

April 28, 2021

COR/2021/00924

Reg. # 2122

Desmond McDonald
Northern Peninsula ATV Riders Association Inc.
P.O. Box 493
2 Balsam Drive
St. Anthony NL A0K 4S0

Dear Mr. McDonald:

Re: Northern Peninsula ATV Trail System

Your proposal has been reviewed by an interdepartmental environmental assessment screening committee and an opportunity to comment has been provided to the public as required by Part X of the Newfoundland and Labrador Environmental Protection Act, SNL 2002, cE-14.2. Upon consideration of the comments received, please be advised that an Environmental Preview Report (EPR) is required.

The EPR is necessary to provide information concerning the potential effects of the undertaking on the surrounding environment. Additional information requirements include, but are not limited to:

- identification of all parts of the trail that require construction such as cutting, infill, ditching etc., including the source of all fill materials and proposed width of the trail;
- a minimum 30 metre undisturbed buffer is required along the high water marks of waterbodies and wetlands to protect these sensitive habitats from potential negative impacts such as spills and branch-offs, noting that:
 - where unavoidable, a description and location of each stream crossing (including length, and material to build permanent crossings), along with mitigations is to be provided; and,
 - where unavoidable, a description and location of each wetland crossing (including extent of fill in, matting etc., source of material, transport of materials to site, etc.) and mitigations is to be provided.

- the rationale for the requirement for two center connecting trails and consideration of an alternative trail further to the west in favour of the northwestern section of that 'loop';
- amendments (removal or re-routing) to sections of the proposed trail route to accommodate conflicts with permitted quarry boundaries, outfitter operation buffers, and habitat for species listed under the Newfoundland and Labrador Endangered Species Act; and,
- a ground-truthed digital (GPS) route that includes the information requested above.

A summary of the comments received from government agencies during the review is attached, to provide you with advice for your consideration and inclusion in your project and in the EPR.

An Environmental Assessment Committee will be appointed for the purpose of providing you with technical and scientific advice regarding the preparation of an EPR. As per the legislative requirements, within 60 days of this letter you will be issued guidelines for the completion of the EPR. Please be reminded that, in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act, project activities may not proceed until the proposal is released from the environmental assessment process.

If you have any questions, please contact Joanne Sweeney, Director (A), Environmental Assessment Division, at 709-729-0673 or joannesweeney@gov.nl.ca.

Sincerely,



HON. BERNARD DAVIS, MHA
District of Virginia Waters – Pleasantville
Minister

cc: Hon. Krista Lynn Howell, MHA
St. Barbe - L'Anse aux Meadows

Enclosures