

Garnish – Point Rosie Trail Association Inc.

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<http://www.townofgarnish.com/ATV%20Trail%20Page.htm>

September 30, 2010

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Environmental Scientist
Environmental Assessment Division
Dept. of Environment and Conservation
P.O. Box 8700
4th Floor West Block, Confederation Building
St. John's NL

Mr. Madden:

Enclosed you will find an application from the Burin Peninsula Trailway Board Inc. for an environmental assessment for an extension to the Garnish – Point Rosie Trail.

Included in the application are:

1. Twenty hard copies of the application.
2. Twenty copies of the application in PDF format on CD. (Please print Copy 1 twenty times.)
3. GPS Software map showing entire route including proposed extension
4. Google Earth software showing existing trail in Garnish and Marystown
5. Crown Lands map showing trail extension
6. Topographical Map (1:50.000) showing the entire proposed route

If you need more, please contact us as per the application.

Sincerely,

Elroy Grandy
Co-chair

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Environmental Assessment

Application

For

A Proposal To Extend

The Garnish – Point Rosie Trail

Towards

Marystown

October 7, 2010

NAME OF UNDERTAKING:

Enhance the viability of the Garnish - Point Rosie Trail by extending it up the west side of the Garnish River to the Marystown Garnish Pond Trail System.

Proponent:

- (i) Name of Applicant: **Garnish – Point Rosie Trail Assoc. Inc..**
Incorporation #: 37749-97
- (ii) Address: P. O. Box XX, Garnish, NL A0E 1T0
- (iii) Chief Executive Officer: Lyman Keeping
Official Title: Co - Chair
Address: P. O. Box 278, Garnish, NL A0E 1T0
Telephone No.: 709.826.2290
Fax: 709.826.4491
e-mail: egrandy@yahoo.com
- (iv) Principal Contact Person for Purposes of Environmental Assessment: Elroy Grandy
Official Title: Co-chair, Garnish Point Rosie Trail Assoc. Inc.
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THE UNDERTAKING:

(i) Nature of the Undertaking:

The Garnish – Point Rosie Trail is the most widely used on the Burin Peninsula. This is due to the high degree of maintenance on the trail bed, but more so because of the spectacular scenery along the entire twenty-four kilometers between Garnish and Point Rosie. Hundreds, if not thousands, bring ATVs by pickup and trailer to the trailhead at Garnish for this outdoor adventure.

The largest population base on the Burin Peninsula is in the Marystown area. That area has a limited number of kilometers of ATV trail, but an excessively large numbers, estimated at well over 2000, ATVers. This trail extension will build a trail from the Marystown Garnish Pond Trail system at Dix’s Head, down the west side of the Garnish River providing access to the Garnish Trail for several thousand ATVers. This will promote ATV sales and service in the Marystown area giving that sector of the local economy increased stability. It will also persuade many ATVers who are not presently part of any trail association to become dues paying members, providing more funds for Marystown and Garnish trail association to upgrade and maintain local trails.

Adding to the viability of the project is the new trail constructed by the Burin Peninsula Trailway Board between Point Rosie and Parker's Cove. This trail extension will provide access to all of that trail, a full day's ride, one way.

This trail extension will runs not far from the Garnish River, a major salmon destination on the Burin Peninsula. Yes, it will provide better access for anglers, but equally important, it will provide cheaper, more often and effective monitoring of the Garnish River by Fishery patrol officers.

New trail construction will include building of wooden picnic tables, gazebos and outhouses. These already exist on the existing part of the Garnish – Point Rosie Trail.

Purpose / Rationale / Need for the Undertaking:

The purpose of the Project is to create a recreational facility that will attract eco-tourists to the Burin Peninsula. This trail extension will take ATV and snowmobile riders, hikers, snowshoers, cross-country skiers on a multi-day journey that will allow them to travel from Marystown to Garnish, to the abandoned community of Point Rosie, on to the Powderhorn Mountain, to Boat Harbour and Parker's Cove. The extension will create trail that will be a whole day adventure on ATV or snowmobile, and many more for pedestrian traffic. We believe the spectacular scenery and attractions along the Garnish River, the Fortune Bay coastline, and in the wilderness, will persuade outdoor enthusiasts to visit the area, enhancing the economy of the Burin Peninsula in a major way.

