

## **Process for Scheduling Lampricide Treatments in Canada**

The field season for Department of Fisheries and Oceans – Sea Lamprey Control Center normally runs from mid-April through the end of October. During this period, blocks of time must be assigned for treatments in certain geographical locations. These blocks of time range from 5 days to a maximum of 19 days depending on:

1. The number of days required to travel to and from the location.
2. The number of streams in the area which require treatment.
3. Availability of staff, in some cases pre-treatment work may be conducted on one stream while a second stream is being treated.
4. An estimate of the number of calendar days required to complete the treatments.

A typical workload for a field season is approximately 40 - 45 streams covering the areas from the north shore of Lake Superior to the south shore of Lake Ontario. Work may also be conducted in Michigan while assisting with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service treatments. Streams vary significantly in length and complexity, ranging from 0.2 km to over 100 km. Each stream has been assigned optimal times for treatment (Appendix H). The proposed dates for a stream treatment can be influenced by a number of factors:

1. Stream discharge – most streams have an optimal discharge for an effective treatment. Streams in which low discharge presents a problem are treated soon after spring runoff, or later in the fall if fish spawning runs are not a concern
2. Water chemistry parameters – some streams are scheduled to avoid periods of temperature extremes and pH fluctuations.
3. Some streams with high pH and alkalinity are scheduled for spring treatment to take advantage of the seasonal variation of minimum lethal concentrations.
4. Streams are scheduled to attempt to avoid known spawning runs of sensitive fish species such as walleye, salmon, and suckers.
5. Avoiding conflicts with irrigators and other water users.
6. Avoiding conflicts with known public events such as fishing derbies.
7. Scheduling around statutory holidays.

8. Gaining access to First Nations and other private lands.
9. Coordinating treatment dates with the ability of hydroelectric companies to provide requested discharge.
10. Granular Bayluscide applications may be scheduled earlier in the year to avoid excessive weed growth.