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25 August 1975

MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE IN THE

CARIBOO DISTRICT, 1975

Don F. Doidge

In the Cariboo Forest District, mountain pine beetle, Dendroctonus ponderosae, killed an estimated 122,000 lodgepole pine trees in 1974, comprising approximately 2,684,000 cubic feet of timber. This is a six-fold increase over the 1973 kill. A series of mild winters since 1969 have resulted in little overwintering mortality of the beetle, an important factor in the population build-up.

Main areas of damage are: Klinaklini River, Clearwater-One Eye lakes, 79,000 red-tops; Bald Mountain, Riske-Farwell creeks, 8,400; Cariboo Lake - Little River, 6,600; Dog-Canoe-Grinder creeks, 5,500; Bull Mountain, 5,000; Tyee-McLeese-Cuisson-Skelton-Marguerite lakes, 4,000; Jesmond-Kostering creeks, 4,000.

The beetle flight took place late in July; fall surveys will be conducted to determine the extent of the 1975 attack.