# Forest Insects: Look Who's Eating Now

Northern Ontario First Nations Environmental Conference Thunder Bay, Ontario September 30, 2014

Taylor Scarr, Provincial Forest Entomologist

Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

#### Forest Health Work Areas in Ontario - 2013



#### **Provincial Forest Health Technicians in Ontario - 2013**



Mike Francis

Kyle Webb



Lincoln Rowlinson



**Bonnie Williams** 



Susan McGowan



Dan Rowlinson



Pat Hodge



Vanessa Chaimbrone



Al Keizer



Steve Young



**Becky Lidster** 

#### Jack pine budworm

#### **Pest Information**

Pest Origins: Native to North America

Pest Type: Defoliator

Host Species: Jack pine, red pine, Scots pine, white pine

Infestation Area: 91,865 ha (2013)









#### Jack pine budworm



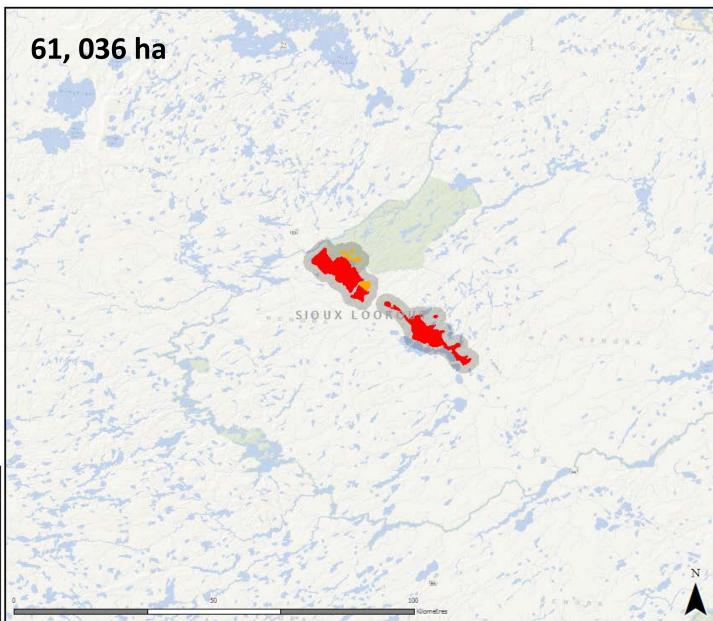
Jack pine budworm **2012** 

Map 1 Northwest Region Areas-within-which jack pine budworm caused defoliation.

Area of Light Defoliation

Area of Moderate-to-Severe Defoliation





#### Jack pine budworm



Jack pine budworm **2013** 

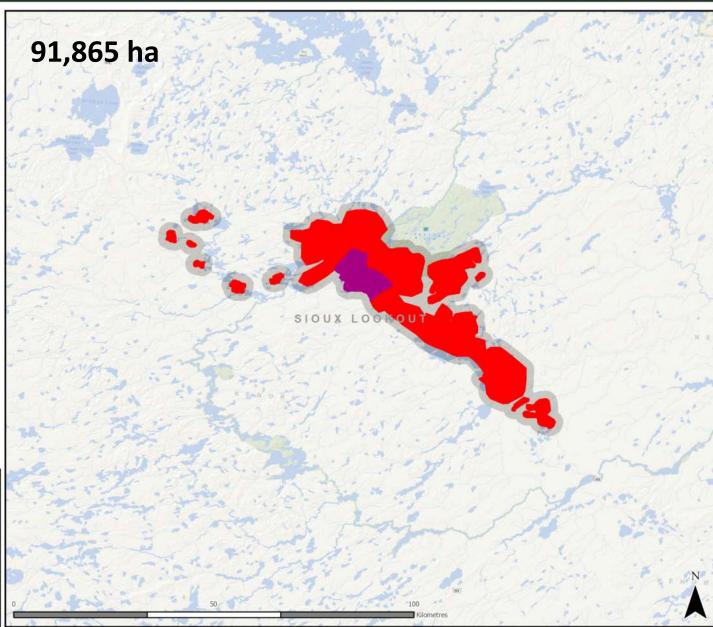
Map 2 Northwest Region Areas-within-which jack pine budworm caused defoliation.

