

**Environmental Registration Document:**

**Project Title: Terra Nova ATV Trail**

**Submitted to:**

Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Municipal Affairs and  
Environment – Environmental Assessment Division

**Submitted By:**

Fred Thomas Cox

## Proponent Information

**Proponent:** Fred Thomas Cox

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A1M 2V8

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## The Undertaking

### **Name of the Undertaking**

The title of the Undertaking is the Terra Nova ATV Trail.

### **Need/Purpose/ Rationale**

The purpose of this ATV trail is to provide access to a recreational cottage present in the area. Access to the cottage has been an issue, and this ATV trail will help provide more efficient access to the area.

## Description of the Undertaking

### **Geographic Location**

The proposed trail will be approximately 6 km in length and 10 feet in width and will be located approximately 2.5 km west from the Town of Terra Nova. The access point to the trail will be located off the existing Newfoundland T'railway railbed. The crown land application document (Appendix A) shows the approximate location of the area that will be altered to create the trail and a map of the proposed trail design is attached in Appendix B.

### **Physical Features**

The proposed trail will run approximately 6 km through a mixed terrain of forested and open exposed areas. The project is located within the Central Newfoundland Forest Ecoregion, between Terra Nova National Park and the Bay du Nord Wilderness Reserve. This ecoregion has, on average, the highest summer and lowest winter temperatures in the province, and experiences a low amount of precipitation, making it prone to forest fires during dry spells in the summer. As a result, fire stands of white birch and black spruce are common throughout the area. This region has a higher density of forests than most areas of the island,

and bogs are a common occurrence in certain areas. Other common vegetation species include sheep laurel, balsam fir, red pine, and trembling aspen. Terrestrial wildlife species in this area include moose, hare, mink, beaver, black bear, and lynx. Bird species include gray jay, grouse, osprey, owl, chickadees, warblers, sparrows, robins, Canada goose, and ducks. Aquatic and marine life include Atlantic salmon, brook trout, smelt, three and nine-spine sticklebacks, and eels. Pine marten is known to have habitat within the area of Terra Nova National Park, and caribou can migrate into this area during certain times of the year.

## **Construction**

Construction of the trail will consist of brush clearing with chain saws and axes, and the use of one small excavator for grubbing the trail. It is anticipated that there will be no major excavation activities related to the construction of the trail, other than the removal of some trees. As the trail is currently designed, we will try and build it adjacent to the tree line to avoid having to remove trees. If there are points where we cannot follow the tree line, then where possible, we will try to follow a natural path within forested areas to further reduce the potential for tree removal. The only potential sources of pollutants that we can think of during construction is from a hydrocarbon spill from either the use of a chainsaw or from the excavator. To reduce the risk of environmental damage if a spill did happen, we will have spill kits available on hand and will be able to use them if a spill does happen. We will then take the used absorbents and store them for removal later at an approved site. Air emissions from the use of the excavator is also a potential source of pollutant, however, due to the good air quality in the area and the low volume of emissions, we do not expect the temporary use of an excavator to have an effect on the environment. This region does not appear to hold a high value for logging or mineral exploration, and so we don't expect any land use conflicts.

We will apply to the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources – Forestry Division for an operator permit before undertaking brush cutting activities, and if construction activities are planned to take place during a time of a high forest fire index, then we will follow provincial guidance for brush clearing during those times. Any trees or blowdowns that need to be removed as part of trail construction can be re-used to provide a trail bed for any wet or muddy areas that we might come across during construction.

If the trail design requires the crossing of a waterbody, we will contact the Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment – Water Resources Division, to determine whether a permit to alter a body of water is needed for the crossing. We will maintain at least a 30m buffer of natural vegetation for any construction work that takes place near a stream or another body of water, as is required by the province for the responsible protection of watercourses.

If tree removal must occur, we will try to avoid areas of old growth forest, which is preferred habitat for pine marten.

We would like to commence trail construction as soon as possible in spring 2018.

## **Operation**

The trail will be used recreationally as an access trail to a residential cottage during short times of the year. Other than emissions from an ATV, we don't expect any other sources of pollution from the operation of the trail, and the lower volume of use of the trail lowers the risk of pollutants even further. This is a relatively unoccupied region with no mineral exploration or logging interests, so we do not anticipate resource conflicts during operation

## **Occupations**

This trail will be constructed solely by us, and it is expected that 1-2 people will be required to do the work. We have all the equipment necessary and we will not be contracting out any activities or hiring any additional employees for this work.

