

NOV 15 2017

File # 2.1133.0224  
Reg. 1917

Francis Skeard, Director  
Department of Fisheries and Land Resources  
Forest Ecosystem Management  
P.O. Box 2006  
Corner Brook NL A2H 6J8

Dear Mr. Skeard:

**RE: Crown Zone 5 Five-Year Forestry Operating Plan Amendment (2016-2020)**

Your proposal has been reviewed by an interdepartmental screening committee and an opportunity to comment has been provided to the public as required by the Newfoundland and Labrador Environmental Protection Act, SNL 2002, cE-14.2. Please be advised that this undertaking is released from further environmental assessment subject to the following condition:

- The proponent must maintain a minimum 30-metre undisturbed vegetated buffer along all waterbodies and wetlands to protect sensitive riparian and aquatic species, and their habitat.

The Water Resources Management Division of this Department requires that you obtain a permit under the Water Resources Act, 2002, specifically Section 48 for any work in any body of water (including wetland) including but not limited to culverts, bridges, diversion channels, etc. Contact: Mr. Amir Ali Khan, Manager, Water Rights, Investigations, and Modelling Section (709) 729-2295.

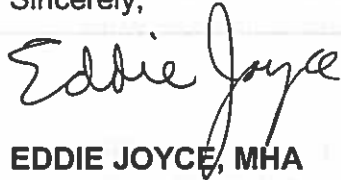
The Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment supports Environment and Climate Change Canada's recommendation that in order to avoid nest destruction and to accommodate the breeding season of migratory songbirds and waterfowl, operations should consider nesting locations between April 15<sup>th</sup> and August 15<sup>th</sup> in this region. However, as some species protected under the Migratory Birds Convention Act (MBCA) do nest outside of this time period, it is the responsibility of the proponent to ensure that project activities are in compliance with the MCBA and associated regulations. For further information, please contact the Canadian Wildlife Service at (709) 772-2154.

In February 2017, as a condition of release for four Crown Five-Year operating plans, a draft document that details a plan for the development and implementation of best management practices for avifauna management relative to forestry operations in Newfoundland and Labrador was required. I understand the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources has drafted and is implementing this plan. The best management practices developed under this planning process should be applied to this five-year operating plan amendment.

Although the undertaking, as proposed, is released from further environmental assessment, it is still subject to other legislative requirements. A summary of the comments received from government agencies during the review is attached to provide an indication of likely applicable permits, approvals and legislative requirements. Please note that you must comply with all relevant legislation and obtain all necessary permits and approvals. You are required to inform this Department of any proposed significant changes to the undertaking.

If you have any questions concerning these matters, please contact Dr. Susan Squires, Director, Environmental Assessment Division, at (709) 729-0673 or [susansquires@gov.nl.ca](mailto:susansquires@gov.nl.ca).

Sincerely,



**EDDIE JOYCE, MHA**  
District of Humber-Bay of Islands  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Environment

Attachment

cc. Jerry Dean, MHA  
Exploits