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FOREST INSECT AND DISEASE CONDITIONS IN ALBERTA PROVINCIAL PARKS, 1972

by J. Petty, G.J. Smith, J. Susut, and R. Caltrell

NORTHERN FOREST RESEARCH CENTRE
EDMONTON, ALBERTA
INFORMATION REPORT NOR-X-57

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FOREST INSECT AND DISEASE CONDITIONS IN ALBERTA

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by

J. Petty*, G.J. Smith**, J. Susut**, and R. Caltrell**

INTRODUCTION

During the general Forest Insect and Disease surveys in Alberta in 1972, inspections were conducted in many of the Provincial Parks for the presence of insect and disease infestations and infections. The following report lists the noteworthy insects and diseases reported and includes short accounts of populations and damage in each Park.

* Supervisor, Insect and Disease Survey; and

** Ranger, Insect and Disease Survey.

ASPEN BEACH PARK

<u>Organism</u>	<u>Host</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Insect		
Black-headed budworm, <u>Acleris variana</u>	W. spruce	Low population
Birch skeletonizer, <u>Bucculatrix canadensisella</u>	Birch	Low population
Balsam fir sawfly, <u>Neodiprion abietis complex</u>	W. spruce	Low population
Poplar petiole gall aphid, <u>Pemphigus</u> spp.	B. poplar	Low population
Leaf-folding sawfly, <u>Phyllocolpa</u> nr. <u>agama</u>	B. poplar	Low population
Leaf-folding sawfly, <u>Phyllocolpa</u> nr. <u>robusta</u>	Willow	Low population
Yellow-headed spruce sawfly, <u>Pikonema alaskensis</u>	W. spruce	Moderate populations causing light to moderate defoliation.
Disease		
Cytospora canker, <u>Cytospora chrysosperma</u>	B. poplar	Light infection
Hypoxylon canker, <u>Hypoxylon mammatum</u>	T. aspen	Light infection
Leaf spot, <u>Septoria musiva</u>	B. poplar	Light infection

BEAUVAIS LAKE PARK

<u>Organism</u>	<u>Host</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Insect		
Gall aphids, <u>Adelges</u> sp.	W. spruce	Severe on numerous "preferred" trees, none on others.
Budworm, <u>Choristoneura lambertiana</u>	Limber pine	Low populations on pines along the ridge north of the lake.

Leaf tier, <u>Pseudexentra oregonana</u>	T. aspen	Caused patches of severe foliage damage throughout the park.
Poplar borer, <u>Saperda calcarata</u>	T. aspen	Active in winter damaged aspen on north side of lake.
Disease		
Shoestring root rot, <u>Armillaria mellea</u>	T. aspen D. fir	Severe in winter damaged aspen, caused light mortality in regeneration fir.
Hypoxylon canker, <u>Hypoxylon mammatum</u>	T. aspen	Cankers common in winter damaged stands.
Winter damaged conifers, Red Belt	Lp. pine W. spruce D. fir	Severe foliage damage along north side of ridge on south side of the park. No tree mortality.
Winter damage to aspen	T. aspen	Has caused severe injury and mortality in stands along the southwest facing slope on the north side of the lake in the past several years.

BOW VALLEY PARK

<u>Organism</u>	<u>Host</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Insect		
Gall aphids, <u>Adelges</u> sp.	W. spruce	Numerous on "preferred" trees in campgrounds.
Leaf tier, <u>Pseudexentra oregonana</u>	T. aspen	Caused patchy, light to moderate foliage damage.
Poplar borer, <u>Saperda calcarata</u>	T. aspen	Infesting mature, weakened trees in exposed sites.
Disease		
Shoestring root rot, <u>Armillaria mellea</u>	T. aspen Lp. pine	Winter damaged and exposed trees infected.
False velvet top fungus, <u>Polyporous tomentosus</u>	W. spruce D. fir	Butt decay and fungus fruiting bodies in vicinity of Bow River Campground.
Winter damage	Lp. pine T. aspen	Considerable bud killing in exposed stands in past winters.

