

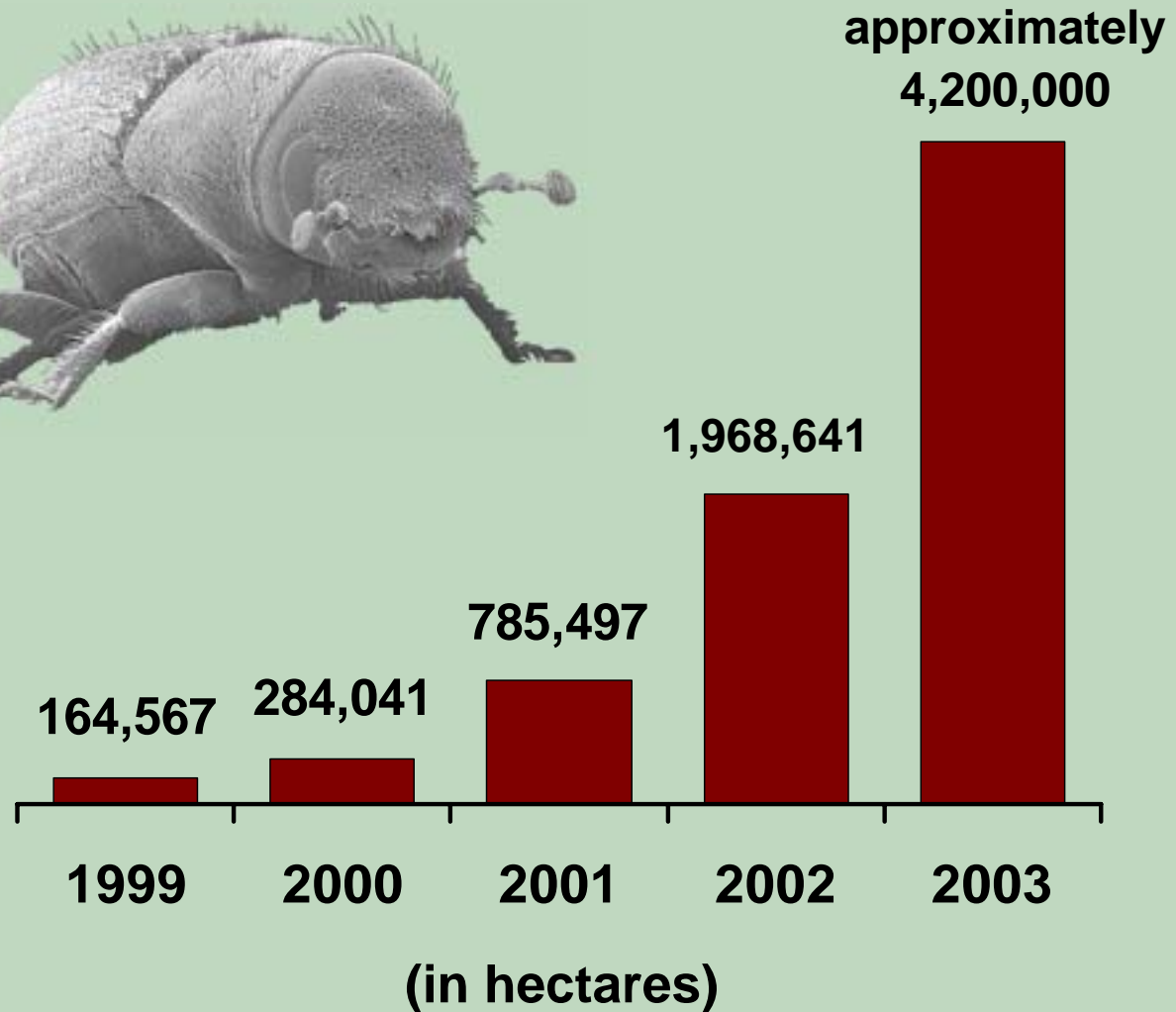


Mountain Pine Beetle Update and Plan 2004

Mountain Pine Beetle Analysis Area



Annual Red-Attack



What We Know

- Potentially 200 million m³ of unsalvaged beetle wood in 10-15 years
- After 15 years, harvest levels could decline to 17-million m³
- We need to:
 - increase the harvesting of beetle wood
 - recover the value from the wood
 - provide economic opportunities

