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# PEST REPORT

Pacific Forest Research Centre • 506 West Burnside Rd. • Victoria, B.C. • V8Z 1M5

August 19, 1977.

## SPRUCE BEETLE - SMITHERS LANDING

### PRINCE RUPERT DISTRICT

Don F. Doidge

A classic example of spruce beetle "build-up" occurred in a strip of blow-down 5-chains wide and one-half mile long about half a mile from Babine Lake along the Smithers Landing road. The beetles spread to standing 18-24 inch white spruce on both sides of the blow-down. The Smithers Landing road provides easy access for assessing and logging the infestation.

A very heavy 1977 attack produced a high brood population which is at present mostly in the large larval and pupal stages. The parent adults have moved to the bases of the trees.

The life cycle of spruce beetle in the Prince Rupert District normally takes 2 years to complete; however, temperatures during late July and all of August have been above normal, resulting in development of some one-year life cycle beetles.

It is recommended that probe lines be run to determine the extent of the infestation in order to decide the most feasible method of treatment.