CALLING LAKE PARK

<u>Organism</u>	<u>Host</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Insect		
Birch skeletonizer, <u>Bucculatrix canadensisella</u>	Birch	Light infestations
Aspen blotch miner, <u>Lithocolletus salicifoliella</u>	T. aspen	Light infestations
Poplar borer, <u>Saperda calcarata</u>	T. aspen	Low populations
Disease		
Spruce needle rust, <u>Chrysomyxa ledicola</u>	W. spruce	Light infection
White trunk rot, <u>Fomes igniarius</u>	T. aspen	Moderate infections, many overmature trees breaking off.
Balsam poplar leaf blight, <u>Linospora tetraspora</u>	B. poplar	Moderate to severe
Aspen shoot blight, <u>Venturia macularis</u>	T. aspen	Trace damage

CRIMSON LAKE PARK

<u>Organism</u>	<u>Host</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Insect		
Spruce gall aphid, <u>Adelges</u> sp.	W. spruce	Caused severe deformity to new shoots of "preferred" trees.
Aphids,	Lp. pine Salix	Trace populations causing negligible damage
Large aspen tortrix, <u>Choristoneura conflictana</u>	T. aspen	Low populations causing light defoliation.
Forest tent caterpillar, <u>Malacosoma disstria</u>	T. aspen	Populations low. Caused a few patches of light defoliation.
Leaf folding sawfly, <u>Phyllocolpa nr. agama</u>	B. poplar	Low population.

Poplar serpentine miner, <u>Phyllocnistis populiella</u>	T. aspen	Low population
Leaf tier, <u>Pseudexentra oregonana</u>	T. aspen	Caused patchy severe foliage damage throughout the park.
Grey willow leaf beetle, <u>Pyrrhalta decora</u>	T. aspen	Low population
Disease		
Shoestring root rot, <u>Armillaria mellea</u>	T. aspen	High incidence of mortality of mature trees in main campground.
Spruce needle rust, <u>Chrysomyxa ledicola</u>	W. spruce	Patches of severe needle infection throughout the park.
Pine needle cast, <u>Elytroderma deformans</u>	Lp. pine	Light infection persists in south side of park.
White trunk rot, <u>Fomes igniarius</u>	T. aspen	Moderate in campground area. Severe in cabin area along the west side of the lake.

CROSS LAKE PARK

<u>Organism</u>	<u>Host</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Insect		
Spruce gall aphids, <u>Adelges cooleyi</u>	W. spruce	Low population
Yellow-headed spruce sawfly, <u>Pikonema alaskensis</u>	W. spruce	Light defoliation
Poplar serpentine miner, <u>Phyllocnistis populiella</u>	T. aspen	Very light
Disease		
Aspen leaf spot, <u>Ciborinia whetzellii</u>	T. aspen	Low incidence
White trunk rot, <u>Fomes igniarius</u>	T. aspen	Low incidence
Aspen shoot blight, <u>Venturia macularis</u>	T. aspen	Low on regeneration

CYPRESS HILLS PARK

<u>Organism</u>	<u>Host</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Insect		
American aspen beetle, <u>Gonioctena americana</u>	T. aspen	Light defoliation of regeneration in all sections of the park.
Aspen leaf rollers, and tiers, <u>Choristoneura conflictana</u> <u>Anacampis innocuella</u> , <u>Sciaphila duplex</u>	T. aspen	These leaf rollers combined to cause moderate defoliation on the south side of the Park along Willow Creek Road and near the Golf course.
Poplar serpentine miner, <u>Phyllocnistis populiella</u>	T. aspen	Moderate infestations in the Grayburn and Battle Creek areas. Very low populations west of Highway 48.
Spiny Elm caterpillar, <u>Nymphalis antiopa</u>	T. aspen	Low populations along Murray Hill. Defoliation confined to one or two branches of individual trees.
Spruce budworms, <u>Choristoneura fumiferana</u> <u>Acleris variana</u>	W. spruce	Low populations present in the Battle Creek area. Light defoliation general with a few small trees sustaining moderate defoliation.
Spruce coneworm, <u>Dioryctria reniculella</u>	W. spruce	Moderate population in Battle Creek area.
Pine needle scale, <u>Phenecaspis pinifoliae</u>	Lp. pine W. spruce	Light on pine and moderate on regeneration spruce along Ferguson Hill Road.
Disease		
Dwarf mistletoe, <u>Arceuthobium americanum</u>	Lp. pine	Heavy brooming with tree and branch mortality evident near the top of Ferguson Hill. Infections present in pine stands along the Grayburn Creek Road.
Yellow witches broom of spruce, <u>Chrysomyxa arctostaphyla</u>	W. spruce	Rust brooms noted in many areas of the Park.

