

NEWS

The Evergreen State College

Olympia, Washington 98505

866-6128

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 1, 1973

The Environmental Defense Fund has awarded a \$750 research grant to the Ecology and Chemistry of Pollution Coordinated Studies program at The Evergreen State College.

The grant will enable 38 students in the two-year academic program to further research the biology of the Douglas Fir Tussock Moth.

Taught by Faculty Members Steve Herman, an ecologist, and Michael Beug, a chemist, the program involves intensive laboratory and field work in general, organic and biochemistry, as well as electronics and ecology.

Study of the tussock moth has been one emphasis of the program, Herman said. Earlier this year students spent more than a week studying the Tussock moth infestation area near LaGrande, Oregon. They collected data on the population status of the pest and on its natural enemies. The data they gathered has since been analyzed and will shortly be ready for distribution.

In the future, students will study Puget Sound marine life and examine the effects of petrohydrocarbons, pesticides and heavy metal pollutants on that marine life. Herman said the students, all upperclassmen, are currently preparing themselves for the "sophisticated analytical work" such studies will require.

###

Dick Nichols, Director
Information Services