

Public Advisory

2015 Hemlock Looper and Spruce Budworm Control Program - Island

The Forestry and Agrifoods Agency will carry out a Hemlock Looper and Spruce Budworm Control Program in 2015. The hemlock looper and spruce budworm are major forest insects capable of causing widespread defoliation leading to tree mortality and growth losses.

Up to 17,000 hectares of forest land are scheduled to be protected using one or more applications of the biological control agent B.t.k., which has been approved for operational use by Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency.

Proposed hemlock looper treatment areas on the Northern Peninsula will include five blocks in the Ten Mile Lake area, two blocks in the Leg Pond area, four blocks in the Hawke's Bay and River of Ponds area, and one block south of White's River. The proposed spruce budworm treatment areas include two blocks north of Daniel's Harbour. Treatment of these blocks will occur in July to early August, with timing dependent on weather and insect development.

Information regarding the time and location of treatments will be available throughout the control program at http://www.nr.gov.nl.ca/nr/forestry/insect_disease/index.html or by calling the Forest Insect Control Program Update Line at 1-877-636-2996.

Maps of the treatment areas can be viewed on the above website. Additional information can be provided by calling the Department of Environment and Conservation, Pesticides Control Section, at 1-800-563-6181 (Monday-Friday; 8:30 am – 4:00pm).

Information about the hemlock looper, spruce budworm and the control product B.t.k., along with maps of treatment areas, are also available from forestry offices in Corner Brook, Massey Drive, Pasadena and Port Saunders. Signs will be posted along access roads leading to proposed treatment blocks prior to any treatment.