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# PEST REPORT

Pacific Forest Research Centre • 506 West Burnside Rd. • Victoria, B.C. • V8Z 1M5

June 24, 1975

## FOREST TENT CATERPILLAR INFESTATION

### IN MCBRIDE AREA

Stanley J. Allen

Forest tent caterpillar infestations on trembling aspen trees increased in intensity in the McBride area from McKale Creek to Horsey Creek along both sides of the Fraser River Valley. Approximately 10,000 acres of defoliation were mapped from the air on June 18; this included most of the aspen stands within the area. Heavy feeding caused 80 to 100 per cent defoliation.

The majority of caterpillars were two-thirds grown at the time of the survey. It is probable that they will defoliate black cottonwood, willow and birch before the feeding period is complete.

So far there are no signs of disease in these insects.

No tent caterpillar activity was observed in the Prince George or Tête Jaune - Yellowhead Pass areas where moderate to heavy defoliation occurred in 1974.