

Government of Newfoundland and Labrador Environment and Climate Change Office of the Minister

APR 1 3 2022

COR-2022-281

Reg. #2032

Mr. Adam Walsh Atlantic Rivers Outfitting Suite 805, 140 Water Street St. John's NL A1C 6H6 Email: <u>awalsh@atlanticrivers.com</u>

Dear Adam Walsh:

Re: St. Lewis River Atlantic Salmon Habitat Enhancement Project (the Project)

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 review of the project and consideration of the comments received, I have determined that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required to further describe the potential adverse environmental effects.

Additional project information is required to address, at a minimum, the following:

- the purpose and rationale for the project and information to support the notion that the placement of a fishway at this location will result in an increase in the upstream salmon population;
- potential effects of increasing salmon passage at the falls on existing upstream species and habitat;
- a quantitative evaluation of salmon and other species present upstream and of the falls at kilometre 28;
- a quantitative evaluation of salmon that reproduce in those areas of the river that are not partially obstructed;
- an evaluation of how the falls affects the proponent's existing outfitter activities;
- fishway design details and a commitment for the installation to be completed by qualified individuals with experience specific to the project type;
- plans for long-term monitoring and maintenance of the proposed structure, and contingencies, including financial considerations, for the deterioration or malfunction of the structure; and
- the location of human receptors and potential effects on traditional land use and resource activities.



In addition, you are required to conduct a public information session to describe the project to people who use the river and whose use of the river may be affected by the project.

An Environmental Assessment Committee will be appointed to provide you with technical and scientific advice regarding the preparation of an EIS. In accordance with the Environmental Assessment Regulations, I will issue EIS guidelines to you within 120 days of the date of this letter, to assist you with the development of the EIS.

Please be reminded that, in accordance with the **Environmental Protection Act**, project activities may not proceed and permits, licences, approvals and other authorizations required at law may not be issued until the project is released from further environmental assessment.

In accordance with the Environmental Assessment Fees Policy at Fees for Environmental Assessment - Environment and Climate Change (gov.nl.ca), your undertaking may be subject to further environmental assessment fees. Please review the policy and submit capital cost estimate for the undertaking а to EAProjectComments@gov.nl.ca within two weeks of receiving this letter.

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

Sincerely,

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

Enclosures

Cc. The Honourable Lisa Dempster, MHA District of Cartwright – L'Anse au Clair Minister Responsible for Indigenous Affairs and Reconciliation Minister Responsible for Labrador Affairs