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PEST REPORT

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

June 1985

FOREST PEST CONDITIONS & FORECAST 1985

C.S. Wood, Chief Ranger
Forest Insect and Disease Survey

The annual field season of detection and reporting of active forest pests by the Forest Insect and Disease Survey of the Canadian Forestry Service in the Pacific Region of British Columbia and the Yukon Territory is in progress. The 1985 field assignments for the FIDS staff, addresses and telephone numbers, are attached.

Forecasts of 1985 pest conditions are based on 1984 Fall and 1985 Spring survey data. They indicate several major insect and disease pests will continue to kill or significantly affect growth and development of mature and immature forests throughout the Pacific Region in 1985. Cooler than normal temperatures up to mid-May delayed plant and insect development, in most parts of the Province, up to three weeks. Recordbreaking temperatures in late May then accelerated development.

Black army cutworm populations are active again in recently burned areas in the Prince Rupert, Prince George and Cariboo regions, postponing planting in some areas.

Large areas of mature lodgepole pine forests in the Cariboo, Kamloops and Nelson forest regions are expected to be killed by mountain pine beetle, where 482 000 ha were affected in 1984. Native needle diseases are likely to severely discolor older needles of young pines, causing premature needle drop in many Interior stands as occurred in the past two years.

Chronic spruce beetle infestations, mainly in the Prince George and Prince Rupert regions, are expected to continue to decline for the third consecutive year. Extensive areas of 1984 blowdown in northcentral B.C., however, could contribute to increased populations. Small increases in isolated parts of the Kamloops and Nelson regions could continue where host material is present.

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Continuing western spruce budworm populations and defoliation of Douglas-fir forests are expected to continue mainly in the Clinton, Kamloops Lake and North Thompson River Valley areas and possibly at Johnston Creek near Rock Creek. Tussock moth infestations collapsed to 160 ha west of Kamloops in 1984 and little feeding is expected in 1985. Alpine fir and spruce in the Kitimat-Terrace and Liard River areas, defoliated last year by a one-year cycle budworm and eastern spruce budworm respectively, are expected to be similarly affected this year. Localized isolated infestations in parts of the Cariboo, Nelson and Prince George regions will probably persist.

Moderate to severe defoliation of western hemlock stands near Quesnel Lake by western hemlock looper is forecast in 1985, however, declining infestations in hemlock-cedar stands in the Revelstoke area and the adjacent Shuswap-Seymour River areas of the Kamloops Region should decline from 1984 levels. Increased blackheaded budworm populations in hemlock-cedar stands in the Revelstoke and Glacier National Park areas will likely result in light and moderate defoliation of western hemlock in 1985. A similar buildup in the Kamloops Region, in stands previously defoliated by hemlock looper, could result in light defoliation.

Pests of larch in the Nelson Region including casebearer, budmoth and needle diseases which severely affected large widespread areas of mature and immature stands are expected to remain active. Sawfly populations should collapse, following three years of infestation, in the Fernie and Dutch Creek areas. Larch sawfly populations increased in eastern larch stands in the Yukon in 1984, the first indication of this pest's activity there since 1954; defoliation is expected to continue in 1985.

Cone crops are expected to be slightly higher than the very poor, severely pest-infested 1984 crop. However, information of pest incidence this year has been delayed by cool Spring weather.

A variety of pests including winter moth, silver-spotted tiger moth, western tent caterpillar and cypress tip moth continue to affect deciduous and ornamental trees and some Douglas-fir mainly on southern Vancouver Island. Forest tent caterpillar, satin moth and shoot blights are expected to be common in aspen and poplar groves in localized areas in the Interior.

Gypsy moth, pine wilt nematode and terminal crook disease are some of the quarantine related pests which will continue to be monitored in cooperation with Agriculture Canada.

Additional 1985 field activities include: bark beetle and defoliator overwintering population assessments; pheromone baited trap monitoring programs for adult defoliating insects; assessing insect populations for parasites and diseases; seed orchard and plantation surveys and surveys of National and Provincial Parks; evaluation of pest impact at appraisal plots; materials collection in support of research programs; liaison with industry, provincial and federal agencies; aerial surveys of pest affected forests and continuing assessments of forest condition in coastal and interior forests as a base line for acid rain studies.

More complete information on pest conditions will be available in Midseason and Fall summaries of Forest Pest Conditions in B.C. and Yukon. Pest conditions in B.C. and Yukon in 1984 are described in Info. Rpt. BC-X-259 available from PFRC.

FIDS ASSIGNMENTS, 1985

<u>Region (District)</u>	<u>CFS/FIDS Ranger</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
Cariboo	Dick Andrews	Box 4354 Williams Lake, B.C. V2G 2V4	392-6067
Kamloops (North)	Bob Erickson	1379 Dominion Cres. Kamloops, B.C. V2C 2X2	372-1241
Kamloops (South)	Bob Ferris	Box 487 Summerland, B.C. VOH 1Z0	494-8742
Nelson (East)	Peter Koot	Box 120, Wasa, B.C. VOB 2K0	422-3465
Nelson (West)	Rod Turnquist	Box 7, New Denver B.C. VOG 1S0	358-2264
Prince George (South)	Rod Garbutt	Box 687, Giscombe Rd. Prince George, B.C. V2L 4S8	963-7238
Prince George (North)	Jim Loranger	Box 687, Giscombe Rd. Prince George, B.C. V2L 4S8	963-7238
Prince Rupert (East)	Leo Unger	Box 2259 Smithers, B.C. VOJ 2N0	847-3174
Prince Rupert (West)	Alan Stewart	Box 23, Terrace B.C. V8G 4A2	635-7660
Vancouver (Mainland)	Nick Humphreys	Box 692, Agassiz B.C. VOM 1A0	796-2042
Vancouver (Island)	John Vallentgoed	Pacific Forestry Centre <u>or</u> Kye Bay, R.R. #1 Comox, B.C. V9N 5N1	388-0600 339-4722
Head: Forest Insect and Disease Survey Allan Van Sickle			388-0600
Chief FIDS Ranger: Colin Wood			388-0600