

June 25, 2024

Ms. Joanne Sweeney
Director
Environmental Assessment Division
Department of Environment and Climate Change
P.O Box 8700
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6

**RE: 5 Year Operating Plan for Crown Managed Lands, Forest Management
District 20**

Pursuant to Section 49 of the *Environmental Protection Act* (2002), the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture is pleased to submit for registration as an undertaking, the 5 Year Operating Plan for Crown managed lands in Forest Management District 20, for the period of January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2029. Three copies of the Plan (2 paper and 1 digital) have been forwarded to you under separate cover.

This Plan represents the culmination of many months of preparation by Forestry Branch staff, including consultations with other government departments and engagement with known local stakeholders, in an attempt to minimize conflicts during the Environmental Assessment process.

This Plan outlines the forestry activities to be undertaken during the upcoming five year period. The Plan is compliant with the Forestry Act (1990) and the Sustainable Forest Management Planning Regulations.

If you have any questions regarding this registration, please contact myself or Dave Poole.



Bryan Oke

Director - Forest Ecosystem Management

cc: Blair Adams
Dave Poole

REGISTRATION FORM
PURSUANT OF PART 10, ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
SECTION 49 OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ACT

Name of Undertaking: Forest Management District 20
Five Year Operating Plan 2025-2029

Proponent: (i) Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture
(ii) Assistant Deputy Minister
Dr. Blair Adams
Forestry and Wildlife Branch

(iii) Principal Contact Person

Mr. Bryan Oke
Director of Forest Ecosystem Management
(709) 637-2296

The Undertaking: (i) Nature of Undertaking

To conduct forestry activities (harvesting, silviculture, and road construction) from January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2029 in Forest Management District 20.

(ii) Purpose/Rationale/Need for Undertaking

This undertaking will enable the Forest and Wildlife Branch to schedule both commercial and domestic harvesting opportunities, and apply silvicultural prescriptions for appropriate forest renewal.

This undertaking is necessary to maintain and/or expand the existing commercial forest industry and facilitate domestic harvesting of fuelwood for home heating. Overall, this five year plan proposes to annually make available approximately 125,000 cubic meters of softwood for commercial harvest and 21,425 for domestic harvest.

Description of Undertaking: (i) Geographic Location

Forest Management District 20 is situated on the south coast of Labrador. It is generally bound to the North by Lake Melville, to the West by the Etagaulet and Paradise Rivers, to the South by the Main and Hawke Rivers, and to the East by the Labrador Coast. The overview and operational maps in the plan outline the general and exact locations of the zone.

(ii) Physical Features

The topography in the area ranges from extensive coastline bedrock and rolling uplands, to high elevations and mountainous terrain including the Mealy Mountain Range.

(iii) Operation

Forest harvesting activities will be undertaken commercially (utilizing either manual or mechanical methods) or domestically (usually manually and wood extracted using either snowmachines or ATV's).

Resource Roads are constructed by approved construction techniques with Excavators or Bulldozers.

Silviculture prescriptions utilize brushsaws, pottiputkis, shovels, scarifiers or prescribed burning tools.

All buffer requirements and operations will be carried out in accordance with applicable legislation and the Environmental Protection Guidelines for Ecologically Based Forest Resource Management

(iv) Occupants

Mechanical Harvester Operators, Forwarder Operators, Skidder Operators, Truck Drivers, Mechanics, Silviculture workers, Domestic users, Sawmill Industry Operators, Forest Technicians, Enforcement Officers

Approval of the Undertaking:

Commercial and Domestic harvesting activities will be scheduled in accordance with the approved five year plan and applicable cutting permits.

Schedule:

This plan is scheduled to commence on January 1st, 2025 and end on December 31st, 2029.

June 25, 2024

Date



Director - FEM