

FIDS PEST REPORT 95-25

October 1995

SUMMARY OF FOREST PEST CONDITIONS IN THE MCGREGOR MODEL FOREST, 1995

R. Ferris and B. Erickson
Forest Insect and Disease Survey

This report summarizes the major forest pests in the MacGregor Model Forest in the Prince George Forest Region. This was determined primarily by aerial surveys in September.

The area of mature white spruce killed by spruce beetle, *Dendroctonus rufipennis*, is down from 2000 ha in 1994. A total of 718 ha was recorded in 1995; 25, 618 and 75 ha of severe, moderate and light mortality¹ respectively. The reduction in area is due to old dead trees being mapped in 1994 but not in 1995. The old dead were mapped in 1994 to record where the beetle has been in the area, usually only new dead are mapped. The majority of the attack was near Woodall and Limestone creeks and Pass, Boundary and Averil lakes. Current attack has been reported near these areas. Blow down contributes to the spruce beetle problem and 191 ha of severe blow down was mapped in 1995. There is scattered blowdown reported throughout the stand that is not visible from the air. Ground observations found spruce weevil, *Pissodes strobi*, infesting 10% of the young growth white spruce leaders in a stand along the North Averil Road.

As predicted by 1994 egg sampling there was no current defoliation by western hemlock looper, *Lambdina fiscellaria lugubrosa*. The previous severe defoliation caused four spots of grey (dead trees and tops) totalling 115 ha, with up to 50% mortality. This occurred near Hospital, Olsson and Herring creeks. Western Hemlock and western red cedar occur in small scattered spots and are minor species in the stand.

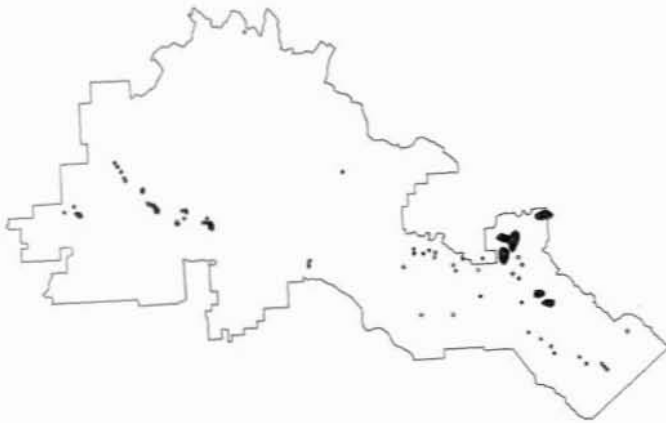
Douglas-fir beetle, *Dendroctonus pseudotsugae*, was recorded at 29 spots totaling 25 ha of severe mortality. This is down from 150 ha in 1994 and is the result of declining numbers of host available for attack. Douglas-fir occurs in small scattered spots and is a minor species.

Mountain pine beetle, *Dendroctonus ponderosae*, was recorded near Mokus and Herring creeks and Averil Lake totaling 23 ha of severe mortality. Ground observations found western gall rust, *Endocronartium harknessii* and *Cronartium sp.* infecting 6% of the lodgepole stems at Tay Creek. *Cronartium sp.* and *Ips sp.* killed 7% of the young lodgepole pine in a natural stand at 35 km on the North Fraser Road.

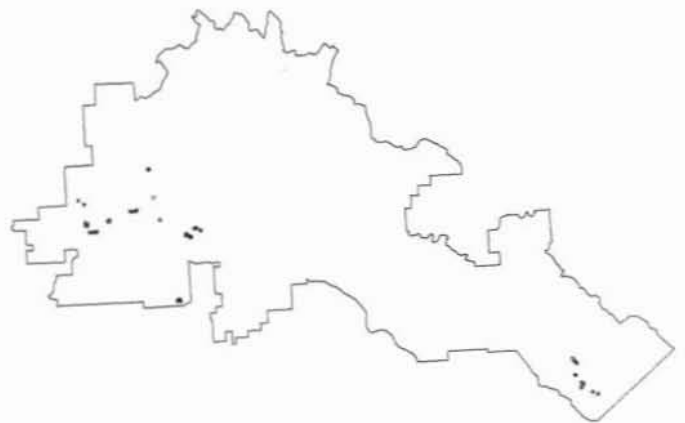
¹ Bark beetle mortality classes: light - 10% or less killed; moderate - more than 10%, less than 30%; severe 30% or more.

McGregor Model Forest

Spruce Beetle
718 ha



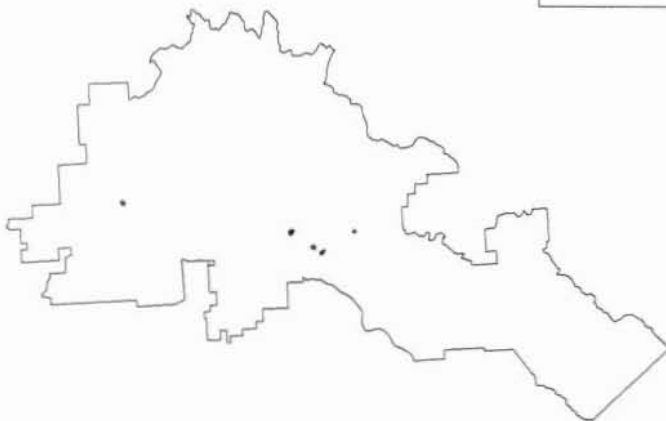
Douglas Fir Beetle
25 ha



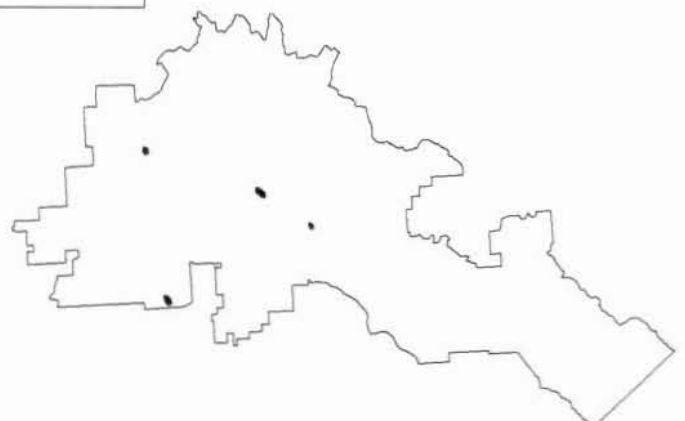
B.C. Reference Map



Mountain Pine Beetle
23 ha



Western Hemlock Looper
115 ha



Scale 1:972000

Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic

26 Oct 95



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