

# **Environmental Protection Plan**

Blaketown ATV Trail

Crown Lands Registration Application #: 163115

Environmental Assessment Project Release Registration #: EA 2334

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Attachment 2 - Photograph of Surrounding Area Blaketown, NL

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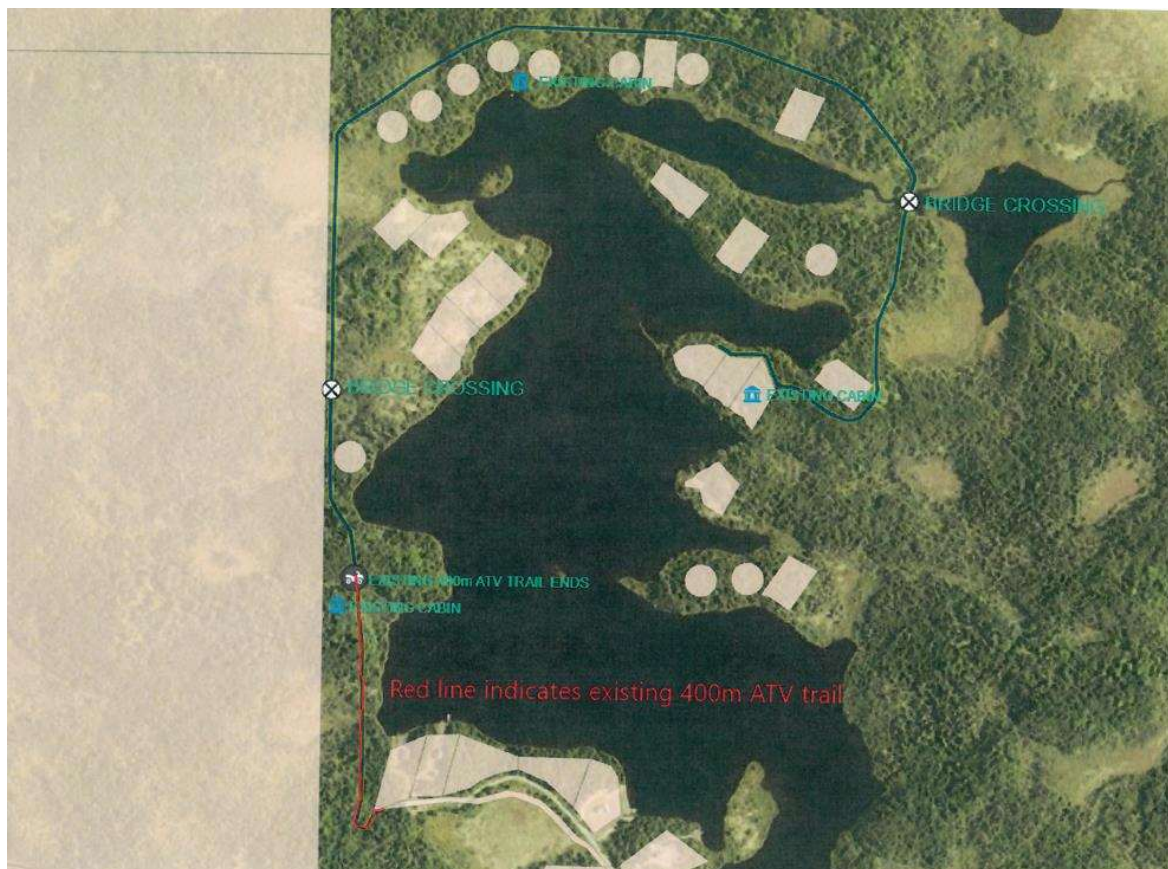
## Section 1.0 - Introduction and Purpose

The Blaketown ATV Trail (Application #163115) has been proposed to ensure access to the remote cabin lot on Crooked Pond. The trail is an extension from an existing ATV trail located near the community of Blaketown, NL. The trail is accessed from Blaketown on Highway Route Trinity Road South 80 at the intersection of Holiday Hill Road.

## Section 2.0 - Geographic Location

The ATV trail starts at Juniper Drive in Holiday Hill, Blaketown, NL (N47.4675243 W53.5161440) and runs 400 metres to its current end (N47.4704316 W53.5172296). The planned extension will add 2.0 km around Crooked Pond to a remote cabin lot (N47.4731746 W53.5104792), for a total length of 2.4 km. Application 163115 is highlighted in the attached Crown Lands LUA document; the trail does not affect other land applications or titles. Existing cabins are marked on the map.





