

# PEST REPORT

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## MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE INFESTATIONS

### NELSON FOREST DISTRICT

JULY 1975

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Preliminary surveys of lodgepole pine stands infested with mountain pine beetle, in Nelson Forest District, indicate that foliage discoloration is evident on many of the 1974-attacked trees. A complete assessment is not feasible until all 1974-attacked trees have turned red. Recent sampling showed the beetle in the adult, pupal and larval stages.

In the West Kootenay at Goathide Creek, currently infested (1974 attack) trees occur around the perimeter of the 1972 salvage logging, with the greatest spread south into mature lodgepole pine stands. At Arlington Lakes, an area of new infestation, currently infested trees occur around the perimeter of a recent logging operation.

In the East Kootenay, at the White River infestation, an assessment of beetle broods indicated that a light population will emerge in 1975, however moderate-sized broods at Elk Creek and Blackwater Ridge create a significant threat to the remaining susceptible trees.

A newly reported infestation was examined along the Bush River, north of Golden, early in July. The 1974-attacked lodgepole pine contained large numbers of beetles that will soon form a strong attack on the mature trees. The beetles will likely attack green trees within the infestation as the adjacent areas are comprised mainly of immature trees not subject to attack.

In summary, it was found that the 1974 mountain pine beetle progeny in Nelson Forest District had overwintered well, with a healthy beetle population present at all the infestations. These populations constitute a threat to the remaining susceptible lodgepole pine within and adjacent to the infested areas.