

NOV 10 2017

File # 2.7139.0187
Reg. #1929

Mr. Blair Snook
330 Main St.
Sunnyside, NL.
A0B 3J0

Dear Mr. Snook:

RE: Big Island Pond ATV Trail Extension – Registration 1929

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 shall prepare and submit an environmental protection plan (EPP) for the construction and long term maintenance of the trail, the location and design of stream crossings, and the location and design of wetland crossings to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Environment for approval before the start of any site specific construction. It should be demonstrated in the EPP that the trail can be maintained in such a manner that it will not adversely impact riparian and aquatic species and habitat. GPS coordinates of the final trail route must be included.

You are encouraged to consult with the Water Resources Management Division of this department and the Wildlife Division, Department of Fisheries and Land Resources prior to submitting the required EPP in order to ensure that all appropriate mitigations have been considered. Please contact the Water Rights, Investigations, and Modelling Section at (709) 729-2295 and the Wildlife Division at (709) 637-2062 for further information.

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 15th and August 15th 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.

Although the undertaking, as proposed, is released from further environmental assessment, it is still subject to other legislative requirements. A detailed 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 also 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.

Sincerely,



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

Attachment

cc: Mark Browne, MHA
Placentia West - Bellevue