Inactive Holding Zone

Mountain Pine Beetle



The Inactive Holding Zone includes areas with a larger number of mountain pine beetle (MPB) infested trees where Level 1 and Level 2 treatments aimed at holding or reducing beetle populations would be ineffective.

Beetle populations spread locally within this zone; however, because the pine forest in these areas is patchy and non-continuous, the risk of spread into the Leading Edge Zone is unlikely. Populations with low risk of spread do not threaten the Government of Alberta's goal to reduce spread along the Eastern Slopes and into the boreal forest.

The goal of the Inactive Holding Zone is to use timber harvesting to manage for other forest values such as establishing growing forests, providing timber revenue and protecting habitat and/or watersheds.

Level 1 treatments are those where treated trees are removed and not processed by the forest industry. Most often only individual infested trees are treated; however, uninfested trees may also be destroyed. Treatments include fall and burn, whole tree peeling and whole tree chipping.





Level 2 treatment involves harvesting infested stands. Not all trees within the stand may be infested; however, infested and non-infested trees are removed.

Management zones are developed annually in the fall once the extent and intensity of beetle infestations across the province have been determined through aerial and ground surveys.

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