

**NICOLA VALLEY
FOREST CONSULTANTS LTD.**



BOX 4395, LOWER NICOLA, B.C. V0K 1Y0
PHONE/FAX (250) 378-5617

HEAD OFFICE

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Merritt, B.C

**Frank Rizzardo
Nicola Lakeshore Estates Inc.**

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Pine Beetle Project – Summary to date.

In June I monitored the Funnel traps and checked the Bait trees to record the level of attack progressively.

Funnel Traps – From May 22 to July 5 I checked the traps 17 times and recorded the number of beetles caught in each trap and the weather. The number of beetles caught increased during warm weather and decreased during cool and wet days. Interestingly from May 22 to June 26 the total number caught was 3210. My last check on July 5, I caught 3351. More than double the total 9 days previous. Considering that as few as 80 can kill a tree 6561 trapped saved a few trees. This trap program is proving to be an efficient method for capturing beetles .

Bait Trees – I baited 161 trees around the infestations and along the road and trail systems. This is also proving to be an effective method for capturing beetle in trees that can be disposed of later. On average there are over 200 attacks on each tree. This relates to approximately 32000 beetle drawn into bait trees. I anticipate that these numbers will increase and also the some trees adjacent to baits will also draw in beetles.

These figures suggest that I have successfully captured almost 40,000 beetles and prevented them from going further down the hill onto the private properties. This number would equal 500 trees.

2nd Flight - The Western Beetle flight is slowly dying down and now the Mt. Pine Beetle flight begins. Dave at Synergy asked if I was willing to participate in an experiment for trapping this flight and recording data and keeping all the insects caught in each trap for further counting and determination of the number of male and females. For my participation he donated the replacement lures and three different scent pouches. The results of this study will be published in a technical report and the support of Nicola Lakeshore Estates will be noted. I find this most interesting.

The proposal budget for monitoring traps was \$3900.00 and I have spent \$2700.00 to date. I don't expect to exceed the proposal.

BRUCE