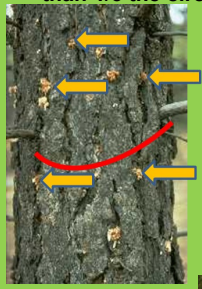
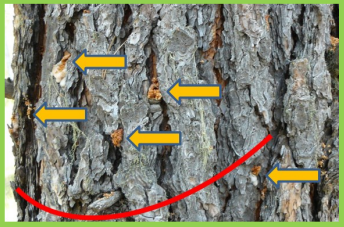
MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE
INFESTED TREE IDENTIFICATION ON PONDEROSA PINE TREES

A ponderosa pine tree can be classified as infested if one or more of the following applies:

1. **Five or more brown/pink pitch tubes between 5ft. and 8ft. above ground level and spanning greater than 1/3 the circumference of tree .**





2. **Brown boring dust in bark crevices and on the ground immediately adjacent to the tree base.**

One of the most visible signs are popcorn-shaped masses of resin, called "pitch tubes," on the trunk where beetle tunneling begins. Pitch tubes may be brown, pink, or white.

White —unsuccessful attack at that point

Pink—usually unsuccessful attack at that point

Brown—successful attack at that point

3. **Evidence of woodpecker feeding on trunk > 3 ft above ground. Patches of bark are removed and bark flakes lie on the ground or snow below tree. (Usually appearing around November or later.)**

COMMON MISLEADING SIGNS

Large pitch tubes located only in bottom 4 feet of trunk – red turpentine beetle

Red turpentine beetle attack

Tree with large pitch masses on old wound, on stem canker, or on branch collar – Zimmerman pine moth

Zimmerman pine moth

Tree fading before January with no pitch tubes – pine engraver beetle

Woodpecker feeding activity on upper 1/3 of tree and branches – pine engraver beetle

Sapsuckers make small (1/8-inch) holes in parallel lines around the trunk.

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