Globose gall rust, <u>Endocronartium harknessii</u>	Lp. pine	General throughout the Park. High incidence on regeneration lodgepole pine along the Ferguson Hill Road from the campground to the top of the hill.
Stalactaforme blister rust, <u>Cronartium coleosporioides</u>	Lp. pine	Infections along the Ferguson Hill, and Willow Creek Roads.
Spruce needle cast, <u>Lirula macrospora</u>	W. spruce	Light to moderate infections in the Grayburn Cabin area.

DINOSAUR PARK

<u>Organism</u>	<u>Host</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Insect		
Boxelder bug, <u>Leptocoris trivittatus</u>	Maple	Low populations in camping area.
Willow gall, <u>Phytophaga</u> sp.	Willow	Low populations on native willow.
Gall midge, <u>Rhabdophaga</u> sp.	Willow	Low numbers of galls on native willow.
Disease		
Leaf rust, <u>Puccinia luxuriosa</u>	Greasewood	Low incidence. New herbarium record.
Leaf rust,	Sage	Low incidence.

ENTRANCE PARK

<u>Organism</u>	<u>Host</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Insect		
Black-headed budworm, <u>Acleris variana</u>	W. spruce	Low populations
Leaf beetle, <u>Dichelonyx</u> sp.	W. spruce	Low populations at the south end of the Park.
American aspen beetle, <u>Gonioctena americana</u>	T. aspen	Low populations causing light defoliation.

Pine root collar weevil, <u>Hylobius</u> sp.	Lp. pine	Causing some mortality to pine regeneration.
Poplar serpentine miner, <u>Phyllocnistis populiella</u>	T. aspen	Low population
Spruce bud midge, <u>Rhabdophaga swainei</u>	W. spruce	Low population

Disease

Yellow witches broom, <u>Chrysomya arctostaphylla</u>	W. spruce B. spruce	Numerous brooms throughout the Park.
Pine needle cast, <u>Elytroderma deformans</u>	Lp. pine	Scattered pockets of heavy infection.
Globose gall rust, <u>Endocronartium harknessii</u>	Lp. pine	Numerous galls through- out the Park.
Fir needle rust, <u>Pucciniastrum</u> sp.	A. fir	Light infection of a few scattered regeneration in the south end of the Park.

GARNER LAKE PARK

<u>Organism</u>	<u>Host</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Insect		
Spruce gall aphid, <u>Adelges cooleyi</u>	W. spruce	Low populations
Aphids,	T. aspen B. poplar	Low populations
Wooly elm aphid, <u>Eriosoma americanum</u>	A. elm	Low on a few planted trees.
Yellow-headed spruce sawfly, <u>Pikonema alaskensis</u>	W. spruce Col. spruce	Moderate populations in the beach and picnic areas.
Poplar borer, <u>Saperda calcarata</u>	T. aspen	Low populations
Disease		
Shoestring root rot, <u>Armillaria mellea</u>	T. aspen	Weakened and dead trees observed.
White trunk rot, <u>Fomes igniarius</u>	T. aspen	Many trees infected.

Hypoxylon canker,
Hypoxylon mammatum

T. aspen

Low incidence - some mortality.

LAC CARDINAL PARK

<u>Organism</u>	<u>Host</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Insect		
Black-headed budworm, <u>Acleris variana</u>	W. spruce	Low populations
Spruce gall aphid, <u>Adelges</u> sp.	W. spruce	Low populations
Leaf tiers, <u>Compsolechia niveopulvella</u> <u>Pseudexentera oregonana</u>	T. aspen	Low population causing light damage.
Yellow-headed spruce sawfly, <u>Pikonema alaskensis</u>	W. spruce	Low populations present in open grown spruce.
Disease		
Globose gall rust, <u>Endocronartium harknessii</u>	Lp. pine	Low on planted pine.
Rabbit damage,	Lp. pine T. aspen	Prevalent with some mortality to small trees.

