

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

Name of Undertaking: Forest Management Districts 17 & 18 Five Year Operating Plan 2008-2012 (Amendment)

Proponent: (i) Department Natural Resources
Forestry Services Branch
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(ii) Chief Executive Officer

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Chief Executive Officer
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(iii) Principal Contact Person

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The Undertaking: (i) Nature of Undertaking

Timber harvesting amendment to the Five-Year Operating Plan for Forest Management Districts 17 & 18.

(ii) Purpose/Rationale/Need for Undertaking

The forest industry on the Northern Peninsula is in transition. The markets for pulpwood in Corner Brook have disappeared and a new pellet plant to produce energy wood is under construction in Rodddickton. The economics of this facility is based upon a wood supply within 70 km of this plant. Thus any reduction in transportation distance has a positive economic impact on the viability of this facility and the local forest industry. The 4.0 km road amendment proposed for the Raft Pond operating area (C1731) will reduce the hauling

distance to Roddickton by approximately 35 km. It will also provide primary access to an additional 15,500 m³ of timber. The 6.5 km road amendment proposed for the Squid Cove operating area (C1728) will re-route around two large hills which are impossible to navigate during wet weather. It will also provide primary access to an additional 39,500 m³ of timber.

Description of Undertaking:

(i) Geographic Location

Planning Zone Eight encompasses Forest Management Districts 17 & 18. It extends from Gros Morne National Park in the south to the community of St. Anthony in the north. This harvesting amendment covers two operating areas. The Squid Cove operating area (C1728) is approximately 4 km south from the community of Castor River South. The Raft Pond operating area is a remote location approximately 15 km east from the community of Castor River North. The attached 1:50 000 topographic map and 1:25 000 stand type maps outline the general and exact locations.

(ii) Physical Features

The Squid Cove amendment includes 6.5 km of access road construction. It covers 624 hectares of productive forest land and will provide access to an additional 39,500 m³ of timber. The Raft Pond amendment contains the construction of 4.0 km of access road. It will provide primary access to 15,500 m³ of timber already approved in the existing five-year operating plan.

(iii) Operation

This is an integrated sawlog/energy wood operation. The access roads will be constructed using excavators and trucks. The timber will be harvested with single grip mechanical harvesters and forwarded to road side by porters. This operation will create approximately 810 direct person-weeks of employment in the road construction, harvesting, forwarding and trucking of timber. Another, 1313 person weeks of

employment will be created through secondary manufacturing of pellets and sawn lumber.

Commercial harvesting is subject to the regulations laid out by the Forestry Act and other related legislation. As well, operating permits are subject to the Environmental Protection Plan for Ecologically Based Forest Resource Management.

(iv) Occupants

There will be approximately 2 foreman, 2 mechanics, 2 mechanical harvester operator, 2 excavator operators, 2 forwarder operators and 3 truck drivers working in these areas.

(v) Project Related Document

Forest Management District 17 & 18 Five Year Operating Plan; January 1, 2008 - December 31, 2012.

Approval of the Undertaking:

Commercial operating permit from the District 17 Forest Management Office in Port Saunders.

Schedule:

If approved, some of these activities are planned to commence in the summer of 2010. The Newfoundland Forest Service requests a decision within 45 days after the Minister of Environment receives the completed registration form.

Date

Chief Executive Officer