



# FACT SHEET

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

Meet the Eastern spruce budworm



Eastern Spruce Budworm - By Jerald E. Dewey, USDA Forest Service

This little guy and his friends have devastated **20** times more commercial forest than was harvested for pulp, paper or lumber in the latest data year. While the growth of the spruce budworm outbreak in Québec has slowed, the area affected by the forest tent caterpillar has jumped in Ontario.

The second largest consumer of the commercial forest was forest fires (almost double the annual harvest area for lumber and pulp and paper).

*Source:* National Resources Canada, Annual Report 2018, [The State of Canada's Forests](#). Some 0.76 million hectares of Canada's total forestlands of 347 million hectares (less than half of 1%) was harvested for pulp, paper and lumber uses in 2016. Some 1.4 million hectares was burned by forest fires and 15.5 million hectares defoliated by insects and beetles.