

SEP 26 2019

File # 2.7139.0197  
Reg. #2041

Nelson Chatman  
P.O. Box 439  
5 High Street  
Grand Falls-Windsor, NL  
A2A 2J8

Dear Mr. Chatman:

**RE: Grand Falls-Windsor Zip Line and Trails – Registration 2041**

Your proposal has been reviewed by an interdepartmental environmental assessment screening committee and an opportunity to comment has been provided to the public as required by Part X of 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 conditions:

- The proponent and or operator are not to restrict forestry activities in the areas adjacent to the proposal.
- No vegetation clearing is to occur within 800 metres (m) of a bald eagle or osprey nest during the nesting season (March 15 to July 31) and 200m during the remainder of the year. The 200m buffer also applies to all other raptor nests (e.g. Northern Goshawk, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Merlin, American Kestrel, Great-horned Owl, Boreal Owl, Northern Saw-whet Owl). The location of any raptor nest site must be reported to the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources, Wildlife Division. For further information, please contact the Wildlife Division at (709) 637-2025.
- The Forestry and Wildlife Branch, Department of Fisheries and Land Resources, requires a minimum 50m naturally vegetated buffer to be maintained along the Exploits River and a 30m buffer along wetlands, streams and waterbodies that appear on a 1 :50,000 topo map to protect sensitive riparian and aquatic species, and their habitat.
- There are a number of rare plants located within the proposed footprint of this development (see attached map). The Forestry and Wildlife Branch requires that if any development is to take place within these areas, the proponent must contact the Wildlife Division prior to commencing work to ensure that proper surveys and/or mitigations are put in place. The Forestry and Wildlife Branch requires that if the proponent wishes to do any development, such as the installation of walking trails or

zip line towers, within the required 30m buffer along wetlands/waterbodies or within the 50m buffer along the Exploits River, then a detailed project development design must be submitted and approved by the Wildlife Division. The project development design must clearly show where the development is proposed and how the integrity of the buffer will be maintained.

- The proponent is required to hire an archaeologist to conduct a Historic Resource Impact Assessment. Such assessment will include an archaeological survey of selected areas within the development area to determine what, if any, historic resources are present, and to undertake any mitigative measures to the satisfaction of the Provincial Archaeology Office. For further information please contact (709) 729-2462.

The Water Resources Management Division of my department requires that you obtain a permit for any work in any body of water (including wetland) including but not limited to culverts, bridges, diversion channels, etc. You must also apply for and obtain a permit should any infilling within fifteen (15) metres of a body of water be required. For further information, please contact the Water Resources Management Division at 709-729-2295.

The Forestry Division of the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources advises that you are required to obtain a Commercial Harvesting Permit prior to any harvesting or timber removal in the area. An Operating Permit is required prior to the start of any work during the forest fire season and a permit to burn must be obtained to ignite a fire on or within 300 meters of forest land. For further information, please contact the Bishop's Falls District Forestry Office at (709) 258-5334.

Service NL advises that zip lines are required to be registered, inspected and are not permitted to operate without a valid certificate under the Amusement Rides and Elevating Devices Regulations. In addition, approvals may also be required for fire and life safety, building accessibility, and any non-municipal water and sewerage systems. For further information, please contact Service NL at (709) 292-4206/4259.

The Department of Natural Resources advises that the western section of this project conflicts with a Newfoundland Power Easement area. These easements must be clear of buildings or structures that may restrict access for repair or installation of new equipment. For further information, please contact the Department of Natural Resources at (709) 729-5811.

Environment and Climate Change Canada recommends 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 (709) 772-4221.

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans advises that you are required to self-assess using the DFO "Projects Near Water website located at <http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/index-eng.html>. For further information, please contact the Fisheries Protection Program at (709) 772-4140.

Transport Canada recommends that if you have questions concerning the zip line towers and markings, please contact Civil Aviation Services at 1-800-305-2059.

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 Joanne Sweeney, Director (A), Environmental Assessment Division, at (709) 729-0673 or [joannesweeney@gov.nl.ca](mailto:joannesweeney@gov.nl.ca).

Sincerely,



**DERRICK BRAGG, MHA**  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Environment  
District of Fogo Island-Cape Freels

cc: Hon. Chris Tibbs, MHA  
Grand Falls-Windsor - Buchans