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**TWO-YEAR-CYCLE SPRUCE BUDWORM
IN THE PRINCE GEORGE FOREST REGION**

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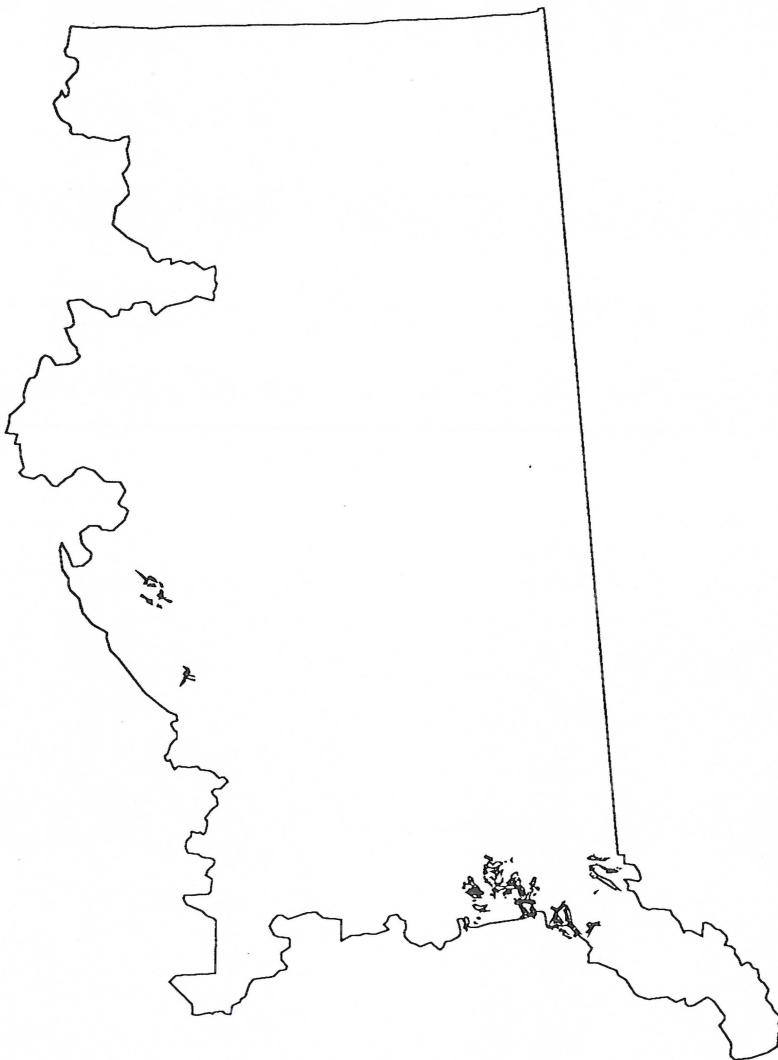
Defoliation of spruce-balsam stands by mature two-year-cycle spruce budworm, Choristoneura biennis, increased twelve-fold to 104 000 ha of mostly light defoliation in 1992 (map). The Prince George, McBride and Fort St. James Forest Districts had 58 000 ha, 33 000 ha and 13 000 ha of defoliation respectively. The last feeding year by mature larvae was in 1990.

In the Prince George District over 42 000 ha of the damage occurred in 42 infestations along the Bowron, Slim, Everett and Dome rivers. The remaining almost 16 000 ha of feeding in 18 infestations were noted in the Hagen, Dominion and Littlefield creek drainages and around Crescent, Stoney and Slender lakes. The most severe defoliation was also in the Prince George District with 3600 ha of moderate defoliation mapped the west side of the Bowron River just east of Narrow Lake.

Budworm defoliation in the McBride District was evenly distributed between two general areas. Over 17 000 ha of budworm feeding was mapped in 16 infestations along the Dore and Milk rivers and in the Betty Wendle, North Star and Macleod creek drainages. The other area consisted of almost 16 000 ha in 10 infestations along the Morkill, Cushing and Forgetmenot rivers.

Defoliation was recorded over approximately 13 000 ha in 14 infestations in the Fort St. James District. Most of the feeding was mapped along the Omineca River between Old Hogen and the Axlegold Range. Two other areas of attack were around the west end of Tchentlo Lake and along the Falls River. The defoliation in the Ft. St. James District was somewhat unexpected as over 15 000 ha was recorded in 1991 by what was considered to be the mature larvae in basically the same area.

PRINCE GEORGE - 2 YEAR SPRUCE BUDWORM 1992



FORESTRY CANADA

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Scale 1:6233035 17 Aug 92

STATISTICS:

| | Ha: | Freq: |
|-----------|--------|-------|
| Light: | 99819 | 95 |
| Moderate: | 3790 | 2 |
| Total: | 103610 | 97 |