

# **ATV/ARGO Trails for Red Indian Lake Outfitting**

## **Proponent:**

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## **NOTICE OF UNDERTAKING:**

### **ATV/ARGO Trails for Outfitting company**

Red Indian Lake Outfitting and Tours, own and operate 6 lodges and 5 satellite\spike camps in the Buchans area or moose management area 13 and moose management area 12 in the electoral district of Grand falls/Windsor Buchans.

### **The Undertaking:**

Red Indian Lake Outfitting desires to register a series of trails that will allow us access to our several hunting lodges and satellite hunt camps and also vital hunt areas. These trails range in length from 1.5 km up to 20 km. A couple of trails will start at a point from an existing logging road and make a round trip back to the point of origin. Other trails will start at a point and require you to back track to the point of origin. We have spent considerable time with Crown Lands actually following these trails on satellite imagery maps to determine there exact route and then remapping them on topographic maps.

### **Nature of the Undertaking:**

To modify and manage a series of existing All-Terrain Vehicle trails in which RIL will use only their 8x8 Argos. RIL under no circumstance will use any other atv or heavy equipment, as the Argo has the minimum impact on the environment. Some of these trails will be used by locals as they have for 20 plus years we have no control over this.

These (ATV) trails are in the footprint of existing ATV (Argo) trails. Many of these trails have been used for many years by locals and the previous owners of the outfitting camps that Red Indian Lake has since acquired. The proposed ATV (Argo) trails will be two to three meters wide and will all begin at an existing access road, logging rd. highway etc....

These trails are in good condition and require No new cutting or rerouting; RIL will be making no major adjustments.

### **Purpose/Rationale/Need for Undertaking:**

The purpose of the proposed ATV trails is to allow access to our licensed outfitting camps, satellite camps and hunting areas. Red Indian Lake Outfitting and Tours require these trails to accommodate the 100 plus clients that hunt with Red Indian Lake

Outfitting annually. The only way to access these licensed hunting lodges is via a network of trails that were established by the original owners in the early 1990's. These trails will also play an important role in the management of the remote game populations as well as the Government has been stressing in the new game management plans.

These remote cabins and satellite camps are used primarily for hunting and are only in operation for approximately 8 weeks a year.

These trails are essential to our outfitting business as its the only way we can access our camps and hunting areas. Our clientele consist of American and Canadian hunters who spend considerable money traveling to and while in our province. These clients are looking for a wilderness experience and these trails allow us to offer this type of experience.

Red Indian Lake Outfitting employs 12-15 people from the area during this time as well as provide tremendous support to the local economy. We generate revenue for local businesses and services such as the local taxi company for airport pick ups and drop offs, the local butcher shop, grocery store, gas stn., hardware, taxidermist, hotels, gift shops, etc.....

### **Description of the Undertaking:**

1. Geographical Location: Refer to the attached Maps. The commencement of the ATV trails are located at various points in the Buchans area or in moose management areas 12 and area 13.

2. Physical Features: The access points of these trails vary from the end of an existing logging road know as mountain brook road this will allow access to our Saddle lake lodge. Another access route will follow the transmission line for 27.2 km that crosses the Buchans plateau (this is a licensed access trail established by NL Hydro from this 27.2 km point we will have access to the trail that will connect us to our Alex pond lodge. Our Hinds lake lodge is accessed via the old Hinds lake reservoir road at the southern end of Hinds lake. From this location we will access the trails that take us to the satellite camps that are a part of the hinds lake lodge. Also from the Hinds Lake road we can access our Eclipse Lake Lodge. These trails do cross sections of bog land however any section that requires fanning out will be corduroyed with only rough lumber or old logs and never will there be any pressure treated or tarred lumber used.

The topography in the areas of these trails consist of low shrub, bog land with high plateau dry land

Known wildlife in the area are moose, bear, caribou, rabbits, ptarmigan, grouse, foxes, lynx, coyotes, and various bird species. Non of these trails will allow access to Pine Martin habitat as none of them travel through heavy forested areas or old growth forest areas.

**SPECIAL NOTE:** NONE of these trails are used during any nesting season nor are they used during big game calving season. The trails will be used Sept, Oct, and minimum use in November.

Moose calf in April and May month, the woodland Caribou calf in June month, Birds including ducks and geese ,June and July and the fur bearers, late May and June

3. Construction activities. Activities will be minimal as these trails are existing trails, however Red Indian Lake Outfitting will repair certain areas and maintain the trails. To further reduce the environmental impact only Argo ATVs will be used. The ground pressure of an Argo is 2.1 PSI on tires and No heavy equipment will be used.

We intend to use logs/lumber in the recommended corduroy fashion on wet areas as stated before no pressure or tar treated lumber. Any fuel required for ATV and Chain saws will be carried in approved containers and stored at the owner's cabins until required. No resource conflicts are anticipated.

4. Operation: Construction activities will be done August/Sept From an ATV point of view this trail will be used only in the fall with some use during the summer months when camp maintenance is required however we try our best to conduct these activities during the winter months when the ground is frozen and snow covered.

5. Occupations: There will be construction employment as the repair work will be done by the guides employed by Red Indian Lake Outfitting and Tours. This will be minimal as the trails are in place we are aware that we will be required to place proper signage along the trail and also corduroy in deteriorating wet land areas. This should be accomplished with our full crew in app.. 1 week. Total cost, materials and labour 3-5000.00 dollars

6. Project Related Documents: Maps from Crown Lands showing the location of proposed trail routes.

### **Approval of the undertaking:**

The proponent will require the approval, permits, and licenses, etc. from the following provincial government agencies.

- Department of Environment and Conservation

- Crown Lands ATV trail permission to occupy trail.

**Schedule:**

Begin maintenance of the trails as soon as approvals and permits are provided. Target start date is late August early Sept 2015 with completion in the same year

**Funding:**

All costs are considered minimal and will be paid by the proponent.

Date: August 1, 2015

Fred Thorne, Red Indian Lake Outfitting and Tours