## **Approval of the Undertaking**

To date, no licences, permits or approvals related to this proposed project have been required or granted. However, if this registration is approved and released by the Environmental Assessment Division, and crown title is granted from the Lands Branch of the Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment, we will apply to the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources – Forestry Division for the required brush clearing that needs to occur. We will also notify Water Resources Division to determine whether a permit to alter a body of water is required.

## **Schedule**

Pending on approvals from the provincial government, the work is expected to start as soon as possible in spring to summer 2018.

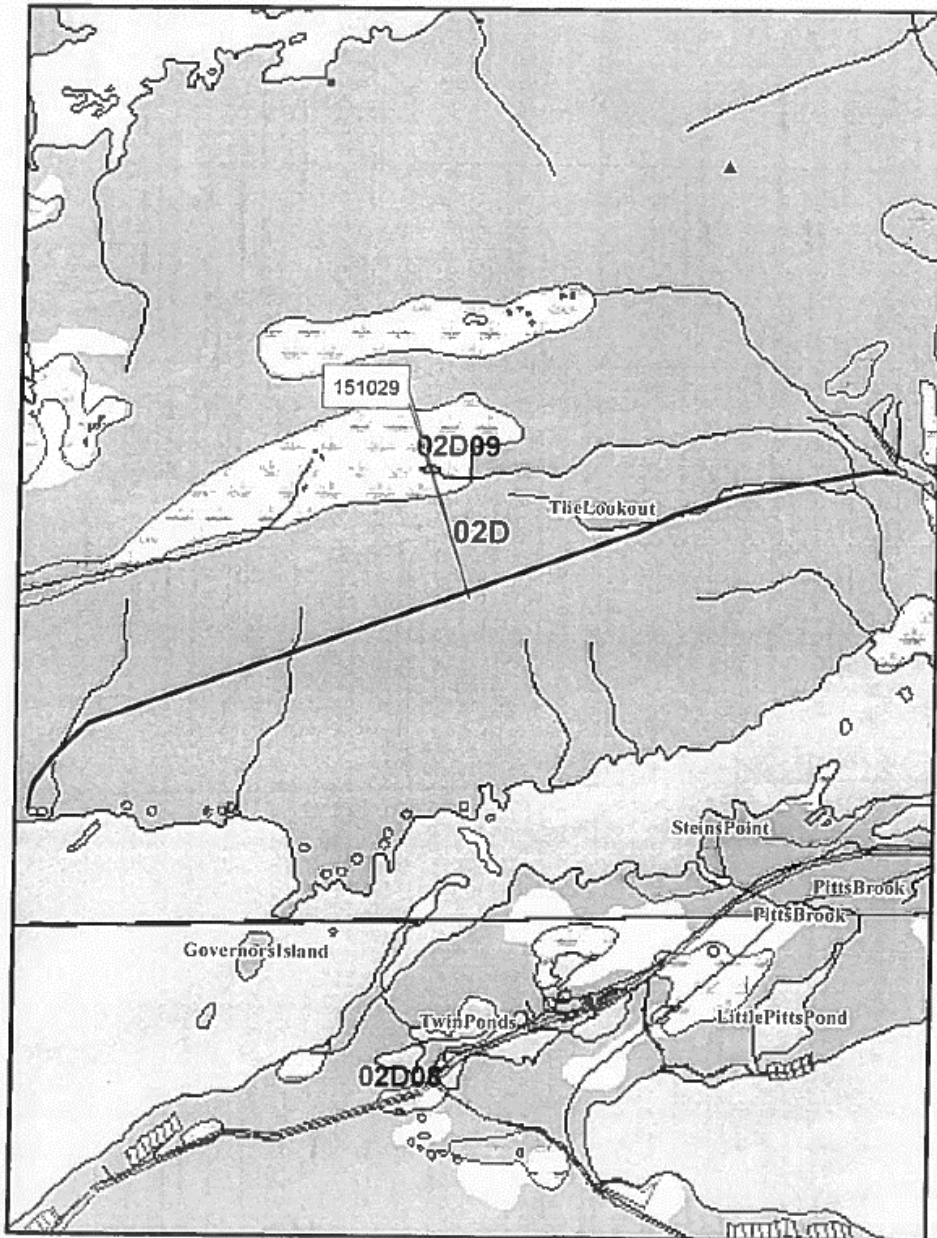
## **Funding**

There is no funding expected or anticipated for this project, and all costs are the responsibility of the proponent.