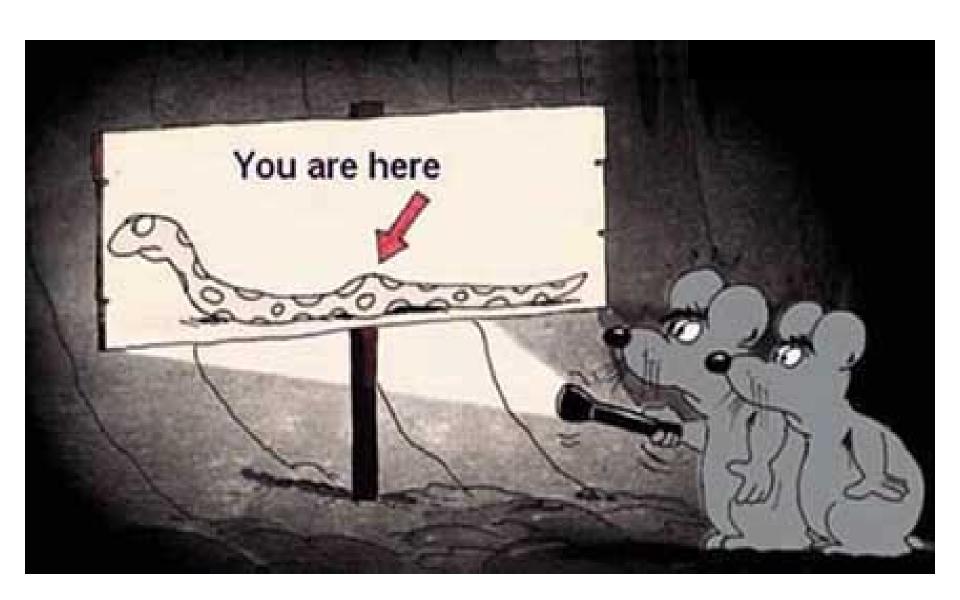
Area of Moderate-to-Severe Defoliation



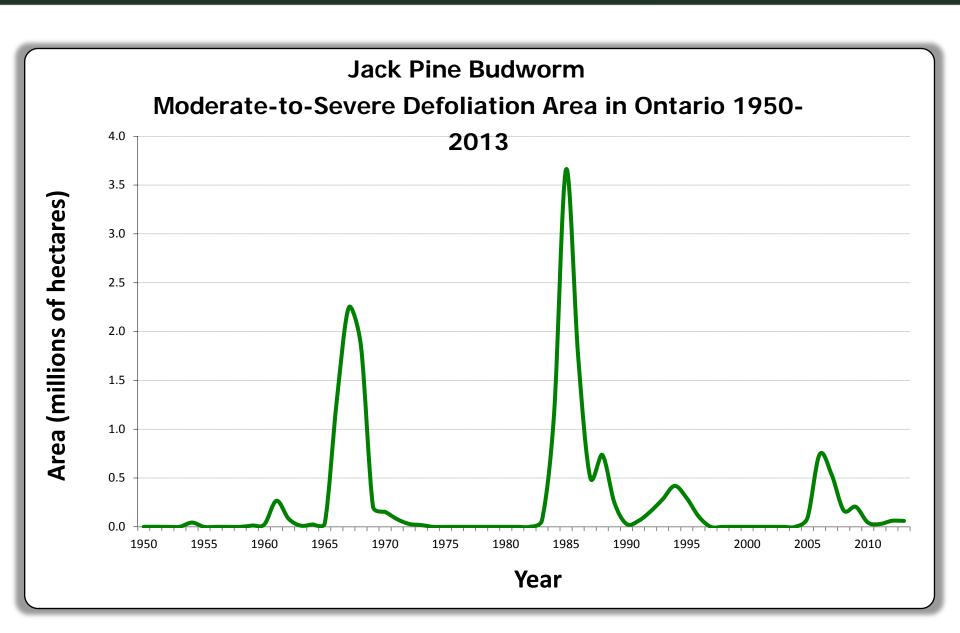
Mortality







#### **Jack Pine Budworm**



#### **Spruce Budworm**

#### **Pest Information**

Pest Origins: Native to North America

Pest Type: Defoliator

Host Species: Balsam fir, white spruce, black spruce

Infestation Area: 348 ha (2013)











#### **Spruce Budworm**



## Spruce Budworm **2012**

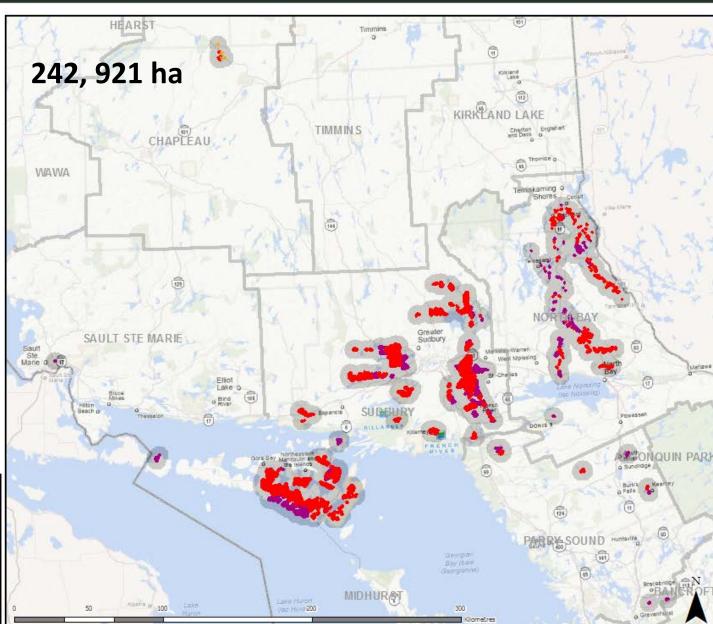
Map 1 Northeast Region Areas-within-which spruce budworm caused defoliation and mortality.

Area of Light Defoliation

Area of Moderate-to-Severe Defoliation

Mortality





#### **Spruce Budworm**



# Spruce Budworm **2013**

Map 2 Northeast Region Areas-within-which spruce budworm caused defoliation and mortality.

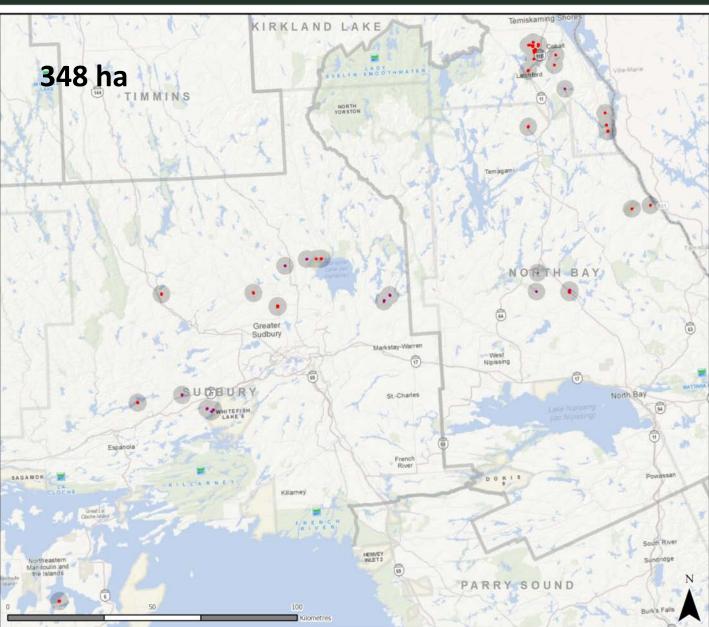


Area of Moderate-to-Severe Defoliation



Mortality

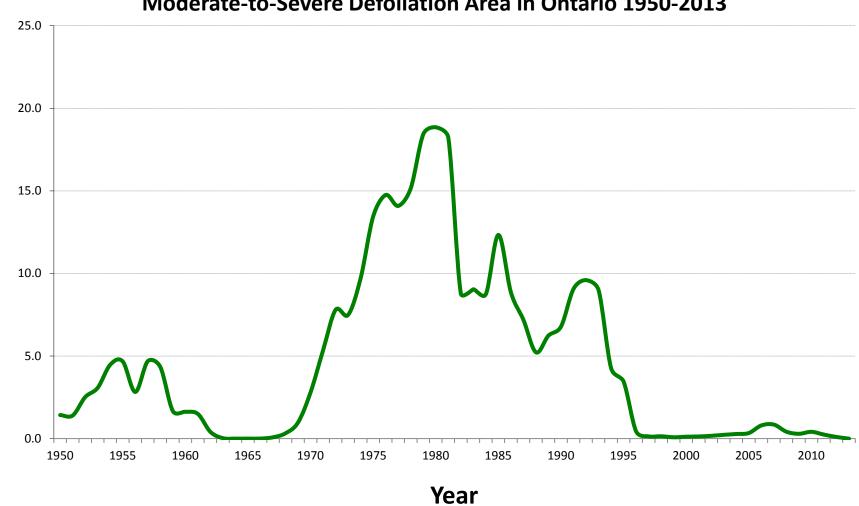




Area (millions of hectares)

#### **Spruce budworm**





#### **Pest Information**

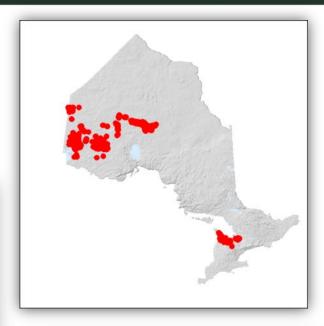
Pest Origins: Native to North America

Pest Type: Defoliator Host Species: Hardwoods

Infestation Area: **320,240 ha (2013)** 











# Forest tent caterpillar **2012**

Map 1 Overview Areas-within-which forest tent caterpillar caused defoliation.

