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SPRUCE BEETLE INFESTATIONS IN

THE PRINCE GEORGE FOREST DISTRICT

1978

Leo S. Unger

Spruce beetle populations have increased in the Prince George Forest District in the numerous white spruce trees that have been blown down annually since 1975. The most obvious areas affected are in the Carp Lake - Weedon Creek and Hodda, Isadore and Reynolds Creeks areas where standing trees have been attacked. B.C. Forest Service personnel recorded discolored spruce in these areas in May. In June, ground surveys by the writer along the Carp Lake - Weedon Creek Road and at Boomerang Lake indicated that these discolored trees were killed by beetles attacking in 1975 or 1976. More recently attacked trees have remained green with some loss of needles.

Late summer aerial surveys will provide a clearer picture of the extent of the infestations.

