

Restoring Ecosystems

Forest Health Montana & Idaho

State & Private
R1/R4 
Forestry

*Working together for
healthy forests and
communities*



White pine blister rust, an exotic fungus, has devastated many white pine forests in northern Idaho and western Montana – we've lost almost 95 percent of this forest type. Forest Health Protection (FHP), Forest Service Research, and Forest Service Genetics are developing and distributing trees resistant to the fungus. FHP funding and the multi-agency, state and private Inland Empire Tree Improvement Cooperative are working to improve the

diversity of resistance within their seedlings and restore white pine to much of its range. FHP is also working with National Forests to locate white pine stands and plantations, and remove the trees' lower limbs, reducing exposure to blister rust and increasing chances of survival. FHP gave \$1.03 million to National Forests in FY 2002, to further these efforts.



For more information
contact:

Gregg DeNitto
Group Leader, Missoula FO
Forest Health Protection
(406) 329-3637
gdenitto@fs.fed.us