

Environmental Assessment

Humber Village Forage Production

Minister of Environment and Climate Change

PO Box 8700

St. John's NL, A1B 4J6

Attention: Director of Environmental Assessment

Submitted By

Briarside Affair Limited

Corner Brook, NL

Table of Contents

NAME OF UNDERTAKING	1
PROPONENT	1
THE UNDERTAKING	1
DESCRIPTION OF THE UNDERTAKING	2
APPROVAL OF THE UNDERTAKING	4
SCHEDULE	4
FUNDING	5
APPENDIX 1	6
APPENDIX 2	7

NAME OF UNDERTAKING

Humber Village Forage Production

PROPONENT

- (I) Name of Corporate Body: Briarside Affair Limited
- (II) Address: 25 Poplar Road, Corner Brook, NL, A2H 4T6
- (III) Chief Executive Officer:
 - a. Name: Dr Michael Tipple
 - b. Official Title: President

- (IV) Principal Contact Person for purposes of environmental assessment
 - a. Name: Dr Michael Tipple
 - b. Official Title: President
 - c. Telephone No: 709-634-3537
 - Email Address: humbervalleyvet@hotmail.com

THE UNDERTAKING

- (I) Name of the undertaking:

Humber Village Forage Production

- (II) Purpose/Rationale/Need for the Undertaking:

This project is to obtain crown land which will be developed to support forage crop growth and harvest. This harvest will provide locally grown forage crop, comprised of Timothy (36%), Alfalfa (45%), clover (12%) and fescue (7%). Any unsuitable land within this parcel of property will be covered with ground cover for stabilizer growth. This ground cover hydroseeding blend is low maintenance but protects the soil surface and prevents sediment from erosion. This formula allows for rapid germination and accelerated plant growth also for its nitrogen fixation characteristics, eliminating nitrogen fertilizer additions, their strong characteristics of weed suppression, and their root design reducing erosion. The formula consists of: 40% creeping red fescue, 25% annual ryegrass, 20% tall fescue, 15% timothy.

DESCRIPTION OF THE UNDERTAKING

(I) Geographical Location:

Please refer to Appendix 1 and 2 which show the location of the project and surrounding communities. The properties east of and adjoining to this application are a maturing apple tree orchard comprised of 500 trees (lease 157256), along with 200 apple trees plus 5+ acres of forage crop on Briarside Affair Limited farm property. The property is south of and adjacent to Bowater Road, thus access can be obtained anywhere along. West of the property is another Briarside Affair property.

(II) Physical Features:

Currently Briarside Affair Limited owns 13+ acres + 6 acres of crown land (application # 157256) which has 700 apple trees and 5+ acres of forage crop between the two properties. There is a 1.5km roadway (Bowater Road) to the property which is maintained by the company. There are no buildings required for this business. If so, it would only consist of a shed-like building for holding supplies. Briarside Affair Limited has a 52' x 52' dry storage unit for machinery and harvested forage crop. The current property for which this application is regarding (5.53 hectares, Crown Lands Applicant No. 161372) is treed with mature forest, relatively flat but does have some gentle slopes, large evergreen and deciduous forest with transient wildlife such as moose, rabbits, fox and black bear. Soil analysis from land management division deemed it to be most suitable for forage growth. This property is not connected to any bodies of water, transient wildlife would include moose, bear and rabbits. The Humber River is located approximately 115 meters southeast of the project boundary.

(III) Construction:

Land preparation for this application would commence immediately and continue until completion which would be approximately 30 days. Land preparation will include removal of forested trees (5.53 ha), soil tilling and aeration, along with supplementation of any topsoil (from our stock pile reserve on Briarside property) for areas that have minimal soil depth. There will be no resource conflicts as JCL Construction Limited is hired to provide the necessary services to complete the work, in addition to using our own private equipment on hand. Land preparation will occur during the work day (8:00 am to 5:00 pm), therefore any noise associated with the operation of equipment will be commenced by 5:00 pm. Equipment will travel to site and not leave until land prep is finalized, thus minimizing traffic flow. We are mindful of potential pollutants during this project. Fuel spillage is a potential source of pollution, however, there are proactive steps in place which could minimize this: (1) Proper storage and handling of fuel and oil (which is off-site), (2) Regular maintenance and inspection of equipment. In spite of taking these steps to minimize spills, accidents do occur. Should an accidental spill occur, being prepared to respond

quickly is key. Clean-up preparedness requires: (1) prior training in clean-up procedures; (2) immediate availability of clean-up (spill kit). This property is greater than one hundred meters away from any water ways, nearest river is Humber River and its approximately 115 meters away. Harvested trees will be kept and used on site for fencing, bark and leaves mulched for organic matter put back into the soil.

(IV) Operation:

The operation will be very environmentally friendly. Minimal to no wastes and those that are produced will be organic wastes that can go back into the soil for nutrient content, soil health, pH and fertility. Forage roots promotes soil health by providing ground cover, reduces erosion, improves water infiltration and retention, and helps with nutrient cycling especially on clay soils. This results in improved soil drainage and water use by subsequent crops, and can help producers get on the land earlier in spring when excess moisture is often an issue. Humber River will not be affected by this project. Once the operation is fully mature, it will be a self-sufficient operation. Ideally this operation will be seeding the forage grass June 1st or sooner (weather permitting) - seeding rates will be doubled or tripled (need higher volumes because of Newfoundland soils and temperatures), typically germination time will be anywhere from 8-20 days, (hotter temperatures may allow for the seeds to germinate and sprout more quickly). Pending summer weather, harvesting will occur late July into early August. Harvest will be square bales thus eliminating plastic wrap, and stored in Briarside operations storage unit then sold for livestock feed. Pesticides will not be required nor used. Fertilizers will be used but do not require a license or permit, however two staff members of Briarside operations do hold a current pesticide license with the Newfoundland and Labrador government. We have implemented two effective methods for weed control in this new forage stand. (1) Mechanical weed control. Clipping the field in late June or early July which will remove the weed flowers and allow for forage growth. This will provide some control of annual weeds but will not control perennial weeds. (2) Cultural weed control to promote growth of a healthy, vigorous forage crop which will out-compete weeds. All practices that improve crop growth will help reduce weed populations! thus not relying on herbicides.

