

File: 18810-04/EBBMA

January 23, 2006

To: Regional Managers
District Managers

From: Robert G. Clark
Provincial Bark Beetle Coordinator

Re: Re-designation of Emergency Management Units

Pursuant to Section 109(2) of the *Forest Planning and Practices Regulation*, I hereby designate emergency management units (EMU's) as depicted on the map labelled "Emergency Bark Beetle Management Area and Strategic Planning Map for Douglas fir Bark Beetle", dated January 23, 2006 posted at:

http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/mountain_pine_beetle.

The area of the province encircled by the purple band is included within the Emergency Bark Beetle Management Area (EBBMA). EMU's contained within are "Aggressive" and "Sanitation" but, for the purposes of this map, "Containment" replaces "Sanitation".

- The designations are effective on the date of this letter.

To use this map for the purposes of streamlined planning under the *Bark Beetle Regulation* (BBR), B.C. Regulation 286/01, for those licensees operating under the an approved Forest Development Plan and for application of any other tools created and/or maintained for bark beetle management that requires application within aggressive or sanitation EMU's, the following points are provided for your information:

- The EBBMA map was derived from using aerial overview information for Douglas fir bark beetle as well as consideration of management objectives and performance reasonably expected to occur. Separate EBBMA maps are created for mountain pine and spruce bark beetles.
- Input into the EBBMA boundary and EMU designations were received from Ministry of Forests and Range (MFR) entomologists, district MFR staff, and licensees and were considered in the preparation of the EBBMA map.

Regional Managers
District Managers

- The EBBMA map is the product of analyzing performance, expansion of bark beetle infestations, and projections of the same.
- Forest Investment Account (FIA) funding allocations for suppression beetle management units (BMU's) is handled separately from these EMU designations and is therefore not indicated on the EBBMA map.
- The intent of the EBBMA is to provide a means for identifying areas within which emergency measures can be reasonably expected to control bark beetle populations. Emphasis is placed upon the ability to achieve goals of suppressing beetle populations or holding them static. The provincial guidelines entitled "*Provincial Technical Implementation Guidelines to Bark Beetle Management*" located at <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/forsite/fhdata/bbstrategy.htm> are therefore used to assist in determining emergency designations. One can generally consider for this map, aggressive EMU's to have the same targets for beetle brood removal as would suppression BMU's, sanitation to have that of holding, and salvage being the same. For more detail, please refer to these guidelines or contact your regional MFR entomologist.
- The importance of the technical guidelines referred to above notwithstanding, this map will show only EMU designations in order to provide as much clarity as possible in applying streamlined planning under the BBR and for application of any other tools created and/or maintained for bark beetle management that requires application within aggressive or sanitation EMU's.
- Where beetle population levels have risen to the point where it is not clearly evident that one can achieve greater than 50 percent of Douglas fir bark beetle brood removal, the designation would be changed to salvage. No areas are listed as salvage for Douglas fir bark beetle within this year's EBBMA map.

An assessment of performance should be made following the winter harvest season relative to management goals. While changes to aggressive or sanitation can be made as early as late summer or early fall following beetle overview surveys, changes to salvage will be left to spring of each year.

If you have any questions regarding this designation, please contact the undersigned at (250) 567-6363 or the Assistant Provincial Bark Beetle Coordinator, Barry Dobbin, RPF, at (250) 565-6100.

Originally Signed By:

Robert G. Clark
Provincial Bark Beetle Coordinator

pc: Barry Dobbin, Assistant Bark Beetle Coordinator, Northern Interior Forest Region