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FOREST INSECT AND DISEASE SURVEY **PEST REPORT**

Pacific Forest Research Centre • Canadian Forestry Service • Victoria

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ONE-YEAR-CYCLE SPRUCE BUDWORM ON THE MAINLAND, VANCOUVER FOREST DISTRICT

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Surveys to assess the extent of defoliation by one-year-cycle spruce budworm, Choristoneura occidentalis, in 1973 have now been completed. Areas of defoliated Douglas-fir stands were mapped from aircraft on August 8, 9 and 10; these surveys showed that infestations increased from about 55,000 acres in 1972 to 134,000 in 1973. Some of these infestations were spectacularly discolored.

All 1972 and earlier infestations expanded and many new ones became evident. In the northern section of the District, light to moderate, with pockets of heavy defoliation, occurred throughout the Pemberton Valley and Birkenhead River - Blackwater Creek Valley. In the south, similar damage was recorded in the Fraser Canyon from Choate to Boston Bar and southeast of Hope from Eight Mile Creek into Manning Park. Infestations at Spuzzum, Scuzzy and Tsileuh creeks expanded greatly and new infestations occurred along the Nahatlatch River and Lake.

Light feeding damage was observed from the ground near Boston Bar Creek along the Coquihalla River but was not visible from the air.

Egg sampling to predict 1974 populations of the one-year-cycle spruce budworm will be conducted from August 13 to 24.