

SPRUCE BEETLE, ASPEN DECLINE & FOREST HEALTH

Quick Facts about “SBEADMR”

- The proposal will impact 120,000 acres in Mesa, Delta, Montrose, Gunnison, Ouray and San Miguel Counties over 10 years.
- Up to 12,000 acres would be treated each year. 6,000 for commercial timber, 6,000 non-commercial.
- There will only be one formal environmental analysis for 10 years of work.
- The plan could create 260 miles of temporary roads plus 60 miles of engineered roads, including 12 permanent miles.
- The stated goals of the plan are salvage, resiliency, and public safety.

Send comments to the Forest Service by 7/31!

Attn: SBEADMR Project
c/o Scott Armentrout,
2250 Highway 50 Delta,
CO 81416

Or via the web:
www.FS.usda.gov/goto/SBEADMR_comments

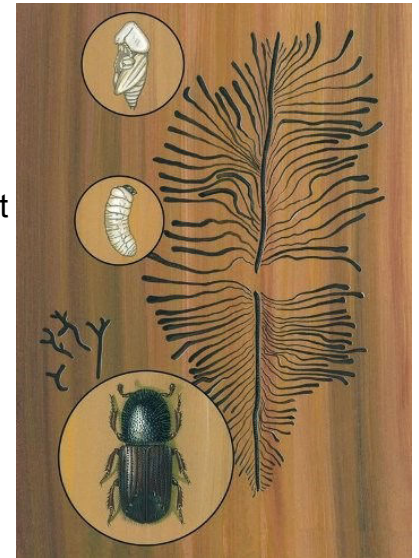
Comment today on the “Spruce Beetle Epidemic and Aspen Decline Management Response” Plan!

The Forest Service has released its long-awaited draft plan to manage spruce beetle and aspen decline impacts on up to 120,000 acres across our region. If the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forest is your backyard, you’ll want to be aware of this massive and potentially precedent-setting project.

What is SBEADMR?

SBEADMR is the acronym for the formal Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) put forward by the Forest Service. The DEIS has three proposed actions that are now available for public comment until **July 31st**.

The DEIS is proposing to treat up to 120,000 acres over a 10-year period. Each year up to 6,000 acres would be logged for commercial timber, and another 6,000 acres would be treated non-commercially through the use of prescribed fire and other techniques.



Our Concerns:

- **Size and scale.** 120,000 acres is a lot of land.
- **Public process.** Although the Forest Service has laid out a plan for public involvement through an “adaptive management” framework, there will only be one formal Environmental Impact Statement prepared for the whole project.
- **Scientific basis.** The science behind forest health and tree regeneration in the face of epidemics and climate change is still being developed. SBEADMR needs to incorporate the best and most up-to-date information.
- **Lynx & Wildlife Habitat.** The project will impact 242,467 acres of critical habitat for lynx and other sensitive species.
- **Priorities.** The project should focus on protecting public health and safety first. With its limited dollars, the Forest Service needs to prioritize treating areas that pose a fire and safety threat to Western Slope communities.

Map of the Proposed Action/Alternative 2 recommended in the Draft EIS. Colored areas are being considered for treatment

