



BC **Forest Safety** Council  
*Unsafe is Unacceptable*

## FOREST INDUSTRY SAFETY ALERT

### **Hazard Observation: Grey attack pine is decaying and blocking resource roads in southern interior region**

**Location:** Southern Interior

**Date of Incident:** Spring 2013

**Details of Incident:** Several resource roads in the region are taking considerable amounts of saw work to open up for planting due to substantial volumes of blow down across them. The majority of the blow-down trees are lodge-pole pine grey attack that is starting to show advanced decay in the roots and butt areas but substantial green spruce has been observed down as well.



The problem is very widespread in the southern interior region.

The grey attack pine appears to be decaying from the outside in towards the heartwood. The failed trees that were checked all had about 50% sound wood as per the Danger Tree assessment criteria.



**Recommended Preventative Actions:**

- 1) Roads should be scouted well in advance of any planned work to allow time for required road work to be completed.
- 2) Ensure that required wind threshold standards are utilized and communicated to all crewmembers whenever work is taking place within reach of standing dead pine.
- 3) Ensure emergency plans are in place in the event that blow-down blocks workers way home.
- 4) Ensure that only properly trained and equipped power saw operators work at opening roads blocked by blow down.

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