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July 12, 1974.

SPRUCE BUDWORM INFESTATIONS IN NORTHERN PORTIONS OF KAMLOOPS FOREST DISTRICT, JULY 1974

H. Peter Koot

Two new infestations of spruce budworms were recently found in the Kamloops District; one along Lempriere Creek near the headwaters of the North Thompson River, and the other along Robert and Burton creeks at the north end of Adams Lake.

The infestation along Lempriere Creek, totalling some 2,500 acres of moderate defoliation of Engelmann spruce and alpine fir, is of the two-year-cycle spruce budworm, *Choristoneura biennis*. Some top feeding was also evident on the understory western hemlock. At the time of examination (July 11) the majority of larvae in the infestation were nearing their final, non-feeding, stage of development and had consumed most of the 1974 foliage.

At Robert and Burton creeks, light to moderate defoliation of Douglas-fir over several hundred acres was caused by a one-year-cycle spruce budworm, *Choristoneura occidentalis*. These stands also contained white pine, hemlock and cedar, but these species were not appreciably defoliated. As with the aforementioned infestation, most budworm in this area had pupated by July 9, and therefore there will be very little additional feeding in 1974.

Additional infestations of spruce budworm may be present in areas inaccessible by vehicle. Extent and intensity of insect damage in these and other areas will be assessed during the annual aerial survey of the Kamloops Forest District in August.

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