What We've Done

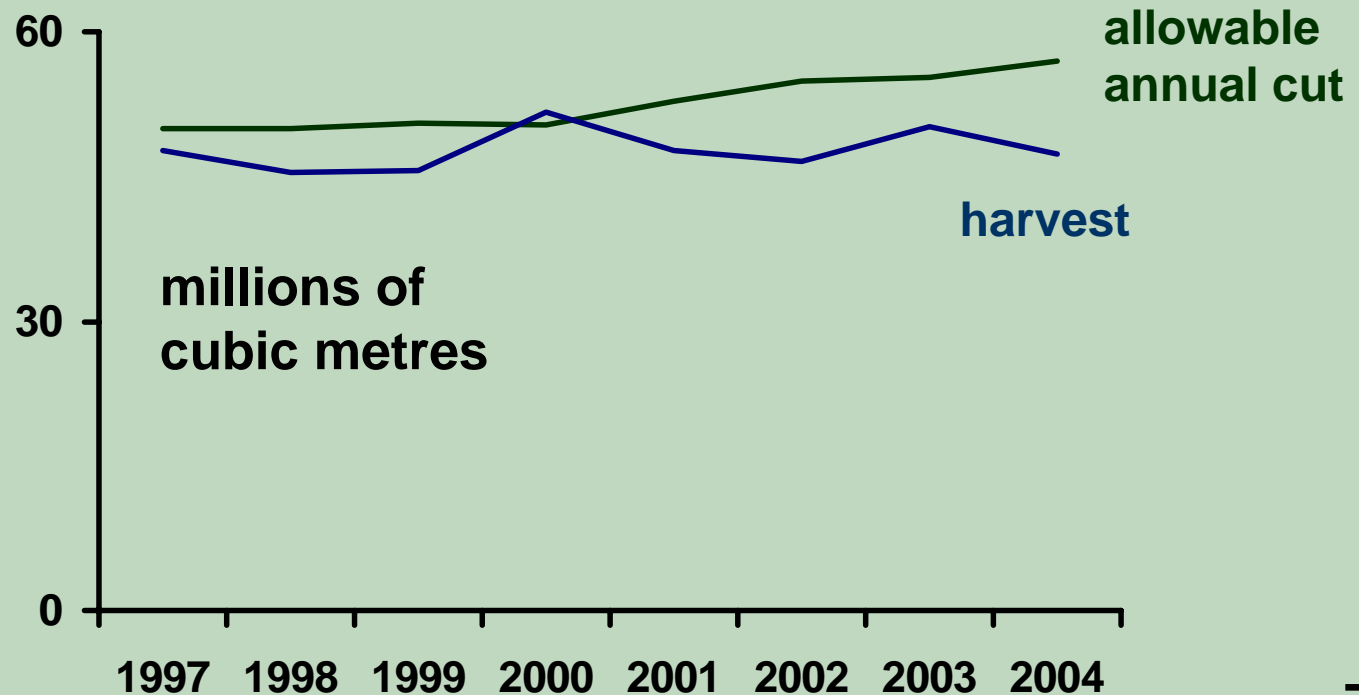
- MLA Pine Beetle Task Force
- Appointed Beetle Boss
- Established Management Zones
 - made regulatory changes to streamline beetle harvest
- Increased the AAC in beetle affected areas by 7.8 million m³ per year

What We've Done

- Slowed the spread at the epidemic's perimeter by removing small patches of infested trees
- Provided ongoing information on the extent of the problem to the public
- Premier hosted Beetle Symposium in Quesnel
- Premier signed letter of intent with Chinese Academy of Forestry to look at new uses for beetle wood

What We've Done

- 2001 16% of interior harvest was beetle wood
- 2003 54% of interior harvest was beetle wood
- Overall harvest levels are relatively unchanged



Beetle Symposium Recommendations

- Award new tenures for beetle wood
- Develop new overseas markets
- Improve transportation links to ensure beetle wood moved economically to appropriate facility
- Integrate beetle wood strategy into current land use plans
- Plan for potential economic and social impacts of lower harvest levels

Objectives

- Foster new and emerging forest-based activities
- Limit further damage to forests and environment
- Recover value from damaged timber
- Support and encourage economic development and diversity in affected communities

Action Today

Harvest

- Continue to re-direct harvesting from green timber to beetle damaged wood
 - extend cutting permits to direct harvest to beetle wood
- Conduct expedited AAC reviews in Quesnel, Vanderhoof and Burns Lake
- Investigate ways to transport beetle wood so that it provides the greatest economic benefit
- Consultation with LRMP tables

Action Today

Fuel reduction

- Implement *Filmon Report* recommendations for forest health
 - prescribed burns
 - tree removal
 - falling/burning beetle infested trees
 - reduce fuels in parks

Action Today

New Markets

- Develop new tenure
- Seek *Expressions of Interest* by May 31, 2004 for new uses of damaged wood
 - OSB plant(s)
 - pellet manufacturing
 - power co-generation facilities
- Promote new uses for denim-pine™ in overseas markets, such as China, Japan and Korea

Action Today

Communities

- Appoint Economic Diversification Director, Jim Sproul to:
 - explore potential economic development opportunities to broaden affected areas economic base
 - provide access to government so that communities and industry can facilitate economic diversification
 - ensure all regions and communities participate in economic development activities while recognizing their individual strengths and challenges



Action Today

Communities

- Appoint Minister's Community Advisory Group
 - represents key stakeholder groups
 - provide advice/comments on action plan
 - advises where additional public input and communication is required

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