#### REGISTRATION FORM

# PURSUANT OF PART 10, ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

# SECTION 49 OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ACT

Name of Undertaking:

Forest Management Districts 17 & 18 Five Year Operating Plan 2013-2017 (Amendment)

Proponent:

- (i) Forestry and Agrifoods Agency Forestry Services Branch P.O. Box 250 Roddickton, NL A0K 4P0 (709) 457-2300
- (ii) Chief Executive Officer

Mr. James Evans Chief Executive Officer (709) 729-2356

(iii)Principal Contact Person

Mr. Ivan Downton
Director of Forest Ecosystem Management
(709) 637-2343

The Undertaking:

(i) Nature of Undertaking

Domestic timber harvesting amendment to the Five-Year Operating Plan for Forest Management Districts 17 & 18.

(ii) Purpose/Rationale/Need for Undertaking

The proposed extension to the Conche domestic cutting block (D18-26) is the largest of the proposed extensions. This is a rough remote area that can only be accessed by snowmobile during the winter months. The existing domestic block contains poor quality wood with few sawlogs. Over the past four years insect mortality and wind throw have further depleted the sawlog supply in this block. The proposed extension will give local residents from the community of Conche access to more sawlogs.

The proposed extension to the John Mahar Barren domestic cutting block (D17-06) will give local residents from Eddies Cove West direct access to their primary domestic cutting block without having to travel through a closed cutting zone. This will alleviate illegal cutting that take place along the primary access route.

The proposed extension to the Forkie Feeder domestic cutting block (D17-23) is necessary to accommodate the increased demand for fuelwood and sawlogs from this block. The Forkie Feeder area has a large number of cottages and local residents are taking advantage of their proximity to a fuel wood supply to obtain their domestic fuel wood requirements will spending time at their cottage.

### Description of Undertaking:

#### (i) Geographic Location

Planning Zone Eight encompasses Forest Management Districts 17 & 18. It extends from Gros Morne National Park in the south to the community of St. Anthony in the north. This harvesting amendment covers three domestic cutting blocks. The Conche domestic cutting block (D18-26) is adjacent to the community of Conche on the Northern Peninsula and has been used for domestic fuelwood requirements since the community was settled. The John Mahar Barren domestic cutting block (D17-06) is approximately two kilometres west from the community of Eddies Cove West on the Northern Peninsula. The Forkie Feeder domestic cutting block (D17-23) is on the southern side of Forkie Feeder Pond approximately eight kilometres south from the community of Hawkes Bay on the Northern Peninsula. The attached 1:50 000 topographic maps give a general overview of the area and exact location of the amendment.

## (ii) Physical Features

The Conche, John Mahar Barren and Forkie Feeder amendment covers 1,592 hectares of productive forest land and will provide access to an additional 52,000 m3 of timber.

## (iii)Operation

These areas will be harvested by domestic cutters for fuelwood and sawlogs. Most of the harvesting and all of the extraction will take place by snowmobile during the winter months. Based upon yearly domestic permit sales, the Forestry and Agrifoods Agency estimates that approximately 3,400 m3 of softwood and 380 m3 of hardwood will be harvested in these areas over the duration of this five year operating plan.

#### (iv) Occupants

There will be approximately 90 domestic wood cutters operating in these three domestic cutting blocks.

#### (v) Project Related Document

Forest Management District 17 & 18 Five Year Operating Plan; January 1, 2013 - December 31, 2017.

## (vi) Public Meetings

The Forestry Services Branch in Roddickton upon a request from local residents and the town council of Conche held a public meeting on possible extension to the Conche domestic cutting block. Local residents agreed with the proposed boundary extension.

Domestic Cutting Permits from the Forestry Services branch district offices in Roddickton and Port Saunders.

If approved, some of these activities are planned to commence in the winter of 2015-16. The Newfoundland Forest Service requests a decision within 45 days after the Minister of Environment receives the completed registration form.

James Evans, CEO

Forestry & Agrifoods Agency

Approval of the Undertaking:

Oct 16,2015

Schedule:

Date