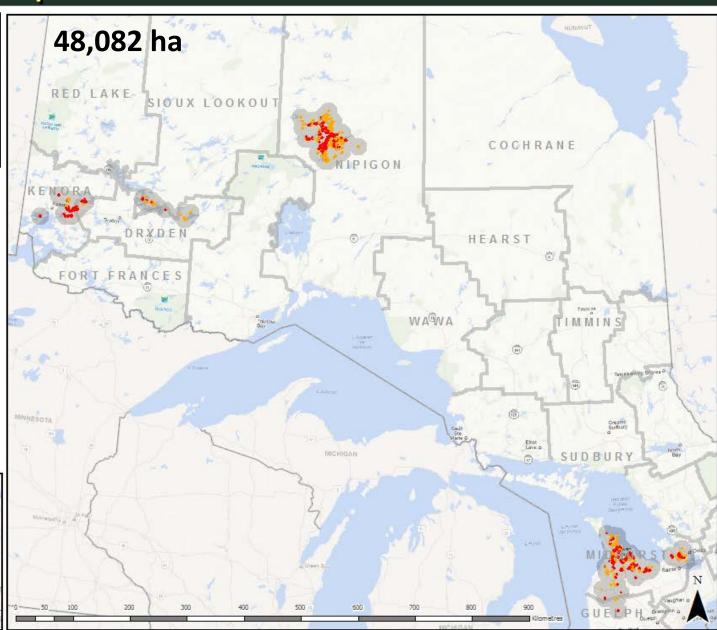
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Area of Light Defoliation



Area of Moderate-to-Severe Defoliation







# Forest tent caterpillar **2013**

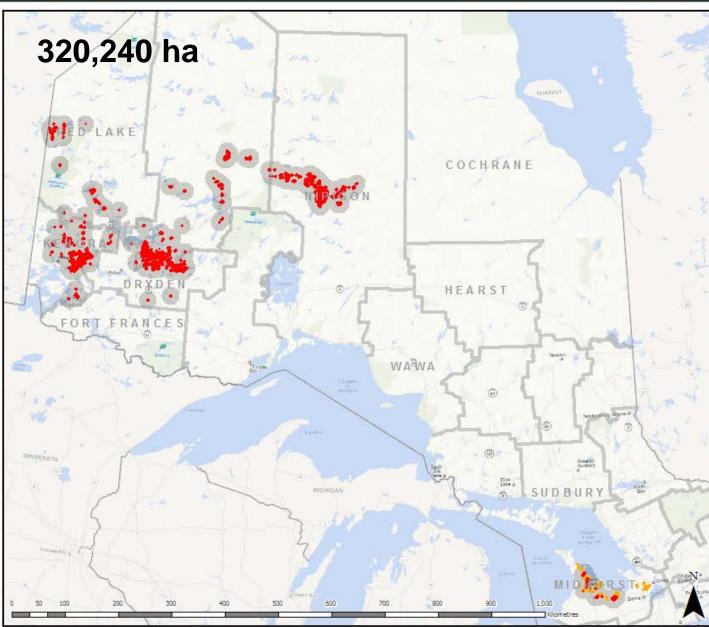
Map 2 Overview Areas-within-which forest tent caterpillar caused defoliation.

