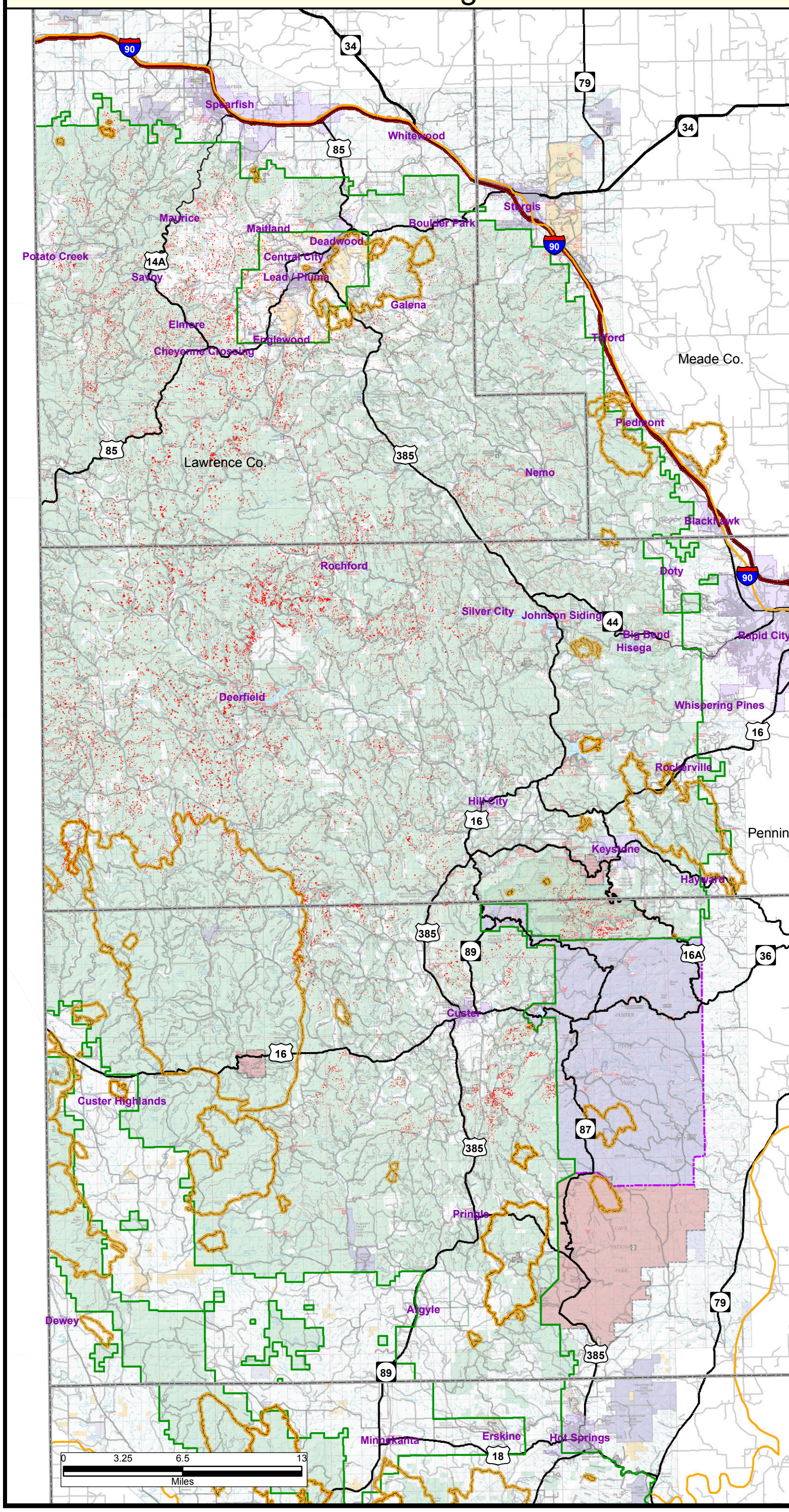
Mountain Pine Beetle Infestation and Tree Damage 2014
Black Hills Region of South Dakota



N W E S

South Dakota Department of Agriculture

Legend

- 2014 Fader Trees No Borders
- County Boundaries - Census 2010
- Large Wildfires
- Black Hills National Forest Bnd
- Black Hills Forest Fire Protection District
- Black Hills Communities
- Custer State Park Boundary
- National Parks & Monuments

Ponderosa Pine Tree Mortality Acres

Acres Affected by Bark Beetles

	MPB Affected SD Acres
2014 Aerial Photo Flight	15,611.7

Photo 1: Taken in August 2013.

This photo was taken from a helicopter hovering just above the Black Hills Experimental Forest. The infestation is moving from the core of the Hills to the outer regions. The red trees were infested in 2012.

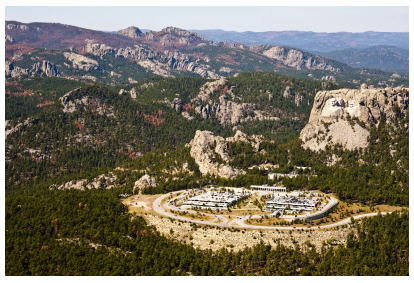


Photo 2: Taken in Summer 2011.

This photo was taken from a helicopter hovering just southeast of Mt. Rushmore. The infestation is moving from the Harney Peak Region of the Black Elk Wilderness Area toward Mount Rushmore National Memorial. The dull red trees were infested in 2010.

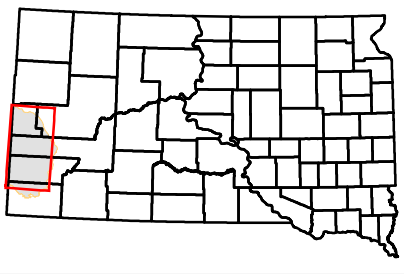
Map Notes

This data was created from low altitude digital aerial photography by the "heads up" digitizing method. The digital aerial imagery was acquired by the South Dakota Dept. of Agriculture; Resource Conservation & Forestry division.
The imagery covers most of the Black Hills region of South Dakota and Wyoming. It was acquired in August & Sept. 2014 and shows trees that were infested in the summer of 2013. Over 15,610 acres of tree mortality were mapped in South Dakota alone.
The digitizing was done by of team of GIS professionals from the Division of Resource Conservation & Forestry, the Black Hills National Forest, Neiman Timber industries, and the Wyoming Forestry Div.
This project was part of USDAFS Region 2 digital areial survey as a special mapping project. Low altitude digital aerial photography yeilds a more accurate measurement of damage acerage resulting from insects or disease agents.

Although every effort has been made to insure the accuracy of the information used in the development of this map errors and conditions originating from the source data have been incorporated into this product. The end user must be aware of data conditions and ultimately bear responsibility for the appropriate use of the information.

This dataset was produced from low altitude digital aerial photography. Due to the nature of digital aerial photography, this data will only provide rough estimates of location, intensity and the resulting trend information for agents detectable from the air.
Many of the most destructive diseases are not represented in the data because these agents are not detectable from the air. Some of the destructive infestations are not represented in the data because these agents are not detectable from the air.
The data presented should only be used as a partial indicator of insect and disease activity, and should be validated on the ground for actual location and causal agent.

Locator Map



Map Created by: South Dakota Resource Conservation & Forestry
Date: January, 2015.