

**Registration Pursuant of Part 10, Environmental Assessment,
Section 49 of the Environmental Assessment Act**

- Name of Undertaking:** Amendment to Abitibi-Consolidated Inc. Five Year Operating Plan. FMD 12 for Operating Period January 1, 2003 - December 31, 2008
- Proponent:** Department of Forest Resources & Agrifoods
P. O. Box 220, Springdale, NF A0J 1T0
The Department of Forest Resources & Agrifoods has signed agreements with Abitibi-Consolidated Inc. that gives the rights to cutting of timber to the Crown until December 31, 2005. In turn, the Crown has assumed forest management responsibilities, including monitoring and the issuance of permits.
- Chief Executive Officer:** Mr. Allan Masters, Deputy Minister, P.O. Box 2006, Corner Brook, NL. A2H 6J8, 637 - 2627
- Contact Person:** Mr. Ivan Downton, Director of Forest Ecosystem Management, P.O. Box 2006, Corner Brook, NL. A2H 6J8, 637 - 2285
- Nature of Undertaking:** Amendment to Abitibi-Consolidated Inc. Five Year Operating Plan
- Purpose/Rationale:** To harvest and salvage up to 90,000 m³ of fire damaged and burnt timber as sawlogs, pulpwood, or fuelwood from the forest fire of approximately 4,000 ha. This Amendment is necessary to provide an operating area and employment to local operators and loggers in the Badger area.
- Geographical Location:** The Badger fire is between the Town of Badger and Millertown Junction Road - Badger Map 12A/16
- Operation:** Mechanical and Conventional Timber Harvesting and Silviculture treatments. Buffer zones will be maintained around all waterbodies including a 100 meter buffer on Exploits River. All operations will be carried out in accordance with the Environmental Protection Guidelines for Ecologically Based Forest Management and The Forestry Act.
- Occupations:** Loggers, equipment operators, truckers, silviculture workers and domestic fuelwood harvesters
- Documents:** Five Year Operating Plan for FMD 12
Operating Period January 1, 2003 - December 31, 2008
- Schedule:** April 2003 - December 2008

Other Comments:

Commercial sawlog, pulpwood, and fuelwood operation employing up to 30 people harvesting approximately 90,000 m³. All access where needed will be by secondary forest access roads. The timber harvesting operation by its very nature in a fire area is to try and salvage commercial timber in the first few years. Fire killed stands have a maximum commercial life span of approximately 3-5 years before sawlog size material begin to crack and split making it unusable for lumber. A concerted effort is made to maximize the sawlog value and hence operations necessarily cover a large area. The eastern end of the block is reserved for domestic cutting while most of the commercial, with some domestic cutting, is focused south of Little Red Indian River. There is no real time limit on the value of fire killed stands for fuelwood.

There have been no serious conflicts over the resource in this area. There have been some minor issues between domestic-commercial operation, between commercial operators, and commercial-domestic operators but these have been resolved locally.

The Crown will attempt to renegotiate the transfer of this area from Abitibi-Consolidated Inc. to coincide with the dates of their current Five Year Operating Plan for Forest Management District 12.

Date

Chief Executive Officer

ABITIBI-CONSOLIDATED INC.
5-Year Operating Plan
January 2003 to December 2008

Harvesting Area Name: Abitibi to Crown Transfer, Badger Burn Salvage Area

Harvest Area Number: N/A

Map Reference Numbers: Badger 12A/16

Gross Volume (m³): 100,000

Area Size (ha): 1,200

Proposed Harvest (m³): 90,000

Percent Dead: 90%

Terrain Constraints: Broken with wet areas

Type of Operation: Fuelwood/Sawlogs/Pulpwood/Silviculture

Non-Timber Resource Concerns: None expressed

Other Comments: Some burnt timber can be salvaged as sawlogs during the next one - two years prior to insect and drying damage. Harvesting will enable silvicultural activities such as scarification and planting to proceed. Harvest volumes of burnt timber may be reduced pending available markets.
This transfer agreement expires on December 31, 2005.