LESSER SLAVE LAKE PARK

<u>Organism</u>	<u>Host</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Insect		
Spruce bud midge, <u>Rhabdophaga swainei</u>	W. spruce	Light tip damage
Spider mite, <u>Oligonychus ununguis</u>	W. spruce	Scattered trees infested.
Disease		
Dwarf mistletoe, <u>Arceuthobium americanum</u>	J. pine	Numerous heavily infected trees.
Shoestring root rot, <u>Armilaria mellea</u>	J. pine	Scattered trees infected.

Spruce needle rust, <u>Chrysomyxa</u> sp.	W. spruce	Light infection
Globose gall rust, <u>Endocronartium harknessii</u>	J. pine	Present on numerous tree branches and stems.
Rust, <u>Gymnosporangium</u> sp.	Saskatoon	Scattered infections.
Aspen shoot blight, <u>Venturia macularis</u>	T. aspen	Moderate damage on regeneration.

MIQUELON LAKE PARK

<u>Organism</u>	<u>Host</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Insect		
Yellow-headed spruce sawfly, <u>Pikonema alaskensis</u>	W. spruce	Moderate to severe on individuals.
Grey willow leaf beetle, <u>Pyrrhalta decora</u>	T. aspen	Low infestations.
Poplar borer, <u>Saperda calcarata</u>	T. aspen	Low populations.
Disease		
Apiosporina witches broom, <u>Apiosporina collinsii</u>	Saskatoon	Common
White trunk rot, <u>Fomes ignarius</u>	T. aspen	Infections common.
Hypoxylon canker, <u>Hypoxylon mammatum</u>	T. aspen	Generally light, some mortality.
Aspen shoot blight, <u>Venturia macularis</u>	T. aspen	Light

MOONSHINE PARK

<u>Organism</u>	<u>Host</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Insect		
Black-headed budworm, <u>Acleris variana</u>	W. spruce	Low populations.

Spruce gall aphid, <u>Adelges</u> sp.	W. spruce	Low populations.
Leaf tiers, <u>Compsolechia niveopulvella</u> <u>Pseudexentera oregonana</u>	T. aspen	Ligh defoliation.
American aspen beetle, <u>Gonioctena americana</u>	T. aspen	Population down from last year. Light defoliation.
Bruce spanworm, <u>Operophtera bruceata</u>	T. aspen	Low population.
Poplar serpentine miner, <u>Phyllocnistis populiella</u>	T. aspen	Very low populations.
Spruce bud midge, <u>Rhabdophaga swainei</u>	W. spruce	Light damage.

Disease

Apiosporina witches broom, <u>Apiosporina collinsii</u>	Saskatoon	Scattered brooms.
Yellow witches broom of spruce, <u>Chrysomyxa arctostaphyli</u>	W. spruce	Only a few brooms evident.

MOOSE LAKE PARK

<u>Organism</u>	<u>Host</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Insect		
Aphids,	Pincherry J. pine	Low populations.
Aspen blotch miner, <u>Lithocolletus</u> sp.	T. aspen	Low populations.
Pitch nodule maker, <u>Petrova</u> sp.	J. pine	Present on a few regeneration.
Disease		
Dwarf mistletoe, <u>Arceuthobium americanum</u>	J. pine	General with areas of heavy brooming and some mortality.

Globose gall rust,
Peridermium harknessii

J. pine

Low incidence.

Rabbit damage,

J. pine

Causing light mortality
to regeneration.

PARK LAKE

Organism

Host

Remarks

Insect

Spruce gall aphid,
Adelges cooleyi

W. spruce
D. fir

Light to moderate on
spruce. Light on D. fir.

Aphids,

A. elm

Low populations.

Spruce spider mite,
Oligonychus ununguis

W. spruce

Low populations.

Pine leaf chermes,
Pineus pinifoliae

Lp. pine

Generally light with
moderate populations on
a few trees.