## **2.1 Physical Features**

Use the existing ATV trail for 400 meters, then extend it by about 2 km to reach the remote cabin lot. The total length of the trail will be roughly 2.4 km, with a width of 3 meters, clearing 6,000–7,200 m<sup>2</sup>. Three cabins are located along the extension per the attached map. The route passes through low brush and spruce trees on mostly level, dry ground. Wildlife includes trout, moose and duck, with no threatened or endangered species present.

## **Section 3.0 Environmental Assessment and Permitting Procedures**

Health, safety, and environmental protection are our main priorities during project construction. We commit to implementing effective measures to prevent environmental harm and injury, ensuring compliance with government regulations and guidelines through careful planning and execution.

## **Section 4.0 Construction**

Construction required for this undertaking will be limited grubbing and clearing vegetation along the proposed route. Equipment being used are a small track excavator, all terrain vehicles and chainsaws.

The two small bridges will be constructed of spruce logs, no treated material will be used. The basic design uses multiple heavy logs laid on flat rocks or a log sill. 2"x6" non-treated boards are nailed across the logs. A curb or toe-board will be provided to help guide the wheels and keep the ATV from running off the open edges.

Logs used for the construction of these bridges will be cut onsite and have the bark removed. The 2"x6" non-treated deck boards will be transported into the bridge construction sites.

Potential sources of pollutants during the construction phase would be limited to exhaust from excavator, atvs and chainsaws, as well as minimal risk of fuel spillage during refuelling operations. To reduce environmental damage in the event of a fuel spill, on-site spill kits will be readily available for all excavator/ATV/chainsaw refuelling. There will be no fuel stored onsite.

No additional gravel or substrate will be brought onto the trail. The project will make use of the gravel and soil excavated during the trail clearing process.

Extend the existing 400m ATV trail by 2.0 kilometers, for a total of 2.4 kilometers in length. The width of the trail will be approximately 3 meters, totalling 6000-7200m<sup>2</sup> of cleared land.

Planned to start late Fall 2025, and to last approximately 6 months.

## **4.1 Proposed Timeline**

Proposed start will commence Winter 2025 thru to summer 2026, expected duration is approximately 6 months, subject to the approval of all regulatory bodies

## **4.2 Proposed Labor, Materials and Equipment**

The following components are expected to be involved during the construction phase of this project.

**Labor** - The work will be performed by the proponent, family friends and cabin lot owners in the area. Expectations are that there will be 2 people working on the trail at all times.

**Equipment** – This project will use a 3.5-ton excavator for trail grubbing and clearing, and only one chainsaw will be operated at a time. ATVs will be used to reach the work site. All ATV refueling will occur at the start of the existing trail at the end of Juniper Drive.

**Materials** - Minimal fill is expected, as earth and granular material will be reused during grubbing. Logs for bridge construction will be cut and de-barked onsite. 2"x6" non-treated deck boards will be brought to the construction sites.

## **4.3 Proposed Maintenance Schedules and Procedures**

Trail maintenance will be handled quarterly by the proponent, family friends, and local cabin owners. Responsibilities include controlling erosion, managing vegetation, documenting deficiencies, and addressing issues promptly. If safety concerns arise, appropriate signage will be posted and the trail may be closed if unsafe.

## **Section 5.0 Operation**

Upon approval, the trail will follow the attached map and be clearly marked with pegs for visual guidance. Ongoing maintenance of the trail will be managed by the proponent, as well as family friends and cabin owners. As this is a low-traffic area, use is primarily limited to the proponent, family friends, and cabin lot owners within the Crooked Pond vicinity.

Potential pollutant sources during operations are primarily limited to emissions from ATVs and a low risk of fuel spillage during refuelling activities. To mitigate environmental impacts in the event of a spill or leak, spill kits will be maintained on-site and readily accessible.

The trail will operate year-round, mainly during spring, summer, and fall, with less frequent winter use. It is designed for safe ATV, snowmobile, and UTV travel. Safety signs will be posted as needed. Environmental pollutants are expected to come from vehicle fluids like petroleum products or coolants; all vehicles should carry spill kits to manage any waste.

