

Mountain Pine Beetle

Mountain pine beetle (MPB), *Dendroctonus ponderosae* is a native insect of western North America and is the most important insect of pines in western North America. Dendroctonus literally means tree killer. At the present time MPB populations are at an epidemic level in Colorado. Since 1996 MPB has killed a large percentage of the host trees on the western slope and in the last few years has crossed the Continental Divide and is having a major impact on the Northern Front Range area. Larimer County has been hit hard by MPB and at the present time, from data taken from the 2011 aerial survey collected by the USFS and the CSFS, 783,000 acres have been affected since 1996. In 2011 there were 587,000 acres affected in Larimer County which is up from 570,000 acres in 2010.

Larimer County will work with homeowner groups or individual landowners to help educate and identify MPB infested trees on their properties and help with treatment plans.

Larimer County is presently working with two groups in the Northern Front Range to advance education and to assist in the disposal of MPB infested material, The Northern Front Range Mountain Pine Beetle Working Group or NFRMPBWG, <http://www.FrontRangePineBeetle.org> and Peak to Peak Wood, <http://peaktpeakwood.org>.

For more MPB information:

[Landowner Guide To Living With Bark Beetle](#)

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/bark-beetle>

<http://www.ext.colostate.edu/pubs/insect/05528.html>

<http://www.FrontRangePineBeetle.org>

<http://www.csfs.colostate.edu>