PIGEON LAKE PARK

Organism

Host

Remarks

Insect

Gall mite,
Eriophyidae

T. aspen

Low population.

A gall aphid,
Pemphigus sp.

B. poplar

Low populations.

Poplar serpentine miner,
Phyllocnistis populiella

T. aspen

Trace population.

Leaf folding sawfly,
Phyllocolpa nr. agama

B. poplar

Low to moderate.

Leaf folding sawfly,
Phyllocolpa nr. robusta

Salix

Low to moderate.

Grey willow leaf beetle,
Pyrrhalta decora

T. aspen

Low.

Poplar borer,
Saperda sp.

T. aspen
B. poplar

Low

Disease

Poplar ink spot,
Ciborinia whetzellii

T. aspen

Light infection in most
areas of the Park.

Hypoxylon canker,
Hypoxylon mammatum

T. aspen

General

RED LODGE PARK

Organism

Host

Remarks

Insect

Leaf tier,
Pseudexentera oregonana

T. aspen

Caused patches of severe
foliage damage.

Disease

Shoestring root rot,
Armillaria mellea

W. spruce

Has killed small patches
of crowded regeneration
spruce.

ROCHON SANDS PARK

Organism

Host

Remarks

Insect

Bud-gall mite,
Aceria neoessigi

T. aspen

Very light.

Leaf beetle,
Chrysomela sp.

Dogwood

Light to moderate
defoliation by larvae.

Western tent caterpillar,
Malacosoma pluviale

Chokecherry

Very light.

Poplar borer,
Saperda calcarata

T. aspen

Generally low throughout
the Park.

Disease

Hypoxylon canker,
Hypoxylon mammatum

T. aspen

Common with some
mortality.

SASKATOON ISLAND PARK

<u>Organism</u>	<u>Host</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Insect		
Black-headed budworm, <u>Acleris variana</u>	W. spruce	Very light damage.
Leaf tiers, <u>Compsolechia niveopulvella</u> <u>Pseudexentra oregonana</u>	T. aspen	Low populations, causing light defoliation.
Yellow-headed spruce sawfly, <u>Pikonema alaskensis</u>	W. spruce	Light defoliation on spruce.
Spruce bud midge, <u>Rhabdophaga swainei</u>	W. spruce	Low population.
Poplar borer, <u>Saperda calcarata</u>	T. aspen	Low populations.
Disease		
Apiosporina witches' broom, <u>Apiosporina collinsii</u>	Saskatoon	Light brooming evident.
Shoestring root rot, <u>Armillaria mellea</u>	T. aspen	Moderate infection in area east of parking lot.
Spruce needle rust, <u>Chrysomyxa ledicola</u>	W. spruce	Light infection.
Globose gall rust, <u>Endocronartium harknessii</u>	Lp. pine	Trace infection.
White trunk rot, <u>Fomes ignarius</u>	T. aspen	Light infection.
Hypoxylon canker, <u>Hypoxylon mammatum</u>	T. aspen	Light infection.
Aspen shoot blight, <u>Venturia macularis</u>	T. aspen	Light damage to regeneration aspen.

SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL PARK

<u>Organism</u>	<u>Host</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Insect		
Birch skeletonizer, <u>Bucculatrix canadensisella</u>	Birch	Low.

Yellow-headed spruce sawfly, <u>Pikonema alaskensis</u>	W. spruce	Low.
Grey willow leaf beetle, <u>Pyrrhalta decora</u>	T. aspen	Low.
Poplar borer, <u>Saperda calcarata</u>	T. aspen	High population in a few areas.

