

File: 18818-20/IDT PROGRAM

April 1, 2010



Dear Residents:

This letter is for your information regarding the current outbreak of Douglas-fir tussock moth, on or near your property. Enclosed you will find a map showing areas proposed for treatment this spring. If you have any concerns with our proposed spray program, please contact me directly by email or telephone:

Lorraine Maclauchlan, Forest Entomologist
Southern Interior Region
441 Columbia Street
Kamloops, B.C. V2C 2T3
Phone: 250-828-4179
Email: tussockmoth@gov.bc.ca

The tussock moth is a destructive defoliator of interior Douglas-fir, causing top-kill and often tree mortality. Periodic outbreaks of the tussock moth occur in the Okanagan every 12-15 years. In addition to tree damage the tussock moth can cause allergic reactions (tussockosis) in some people and animals.

This past fall, the Ministry of Forests & Range (MFR) identified areas that will be defoliated by the tussock moth in 2010. Surveys indicate numerous sites in Trepanier Creek will suffer significant defoliation in 2010.

The MFR is *considering treatment* in the areas outlined on the attached map. The areas will be treated with one of the following biological insecticides:

TM Biocontrol-1 (nuclear polyhedrosis virus, or NPV) - this insecticide is the naturally occurring virus of the tussock moth that regulates its population cycling. **The virus takes about 5 weeks to take effect and kill larvae** but it effectively “collapses” the outbreak in the area treated and no further spray is needed in until the next outbreak cycle.

Foray 48B (*B.t.k.*) – Register with OMRI for organic growers and is specific to Lepidoptera larvae. *B.t.k.* is ingested by larvae and causes them to cease feeding and die. *B.t.k.* is faster acting than the virus but *may* have to be applied each year until the outbreak collapses naturally.

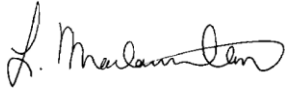
The spray would be done by helicopter in May or early June 2010, dependent on weather, and in accordance with our Pest Management Plan.

If you have any concern about the proposed spray please see below for contact details.

For further information please visit our web site:

http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/rsi/ForestHealth/Tussock_Moth.htm

Yours truly,



Lorraine Maclauchlan, Forest Entomologist
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441 Columbia Street
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Phone: 250-828-4179

Email: Lorraine.maclauchlan@gov.bc.ca or tussockmoth@gov.bc.ca

Tussock Moth Treatment Consent Form

Date: _____, 2010

I, _____ **consent** to having the Ministry of Forests & Range treat infested trees on or adjacent to my property with Foray 48B (*B.t.k.*) and/or NPV (nuclear polyhedrosis virus) to control Douglas-fir tussock moth.

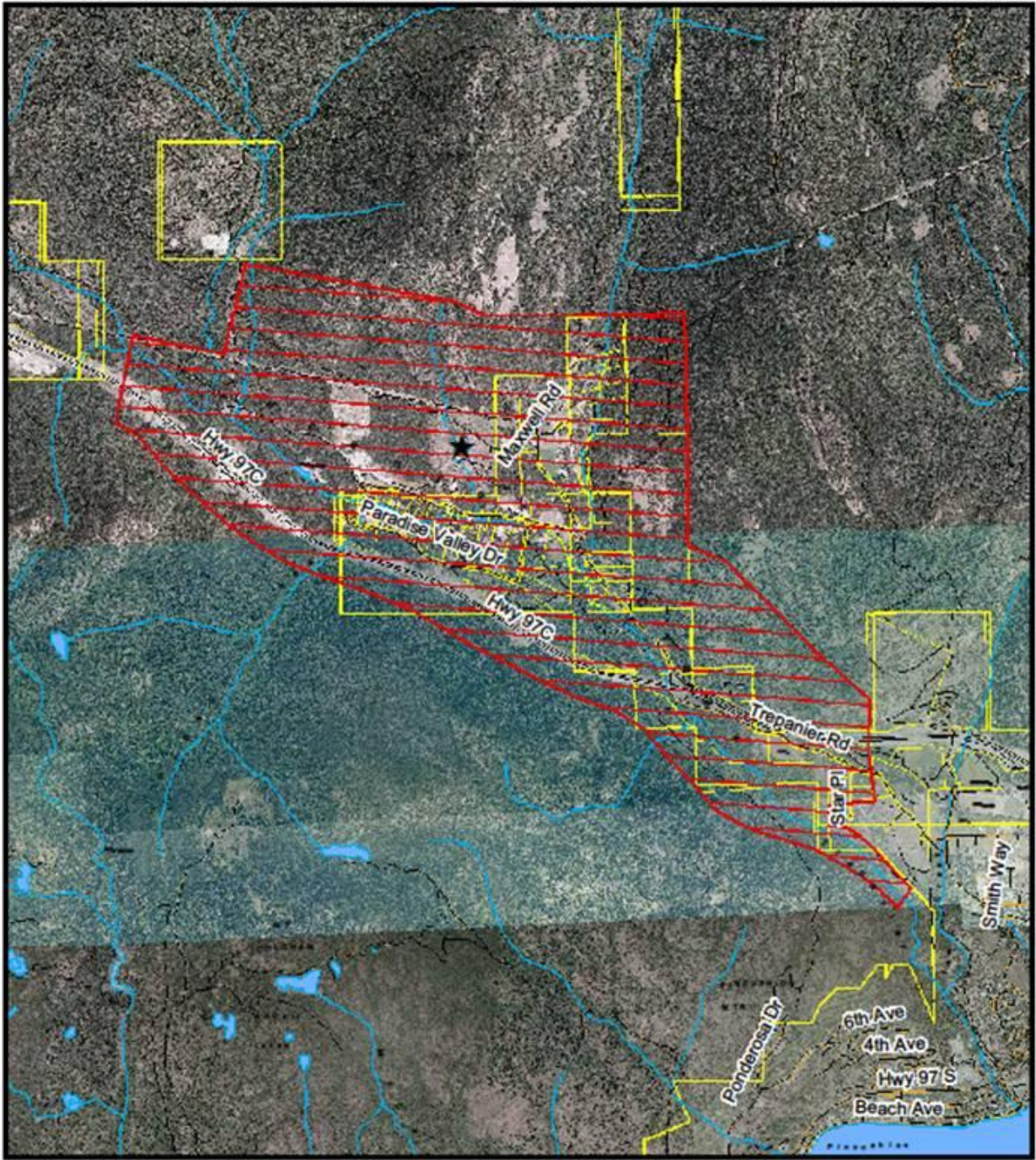
Name (please print) _____

Address _____

Phone number _____

Email _____

Please return by mail, Fax or send your reply by email.



2010 Douglas-fir Tussock Moth Control Program
Trepanier Creek