# **APPENDIX A**

Crown Title Application to NL Lands Branch

# Government of Newfoundland & Labrador Department of Municipal Affairs



### NOTE TO USERS

The information on this map was compiled from land surveys registered in the Crown Lands Registry.

Since the Registry does not contain information on all land ownership within the Province, the information depicted cannot be considered complete.

The boundary lines shown are intended to be used as an index to land titles issued by the Crown. The accuracy of the plot is not sufficient for measurement purposes and does not guarantee title.

Users finding any errors or omissions on this map sheet are asked to contact the Crown Titles Mapping Section, Howley Building, Higgins Lane, St. John's, Newfoundland.

Users finding error or omissions can contact the Crown Titles Mapping Section by telephone at 729-0051. Some titles may not be plotted due to Crown Lands volumes missing from the Crown Lands registry or not plotted due to insufficient survey information.

The User hereby indemnifies and holds harmless the Minister, his officers, employees and agents from and against all claims, demands, liabilities, actions or cause of actions alleging any loss, injury, damages and matter (including claims or demands for any violation of copyright or intellectual property) arising out of any missing or incomplete Crown Land titles and the Minister, his or her officers, employees and agents shall not be liable for any loss of profits or contracts or any other loss of any kind as a result.

For inquiries please contact a Regional Lands Office, Corner Brook - 637-2390, Gander - 256-1400, Clarenville - 466-4074, St. John's - 729-2654, Goose Bay - 896-2488.



