

National Insect and Disease Risk Map

2006 National Insect and Disease Risk Map Overview

The primary goal of the National Insect and Disease Risk Map (NIDRM) is to provide Congress, USDA officials, and federal and state land managers with a periodic strategic assessment of risk of tree mortality due to major insects and diseases. The definition of risk is as follows: The expectation that 25% or more of the standing live volume of trees greater than 1" in diameter will die over the next 15 years, including background mortality.

NIDRM is more than "just a map", it represents a compendium of nearly 190 individual risk models, all constructed within a common GIS-based multi-criteria framework that can account for regional variations in forest health concerns. The 2006 risk map process, utilized within 49 states¹, provides a consistent, repeatable, transparent process through which interactive spatial and temporal risk assessments can be conducted at various levels to aid in decision making. This new modeling process will enhance the utilization and maintenance of forest health risk maps within and outside the National Forest System and will enable the Forest Service to produce near "real-time" risk assessments.

The production of the 2006 risk map has been a highly collaborative process led by the Forest Health Monitoring Program of the Forest Health Protection Unit (FHP) of the USDA Forest Service. Entomologists and pathologists from all states and every FHP Region were invited to take part in the process of developing the risk map.

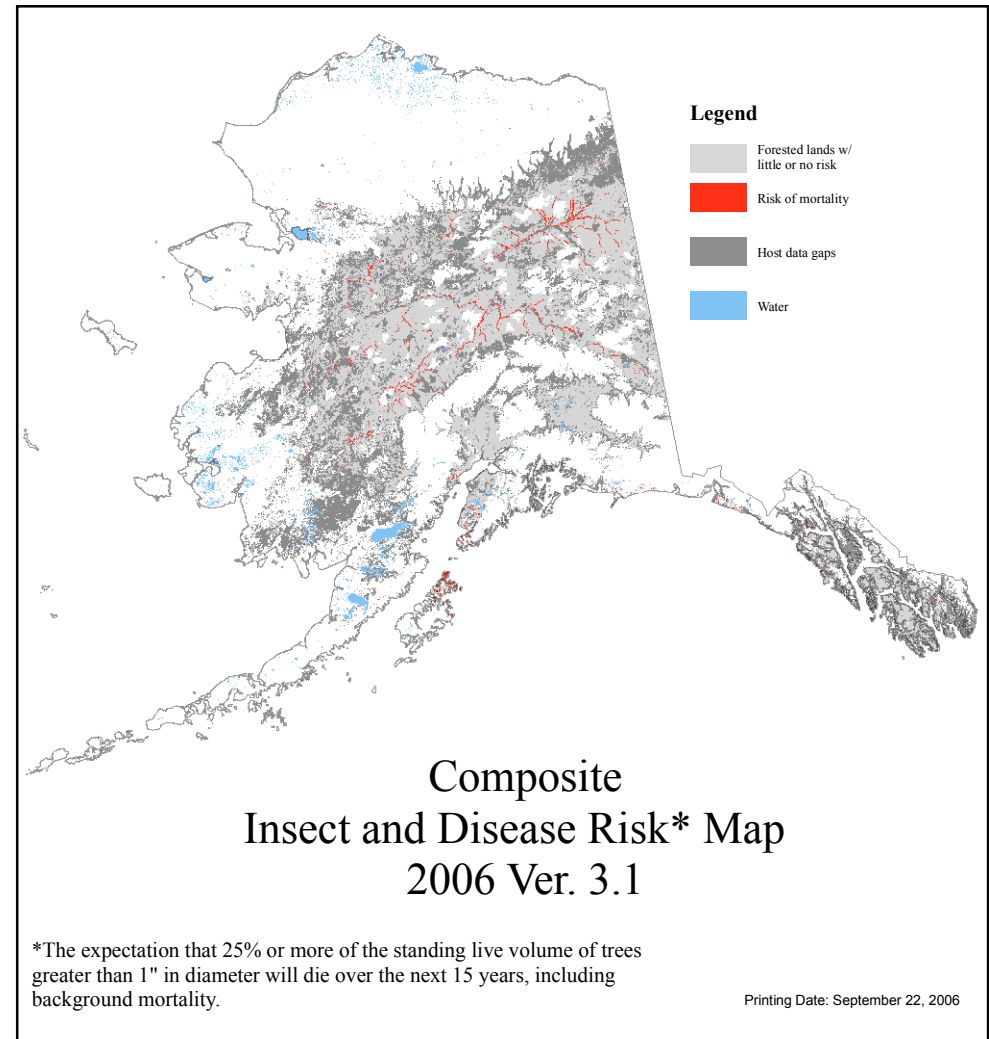
As a strategic product, the 2006 risk map is not intended to predict local insect and disease outbreaks. It is intended to provide a broad overview of forest risk across the entire nation using a well documented and completely transparent process. The map is constructed at a 1 kilometer spatial resolution and may be updated as new data and/or models become available. A final version of the 2006 risk map and a report will be available during the third or fourth quarter of 2006.