## **Section 6.0 Habitat**

The Proponent acknowledges that wilderness is a delicate ecosystem, home to moose, ducks, and trout, and has great respect for the area. Wildlife in this region should not be disturbed by human

activities and has been observed for many years. The top priority will be to avoid disrupting any habitats and always yield to wildlife. The trail route will avoid wetlands and marshes, following solid, barren ground as much as possible.

## **6.1 Preventative Measures**

The following steps will be taken to protect the environment during trail construction:

- Mark the trail with appropriate signage and wooden pegs or reflectors to keep users on track and away from sensitive areas such as wetlands and bogs.
- Place clear signs in sensitive regions to discourage users from straying off established trails and avoid damaging exposed terrain; encourage everyone to stick to marked routes.
- Install wildlife warning signs where necessary.
- Install bridges over rivers/streams according to environmental guidelines, ensuring all required permits and approvals are obtained beforehand.
- Schedule construction outside animal breeding seasons for moose, ducks, and trout.
- Halt bridge work if trout are present in streams and resume when absent.
- Stop activity when wildlife is observed until animals leave the area.
- Equip ATVs and excavator with fire extinguishers during construction.
- Refuel ATVs only at home, or end of Juniper Drive.
- Fuel chainsaws before entering the trail. If refueling in the field is necessary, have spill kits available.
- Proponent will follow all requirements/permits issued pertaining to this trail per the link to the Project Release from environmental assessment subject to the conditions as outlined in the Minister's decision letter available on the Department's Project web page at [Blaketown ATV Trail - Environment and Climate Change](https://www.gov.nl.ca/ecc/projects/project-2334/) <https://www.gov.nl.ca/ecc/projects/project-2334/> . We will comply with all regulations and prioritize environmental protection in operating this trail.

## **6.2 Storage, Handling and Transfer of Fuel**

Fuel storage and hazardous materials are not allowed near waterways or streams. All necessary measures must be taken by proponents and staff to prevent spills, misplacement, or loss of fuels and hazardous materials. Oils, greases, fuels, and related fluids must be stored at least 100m from any watercourse, body of water, or wetland. Fueling must be done carefully to avoid soil or water contamination. Waste oils and lubricants must be kept in sealed containers and properly disposed of at recognized sites within St. John's, NL. Mechanical equipment must be leak-free, and no servicing or washing can occur within 100m of water except in designated areas. ATVs

will be fueled before reaching the work site, so refueling on-site will not be needed due to their fuel range.

### **6.3 Cleanup and Waste Management**

After each work phase, promptly remove all equipment and surplus materials to approved storage. Keep all areas clean, orderly, and safe. Collect and appropriately dispose of lunch waste and empty oil containers. Clear all litter and debris. Reuse or recycle waste where possible, using the nearest municipal disposal sites.

### **6.4 Decommissioning Plan**

If the Trail is abandoned, the proponent will restore the area to encourage vegetation, block access, and post signs indicating the trail is incomplete and not open for use.

### **6.5 Visual/Photographic Documentation (Before and After)**

During initial trail work, all streams, wetlands, and bogs will be surveyed with minimal impact. The proponent will document crossings before and after construction with photos and propose mitigation as needed. All photo surveys will be added to the EPP document and sent to [wildlifereferrals@gov.nl.ca](mailto:wildlifereferrals@gov.nl.ca). Once complete, the final GPS route will also be submitted by email.

### **6.6 Digital File of the Ground-Truthed GPS (Final GPS Route)**

Attachment 4 shows the trail route, which avoids sensitive ecosystems like barrens and wetlands in compliance with the NL Off-road Vehicles Act and regulations.

### **Attachments - Project Related Documents:**

Attachments include the proposed Blaketown ATV trail layout and supporting documents for the EPP submission.

Attachment 1 - Project Location in Newfoundland

Attachment 2 – Photograph of Surrounding Area (Blaketown, NL)

Attachment 3 - Picture of ATV Trail

Attachment 4 - Crooked Pond ATV Trail Extension 163115 (kml file)



**Attachment 1 - Project Location in Newfoundland**

# Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture Crown Lands Division



## NOTE TO USERS

The information on this map was compiled from land surveys registered in the Crown Lands Registry.

Since the Registry does not contain information on all land ownership within the Province, the information depicted cannot be considered complete.

The boundary lines shown are intended to be used as an index to land titles issued by the Crown. The accuracy of the plot is not sufficient for measurement purposes and does not guarantee title.

