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PEST REPORT

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INSECTS IN BLOWDOWN AT THURSDAY CREEK

PRINCE GEORGE FOREST DISTRICT

Roland O. Wood

Extensive tree blowdown occurred in the Prince George Forest District in the fall of 1975 providing a situation amenable for a possible buildup of bark beetles and wood borers. The following is one of a series of brief pest reports to be submitted from time to time to make forest managers aware of potentially hazardous situations.

About 80 acres of blowdown on TSHL AO 4463 adjacent to CP 8 was examined on June 2 in company with Bill Blaney, a forest technician for Carrier Lumber. About 30% of the blowdown white spruce trees examined were infested with ambrosia beetle, *Trypodendron lineatum*. The number of entrance holes per half square foot sample ranged from 2 to 40 and averaged 15. Much of the boring dust had been washed off by rain, consequently some infested blowdown presumably escaped detection. Most of the beetles were well established in the sapwood but some were in an early stage of attack.

About 75% of the trees examined were attacked by a secondary species, *Ips* sp. (probably the bark beetle *Ips oregoni*).

Some larvae and a few pupae of spruce beetle, *Dendroctonus rufipennis*, were found in trees which had been infested before being blown down. Numbers of larvae in half square foot bark samples ranged from 8 to 27 and averaged 16.

One Douglas-fir blowdown tree was lightly infested by Douglas-fir beetle, *Dendroctonus pseudotsugae*. Adults and eggs were present in the galleries.

The survey at Thursday Creek showed that ambrosia beetles have degraded the wood in 30 per cent of the blowdown spruce. Bark beetles of the important genus *Dendroctonus* were present in small numbers, however the major period of attack had not yet occurred.