

URBAN FORESTRY

Fire Mitigation



In the fall of 2008 Peachland Fire & Rescue Service (PFRS) received a grant for pine beetle mitigation from Natural Resources Canada. Three treatment areas around Forest Hill, Sanderson Road and Ponderosa Drive are identified from the Community Wild Fire Protection Plan (CWPP) for fuel modification and were treated.

The pictures show part of a crew from the BC Forest Service Penticton Branch and some of the Peachland Fire and Rescue Service (Captain Ross), doing

fire mitigation at MacKinnon Park. The PFRS contracted the Rutland Senior Secondary Forest Students for this project, however, while they were able to start, and to clear several pine beetle infested trees in the fall of 2008, The piles were left to be burnt in the Spring of 2009. Because of the burning bylaw regulations and because the students who worked in the field were unable to come back and burn the piles. The BC Forest Service Crew and Captain Dave Ross burnt the piles over a two day period in late spring to complete the project.

PFRS are planning to apply for funding to upgrade the Community WildFire Protection Plan this year, 2009 and to apply for UBCM funding. When fire mitigation was completed in 2005 there was no sign of pine beetle in the area. Pine Beetle is in the Peachland area now. A local company, Davies Wildfire is working on proposals for the PFRS Community Wildfire Protection and Pine Beetle Mitigation for 2009.

