

PUBLIC ADVISORY

2017 Hemlock Looper Control Program - Island

The Department of Fisheries and Land Resources - Forestry and Wildlife Branch will carry out a Hemlock Looper Control Program in 2017. The hemlock looper is a major forest insect capable of causing widespread defoliation leading to tree mortality and growth losses.

Up to 3,000 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.

The proposed hemlock looper treatment areas on the Northern Peninsula will include two blocks just east of Squid Cove. Treatment of these blocks will occur in mid to late July, with timing dependent on weather and insect development.

Information regarding the time and location of treatments will be available throughout the control program at www.faa.gov.nl.ca/forestry/idc/controlprogram.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 Municipal Affairs and Environment, Pesticides Control Section, at 1-800-563-6181 (Monday-Friday; 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.).

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