¹ A risk map was not constructed for Hawaii.

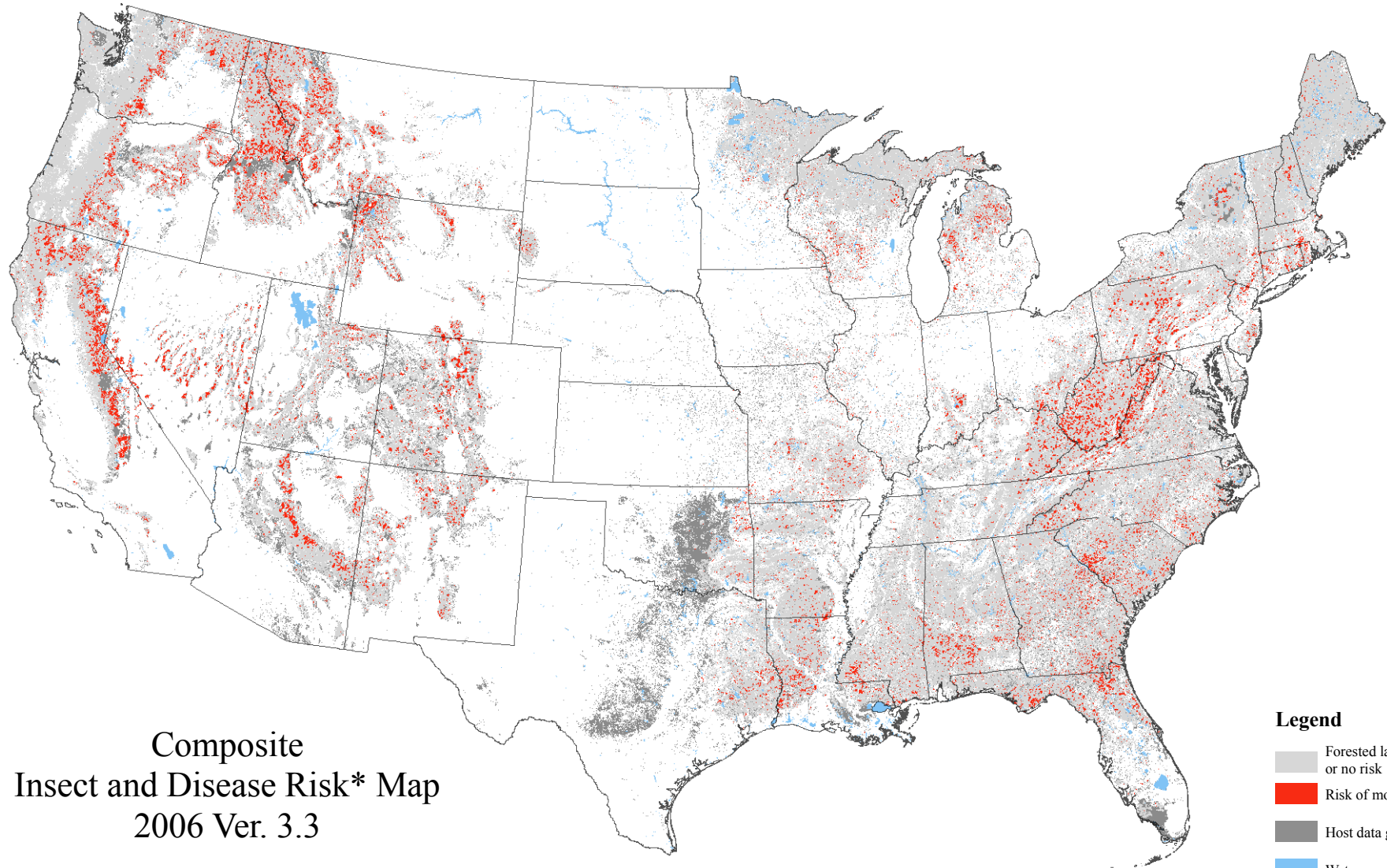
² Forest is defined as land that is at least 10% stocked by trees of any size and estimates of acres are derived from the (USDA) Forest Service FIA Program.

Summary for 2006:

Acres at risk: Approximately 58 Million
Acres estimated to have forest²: Approximately 797 Million



National Insect and Disease Risk Map



Composite
Insect and Disease Risk* Map
2006 Ver. 3.3

Legend

- Forested lands w/ little or no risk
- Risk of mortality
- Host data gaps**
- Water

*The expectation that 25% or more of the standing live volume of trees greater than 1" in diameter will die over the next 15 years, including background mortality.

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