

Ministry of Forests & Range LBIS Funding Request Form

Investment Category: Forest and Range Health – Protection Activities – Defoliator Program
Investment Category Contact: Tim Ebata
Amount Requested: \$1.9 M WSBW and \$.550 M DFTM
Request Rationale (no more than 1 page):
<p><u>Business rationale (include benefit/cost impacts):</u></p> <p><i>Defoliator Management Program:</i></p> <p><i>ISSUE – forest defoliator outbreaks can cause significant losses but management is possible to reduce these losses, particularly to high value stands. Two species: Western spruce budworm (WSBW) and Douglas-fir tussock moth (DFTM) are causing damage and the DFTM poses a human and livestock health risk along with tree damage. The 2009 aerial overview survey reported that over 760,000 ha were under attack by WSBW and over 17,000 ha of DFTM – all located in Fdi stands in the SIFR. Only high value stands (a ranking system is in place to assign value) are treated if fall population monitoring projects significant defoliation in the following spring. The WSBW outbreak has been in progress for about 10 years and treatment programs have been in place during this period. This outbreak is predicted to continue for several more years but weather conditions adverse to early WSBW larval survival could end it without notice. The DFTM outbreak has been ongoing for 2 years and is expected to end naturally in another year but treatments are required to protect citizens from the effects of the insect's allergenic hairs. Funding is required to conduct population monitoring, prepare for treatments (including FN consultation, public consultation, contract planning, and notification/advertisement, Btk purchase), and carrying out the treatments. Specialized staff and contractors are required to effectively carry out this program and such resources limit the expansion of the treatment program somewhat.</i></p> <p><i>Annual funding request: WSBW - \$1.9 M. DFTM - \$.550 M</i></p> <p><i>Linkage to LBIS goals, objectives and strategic priorities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>From “Guidance for developing the 11/12 LBIS” Goal #1 – maximum productivity of forest and range resources;</i> • <i>Protection of mid-and long-term timber supply from potential catastrophic disturbance (from 11/12 LBIS Funding Principles);</i> • <i>Investments are occurring in the Priority 2 units for mid-term timber supply mitigation – 100 Mile, Okanagan, and Merritt TSAs (from “Guidance for developing the 11/12 LBIS” Strategic Priority #1)</i> • <i>Treatment decisions are based on positive ROI (“Guidance for developing the 11/12 LBIS” Objective #1)</i> <p><i>Benefits:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Aside from protecting timber values, wildlife habitat, watershed and scenic values are also maintained</i> <p><i>Investments Target Timber Supply Issues</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Treatments are focused on stands that are critical to maintain the mid-term timber supply</i> <p><i>Biological Window:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Summer 2010 – aerial survey results show current outbreak location and severity</i> • <i>Fall 2010 – population monitoring and defoliation severity prediction; ordering Btk</i> • <i>Winter 2010– Spring 2011 – Treatment program planning – Block boundary placement, FN referrals, private land owner consultation, public meetings, advertisement, contract administration, receive Btk</i> • <i>June-July 2011 – spray treatments</i>
Amount Allocated (to be filled out by FPIB):
Allocation Rationale (to be filled out by FPIB):

Describe the issue being addressed including:

- a) the size and general area of impact within the province*
- b) How much total funding would be required to resolve the issue*
- c) How long it would take to resolve the issue at the proposed funding level*

Provide a brief description of

- a) magnitude of the impact in addressing the Land Based Investment Strategy goals, objectives, and strategic priorities resulting from the investment¹;*
- b) multiple benefits that can be achieved from the investment²;*
- c) how the investment addresses structural timber supply or ecological integrity issues;*
- d) specific biological windows for success related to the investment*

¹ Does the investment result in a significant contribution to achieving the provincial goals and objectives?

² Does the investment assist in the achievement of indicators or targets in other investment categories?