



PEST REPORT

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

Pest Report 93-14

July 1993

Douglas-fir tussock moth in Kamloops Forest District, 1993

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Forest Insect and Disease Survey

New infestations of Douglas-fir tussock moth have appeared north and east of Kamloops, while older infestations west of Kamloops have declined.

Light to severe defoliation (20-100%) in Douglas-fir stands is scattered in localized pockets from Kamloops north to Vinsulla, including such areas as Paul Peak, Palmer-Forsythe Rd., Hefley Creek and Rayleigh.

East of Kamloops defoliation occurs on single trees and in small groups west and south of Pritchard, along Duck Range Road and from Monte Creek south to Duck Meadow. Most severely affected areas are primarily on ranch land, Indian reservations, and other private properties in the ponderosa pine and bunchgrass biogeoclimatic zones. Single ornamental Douglas-fir and ornamental spruces were also defoliated, sometimes severely, in Kamloops and Barnhartvale.

The impact of the current outbreak on growth of Douglas-fir indicates that tree mortality and top-kill can be expected in several areas. Aerial mapping in late July, followed by ground surveys, should reveal the full extent of damage.

The B. C. Ministry of Forests aerially treated more than 600 ha with the nuclear polyhedrosis virus (NPV) and successfully reduced populations in several infestations examined.

Results of larval parasitism and disease and forecasts for 1994, based on male moths in traps and egg mass counts, will be reported later following data collection and analysis.

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