

# Nevada

## Forest Health Monitoring Highlights 2004



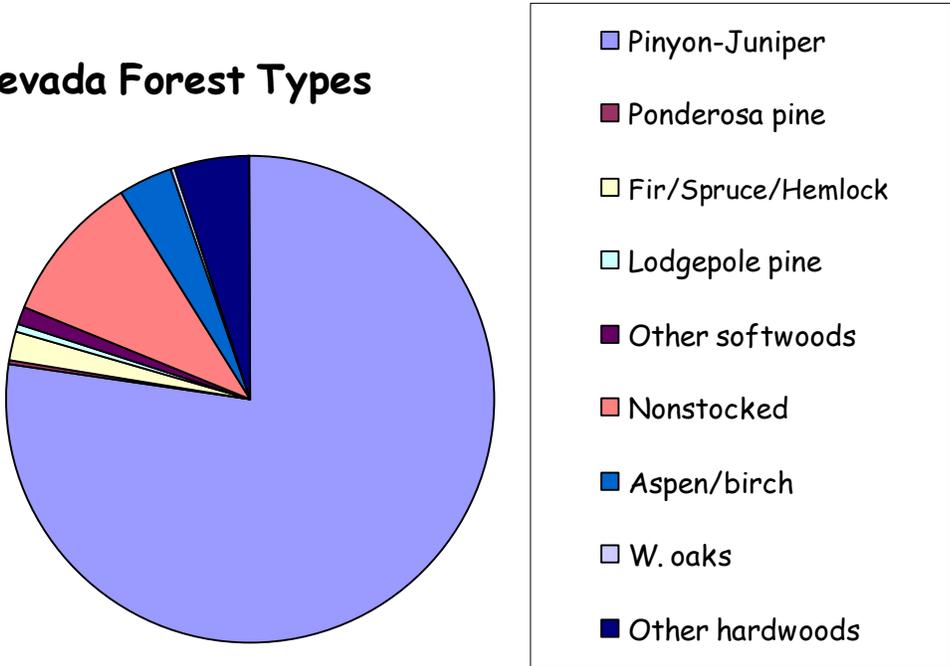
### The Resource

Healthy wildland and urban forests provide multiple benefits for Nevada's diverse population. Although little of Nevada's 12.5 million acres of forestland produces commercial timber, it does provide other wood products, watershed protection, wildlife habitat and recreation opportunities. Together with the urban forests in the state's communities, Nevada's forests are a critical resource in this sparsely forested state.

The majority of the forested lands are publicly owned (98 %), with 261,200 acres of woodland in private ownership. From a statewide perspective, the majority (92%) of Nevada's forests are composed of pinyon and/or juniper species. Other forest types are restricted to the higher elevations in the state's 314 mountain ranges. The following chart displays the percentages of

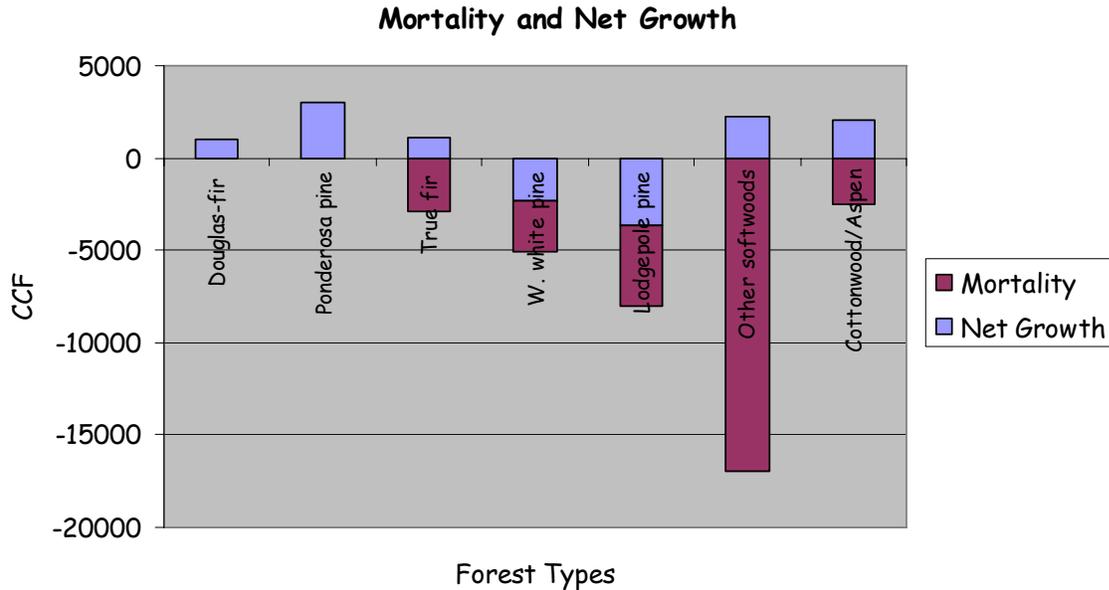
forest and woodland type in Nevada:

