

To: Department of Environment and Climate Change

P.O. Box 8700

St. John's, NL

A1B-4J6

Attention: Director of Environmental Assessment

From: Dwayne Barnes

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Name of Undertaking: Bridge Replacement Northwest Brook, overflow, northeast of Terra Nova National Park (access to Camp Nor'Wes)

Proponent:

- (i) Name of Corporate Body: Scout Canada (Newfoundland and Labrador) Properties Inc.
- (ii) Organization Contact: Charles Cook
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- (iii) Principal Contact Person for purposes of Environmental Assessment:
Name: Dwayne Barnes
Official Title: Scout Leader, Committee Member
Telephone No. [REDACTED]
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The Undertaking:

- (i) Name of the Undertaking: Bridge Replacements (2)
- (ii) Purpose/Rationale/Need for the undertaking:

Two bridges require replacement to allow 500+ Scouting members to attend camp for Provincial Jamborees and other camping and outdoor experiences, plus access for Guides and for other third-party users of the camp. Without replacement, the camp is not accessible, as the only path of travel to the camp is over two areas which are overflows for the main river, Northwest River, in times of very high waterflow, typically in the early spring.

- (iii) Public consultation:

There has been no public consultation at this time. The road on which the bridges exist is deemed a private road for use by Scouts Canada. The road has a locked gate to restrict public access and signage is erected.

Description of the Undertaking:

(i) Geographical Location:

The two existing bridges are in Eastern Newfoundland near the town of Port Blandford and is close to the southeastern portion of Terra Nova National Park. The west side of the campsite borders on Northwest Pond. The pond drains to the east through Northwest River to Northwest Arm in Bonavista Bay. Coordinates for Google Earth (in Degrees and Decimal degrees) 48.4213, -54.2610. To locate the site on Google Maps, enter this URL: <https://www.google.ca/maps/@48.4213,-54.2610,16z?hl=en>

The Bridges in question are indicated as per Map 1, see page 4, and noted by Pin as Bridge 2 and by Pin as Bridge 3. As per Map 2, see page 5, they are indicated as Wooden Bridges, with Bridge 2 being the second bridge from the steel gate, and the Narrow Bridge, being Bridge 3.

Both bridges in question cross tributaries for the Northwest River. Water will flow through these tributaries in times of excessive waterflow during spring run off or during periods of prolonged, significant rainfall, such as the affect of, for example, Hurricane Igor. During other times of the year, these tributaries are either dry or any water found would be stagnant.

MAP 1



MAP 2



While the map above shows what appears to be water near bridge 3 (narrow bridge), that only occurs during high spring run off or during periods of prolonged, significant rainfall.

(ii) Physical Features:

Owned and operated by Scouts Canada (Newfoundland and Labrador) Properties Inc., Camp Nor'Wes is our signature campsite, located just east of Terra Nova Park, approximately 220 kms west of St. John's. The 400-acre site offers a wilderness camping experience.

The vegetation surrounding both bridges comprise various fir and evergreen trees, alders and some grass and moss. The soil primarily consists of sand, gravel and rock.

The North West River is a scheduled salmon river overseen by the Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans, and North West Pond is understood to contain trout species.

Wildlife in the area, spotted from time to time, can consist of rabbits, moose, black bear and coyote, the latter three types of which traverse through the area and are not "residents" around the bridge areas.

Various types of birds, ants and other insects are in the area.

Facilities

The site is off the electrical grid, but has a diesel generator to provide electricity for essential services. Most buildings are grouped along Northwest Pond in the southern part of the site. Facilities include a lodge building containing a kitchen and dining facilities (wheelchair accessible), warden's cabin, maintenance building, boathouse, outdoor cookhouse, hospital building/first aid post (wheelchair accessible), headquarters building (wheelchair accessible), washroom house, water tank and pumping station, Rover cabin (wheelchair accessible), a village containing five cabins, with electricity provided by separate generator as required, and one firepit house, three large activity fields, amphitheater (in development), beach podium and more than 125 campsites for tenting.

The kitchen has propane stoves and fridges with capacity to serve 100 diners. The lodge building is served by electricity and heated by two woodstoves. It can seat 80 to 100 people.

The cabins hold a total of 48 bunks and has electrical service via a gasoline generator. They are heated by woodstoves.

In addition, the camp features natural rock climbing, a firewood lot, numerous trails and a roads network for accessibility, bicycles, archery, war canoes, smaller canoes, and a powered aluminum safety boat.

Utilities, electrical and water are provided to most buildings, except for the cabins and boathouse. Hot and cold showers are available. Hot showers are wheelchair accessible and several flush toilets have been installed. There are numerous outhouses provided throughout the campsite and portable toilets are provided to augment services for larger camps.

Daily activities of the camp are under the supervision of a camp warden, and the camp operates primarily from late May through December, although some services may not always be available. Access to the camp is limited in the winter months.

(iii) Construction:

The approximate construction schedule from start to finish will be 2-4 weeks during the 2023 construction season. Completed by a crew and an excavator to remove and replace the two bridges. The existing abutments will stay in place and the new footings will be constructed behind each existing bridge abutments. Decking materials from the old bridge will be removed from site, with temporary decking materials being repurposed at the camp.

Materials Removal:

Wooden materials placed in 2022 to allow temporary access will be removed and repurposed at the camp. Original wooden materials associated with the bridges will be removed from site with disposal at a scheduled dumpsite by the contractor. The current concrete abutments will remain in place and it is yet to be determined the status of the two steel beams for each bridge. These may remain in place or be removed from site by the contractor.

Potential Pollutants:

Pollutants would include gas and or diesel fumes from equipment operations, which would dissipate into the air. Fluid spills such as gas, diesel or hydraulic would be cleaned up by the contractor, through absorption pads or removal of soil. With the intended use of Bailey bridges, and the placement of new concrete abutments, beyond the edges of the tributaries we would not expect any impact to the tributaries themselves. Caution will be maintained to ensure any excess materials are removed and if necessary, silt barriers will be installed to protect the tributaries. Garbage and human waste will be removed from site for proper disposal.

(iv) Operation:

The undertaking will operate as an access to the camp on a seasonal basis. Travel for vehicles and light trucks/bus only.

(v) Occupations:

A licensed contractor will be hired to complete this work and would consist of a dump truck, boom truck, excavator and a crew consisting of 3-6 members. Additional volunteer workers will assist in the replacement to keep costs down.

Approval for the Undertaking:

We have submitted the required application and payment to Alter a Body of Water for both bridges.

We have submitted the required Environment Assessment Fee for this undertaking.

Schedule:

This project is to commence as soon as approval is granted, schedule of crews has been confirmed and materials are assembled for shipment to site. Current schedule is construction season 2023. This schedule is required for the camp to open in 2024, with a planned Scout Jamboree and separate Guide Jamboree in late June and mid-July.

The Estimated cost for the Undertaking is approximately \$150,000.00 - \$175,000.00 for both bridges.

August 24, 2023

Date



Charles R. Cook
Director & Corporate Treasurer