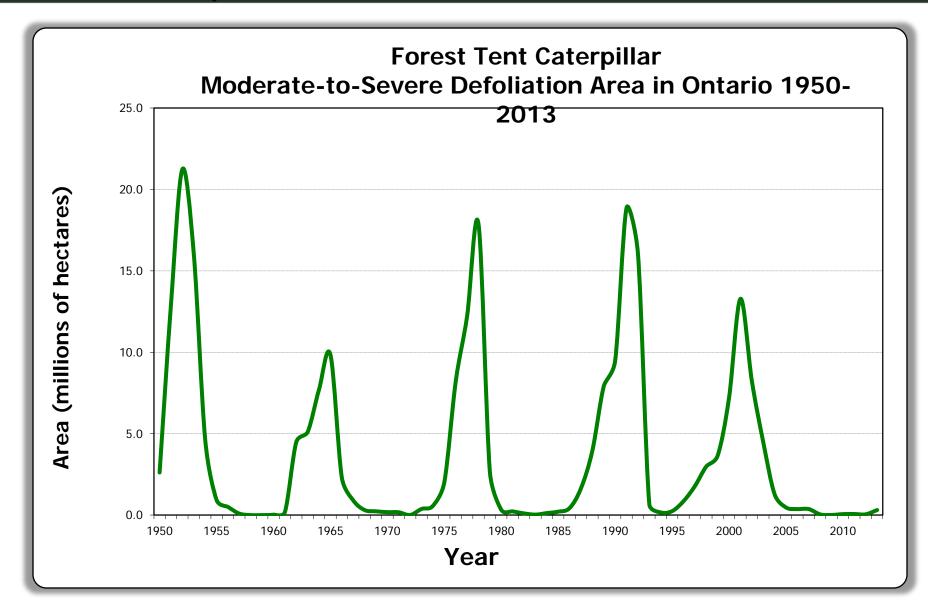
Area of Light Defoliation

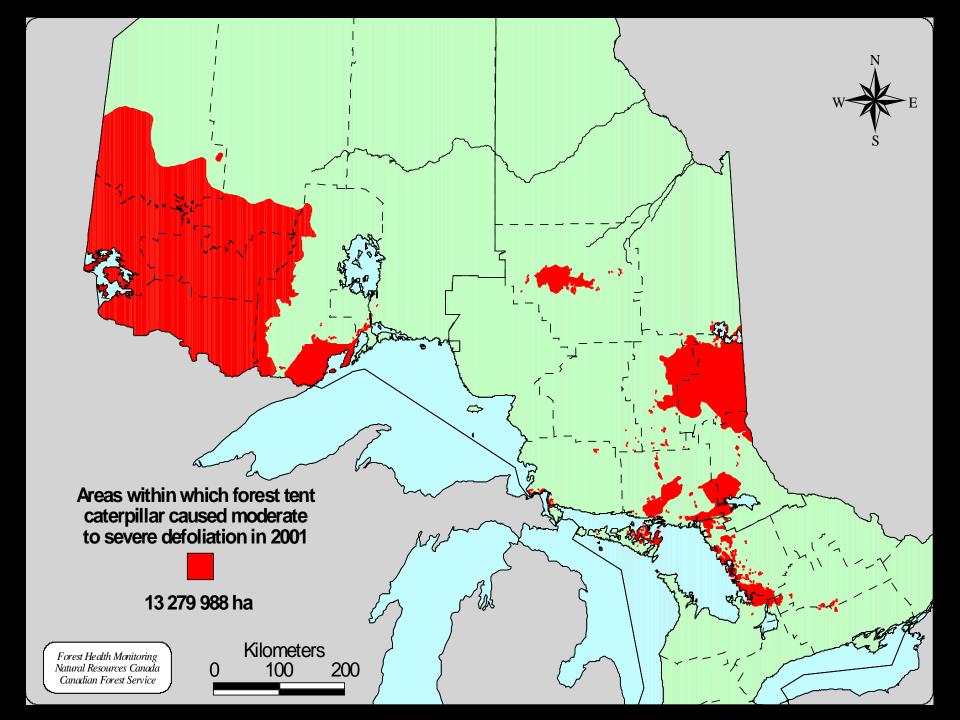


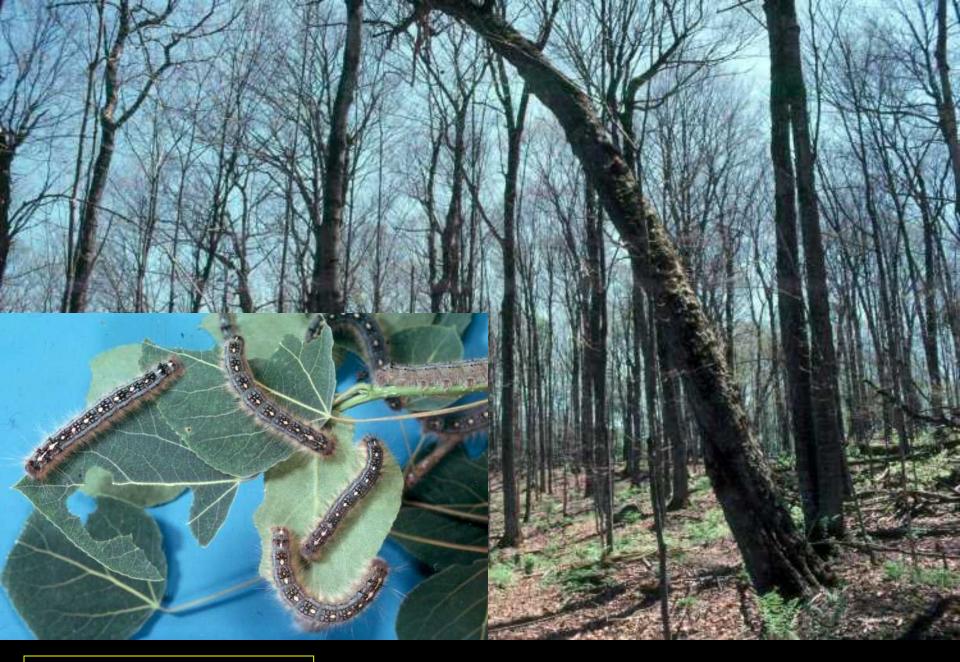
Area of Moderate-to-Severe Defoliation













Forest tent caterpillars crawling on house



Forest tent caterpillars on birch trees





Forest tent caterpillar cocoon





Forest tent caterpillar moth





# Eastern tent caterpillar:

- Forms tents in branch crotches
- Does not go into large outbreaks
- Sometimes the forest tent caterpillars will take over the tents of eastern tent caterpillars





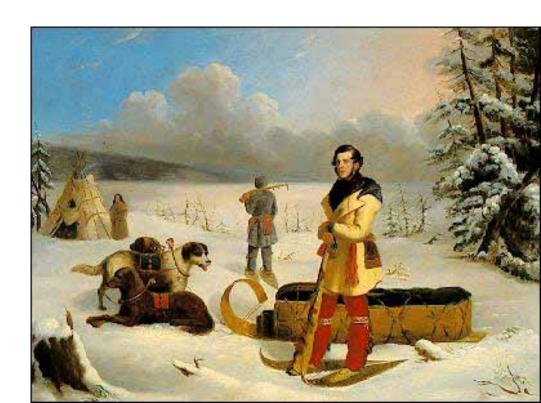
Friendly flies, parasites of tent caterpillars



#### Paul Kane, 1850

Irish-born artist, travelled from Toronto to western Canada to record native life and natural scenery. 1845-1848.

First written record of a forest tent caterpillar outbreak.

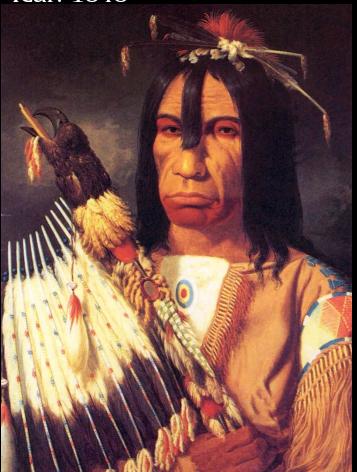


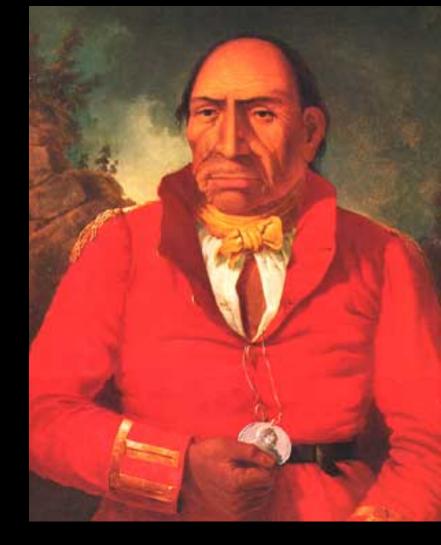
### Kee-a-kee-ka-sa-coo-way, Cree Chief

Man Who Gives the War Whoop

Artist: Paul Kane, Fort Pitt, SK

Year: 1848





#### Maydocgamekinungee Ojibway Chief

Artist: Paul Kane, Fort William, ON

Year: 1848

"June 6<sup>th</sup> - It was a remarkable fact that the trees on each side of the river, and part of the Lake of the Woods, for a full 150 miles of our route, were literally stripped of foliage by myriads of green caterpillars, which had left nothing but the bare branches: and I was informed that the scourge extended to more than twice the distance I have named, the whole country wearing the dreary aspect of winter at the commencement of summer."

"As it was impossible to take our breakfast on land, unless we made up our minds to eat them dropping incessantly as they did from the trees among our food, and the ground everywhere covered with them en masse, we were compelled to take it in our canoes. We met some Indians, from whom we purchased seven fine sturgeons, each weighing perhaps forty or fifty pounds."

"We next entered the Lake of the Woods, and camped on a beautiful rocky island, having made fifty-three miles in one day." The field notes for June 6, 1846 read as follows: "6<sup>th</sup>. they treese on eatch side of they river are eate up with caterpillars not a leafe remaining on they treese looks like winter coodnot find a place to Breakfast for them they shore covered with them for 150 m.bout sturgonat an encamptment of Indanes enterad Lake of they Woods"

The 1858 book- "June 8- We camped for the night a few miles below this station (White Dog), and still found the caterpillars before alluded to extremely annoying, covering as they did completely our blankets and clothing."

The field notes - June 8th and 9th-"past through sum beautiful rappeds took a cetch of rapid de gock and flays quantuy miskitas and black flies verrey bad did not sleep all night for them had to get on a rook they caterpiller's was so numeras



#### **Gypsy moth**

#### **Pest Information**

Pest Origins: Invasive - Native to Europe

Pest Type: Defoliator

Host Species: Oak, birch, aspen and various hardwoods

Infestation Area: **9,188 ha (2013)** 







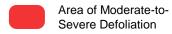


#### **Gypsy moth**

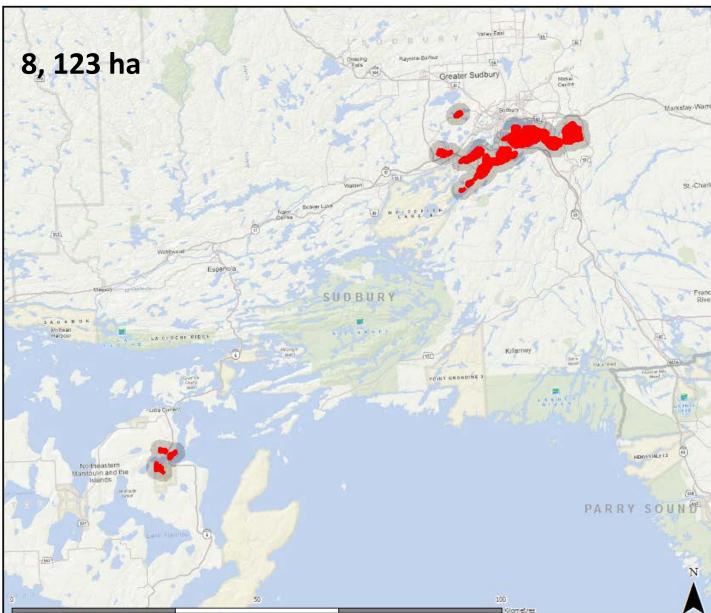


# Gypsy moth **2012**

Map 2 Northeastern Region Areas-within-which gypsy moth caused defoliation.







