

Budworm spraying set to begin in Kamloops area

By [Staff Writer - Kamloops This Week](#)

Published: **June 04, 2012 3:00 PM**

Updated: **June 04, 2012 3:30 PM**

The Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations plans to aerially treat up to 6,700 hectares of forest in the Kamloops area to reduce populations of western spruce budworm.

The proposed treatment sites include Duffy Lake, Inks Lake, Harper Lake and Pinantan Lake.

The pest management plan and maps of treatment areas can be viewed at the Thompson Okanagan Region Forest Health Program office at 441 Columbia St., or online at http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/rsi/ForestHealth/Western_Spruce_Budworm_Spray_2012.htm.

The biological agent Foray 48B will be applied by helicopter between June 15 and June 25, weather permitting.

Foray 48B is a biological insecticide that is widely used in B.C. and is registered with the Organic Materials Review Institute.

The active ingredient in Foray 48B is the naturally occurring bacterium *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *kurstaki* (Btk).

Ministry officials say the spray only affects moth and butterfly larvae and can be used safely around humans and other animals.

Ministry officials say birds, household pets, fish and beneficial insects (including honeybees) are not affected.

The Western spruce budworm is an insect that is native to B.C. and the Pacific Northwest.

In its larval stage, it defoliates Douglas fir, true firs, spruce and larch trees.

A budworm outbreak has the potential to seriously harm or kill trees over large areas.

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