



PPEC Factsheet

***The biggest consumer of the forest is not the forest industry
(surprise!)***

Meet the mountain pine beetle



This little guy and his friends have devastated **28** times more commercial forest than was harvested for pulp, paper or lumber in the latest data year. And the beetle has reportedly now jumped from the lodge pole pine trees of BC to the jack pine trees of Alberta and Northwest Territories. The forest tent caterpillar and eastern spruce budworm are other insects of concern.

The second largest consumer of the commercial forest was forest fires (over **five** times more than the annual harvest for lumber and pulp and paper). And this was before the forest fires in Fort McMurray, Alberta.

Source: National Resources Canada, Annual Report 2016, [*The State of Canada's Forests*](#). Some 0.72 million hectares of Canada's total forestlands of 347 million hectares (less than half of 1%) was harvested for pulp, paper and lumber uses. Some 3.9 million hectares was burned by forest fires and 20.3 million hectares defoliated by insects and beetles.