#### **Gypsy moth**



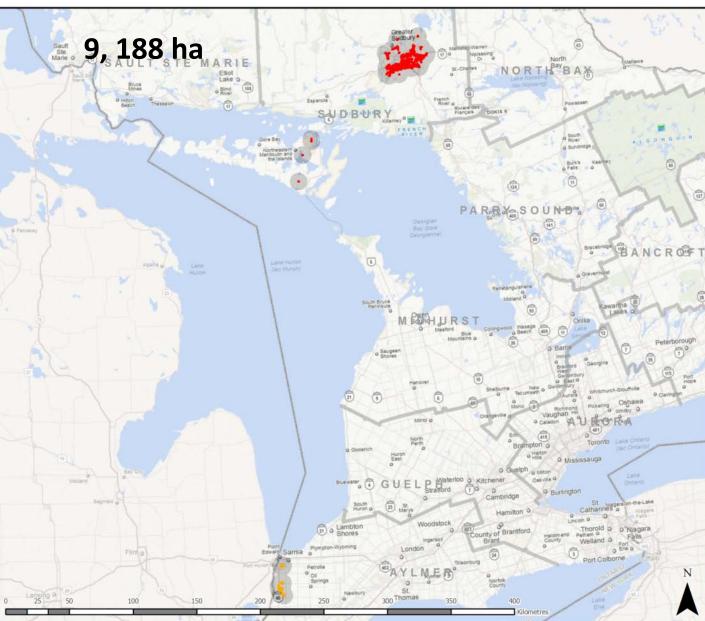
# Gypsy moth **2013**

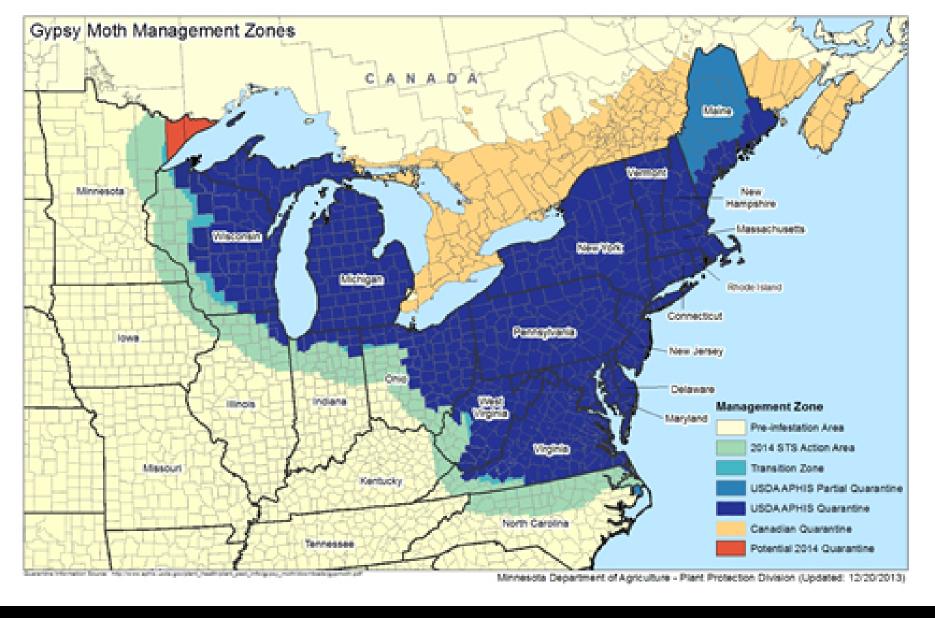
Map 1 Overview Areas-within-which gypsy moth caused defoliation.

Area of Light Defoliation

Area of Moderate-to-Severe Defoliation

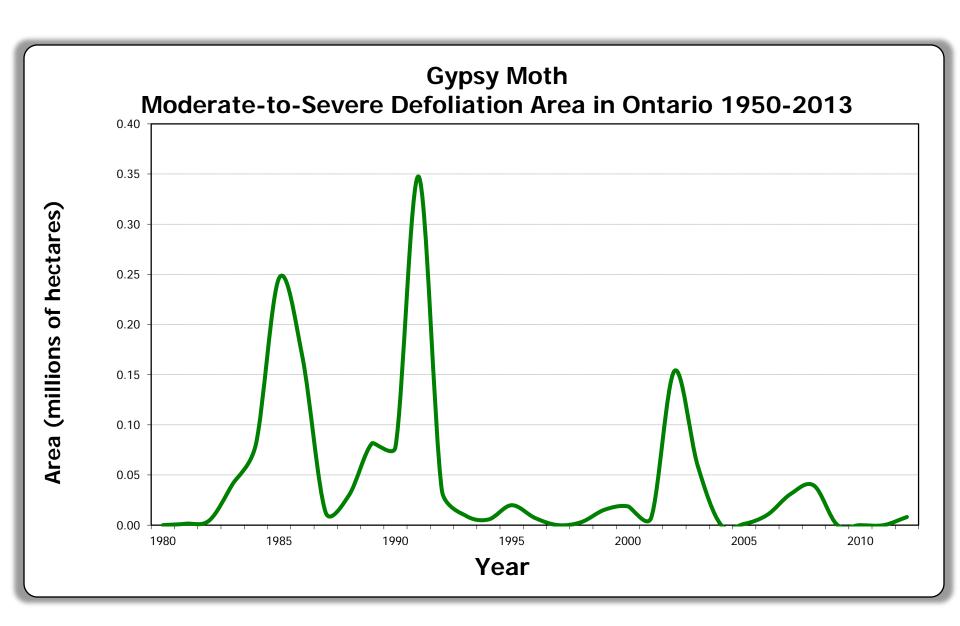






Gypsy moth could invade northwestern Ontario from Minnesota Impact on forest should be minimal

### **Gypsy moth**



### **Emerald ash borer**

### **Pest Information**

Pest Origins: Invasive – Native to Asia

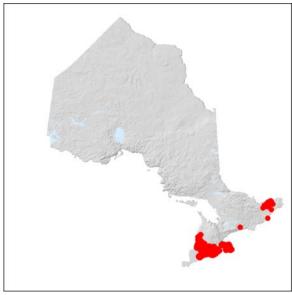
Pest Type: Wood Borer Host Species: Ash spp.