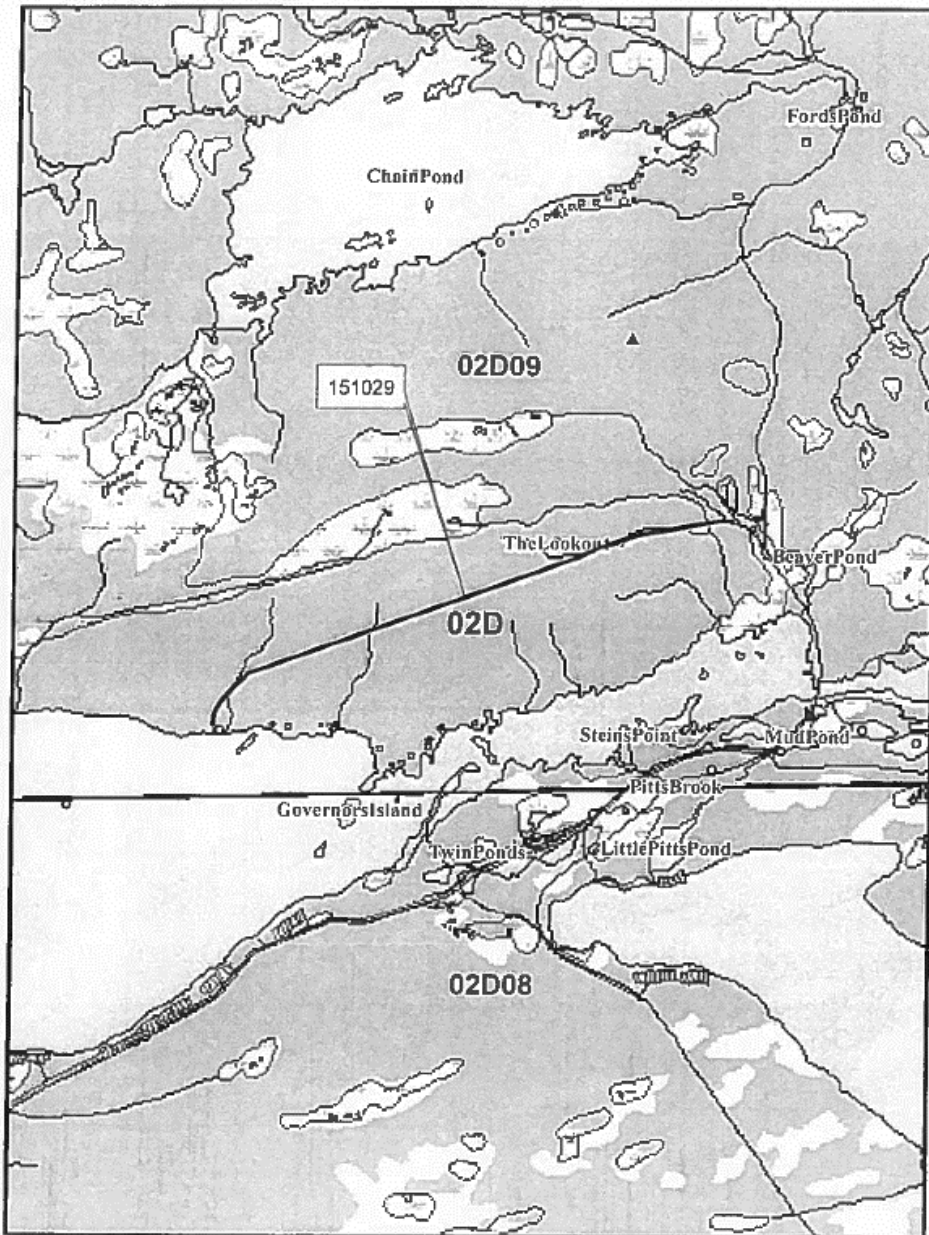
Crown Lands Administration Division

Scale 1:30,000

Compiled on February 20, 2017



**Government of Newfoundland & Labrador  
Department of Municipal Affairs**



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