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PEST INSECT AND DISEASE SURVEY

Pacific Forest Research Centre • Canadian Forestry Service • Victoria

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WINTER INJURY OF LODGEPOLE PINE AND OTHER TREE SPECIES IN THE

PRINCE GEORGE FOREST DISTRICT, 1971 AND 1972

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Winter damage to lodgepole pine and other tree species was noted in varying degrees throughout the Prince George Forest District during the winter of 1970-71 and again in 1971-72.

One of the most heavily damaged areas is on the south-west slope of Granite Mountain, near Macalister. The damage occurred along the fringe into the stand adjacent to a 600-acre logged area at 3,400 feet elevation. Mortality occurred only in patches of heavily affected lodgepole pine, as well as in a few Douglas-fir and white spruce. Most of the trees in the affected area showed signs of recovery. Lighter damage was intermittent from Stanley to Big Valley.

Damage to immature lodgepole pine is evident along the Alaska Highway including the Grassy Mountain, Tetsa River, McDonnel Creek and Muncho Lake areas.

In 1971 prominent foliage discoloration was apparent between Summit and Muncho lakes on lodgepole pine, trembling aspen and white birch. Similar damage occurred in the same areas in 1972. Some mortality of the affected lodgepole pine is predicted.

The B.C. Forest Service plans to cruise and salvage the most heavily affected areas in the Granite Mountain area to prevent the build-up of bark beetles.