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PEST REPORT

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August 28, 1974.

MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE ON LODGEPOLE PINE

IN THE OKANAGAN S.Y.U., KAMLOOPS FOREST DISTRICT

Clifford B. Cottrell

On August 14, 1974, in company with Mr. C. Chantler, B. C. Forest Service, most lodgepole pine stands in the north and central parts of the Okanagan S.Y.U. were examined from the air to detect the incidence of 1973 attack by mountain pine beetle. The four known major infestations (at Whiteman, Terrace, Trout and Mission creeks) increased greatly in size and intensity and one previously minor outbreak (at Scotty Creek, south-east of Winfield) expanded to major proportions as a result of 1973 beetle attack. A comparison of the attack between that of 1972 and 1973 is shown in the following table.

Location	Est. no. pine attacked in		Est. no. acres involved	
	1973	1972	1973	1972
S. fork Whiteman Cr	5,000	2,800	800	500
Terrace Cr	8,500	2,000	2,300	700
Trout Cr	5,000	4,000	1,000	500
Mission Cr	3,000	500	700	200
Scotty Cr	2,000	500	800	100

All of the current outbreaks started several years ago at low elevations, usually in creek bottoms, and progressed uphill. Attacked trees can now be found as high as the 4,800 foot level. Also there are numerous groups of about 50 attacked trees located from one-half to one mile beyond the perimeters of the major infestations. In the Okanagan S.Y.U. there are numerous large stands of lodgepole pine on plateaus between 4,500 and 6,000 feet in elevation and indications are that large populations of beetles border these areas, namely Whiteman, Scotty and Mission creeks.

The extent of the 1974 beetle attack, currently taking place, cannot be assessed by aerial examination until August, 1975. An advance assessment would require a ground survey of green attacked trees during September or early October of this year.