



LIBRARY  
PACIFIC FOREST RESEARCH CENTRE  
506 WEST BURNSIDE ROAD  
VICTORIA, B.C.

Canada  
PFRC  
Pest rept.  
1972  
July 4 (2)

## FOREST INSECT AND DISEASE SURVEY **PEST REPORT**

Pacific Forest Research Centre • Canadian Forestry Service • Victoria

July 4, 1972

### FOREST TENT CATERPILLAR INFESTATIONS IN THE PRINCE GEORGE AND NORTH CARIBOO FOREST DISTRICTS, JUNE, 1972

S. J. Allen

During May and the first half of June, the forest tent caterpillar defoliated several hundred acres of trembling aspen in the Dragon Lake area south of Quesnel and in a small area south of Strathnaver in T.F.L. 5. Trees around Dragon Lake were completely defoliated from the Lake south for 10 miles on Highway 97, to Dale Lake along the Dragon Mountain look-out road. Aspen in the Strathnaver area were lightly defoliated along Lavoie Road off the old Highway 97.

Light populations exist throughout the undefoliated trembling aspen stands from Marguerite to Prince George and from Prince George eastward. In the areas of heavy defoliation white cocoons of the tent caterpillars may be seen on understory trees and shrubs.

Other aspen defoliation between Quesnel and Prince George has been caused by the large aspen tortrix, Choristoneura conflictana.

An apparently healthy, abundant population of tent caterpillars persists so that we predict that the epidemic will expand in 1973.