

Spruce Beetle (*Dendroctonus rufipennis*) Parasitoid Response to Harvesting Treatments

Lead by: [Julia Wesley](#)

Theme: [Arthropod Diversity](#)

Status: Completed

Start: 1998

End: 2002

Participants

- [David Langor](#)
- [John Spence](#)
- [Julia Wesley](#)

Background

The Spruce Beetle is one of the most destructive pests of mature spruce in North America and outbreak level populations often result from harvesting activity. Previous studies found parasitoids to play a key role maintaining low beetle populations, however the parasitoid assemblage and level of impact on the host is unknown in Northern Alberta. As it is documented that parasitic Hymenoptera are more sensitive to disturbance than their phytophagous hosts, populations of Spruce Beetle and their parasitoids will be monitored after harvest treatments.

Objectives

Spruce Beetle parasitoid species will be identified and their role in maintaining low beetle populations will be measured.

Key Results

n/a