

## **WHAT ARE THOSE BROWN or WHITE PLASTIC TAGS on SOME TREES HERE?**



**PLEASE LEAVE THEM ALONE!!**

**They are protecting our big trees from bark beetle attacks after the 2011 Wallow Fire!**

The capsules release a pheromone into the air which is the beetles' natural (hormonal) way to tell each other to stay away from this area.

The Forest Service has put them here for the summer, to prevent beetle attacks from killing our trees that make this location so special.

**PLEASE HELP US to keep them up in the trees where they belong. Do not touch or disturb them. THANK YOU!**

Campground trees are already stressed by many factors, like drought and soil compaction. The fire nearby has enabled native bark beetle populations to multiply to the point where they can successfully move in to attack and quickly kill these magnificent trees. Many trees here are over 400 years old, and replacing them would be very hard, slow, & costly. Dead and/or dying trees can also become very dangerous to visitors. *The substance in these capsules is not toxic to humans or the environment, when they stay on the trees!*

But they can't do their job if people pull them down, or squeeze or puncture them. **The contents could make people or pets sick if handled, eaten, or in contact with the eyes.**

## **2015 BARK BEETLE TRAPPING PROJECT**

- Bark beetle populations began to increase near Big Lake after the Wallow Fire in 2011.
- Beetle Traps (see photos) are being used as part of an integrated strategy to reduce beetle-associated tree mortality within the campgrounds. They are protected property of the US Forest Service.
- You will notice several clusters of these traps in the area surrounding the Big Lake campgrounds and adjacent forest.
- Traps are baited with pheromone lures to attract beetles and also have pesticide in the collection cups to kill the beetles. Not safe to touch!!

**PLEASE DO NOT DISTURB THE TRAPS. THEY ARE VITAL  
IN HELPING TO PROTECT THE BIG LAKE RECREATION  
AREA FROM ADDITIONAL TREE MORTALITY!**





**SPLAT Verbenone photos**

