

Public Notice

2020 Spruce Budworm Early Intervention Control Program - Island

The Department of Fisheries and Land Resources will carry out a Spruce Budworm Early Intervention Control Program, dependent on insect development and weather in July 2020. The spruce budworm is a major forest insect capable of causing widespread defoliation leading to tree mortality and growth losses.

Up to 40,000 hectares of forestland are scheduled to be protected using one or more applications of the biological control agent Btk, which has been approved for operational use by Health Canada - Pest Management Regulatory Agency. Additional information on Btk can be viewed at the Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment website at <https://www.gov.nl.ca/mae/env-protection/pesticides/forest/>.

Proposed treatment areas on the Northern Peninsula cover an area north of Gros Morne National Park up to Hawke's Bay with treatment blocks in areas of Parson's Pond, Portland Creek, Daniel's Harbour, Belburns and River of Ponds.

Information regarding the time and location of treatments as well as information on the control product Btk will be available throughout the control program at <https://www.faa.gov.nl.ca/forestry/idc/controlprogram.html> or by calling the Forest Insect Control Program Update Line at 1-877-636-2996.

Public signage containing treatment information will be posted along access roads leading to proposed treatment blocks prior to the commencement of treatment activity.

The Spruce Budworm Early Intervention Control Program will be conducted in accordance with COVID-19 safe work place protocols.