Description of the Undertaking:

(i) Geographical Location:

- Description of the proposed site:

The trailhead for the Garnish – Point Rose Trail is at the Felix Scott Memorial Bridge, two kilometers from the mouth of the Garnish River. Waterline road runs a further two kilometers along by, and not far from the Garnish River. Start of construction will be at the end of Waterline Road. Required will be new trail up the west side of the River for 3.8 kilometers, to trail already approved for construction. (See Map) Trail construction will commence again at the end of the approved trail and continue for 4.6 more kilometers. End of new construction is at Dix's Head Road, a part of the Marystown - Garnish Pond System. The trail intersection is two kilometers from Garnish Pond. The actual trail distance of new construction will be 12 kilometers.

(ii) Physical Features:

- Major physical features of the undertaking

There are no man - made physical features along the proposed trail route.

- **Areas to be affected by the undertaking:**

Trail excavation will occur between Waterline Road in Garnish, and end at Dix's Head Road, two kilometers from the eastern edge of Garnish Pond.

- **a description of the physical and biological environment:**

The terrain along the trail consists mostly of barrens with some scattered areas of wetland. There are low ridges covered with trees and brush. The trail travels the length of the Garnish River, from Garnish Pond to Waterline Road, south of Garnish. There is only one major stream along the proposed route. It will need a small wooden bridge of approximately twenty feet long. There are moose, game birds and fish, particularly salmon and trout in the Garnish River and the nearby ponds. The trail route goes, at no place, closer than 0.25 kms to the Garnish River and not within 1.5 kilometers of Garnish Pond.

Construction:

- Approximate total construction period:

At estimated construction rate of 1 km per 3 days, trail excavation will require approximately forty days.

- **Proposed date of first physical construction-related activity on site:**

June 1, 2011

- **Potential sources of pollutants during the construction period:**

Possible pollutants include air pollution from excavator diesel engine.

Possible water pollution from the oil and fuel used by the excavator.

- **Potential causes of resource conflicts:**

There is no resource activity currently in process along the proposed trail route related to forestry. The trees are not of commercial quality for anything except firewood. The area is too remote to make harvesting of firewood economical as a business enterprise.

The major activity along the route is the sports salmon fishery. Hundreds of anglers presently travel over unapproved trails to favourite salmon holes. More

travel up an existing ATV trail on the eastern side of the Garnish River, presently part of the Garnish-Point Rosie Trail System. We expect the proposed trail extension will increase this angler traffic, decrease travel that accesses the River by tearing up the wilderness on unapproved trails, and increasing the patrols by fishery wardens year round.

(iii) Operation

- **Description of the Operation:**

Once the trail is complete, ATVs, snowmobiles, hikers, etc. will travel the trail, likely on a daily basis, during all four seasons.

- **Estimated period of operation:**

Operation will occur, for the most part, during daylight hours, year round. Peak travel season might well be during summer tourist season and fall hunting season. The completed trail will be accessible 24 / 7 weather permitting.

- **Potential sources of pollutants during operation periods:**

Fuel or oil leaks from ATVs or snowmobiles
Trash left behind by riders or hikers

- **Potential causes of resource conflicts:**

There are no industrial resource activities along the proposed trail route. Some might say that more casual travel on this wilderness trail might create a safety issue for the non-hunter trail user. However, during the past dozen years, there has never been mention of that issue on existing trails.

The area is already accessed by salmon fisherman, in lots of cases on unapproved ATV trails. This trail will go close enough to the Garnish River and so provide access for salmon fisherman, and fishery wardens, facilitating that sport and recreational activity in the area.

Occupations:

- estimate the number of employees for construction and operation of the project as well as expected duration of employment:

During Construction Period:

- 1 Excavator operator - 40 days
- 1 Project supervisor / carpenter - 45 days
- 3 labourers - 40 days

During Operation of the Trail

- 1 Trail Guide - 150 days annually
- 1 Maintenance supervisor - 60 days annually
- 2 Labourers - 60 days annually

- **Identify what work will be carried out by direct hiring and contracting/out**

Maintenance and repair work will be done by direct hire.

Use of excavator for repair and maintenance will be done by contracting out.

Identify how employment equity will be addressed to relative to age and gender.

All hiring will be done based on qualifications. Some preference will be shown to fitness and strength qualifications where heavy lifting is required as in maintenance and repair of bridges.

(iv) **Provide a bibliography of all project-related documents already generated:**

1. A Proposal To Enhance the Tourism Potential On The Burin Peninsula By Creating a Multi-use Ecotourist Trail Loop. (Available on Request.)
2. Long – Term Plan Document for A Proposal To Enhance the Tourism Potential On The Burin Peninsula By Creating a Multi-use Ecotourist Trail Loop. (Available on Request.)
3. Map showing Garnish – Point Rosie Trail, indicating extension applied for in this application.
4. Google Earth Map showing Garnish – Point Rosie Trail and Dixes Head Road.
5. Topographical Map showing route.

