



Province counters pine beetle with fire

By CP

Fri, August 24, 2007

NORDEGG -- Alberta is planning a controlled burn of trees in a highly visible tourist area to try to stop the advance of the pesky mountain pine beetle.

Gerald Sambrooke of the Sustainable Resources Department says the burn covering about 8,000 hectares of Crown forest will be done near Nordegg in west-central Alberta this fall if the weather remains damp and cool.

He says the beetle prefers old growth pines and the province hopes to get a jump on it by reducing the number of host trees.