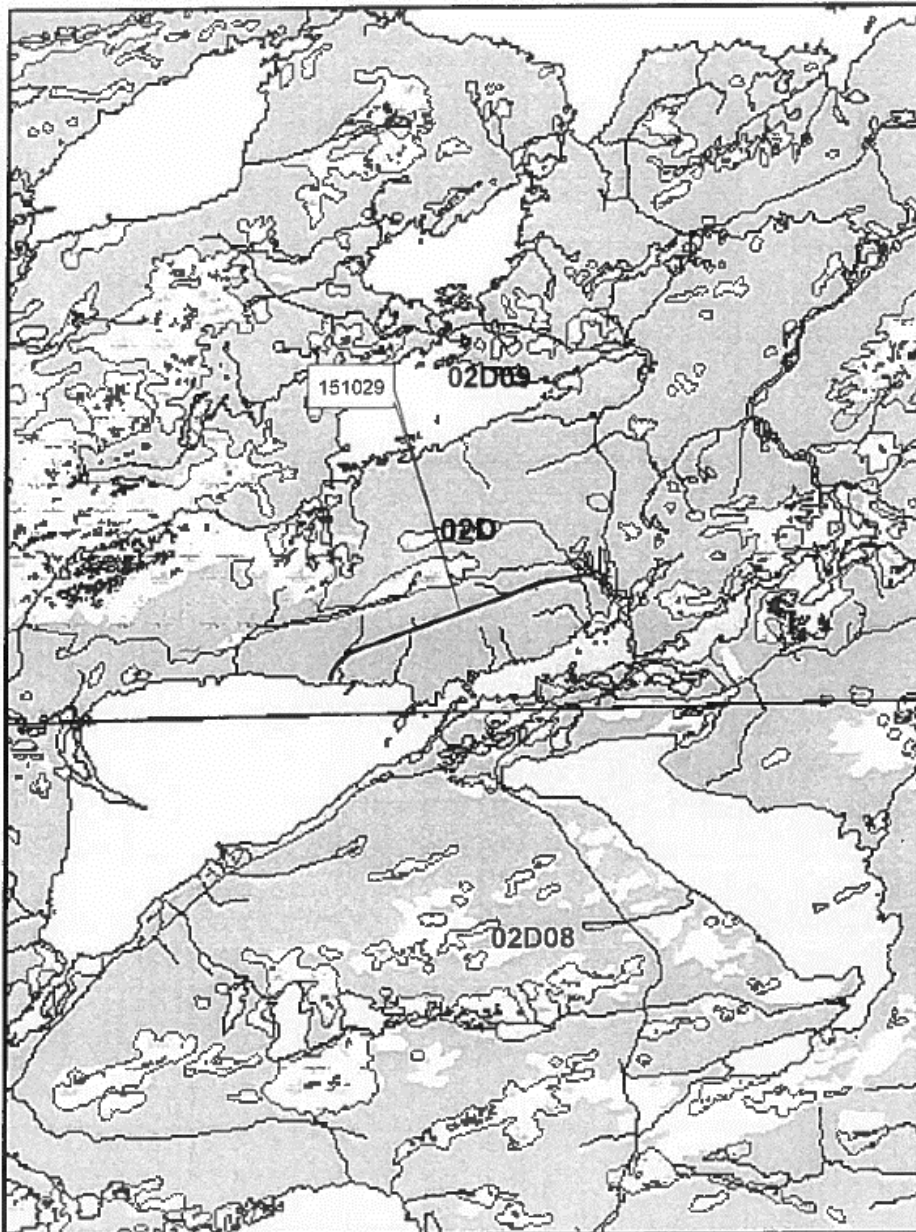
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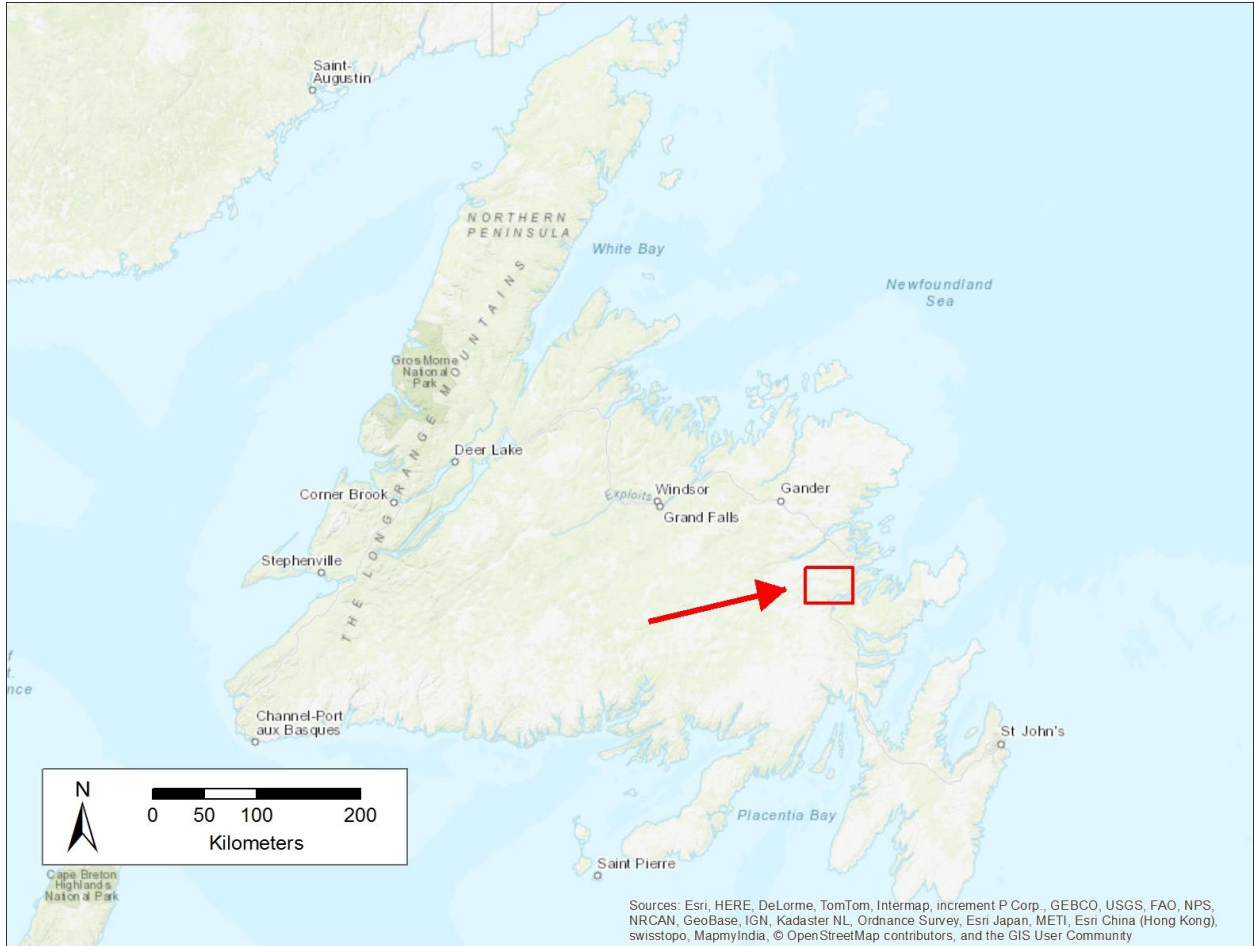
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# **APPENDIX B**

Map of Proposed ATV Trail



Map of Proposed Trail