Infestation Area: 126,000 ha (2013) cumulative













### **Emerald Ash Borer**



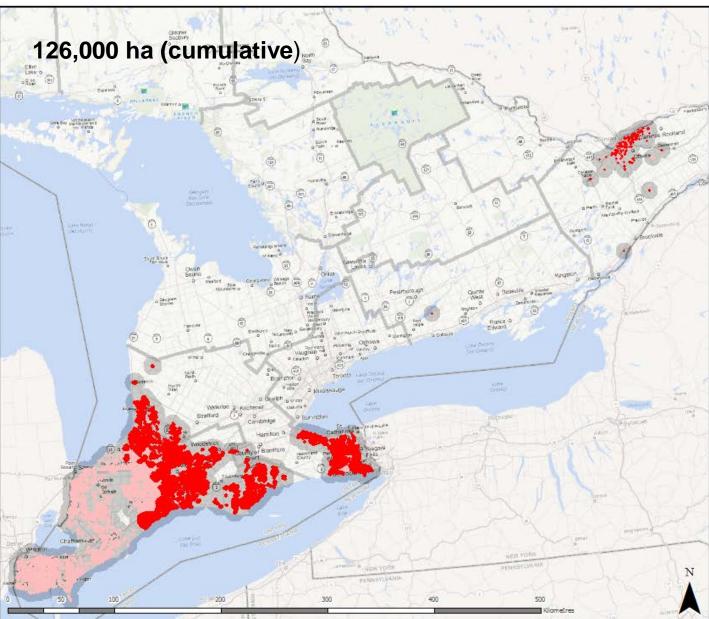
# Emerald Ash Borer **2004-2013**

Map 1 Southern Region Areas-within-which emerald ash borer caused moderate-to- severe decline to ash species.

2013 - Area of Moderateto- Severe Decline and Mortality

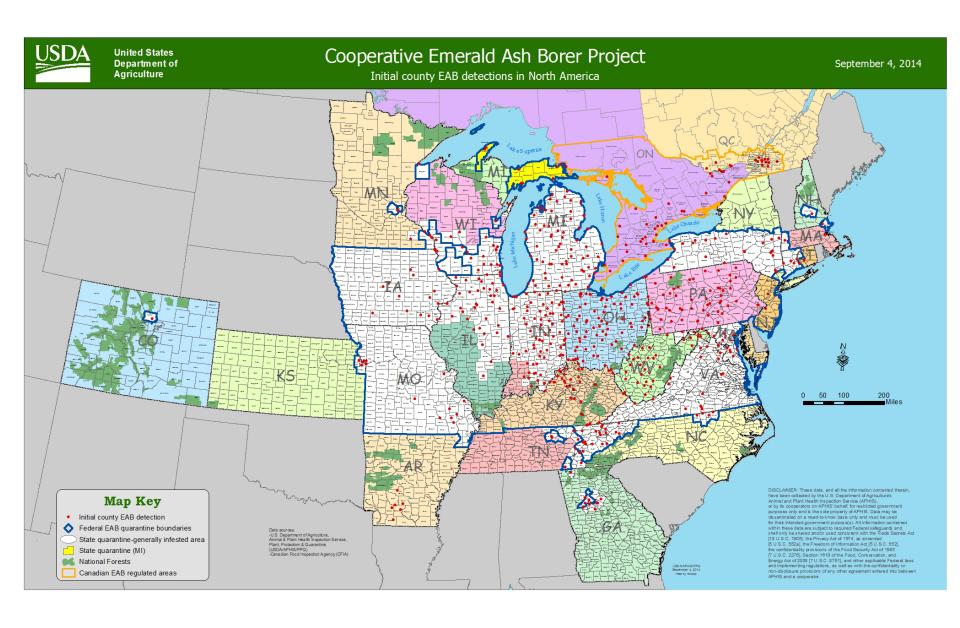
2004 – 2012 Area of Moderate-to- Severe Decline and Mortality \*no 2008 data



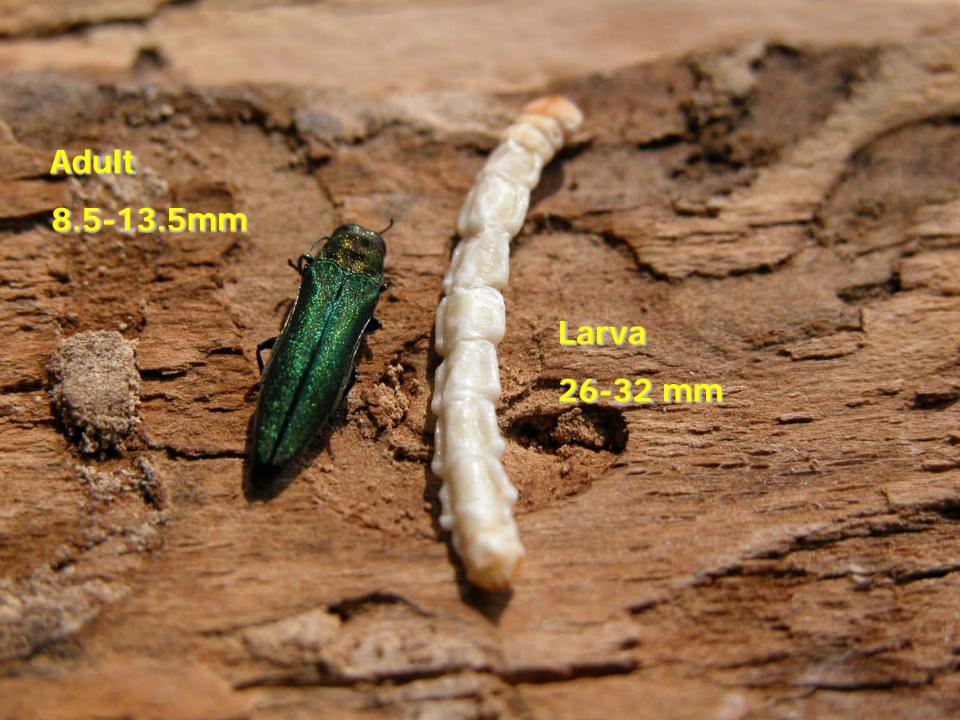








Emerald ash borer now in 23 states and 2 provinces



### **HOSTS**:

- All ash species (Fraxinus)
- Green (red), black, white, European, blue
- Significant impact on black ash First Nations cultural uses (baskets, masks)
- Blue ash shows resistance
- NOT mountain ash

























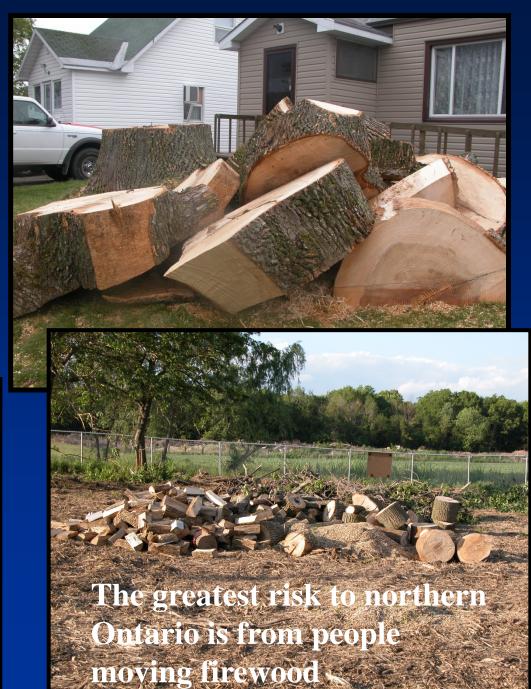
Significant impacts in riparian zones – streams & shorelines



