

Black Hills Forest Initiative

MPB Program Action Plan

Surveying & Marking of Infested Trees

- Priority areas have been established throughout the Black Hills. A packet of information containing a brochure about mountain pine beetles, instructions for signing up if they wanted to have their land surveyed for mountain pine beetle infested trees was mailed. A self-addressed postcard was provided that the landowner could sign and return.
- Marking of private forest land within the priority areas will begin around the 1st of October. Survey and marking will be prioritized as follows:
 1. Landowners or group of landowners with 10+ acres in higher elevations
 2. Landowners or group of landowners with 10+ acres
 3. Landowners with less than 10 acres
- Landowners outside of priority areas, that have requested assistance, will be placed on a service list (database of requested service) and will be sent to their respective county weed and pest supervisors. The county may have their own priority for assisting these landowners.
- When all private lands that signed up for survey and marking within priority areas have been assisted, the state will start to survey and mark landowners outside of priority areas. The same priorities will be used.

Reimbursement of Landowner Costs

- Landowners will receive a packet with the available cost share information after their property has been surveyed and trees have been marked. The packet will contain the following information:
 - Letter outlining the number of infested trees found on their property
 - Maps showing the location of infested trees
 - A summary sheet outlining cost share definitions and terms
 - Cost share application form
 - W-9 form
 - List of contractors, sawmills, and private professional foresters that can perform control treatments
- Reimbursements will be provided on a “first-come-first-served” basis.
- Reimbursement will be provided to landowners that had their trees marked by crews trained by the Division of Resource Conservation and Forestry.
- Reimbursement is capped at a maximum of \$10,000 per landowner or group of landowners.
- Only landowners with 20 or more infested trees will receive reimbursement.
- Cost share is not available for government-owned property.