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**FRIDAY**  
**Mar. 23, 2007**

**3:30 - 4:30 pm**

**LECTURE  
THEATRE**

**7-150**

**LIGHT  
REFRESHMENTS  
SERVED AT 3:20 PM**

### **Silviculture & the Mountain Pine Beetle: What to Do?**

The magnitude and extent of the current mountain pine beetle outbreak in BC requires thoughtful planning to recover value from the impacted timber while maintaining other values and reducing impacts to mid-term (15-50 years from now) timber supplies. Historically, clearcutting followed by prompt planting has been the dominant management practice in lodgepole pine stand types. Total salvage followed by planting will not help communities faced with mid-term timber supply shortages.

In a study undertaken for the Chief Forester of BC, we found that pine-leading stand types across north central BC have considerable variability in secondary structure. Approximately 20-30% of the pine-leading landbase had sufficient secondary structure today to reasonably expect a mid-term harvest opportunity if simply left unsalvaged. A further 40-50% of pine-leading stands had well-stocked coniferous understories that could reduce rotations by 10-30 years compared to complete salvage and planting. Only 20-25% of pine-leading stands in north central BC had poor secondary structure. These stands are prime candidates for total salvage and planting.

There appears to be considerable potential to reduce the impact to mid-term timber supply and enhance biodiversity values, hydrologic recovery, visual quality and wildlife habitat by strategically protecting certain pine-leading stand types from immediate harvest and/or protecting secondary structure during salvage operations.