

Mountain Pine Beetle Epidemic Response

Presentation for Special Committee on Timber Supply



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MPB EPIDEMIC RESPONSE

2001: The Action Plan

- **Engagement:**

- Government Caucus Task Force of the Mountain Pine Beetle completed community and public consultation

- **Strategy:**

- ‘Mountain Pine Beetle Action Plan 2001’

- **Funding:**

- Increased from \$16.5 million 2000/01 to \$36 million 2001/02

MPB EPIDEMIC RESPONSE

2001 – 2004: Responding to a Growing Epidemic

- **Engagement:**

- Beetle symposium in Quesnel

- **Strategy:**

- Aggressively curtail the spread of the beetle
- ‘ Mountain Pine Beetle Update Action Plan 2004’
- Minister’s Community Advisory Group (2004 – 2006)
- Provincial Bark Beetle Coordinator
- Director of Economic Diversification

MPB EPIDEMIC RESPONSE

2001 – 2004: Responding to a Growing Epidemic cont'd

- **Policy:**

- Enabled infested trees to be hauled to other TSAs
- AAC increased in 9 TSAs and TFLs
- Several First Nations received timber harvesting tenures
- Designated MPB salvage areas to enable forest licences sold within salvage area to be restricted to priority areas
- Offered timber harvesting licences to encourage the manufacture of new forest products

- **Funding:**

- \$107 million for spread control
- \$135 million and establishment of the Northern Development Initiative Trust
- Formal request to the Government of Canada for a financial contribution to the beetle response

MPB EPIDEMIC RESPONSE

2005 – 2007: Building Partnerships

- **Strategy:**

- MPB was designated a cross-ministry priority
- MPB Emergency Response Team created
- ‘Mountain Pine Beetle Action Plan 2005–2010’
- ‘Mountain Pine Beetle Action Plan 2006–2011’
- BC/Alberta partnership was established to fight the epidemic along the eastern leading edge
- BC and First Nations established the First Nations MPB Initiative to work with the MPB Emergency Response Team
- Accelerated wildfire fuel management near communities
- 3 Beetle Action Coalitions established: Cariboo-Chilcotin; Omineca; Southern Interior

- **Policy:**

- AAC increased in 9 more TSAs and TFLs



MPB EPIDEMIC RESPONSE

2005 – 2007: Building Partnerships Cont'd

- **Funding:**

- \$100 million federal to provincial transfer for several priorities
- \$200 million federal MPB program
- \$12.5 million and provincial/federal/First Nations Forestry Council partnership to address impacts in First Nations communities
- \$50 million and establishment of Northern Interior Development Initiative
- \$50 million and establishment of Southern Interior Development Initiative
- \$5.4 million for beetle and beetle-wood related research
- \$121 million for provincial and municipal road improvements
- \$161 million and establishment of the Forests for Tomorrow program

MPB EPIDEMIC RESPONSE

2008 – 2012: Sustaining the Action, Preparing for the Future

- **Strategy:**

- 3 Beetle Action Coalitions completed strategies to mitigate existing and future impacts of the epidemic
- BC Hydro's two-phase Bioenergy Call for Power

- **Policy**

- Secondary stand structure regulation to preserve future timber supply
- Embedding pine/non-pine partition directly to tenures to protect mid-term
- New bioenergy related tenure tools
- AAC decreased in some units with MPB uplifts

- **Funding:**

- \$9 million to the beetle action coalitions for strategy implementation
- Further \$75 million invested in Forests for Tomorrow
- \$25 million and establishment of a provincial Bioenergy Network as part of B.C.'s Bioenergy Strategy
- \$25 million to Geoscience BC to explore central Interior mineral potential