

# PUBLIC NOTICE

## Ministère des Ressources naturelles et des Forêts

### **The Ministère des Ressources naturelles et des Forêts (MRNF) continues its aerial spraying program this year to control spruce budworm (SBW) in the Nord-du-Québec region.**

These aerial sprays, which last four to five weeks, will begin between **May 27 and June 4**, weather permitting. A total of approximately **14,000 hectares** of vulnerable forests will be treated in both public and private forests. **The targeted zone is located in the areas of Matagami, Lebel-sur-Quévillon and Chibougamau.**

The biological insecticide *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *kurstaki* (*Btk*) will be used in these operations to protect the needles of the affected conifers from damage caused by SBW.

The Société de protection des forêts contre les insectes et maladies (SOPFIM), mandated by the MRNF, is responsible for carrying out these aerial sprays.

It should be noted that the organic insecticide used by the SOPFIM is registered by Health Canada and has been determined to be safe for human health and the environment.

For information about SBW, contact the MRNF by email at [nord-du-quebec.foret@mrnf.gouv.qc.ca](mailto:nord-du-quebec.foret@mrnf.gouv.qc.ca) or by telephone at 819-755-4838. We encourage you to favour email communications.

For information on the insecticide used and aerial spraying operations in the Nord-du-Québec region, contact the SOPFIM at 1-877-224-3381 or visit the website at [www.sopfim.qc.ca](http://www.sopfim.qc.ca).