Disease

Apiosporina witches' broom, <u>Apiosporina collinsii</u>	Saskatoon	Light.
Shoestring root rot, <u>Armillaria mellea</u>	T. aspen W. spruce	Numerous areas of dead trees.
Black knot of cherry, <u>Dibotryon morbosum</u>	Pincherry	Light.
White trunk rot, <u>Fomes igniarius</u>	T. aspen	Common
Hypoxylon canker, <u>Hypoxylon mammatum</u>	T. aspen	Light
Balsam poplar leaf blight, <u>Linospora tetraspora</u>	B. poplar	Light to moderate.
Larch needle rust, <u>Melampsora medusae</u>	T. aspen	Light
Aspen shoot blight, <u>Venturia macularis</u>	T. aspen	Light

THUNDER LAKE PARK

<u>Organism</u>	<u>Host</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Insect		
Aphids,	T. aspen	Numerous colonies on twigs.
Grey willow leaf beetle, <u>Pyrrhalta decora</u>	T. aspen	Moderate defoliation of a few open grown aspen regeneration.
Forest tent caterpillar, <u>Malacosoma disstria</u>	T. aspen	Very low populations.
Poplar serpentine miner, <u>Phyllocnistis populiella</u>	T. aspen	Light leaf mining.

Poplar borer,
Saperda calcarata

T. aspen

Common. Some trees with Hypoxylon cankers heavily attacked.

Disease

Apiosporina witches' broom,
Apiosporina collinsii

Saskatoon

A few scattered brooms.

White trunk rot,
Fomes igniarius

T. aspen

A few older trees showing conks.

Hypoxylon canker,
Hypoxylon mammatum

T. aspen

Numerous infections.

VERMILION PARK

Organism

Host

Remarks

Insect

Large aspen tortrix,
Choristoneura conflictana

T. aspen

Low population.

Aspen blotch miner,
Lithocolletus sp.

T. aspen

Low population.

Larch sawfly,
Pristiphora erichsonii

Larch

Low population.

Grey willow leaf beetle,
Pyrrhalta decora

T. aspen
Salix

Low population.

Aspen webworm,
Tetralopha aplastella

T. aspen

Low population.

Disease

Apiosporina witches' broom,
Apiosporina collinsii

Saskatoon

Light incidence.

White trunk rot,
Fomes igniarius

T. aspen

Light incidence.

Hypoxylon canker,
Hypoxylon mammatum

T. aspen

Light incidence.

Balsam poplar leaf blight,
Linospora tetraspora

B. poplar

Light on regen. poplar.

WABAMUN LAKE PARK

<u>Organism</u>	<u>Host</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Insect		
A flea beetle, <u>Altica populi</u>	B. poplar	Low population causing light defoliation.
Aphids,	T. aspen Maple	Low on aspen. Moderate to high on open grown maple.
Grey willow leaf beetle, <u>Pyrrhalta decora</u>	B. poplar T. aspen	Causing light damage.
Forest tent caterpillar, <u>Malacosoma disstria</u>	T. aspen	Low populations causing light defoliation.
Poplar serpentine miner, <u>Phyllocnistis populiella</u>	T. aspen	Trace population.
Disease		
White trunk rot, <u>Fomes ignarius</u>	T. aspen	Numerous dead tops.

WILLIAMSON PARK

<u>Organism</u>	<u>Host</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Insect		
Black-headed budworm, <u>Acleris variana</u>	W. spruce	Low on spruce in camping area.
Leaf tiers, <u>Compsolechia niveopulvella</u> <u>Pseudexentera oregonana</u>	T. aspen	Low populations causing very little damage.
Spruce bud midge, <u>Rabdophaga swainei</u>	W. spruce	Moderate damage on scattered individuals.
Yellow-headed spruce sawfly, <u>Pikonema alaskensis</u>	W. spruce	Moderate to high damage on individual trees on lakeshore.
Disease		
Apiosporina witch's broom, <u>Apiosporina collinsii</u>	Saskatoon	Scattered brooms.
White trunk rot, <u>Fomes ignarius</u>	T. aspen	Common throughout Park.

WRITING ON STONE PARK

<u>Organism</u>	<u>Host</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Insect		
Spruce gall aphid, <u>Adelges codeyi</u>	W. spruce	Low population.
Spotless fall webworm, <u>Hyphantria cunea</u>	Chokecherry	A few tents throughout
Willow beaked-gall midge, <u>Phytophaga rigidae</u>	Willow	Low
Willow cone gall midge, <u>Rhabdophaga strobiloides</u>	Willow	Low
Disease		
Rust, <u>Puccinia recondita</u>	V. creeper	Light incidence.

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