



## Request for Proposals: Bark Beetle Prevention, Suppression, and/or Restoration Projections

November 22, 2017

To Alaska Forest Landowners and Managers:

The US Forest Service and Alaska Division of Forestry are requesting grant proposals to treat forested areas damaged or threatened by bark beetles for prevention, suppression, and/or restoration. This cost-sharing program has been widely used in previous years to manage for spruce beetle and northern engraver beetles in Alaska. We encourage your participation.

These Western Bark Beetle Initiative (WBBI) federal funds are administered under the authority of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978, Section 8, Forest Health Protection. We are anticipating about \$150,000 to be available for projects on Alaska's state and private lands. Priority uses would involve:

- Protection or eradication of newly recognized invasive bark beetles
- Protection of developed recreation sites or high value trees
- Protection of critical wildlife habitat or wildland urban interface areas
- Protection of general forest from native bark beetles

Additional factors are cost effectiveness (\$/acres treated) and strategic placement within affected landscapes. Proposals must emphasize acres to be treated for bark beetle prevention, suppression, and/or restoration of bark beetle-impacted stands. Surveys and monitoring may be incorporated into the total project design, but do not constitute a project in themselves. **A minimum 1:1 non-federal match is required.** Tribal entities are authorized to utilize "compact" funds for this match.

We are sending this letter well in advance of the due date in order for you to have ample time to conduct reconnaissance of your ownerships. We encourage you to engage our staffs for technical assistance. Each funding request package must contain the following documentation:

- Form SF3400-2 (blank form is enclosed for your use). Provide specific information requested in Block 21 along with a brief description of the project.

- Complete Project Work Plan

**Project coordination with U.S. Forest Service Forest Health Protection or Alaska Division of Forestry specialists is required and a completed FHP Biological Evaluation will be needed prior to implementation.** Avoid proposing standard silvicultural treatments or those that augment timber sales, since these supplemental federal funds are to complete forest health treatments that are generally not otherwise cost-effective to complete as part of a timber sale or standard silvicultural treatment operation. **These funds cannot be used to remove dead or dying trees from the site but can be used to implement other established treatments for bark beetle prevention, suppression, or restoration of bark beetle-impacted stands (i.e. pre-commercial thinning, pheromone or pesticide use, tree planting, etc.).** Proposals that are more short-term or of an emergent nature with implementation on the ground within 1 year (maximum of 2 years) and beetles affecting the stand or demonstrated as an immediate threat are encouraged. Monitoring will be completed to track implementation of any funded projects.

Submit requests electronically by **January 8, 2018** to **Jason Moan** ([Jason.Moan@alaska.gov](mailto:Jason.Moan@alaska.gov)). The application form is attached. If you need additional time to prepare a proposal, **please let us know prior to the deadline** and we will try to accommodate your needs. A selection team will evaluate all project proposals for compliance with program intent and priorities. Team members are:

Michael Shephard (FHP Program Lead, US Forest Service, Anchorage) – 907.473.9451  
Elizabeth Graham (Entomologist, US Forest Service, Juneau) – 907.586.8883  
John Lundquist (Entomologist, US Forest Service, Anchorage) – 907.743.9453  
Stephen Burr (Entomologist, US Forest Service, Fairbanks) – 907.451.2701

For further background information of the current bark beetle infestation levels in Alaska please consult the Forest Health Conditions [Report](#) for 2016 and our [website](#).

If you are not currently prepared to submit proposals, please note this is an annual opportunity we anticipate will be available in future years. We are available for technical assistance to help develop effective projects for this year or next.

*/s/ Michael Shephard*  
Michael Shephard  
Deputy Director, R6/10 State and Private Forestry