

# Important Citizen Notice

May 19, 2021



## Action Required Due To October 2020 Windstorm

Dear Citizens,

In October 2020, a windstorm caused a significant amount of tree blowdown located within TKC Traditional Territory, with some areas on R12A and R2A severely impacted. During a recent meeting with Yukon's Forest Management Branch, Lands, Resources and Heritage (LRH) staff were updated about potential concerns for the overall forest health in the area resulting from this severe wind event.

Trees that were blown down release a stress hormone that attract different types of beetles to the area. The beetles don't fly until late June, so it is unlikely beetles will be in the area at present, however, there will be three species of beetles to watch out for in the affected areas:

- **Spruce Bark Beetle**
- **Northern Spruce Engraver Beetle**
- **Lodgepole pine beetle**

These beetles are native and are non-invasive species, however, in high concentrations, they can create damage through infestation to the surrounding live and healthy trees. Once beetles fly into an area, they will establish themselves, but the larvae won't fly for one more year. If trees can be removed and dried prior to beetles establishing in the area, the risk is reduced. Trees that remain in the area will be monitored to see if beetles establish or if the area is not affected.

Monitoring will occur by using Lindgren funnel traps this summer to determine if beetles are in the area, which species and how many.

### What can TKC Citizens do?

We are encouraging Citizens to harvest any of the blowdown trees within R12A and R2A between now and the end of June. Before you harvest, please call Dawn Hansen (Ext. 602) or Natalie Leclerc (Ext. 604) and leave a message to let us know:

- Your name and your contact information.
- The rough location you are intending to harvest.
- Please also report in when the harvest is completed.
- Once you have harvested the wood, ensure it is stacked away from any green trees and allow it to dry as quickly as possible. If any beetles are observed contact LRH immediately.

Please practice standard safety measures, such as hearing, eye, foot protection when harvesting the wood. After July 1, please refrain from removing any downed trees, or if you do, ensure they are stored away from other trees and monitor closely. Lindgren funnel traps will be located on TKC R12A or R2A. Please do not disturb these traps. Additional details will be regularly made available at [www.taan.ca](http://www.taan.ca).

**If you have any questions, please contact Dawn Hansen, Natural Resources Technician (867) 668-3613 ext. 602 or email [resources@taan.ca](mailto:resources@taan.ca).**