Cities face costs of >\$340 million over next 10 years for tree removal and replacement









# **Before EAB**

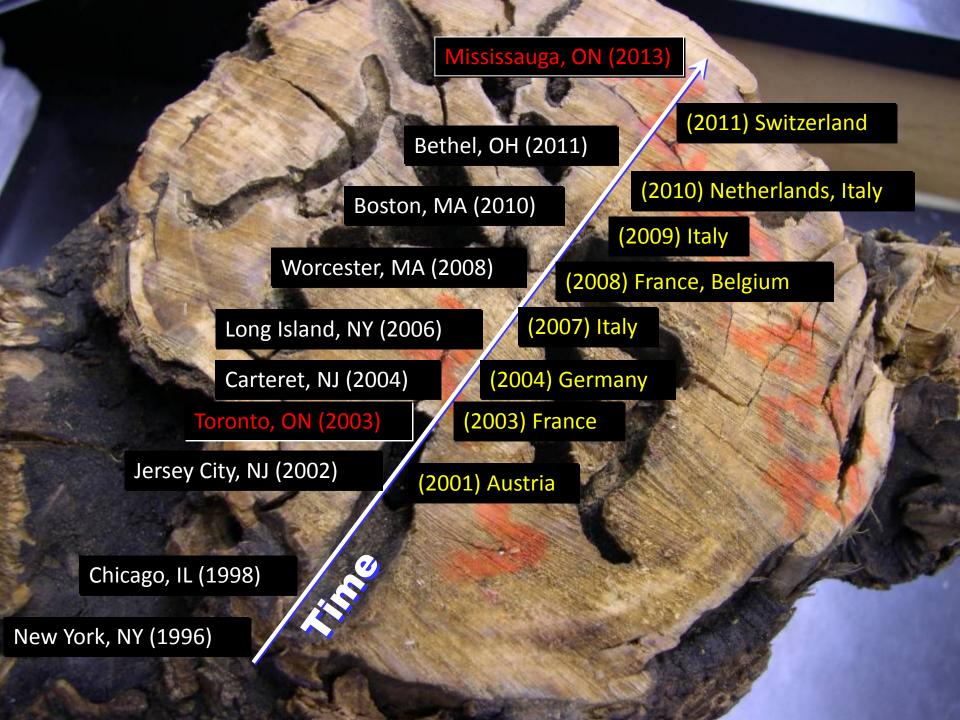
# **After EAB**



Dave Kreutzweiser, CFS

# **Asian long-horned beetle**







Canadian Food Inspection Agency

Agence canadienne d'inspection des aliments



Natural Resources Canada

Ressources naturelles Canada





⊗ Ontario









Agricultural Research





United States Department of Agriculture





# Asian long-horned beetle (Canada)

Discovered: Toronto-Vaughan 2003

**Eradication and surveys 2003 to 2013** 

27,700 trees cut, 662 infested trees

Last infested trees and beetles found 2007

Declared eradicated April 5, 2013 (5 yrs negative surveys)









# 2013 Asian long-horned beetle

Mississauga August 2013

**Delimitation survey to Dec 2013** 

25 infested trees found (1 Toronto)

