

**REGISTRATION FORM
PURSUANT TO SECTION 6 OF
THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ACT**

Name of Undertaking: Amendment to 5-Year Operating Plan
Forest Management District 5

Proponent: (i) Newfoundland Forest Service

(ii) P. O. Box 8700
St. John's, NF
A1B 4J6

(iii) Chief Executive Officer

Mr. Allan Masters
Deputy Minister
(709) 637-2627

(iv) Principal Contact Person

Mr. Basil English
Management Planner (A)
(709) 637-2343

The Undertaking: (i) Nature of Undertaking

Amendment to 5-Year Operating Plan for District 5
(Crown) timber harvesting and road construction.

(ii) Purpose/Rationale/Need for Undertaking

This area is necessary to afford existing Crown operators the flexibility to fill their 2002/03 harvesting permits. The Cat Bay area is submitted as an alternate for operations in District 5 that were scheduled to occur in the Goose Cove amendment area until 2005. However, deteriorated stand conditions (i.e. lower than inventory norms), and unfavorable terrain in a portion of the Goose Cove area, will require the premature movement of some operators. This new area will access Class III timber, and replace an equivalent volume in the Goose Cove area. The undertaking will not affect

sustainable harvest levels, nor increase the level of annual harvest on Crown land in Forest Management District 5.

Description of Undertaking: (i)

Geographic Location

Forest Management District 5 encompasses the area generally defined as that portion of the province between Gander River and Terra Nova National Park, north of the Trans Canada Highway, extending north to the coast and including Fogo Island. This harvesting amendment is in the general location of Cat Bay (48° 47' W, 53°58' N) on the Content Peninsula, located northeast of the Town of Glovertown.

(ii)

Physical Features

The Cat Bay amendment area covers approx. 120 ha of productive forest stands within a total area of approx. 200 km², and involve a harvest of approx. 12,000 m³ of merchantable softwood. This timber is comprised of mature (60-80+ years old) black spruce and spruce-fir stands on gentle-to-moderate (5-15°) slopes. Construction of approx.3.0 km of class C-2 access road (a portion of which has already been approved) will also be required to access the timber stands. Harvesting operations on the Content peninsula have been ongoing since the early 1980's with approximately 25% of the total land area been harvested.

(iii)

Operation

These are integrated sawlog/pulpwood harvesting operations. Felling will occur either via moto-manual or mechanical methods, with follow-up conventional forwarding. Road construction will follow accepted standards as per the Environmental Protection Plan for Timber Harvesting guidelines. Operations are anticipated to begin in mid-August 2002 and continue, on a seasonal basis to 2005. The area is somewhat remote from recreational boating routes and is not heavily occupied by cabins. The harvesting operations will create approximately 60 to 80 man weeks of

employment.

(iv) Occupants

There will be approximately 4 to 6 equipment operators and 2 foreman employed in this area.

(v) Project Related Documents

Pending approval, this proposal will be included in the Forest Management District 5, Five-Year Operating Plan (Crown); April 1, 2001 - March 31, 2005.

Approval of the Undertaking:

Commercial operating permits from the Districts 5 (Gambo) Forest Management Office.

Schedule:

Anticipated startup is mid-August 2002 to allow for construction of road during the summer field season. The Newfoundland Forest Service requests a decision within 45 days after the Minister of Environment receives the completed registration form.

Funding:

Capital funding of the resource road will be provided by the Department of Forest Resources & Agrifoods resource roads budget. Total cost will be in the range of \$40 - 60,000.

Date

Deputy Minister