

# WHITEBARK PINE

## Science and Management Workshop

### Sept. 10-11, 2009

Nelson, BC

Whitebark pine, the quintessential high-mountain tree in much of Canada and the USA is disappearing. Once a keystone species hosting a remarkable ecosystem, whitebark pine is suffering human-related attacks which show no sign of slowing. In 2008, the provinces of Alberta and British Columbia placed this species on their endangered and blue-list. The USA is considering a formal petition for listing as threatened or endangered. (photo: Whitebark Pine Snags - Selkirk Mountains near Nelson)

Across most of its natural range the pine has declined from decades of non-native blister rust disease and the exclusion of natural fires. Most recently, a widespread eruption of mountain pine beetles has killed-off thousands of hectares of already denuded whitebark pine.

#### GOALS:

- Present the latest news, science, and management tips to public lands staff, nature enthusiasts, students, scientists, educators, and citizens.
- Strengthen ties between BC, AB, and USA.
- Provide an enhanced learning experience through on-site visit to a whitebark pine forest.

Speaker Program (Thursday, September 10): More than a dozen experts will provide up-to-date presentations on key issues (decline status, ecology, legal developments, restoration, etc.) with emphasis, but not limited to, Canada.

Field Excursion (Friday, September 11): We will venture to the high-country near Nelson and hear from local specialists while viewing and discussing whitebark pine firsthand.

***"The past several years have been especially troubling for whitebark pine"***