Science panel recommendations to CFIA Dec 2013



Infestation quite small, localized, probably a remnant of 2003 infestation

**Eradication February-March 2014** 



# 2013 Asian long-horned beetle











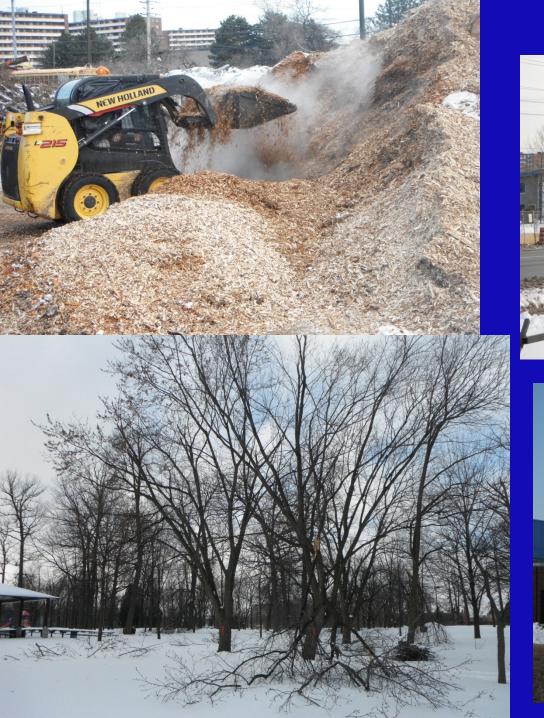












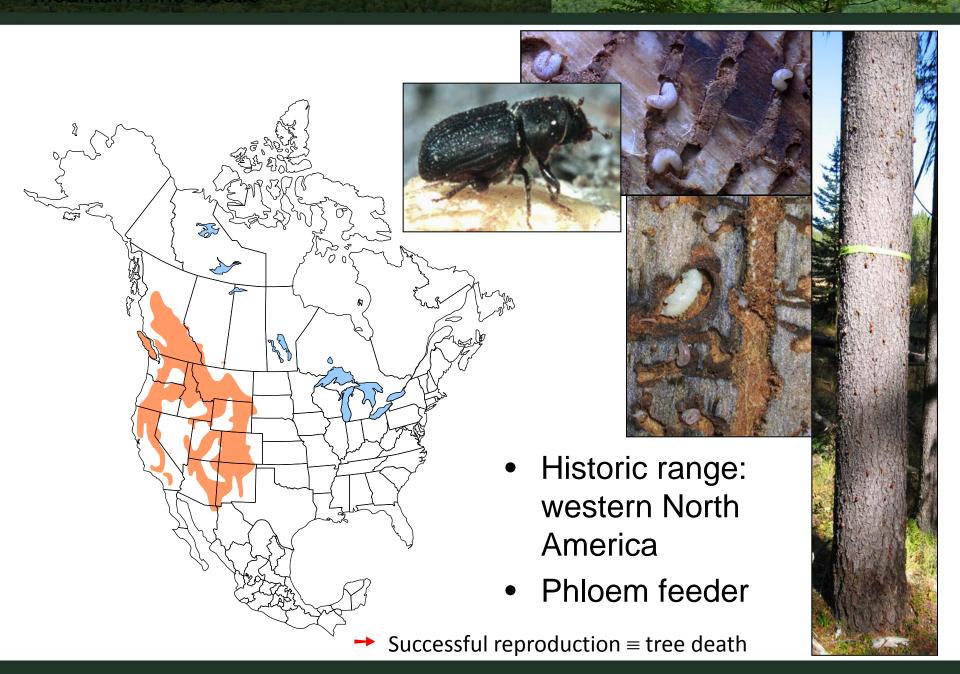




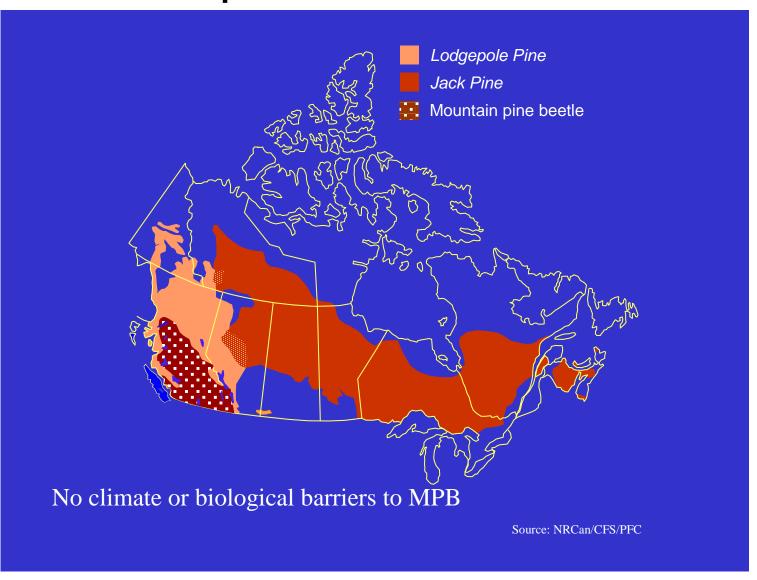


# Slide: Chris MacQuarrie, CFS

### Mountain Pine Beetle



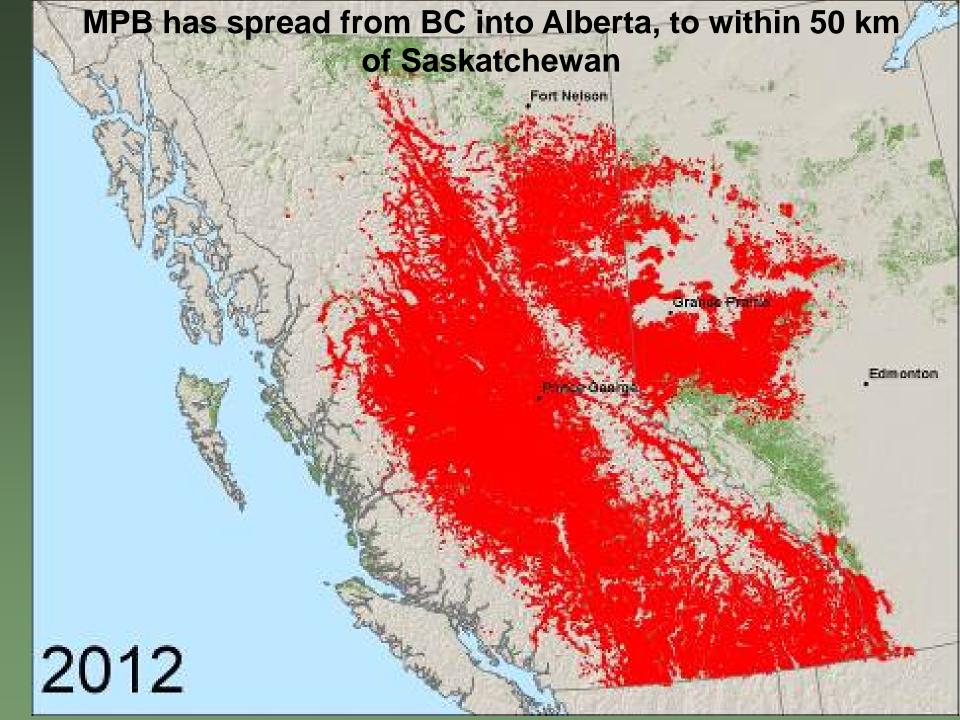
## **Susceptible Pine Across Canada**



#### Science Matters 2013: Mountain Pine Beetle

## Lodgepole and jack pine abundance in Canada

Source: D. McKenney and D. Yemshanov, CFS, Great Lakes Forestry Centre







### Mountain Pine Beetle





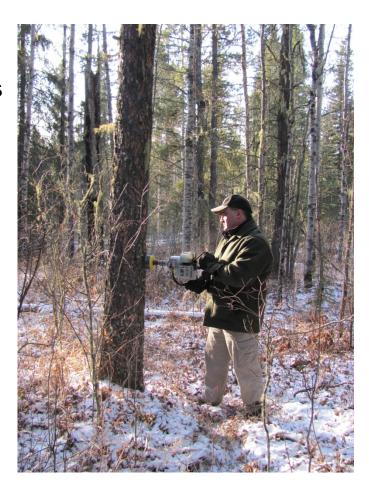
MPB could be moved to Ontario in firewood or logs



## **ONTARIO** Actions: Research Support

### **CFS projects supported by MNR:**

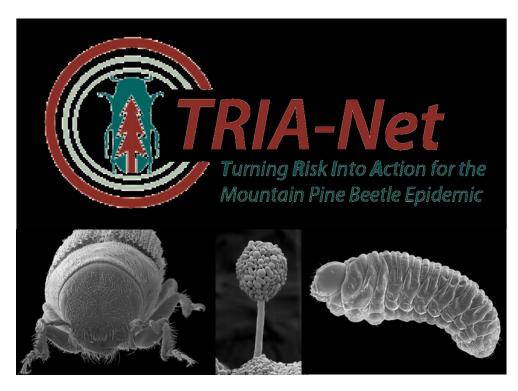
- suitability of jack & white pine as MPB hosts (Invasive Species Centre funds)
- modeling future Ontario climate suitability and eastward expansion (AB, SK, MB)
- assessing current Ontario climate (ISC \$)
- changes in MPB ecology in jack pine hosts
- search for fungal control agents



### **ONTARIO** Actions: Research Support

### **University of Alberta et al.**

- \$3.5 million MPB TRIA-Network genetics + population ecology + management
- Interactions between pine chemistry and MPB pheromone
- Sprayable pheromone sex attractant

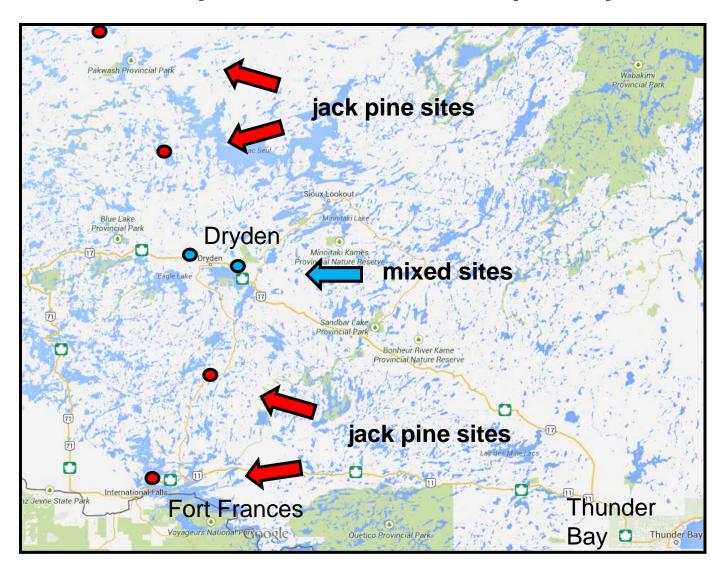




# Monitoring under-bark temperatures in Ontario pine species







Ministry of Natural Resources