APPROVAL OF THE UNDERTAKING:

- **List the main permits, licences, approvals and other forms of authorization required for the undertaking, along with the names of the authorities responsible for issuing them**

1. Permit to Occupy – Crown Lands, Government of Newfoundland Labrador
2. Permit From Water Resources Division, Government of Newfoundland Labrador
3. Dept of Forestry, Government of Newfoundland Labrador

Schedule:

- **Indicate the earliest date and latest dates which project construction could commence**

Earliest date construction could begin is June 1, 2011. This date selected is to give water levels time to drop.

Latest Date construction could begin is Oct. 1, 2011. After this date, frost and winter storms could be delaying factors.

FUNDING:

- **If this undertaking depends upon a grant or loan of capital funds from a government agency, state the name and address of the department or agency from which the funding have been requested:**

The proposal for funding will likely be submitted by January 1, 2011. Request for funding will go to:

Marystown ATV Trail Association Inc.

Town of Marystown

Garnish – Point Rosie Trail Association Inc.

Town of Garnish

Dept. of Innovation, Trade and Rural Development (ITRD) – Government of Newfoundland Labrador

Tourism Culture and Recreation, – Government of Newfoundland Labrador

Human Resources Labour Employment(HRLE), Government of Canada, Ottawa

- **Estimate of the Capital Cost of the Undertaking:**

\$50 500

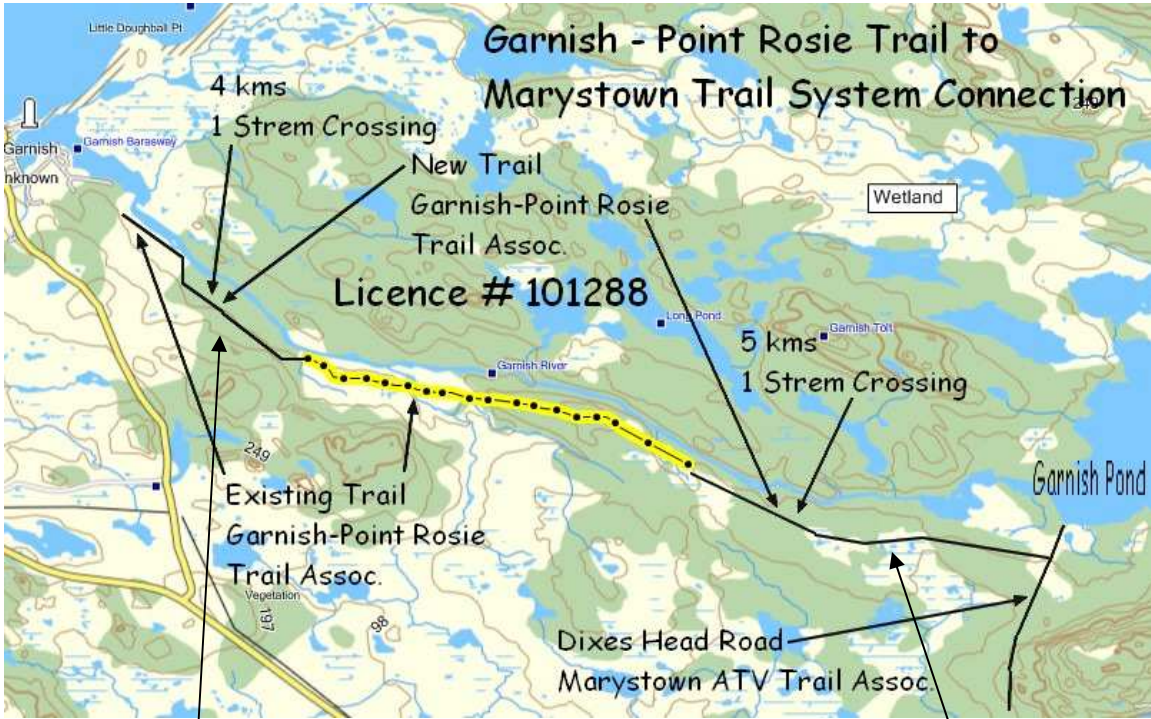
Date

Signature of Applicant

Elroy Grandy: Co Chair Garnish –
Point Rosie Trail Association Inc.

Appendix 1

GPS Software Map showing Garnish to Marystown Trail and Proposed Extension



Proposed Extension New Trail

Proposed Extension New Trail

Appendix 2

Google Earth Map showing Garnish to Marystown Trail at Present



Appendix 3

Crown Lands Map showing trail Extensions

