



2022 BLUE MOUNTAIN FOREST HEALTH



The Bugs-N-Crud team performed general analysis throughout the neighborhood looking for general red flags relative to forest health. Below is a summary of the trends we have observed.

- Douglas Fir Pole Beetle suspected at **Ute** just north of Simmons as well as at the **northwest end of Simmons**
 - Trees that are dead should be cut down and removed - Fall is the best time to prevent further infestation
- Mistletoe present in several trees both on **Westridge and Eastridge**. This is a parasitic plant that feeds on the tree in totality, robbing the tree of nutrients and water. Mistletoe, once mature, spreads by explosive release up to 33 feet to the next tree
 - Recommend removal to prevent spreading of mistletoe to other trees on or near property
- Diplopia observed on the **south end of Ute** rounding around to **lower end of Westridge**
- Large band of concern @ **lower end of Westridge**. Observed some trees by the road and suspect multi-faceted set of issues:
 - Redband, Chemical burns likely from wintertime road treatment, Water runoff impacts from road, Wide temperature swings
- Band **along the side of the road on Eastridge**. Observed evidence of another multi-faceted set of issues weakening trees:
 - Needle miner damage, Twig beetle, coupled with wintertime road treatment and runoff patterns from the road
- Tussock moths suspected on blue spruce at the **southeast corner of BMD**
 - Treat with BT spray early in spring once confirmed
- Downed Trees are a magnet for Ips beetle (especially if some root still in the ground), increasing risk of other tree infestations
- Cheatgrass observed sporadically throughout the neighborhood. New chemicals offer much better control than what we had just a couple of years ago.



If you suspect a sick tree on your property & want help determining the cause, the BNC team can help. A consultation can be scheduled by visiting the FSI Website: <https://www.bluemountainfsi.org/bugs-n-crud>
A forest is healthiest when it is managed, reducing the risk of spread of illness and further damage.



2022 FOREST HEALTH SUMMARY

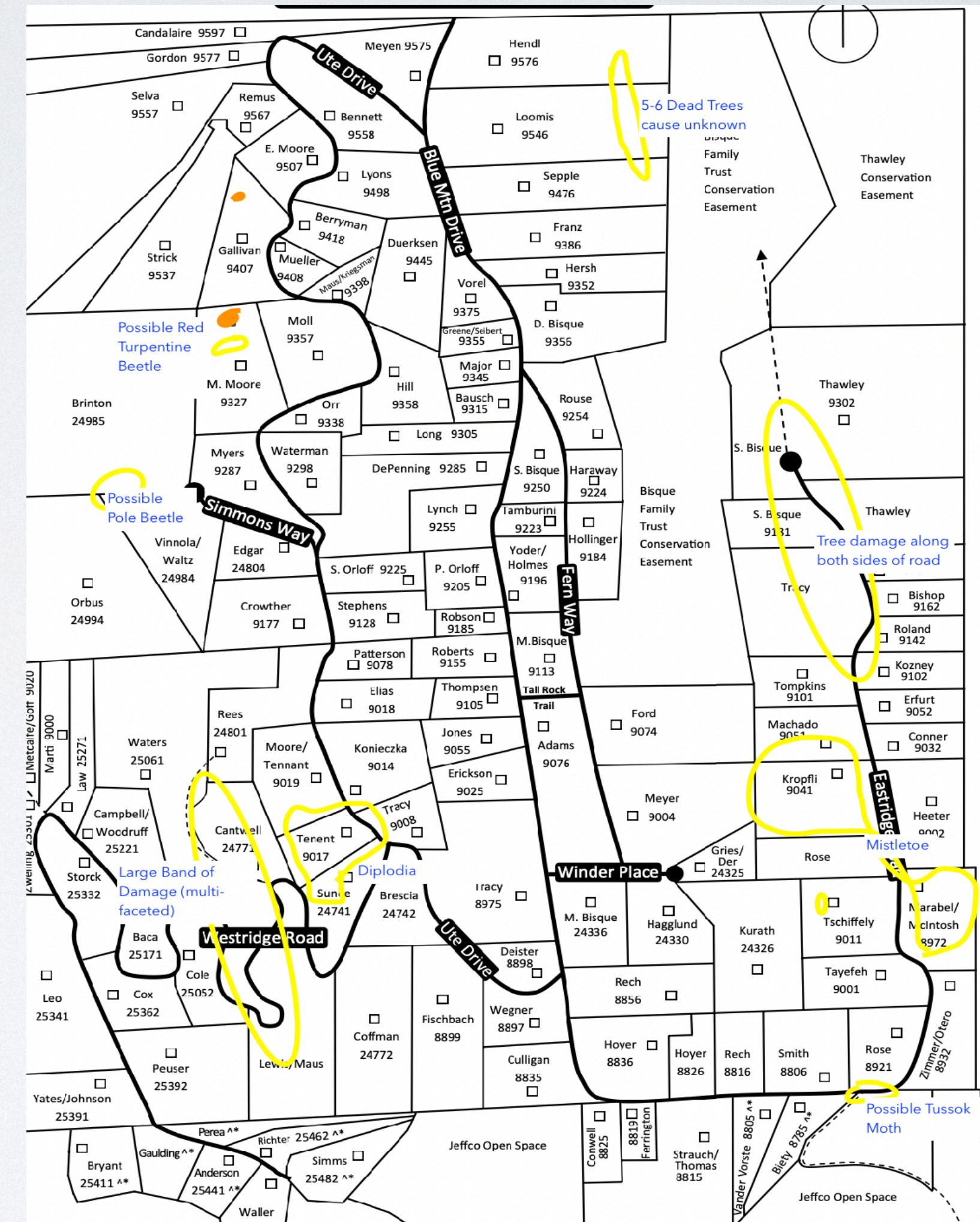


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1. Trees can be cut anytime of year. If removed from the site and the slash treated by chipping or mastication, the fuel issue is addressed.
2. Trees that are still alive (even if currently infested) shouldn't be cut in midsummer unless the current pest is killed (mechanically, by solar treatment, or by insecticide) and slash is treated to minimize fire hazard.

Bottom Line: we have too many acres of un-managed forest overstocked with trees vulnerable to insect pests. There is also an un-naturally heavy fuel load that ensure that any fire will be high intensity (high mortality) and difficult to control.

Observations



Key

Area of Concern (tree or trees)

Cheatgrass observed

This map depicts roadside observations only and is not a definitive diagnosis. Please contact Bugs-N-Crud if you would like to have a consultation and recommendation for treatment and next steps.

<https://www.bluemountainfsi.org/bugs-n-crud>