Users finding any errors or omissions on this map sheet are asked to contact the Crown Lands Inquiries Line by telephone at 1-833-891-3240 or by email at [CrownLandsInfo@gov.nl.ca](mailto:CrownLandsInfo@gov.nl.ca).

Some titles may not be plotted due to Crown Lands volumes missing from the Crown Lands registry or not plotted due to insufficient survey information.

The User hereby indemnifies and saves harmless the Minister, his officers, employees and agents from and against all claims, demands, liabilities, actions or cause of actions alleging any loss, injury, damages and matter (including claims or demands for any violation of copyright or intellectual property) arising out of any missing or incomplete Crown Land title, and the Minister, his or her officers, employees and agents shall not be liable for any loss of profits or contracts or any other loss of any kind as a result.

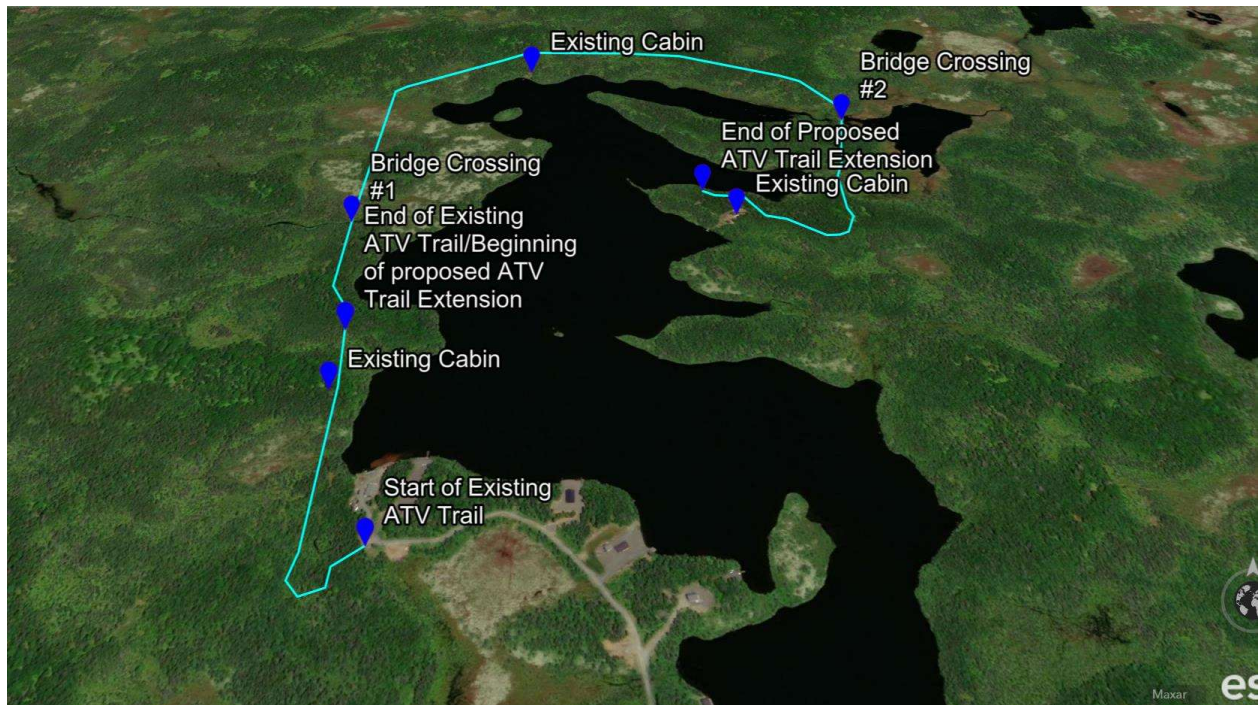
For inquiries please contact the Crown Lands Inquiries Line by telephone at 1-833-891-3240 or by email at [CrownLandsInfo@gov.nl.ca](mailto:CrownLandsInfo@gov.nl.ca). Or visit the nearest Regional Lands Office; [http://www.flr.gov.nl.ca/departement/contact\\_land.htm](http://www.flr.gov.nl.ca/departement/contact_land.htm)

0 485 970 1,940 2,910 3,880 Meters



Scale 1:50,000  
Compiled on September 17, 2024

Attachment 2 – Photograph of Surrounding Area (Blaketown, NL)



**Attachment 3 - Picture of ATV Trail**

**Attachment 4 - Crooked Pond ATV Trail Extension (kml file attached in email)**