestation. The new adult bugs take flight usually twice per year, in late June / early July and then once last flight in August. Experts tell us that this year, with cool weather in the spring time, these flights of adults looking for places to lay eggs was pushed back to July and late Aug / September. The swarms of bugs can usually be seen, in the hundreds of thousands or millions of adults on the move. In attacked trees the beetles create galleries, where eggs are laid and the larvae develop.



Figure 2: "Pitch tubes" indicating trunk attacks by MPB. Success of the attacks is confirmed by looking under the bark with a hatchet for beetles, their tunnels and/or bluestaining.

Once a tree is successfully attacked it is too late to save that tree. The insect kills the tree by developing a fungal infection - readily seen as a blue stain in the sapwood. If a MPB tree is cut down the blue staining is readily seen.

Any infected trees should be cut and burned whenever possible. MPB damaged trees begin showing damage about 8 - 10 months after infestation, and will not normally recover, unless the tree is very healthy. Chemical treatments have to be done by commercial pesticide companies, as the chemicals used are not licensed for home users.

One treatment to is Verbonone, a pheromone that sends out a chemical signal usually transmitted by adults beetles that says — "tree occupied , go elsewhere".

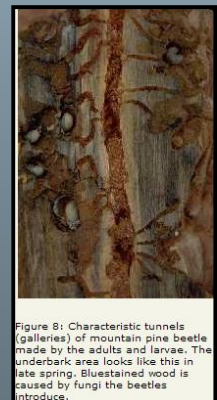


Figure 8: Characteristic tunnels (galleries) of mountain pine beetle made by the adults and larvae. The underbark area looks like this in late spring. Bluestained wood is caused by fungi the beetles introduce.

The Society is in discussions with the manufacturer of Verbonone to make a wholesale bulk purchase and re-sell the treatment to members, as no cost to the Society. We believe we can get it for less than the current retail price. More information will follow about this if we can cut a good deal.

- Beetles have claimed 13 MILLION hectares of pine forests out of a total 60 million Ha under timber license in BC

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Anarchist Mountain Community Society

Membership Application - 2008

Yes, I wish to join as a member of the Anarchist Mountain Community Society. I enclose my annual family membership fee of \$50. The persons from our family that we wish to have listed as members are:

(names) _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Print Name: _____

Address : _____

Phone: _____ Email Address _____

I would be willing to participate in a committee ____ (yes/ no)

Cheques payable to Anarchist Mountain Community Society. No cash in the mail please or bring Application and payment to Founding Members meeting—Jan 16, 2008. Mail to : Anarchist Mountain Community Society, 324 Grizzly Place, Osoyoos, BC V0H 1V6 Info at 250-495-4519 or mckenney@explornet.com

● If your family isn't a member - why not join?

● If you have neighbours that may be interested send them the newsletter.

● We have 33 families signed up as of August 2008