Occupations:

Construction work will be completed by a team of individuals. Land preparation and clearing will be completed by JCL Construction Limited, contractors hired by Briarside Affair Limited will complete fencing and any further land preparation.

Forage crop planting will be completed by Briarside Affair Limited and its employees (one of which is a graduate of the Agricultural program hosted by College of North Atlantic, Corner Brook campus). Briarside family of companies has TWO permanent full-time employees and ONE part-time employee currently working on the existing properties. Based on the National Occupational Classification, we have the following occupations:

0821 – Apple Grower

8611 – Harvesting Laborer – Apple picker

8612 – Landscaping and grounds maintenance Laborer - Landscape Laborer

These workers are directly hired by the company and not contracted out. The work prepping the land for the forage will be contracted out. If further hiring is required, individuals for the positions, all aspects will be considered, including (but not limited to) age, gender, and race, but overall considerations will be the individuals' experience.

(V) Project Related Documents:

An application for Crown titles for the project has been submitted to Crown Lands Office (Applicant No. 161372, Property ID # 10131834).

APPROVAL OF THE UNDERTAKING

Necessary permits, licenses, approvals and other forms of authorization will be obtained as per the guidance of the government departments. Pesticides will not be required nor used (please refer to the operations section for weed control). Fertilizers will be used but do not require a license or permit. Although pesticides will not be used nor required, two staff members of Briarside operations do hold a current pesticide license with the Newfoundland and Labrador government.

SCHEDULE

Briarside Affair Property and the current agri. lease #157256 has work completed (700 apple trees planted) in addition to 5+ acres of forage crop and a storage unit for harvested forage crop. Once the crown land is obtained, work will commence right away on said land. The reason for this selected timeframe is that land needs to be prepped to allow for the planting of the forage crop.

FUNDING

The company is not dependent on the external funding for this project to move forward. Start-up costs the first year would be expected to be approximately thirty thousand dollars, this includes seed purchase, land preparation and machinery/equipment hire.

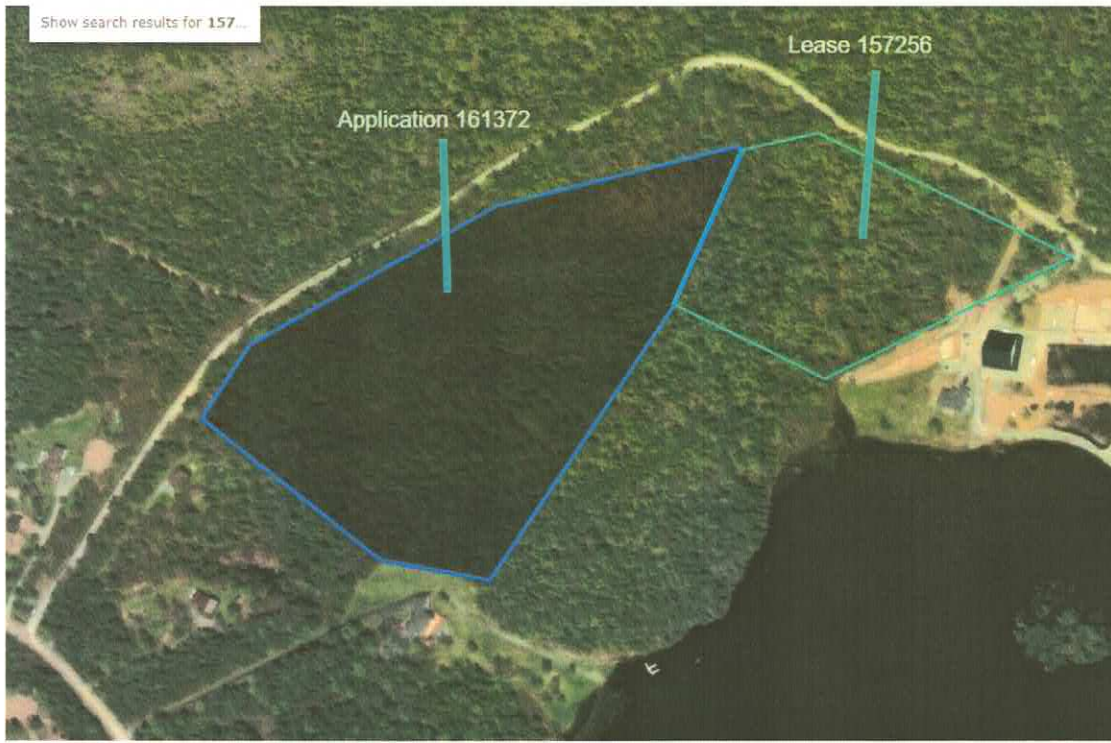
Sept 6, 2023

Date



Signature of Chief Executive Officer

Appendix 1: Location of the Project



Appendix 2 Satellite Image of the Project Site and Surrounding Communities

