Blue Mountain Forest Health Observations:

Westridge Road: Several dead trees - evidence of long-term Ponderosa mistletoe infestations

Westridge Road: Several brown and dead trees - Abiotic - suspect continued exposure to road salt is the primary concern

Ute Drive: Brown and dead trees - Abiotic near road - possible Ips Beetle mortality on larger trees off the road -no evidence of Mtn Pine Beetle)

Lower Valley: Multiple brown trees - often on the north side - possible needle damage from frost monitor for new buds (frost should not have killed the buds nor trees). Several trees are non-native pines which are susceptible to frost damage.

Eastridge Road: Several dead trees - evidence of long-term Ponderosa mistletoe infestations.

North end of Eastridge Road - Several brown and dead trees - Abiotic - continued exposure to road salt is primary concern.

Stand Alone Dead Trees

Several stand alone dead trees as shown on the map should be inspected by homeowner for Mountain Pine Beetle pitch tubes. (See reverse for pictures on how to identify). Thus far, none of the trees inspected have had pitch tubes; likely other causes of illness/death.

Please Note: The intention of the Forest Health Report, and the map within, is not an indictment of any resident's ability to maintain their property but rather to point out trends and trouble areas, relative to forest health, within the community. The annotations used on the community map are intended as a reference to general location of the concern only. Homeowners are urged to inspect the distressed or dead appearing trees on their properties or contact the BMFSI for a free assessment by our trained Bugs-N-Crud team.

Blue Mountain Forest Health Map



Items to watch in 2023:

The Mountain Pine Beetle life-cycle is kicking off early. The Beetle flight season may occur at the end of July through August. Cutting during this time is not recommended:

- Cutting trees/limbs will emit Terpenes for 10 days
- Terpenes will attract Mountain Pine Beetle for 10 days after a cut
- This can exacerbate the Mountain Pine Beetle infestation for Blue Mountain

Not Sure What's Wrong with your Tree?

Bugs-N-Crud can help! There's a page on the FSI Website that has a wealth of information to enable homeowners to self diagnose issues - Or fill out an analysis request and we will schedule our team to take a look at your trees and provide recommended course of action. Scan the below QR code - or visit:

> www.BlueMountainFSI.org and click on Bugs-N-Crud



ONE Slash Day Planned for 2023 - June 17th 2023

JeffCo Slash Collection for Blue Mountain was changed to August 17- September 3. Given the risks cutting infected trees creates, the FSI has opted to host one Slash event in 2023. Residents may participate individually should they choose, but please wait to cut if Mountain Pine Beetle is diagnosed or suspected.



Mountain Pine Beetle

The mountain pine beetle is the most aggressive, persistent, and destructive bark beetle in the western United States and Canada. This is one of the few bark beetles that typically make obvious pitch tubes on bark surface at the attack site. Pitch tubes are masses of red, amorphous resin mixed with bark and wood borings. Boring dust is evident in bark crevices and around the base of infested trees.

Mountain pine beetles overwinter mostly as larvae beneath (or with-in) the inner bark of host trees. Occasionally, pupae and callow adults may also overwinter. In most lodgepole and ponderosa pine stands, larvae pupate at the ends of their feeding galleries in late spring. Adults emerge and attack from about early July through August, depending on elevation and temperature.



Photo: Kenneth E. Gibson, USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org

Red Turpentine Beetle

Red turpentine beetle attacks generally start near ground level and rarely occur above 8 ft (2.4 m)

Attacks are often accompanied by the presence of light pink to reddish brown pitch tubes around the base of the tree and/or white granular material on the ground. On pines, red turpentine beetle pitch tubes may be as large as 2 inches (5 cm) in diameter, much larger than the pitch tubes of other pine infesting bark beetles. The large pitch tubes, galleries, and beetle size distinguish red turpentine beetle from other bark beetles. Trees that have been scorched by fire or stressed by drought are frequently attacked by red turpentine beetles.