

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

November 12, 1947.

MEMORANDUM for the Regional Director, Region Three.

In company with Custodian Binnewies and Park Ranger Keefe an examination was made of forest insect conditions at Bandelier National Monument on November 4, 5, and 6, 1947.

South Mesa

The loss of Ponderosa Pines in this area from southwestern pine beetles has been increasing for the past three years. Group kills from 3 to 5 trees per group are common but are confined to low quality sites, and the trees are either decadent or show injury from lightning and other causes. Similar infestations are found on the east rim of Frijoles Canyon. Should this infestation continue to increase at its past rate or enter the better site forests, control measures are advisable.

Otowi Section

The Ponderosa Pine forests in this section have similar infestations as observed at South Mesa. The loss of pinyon pines in the southern portion of this section is rather severe and is on a comparable basis to the 1946 loss of around 200 trees. Ips have attacked some of the pinyons but they are not the primary cause of the killing. The primary cause is believed to be due to diseases and physiological conditions. Samples of material from dead and dying pinyons were submitted to the Division of Forest Pathology but positive identification of killing organism could not be determined.

E. T. CARLSON

S. T. Carlson,
Regional Forester.

(SGD) E. T. SCOYEN

Approved for distribution

November 12, 1947

E. T. Scoyen,
Acting Regional Director.

cc: The Director.

The Custodian, Bandelier (2).