

**DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND LAND RESOURCES
CORNER BROOK, NL
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UPDATE ON THE 2017 FOREST INSECT CONTROL PROGRAM

DATE: July 21, 2017 **TIME:** 2:00 pm **NUMBER OF PAGES:** 1

MESSAGE:

The Department of Fisheries and Land Resources – Forestry and Wildlife Branch wishes to advise that the aircraft to be used for the 2017 hemlock looper control program arrived in Newfoundland the evening of Wednesday, July 19th.

Testing and calibration of this aircraft was conducted at the Stephenville airport yesterday, however, a test flight could not be conducted due to weather. This morning, the test flight which included the aerial treatment of a test block with water only in the Landowns Pond area was conducted.

Testing and calibration is now complete, and the aircraft is being repositioned to the Port au Choix airstrip in preparation for the start of the 2017 control program. Further information will be provided as available.

Protection of forest areas scheduled for treatment will commence once areas are biologically ready for treatment and logistics and weather conditions permit. Treatments are predicted to begin between Friday, July 21st and Tuesday, July 25th.

This program is being carried out under license from the Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment. Additional information can be provided by calling the Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment, Pesticides Control Section, at 1-800-563-6181 (Monday-Friday; 8:30 am – 4:00pm).

Information regarding the time and location of treatments will be available throughout the control program at http://www.faa.gov.nl.ca/forestry/idc/ins_control_2017.html or by calling the Forest Insect Control Program Update Line at 1-877-636-2996 to provide information about the time and location of treatments. Individuals calling after this time can leave a voice mail message. Messages are checked daily.

MAPS OF TREATMENT AREAS ARE AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING AT LOCAL FORESTRY SERVICE OFFICES, THE DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS AND ENVIRONMENT OFFICE AT ST. JOHN'S, AND ON THE DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND LAND RESOURCES WEB SITE.