

About the Forestry Project

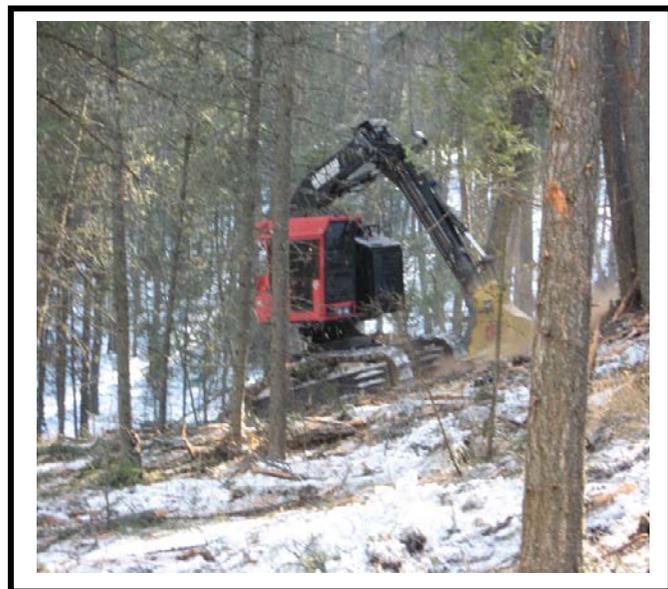
What is the purpose?

The purpose of the project is to:

1. Reduce dwarf mistletoe and Western Bark Beetle infested trees
2. Increase diversity and vigor of Lone Pine State Park forested lands
3. Reduce fuel loading and associated wildfire danger

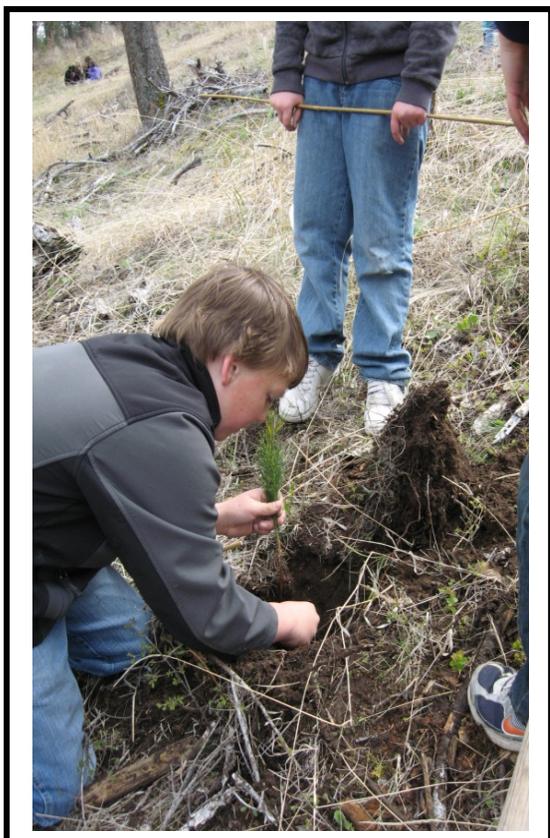
What does this project accomplish?

In order to reach the goals listed above, specialized heavy equipment is used to remove mistletoe infested trees. These infested trees are more vulnerable to beetle attack and beetle reproduction. Because the infested trees are also no longer merchantable, the tree and branches will be ground up to accelerate the decomposition process and add nutrients to the soil. This process also reduces potential wildfire fuels.



What is the project status?

This is the third phase of the Western Bark Beetle Prevention, Suppression, and Restoration Grant Project at Lone Pine State Park. The first two phases which occurred in 2007 and 2011 produced excellent results. The amount of Dwarf Mistletoe was significantly reduced, masticated trees decomposed quickly, and wildfire fuels were reduced as well. Successful tree plantings each spring and natural regeneration of grasses, trees, and shrubs also helped the project areas reach desired outcome quickly, meeting the project goals.



What is planned for the future?

We will:

- Continue to monitor the project area, ensuring that native shrubs and grasses are able to regenerate through the debris.
- Continue to clean the debris off of the trails and rebuild trails where necessary.
- Spray the area to ensure that noxious weeds are controlled.
- Replant the area with Ponderosa Pine and Western Larch saplings to provide a more diverse forest for the future. Please stop in this Spring to find out about volunteer tree planting days.
- Monitor the area over the long-term to determine whether all project goals were met.

If you would like more information on the forestry project, please call Brian Schwartz, Park Manager, at 755-2706 ext 3 or stop by the Visitor Center.

