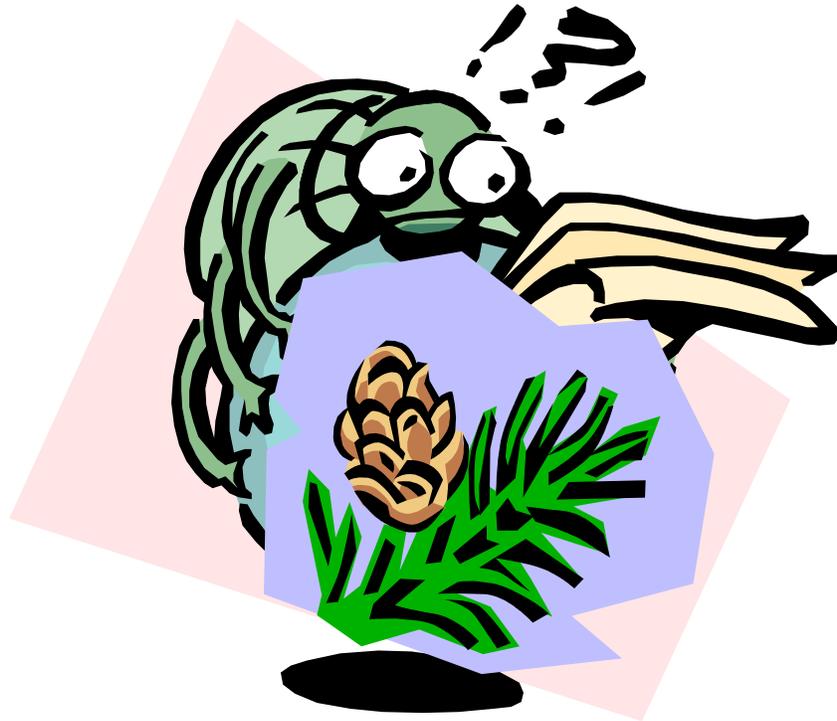


Appendix J

Southern Pine Beetle Hazard Rating



Appendix J

Southern Pine Beetle Hazard Rating

Coastal Plains System

The two strongest factors related to Southern Pine Beetle Hazard include tree vigor and tree age. Both stand density and stand height are measurable traits, which show a strong correlation between to the above hazard factors. Research provides models which assist foresters in determining which stands are more at risk based on the measurable traits of stand basal area and height. The following table illustrates the hazard rating for each stand using the Coastal Plains Hazard Rating System.

Southern Pine Beetle Hazard Rating for each stand in the proposed action.

Comp.	Stand	Current BA	Avg. Stand Height	Hazard Rating
250	4	120	60	High
250	10	90	70	Medium
250	8	130	50	High
251	12	120	50	High
250	11	100	50	Medium
251	1	100	60	High
251	6	120	50	Medium
252	4	130	50	Medium
250	1	126	50	Medium
252	6	110	50	Medium
252	8	80	50	Medium
252	13	120	55	Medium
250	2	90	100	Medium
250	9	80	100	Medium
250	12	80	105	Medium
251	4	130	65	High
251	14	110	95	High
252	9	90	105	Medium
252	12	90	90	Medium
252	14	80	95	Medium
252	15	90	100	Medium
252	22	40	100	Low
250	3	90	100	Medium
250	2	90	95	Medium
251	2	90	100	Medium
251	11	80	100	Medium

Stand Classifications for southern pine beetle losses for National Forests in the coastal Plain were developed through the cooperation of the Southern Forest Experiment Station and Forest Pest Management. Because it cannot be predicted exactly when and where infestations are most likely to occur, the following classifications are intended to identify those stand in which infestations are most likely to occur, cause significant losses, and produce the most beetles—if and when an outbreak develops—over the next three to five years.

Stands with forest type loblolly pine, shortleaf pine, loblolly pine/hardwood, or shortleaf pine/oak will have a high or medium hazard classification according to total stand height and pine basal area as follows:

<u>Total Height</u>	<u>High Hazard</u> -----Pine Basal Area-----	<u>Medium Hazard</u>
	<u>High Hazard</u> -----Pine Basal Area-----	<u>Medium Hazard</u>
56-65		>80
66-75	>90	80-90
76-105	>90	70-90
106+	>100	70-100

Stands with forest type slash pine, longleaf pine, or bottomland hardwood/pine will have a medium hazard classification according to total stand height and pine basal area as follows:

<u>Total Height</u>	<u>High Hazard</u> -----Pine Basal Area-----	<u>Medium Hazard</u>
66-75	**	>80
76-105	**	>90
106+	**	>100