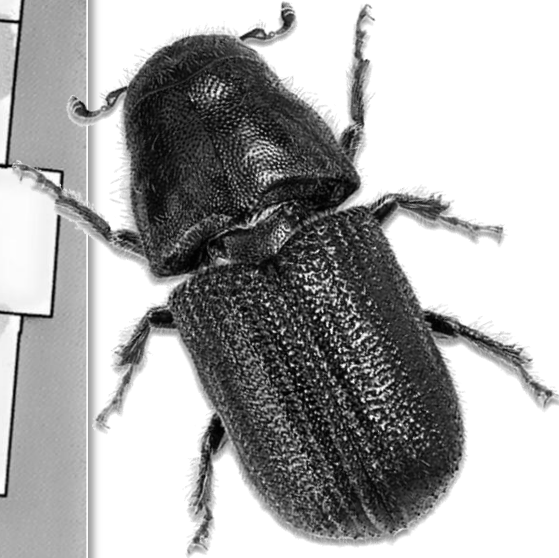


The size of a grain of rice, bark beetles like *Dendroctonus ponderosae* (below, right) threaten trees on 29 million acres across the West.



Source: U.S. Forest Service.

BEETLE MANIA



Draw two horizontal lines to separate the items below into Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 questions.

- How big are bark beetles?
- Where did the information for the map come from?
- Are bark beetles beneficial or problematic? (How do you know?)
- What *type* of plant do bark beetles affect?
- What type of environment (mountain, desert, or coast) do the beetles prefer?
- About what percentage of the western US is affected by bark beetles?
- Which states appear most and least infected by the beetles?
- What economic impacts might the beetles have?