

Hugh Cook

Research Abstract

The History of the Mountain Pine Beetle in the Black Hills

This research topic covers the Mountain Pine Beetle and its history in the Black Hills in the modern era, namely since white settlement began to take off greatly in the late 1800s. It details the history, methods, and ideas of how and why the beetles have been so destructive and the methodology to slow the progression of the beetle in the forest. Readers should also have a greater appreciation of what the beetle has done in the Black Hills in terms of timber kill and later understand the cycle of nature in which the beetle functions.

The point of this research is to give the reader a more comprehensive, broad look at the beetle, the history of it, and how the problem of the beetle and methodology to fight it continue to the present day. Research is conducted from primary, secondary, and electronic media to give a broad understanding of the beetle with methodology included. After reading the paper, the reader should be able to understand the beetle and what it means for the Black Hills.

Finally, the research paper is written from an historical perspective, not a biological or scientific one. Any scientific explanation is kept in simple terms as to not confuse or lose the reader. A greater appreciation for nature and a greater understanding of the beetle's history in the Hills is the point in the paper.