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# PEST REPORT

Pacific and Yukon Region • Pacific Forestry Centre • 506 West Burnside Road • Victoria, B.C. • V8Z 1M5

FIDS Pest Report 93-12

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## BARK BEETLE INFESTATION OF PONDEROSA PINE IN THE WEST KOOTENAY

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Additional scattered patches of usually about 5, but occasionally up to 30, ponderosa pine are dying throughout the host range in the southern Boundary and Arrow Forest Districts. Damage is most frequent from Bridesville to Greenwood and Rock Creek to Beaverdell. In 1992, 140 patches of new (red stage) mortality were mapped. Preliminary roadside observations in 1993 are comparable. A more complete assessment will be available after aerial surveys in late July.

Most primary attacks in 1992 were by the red turpentine beetle, *Dendroctonus valens* in the first meter of the bole. These were followed by mass attacks throughout the bole by the mountain pine beetle, *Dendroctonus ponderosae*, Ips beetles, *Ips pini* and *I. emarginatus*, and the western pine beetle, *Dendroctonus brevicomis*. Sampling in early June 1993 revealed <5% overwintering mortality and good brood production by all these beetles under the thick bark of the host trees.

Considering the wide availability of suitable host trees remaining and their proximity to existing attacks, the infestation is expected to continue, with the 1993 flights imminent.

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