**Nevada Forest Types**



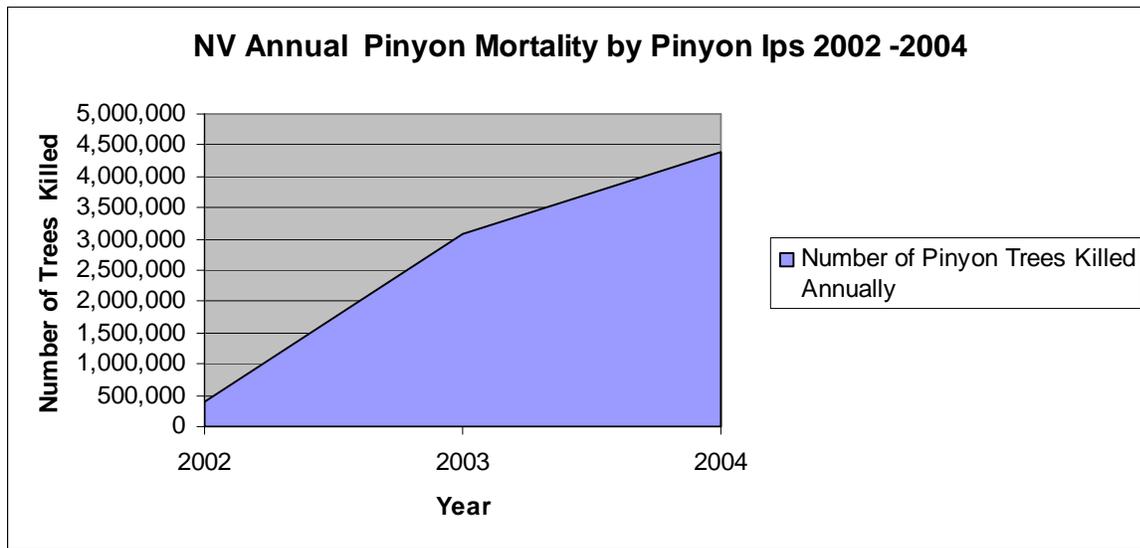
## Components of Change

Nevada's forests are host to several common pests which plague Western forests. Widespread stress to the trees - brought on by drought conditions - weaken individual trees creating favorable conditions for the pests. Average annual net growth of all live trees on forested lands for the past 15 years has averaged 855 thousand cubic feet per year. The low figure is due to the average annual mortality during that same time of 62,675 thousand cubic feet per year.

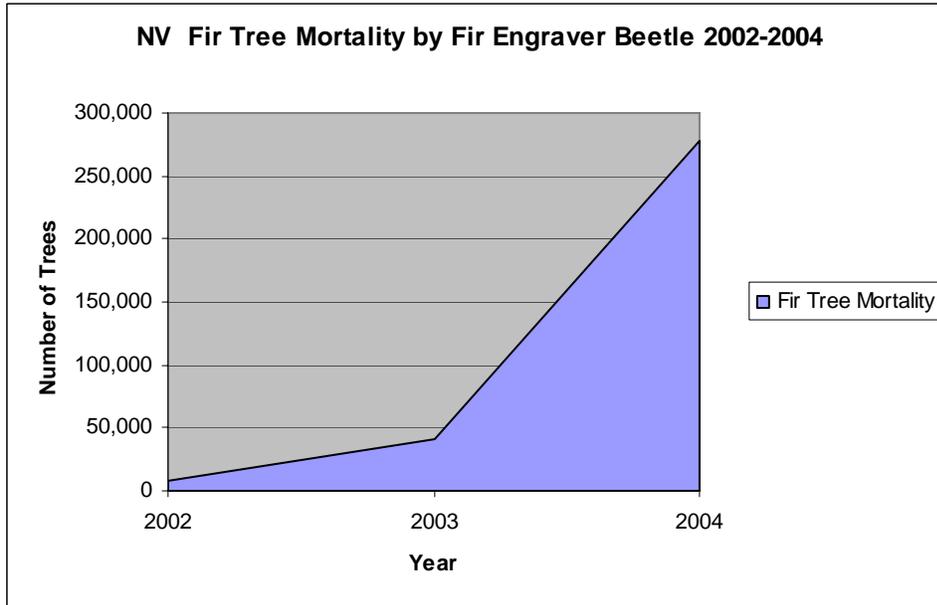


## Forest Health Issues

The effects of continued drought since 1998 has resulted in increased insect activity. Tree mortality has increased in Jeffrey pine, true fir and pinyon woodlands. The most noticeable increase in tree mortality occurred in the pinyon pine forest type. In 2004, 4.38 million pinyon pine trees over 738,047 acres had been killed by the pinyon ips beetle.



Prolonged drought conditions and an increase in fir engraver populations has increased the amount of fir mortality in the Lake Tahoe Basin, southern and eastern Nevada in developed areas on private land. Aerial survey data indicates fir mortality increased significantly from 18,891 trees in 2003 to 278,035 trees in 2004. Aerial survey maps are available for review by contacting the Forest Health Protection or Nevada Division of Forestry office listed at the bottom of this page.



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