

**ENVIRONMENTAL
ASSESSMENT REGISTRATION**

**FOR GORDON'S FARM
(Maccles Ridge Ranch)**

**AGRICULTURE LAND
DEVELOPMENT**

NAME OF UNDERTAKING: Agricultural Land Development Little Stag Pond Area**PROPONENT:**

- i. **Name of Corporate Body:** Gordon's Farm/Maccles Ridge Ranch
- Address:** [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- ii. **Chief Executive Officers:**
- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Name: | Robert/Dianne Gordon |
| Official Title: | Directors |
| Address: | Same as above |
| Telephone: | [REDACTED] |
- iii. **Principal Contact for purpose of Environmental Assessment:**
- | | |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Name: | Dianne Gordon |
| Official Title: | Director |
| Address: | Same as above |
| Telephone: | [REDACTED] |
| Email: | [REDACTED] |

THE UNDERTAKING:

- i. **Nature of the Undertaking:** Gordon's Farm/Maccles Ridge Ranch is planning to expand their pasture land to include hayland. The undertaking involves the expansion of acreage from 14.1 hectares, to approximately 53.06 hectares . The additional Land 38.96 hectares will be used to provide forage for the existing and expanding beef herd.
- ii. **Purpose\Rationale\Need for undertaking:** This project aims to increase the productive land base of Gordon's Farm to become self-sufficient in forage production to meet the need of their Grass Fed Beef Herd.

DESCRIPTION OF THE UNDERTAKING:i. **Geographical Location:**

The general location of this project is just off route 310 (Exit 25) in the local Maccles Lake Road (Little Stag Pond) area just outside the jurisdiction of Glovertown. The area (project) to be developed is shown on photo-maps which are included in the Appendix.

ii. **Physical Features:**

The development of forage fields will require the removal of all vegetation, removal of stumps and stones, leveling, addition of soil amendments and planting of forage crops. Forage crops will include grasses, legumes and grains. There will be permits for buildings or farm infrastructure to hold animal forage applied for within 3 years, which is associated with this project.

Within the agriculture lease area all arable soil will be developed for forage production. Areas that are poorly drained, as well as buffers along roadway, will be maintained in their natural condition and will not be developed.

The topography of the area is good mineral soil separated by poorly drained soils, a few rocky deposits and organic areas. The predominant forest cover is a mix of balsam fir and black spruce. An assessment of the area indicates that there is approximately 50% of the total area that is unsuitable for forage crops. This leaves us with approximately 19.48 hectares of the project area suitable for production.

iii. Construction:

Land Development will begin once the approved lease area has been surveyed and title issued. Access to the land will be from existing land holding of Gordon's Farm/Maccles Ridge Ranch.

There are no significant sources of pollution anticipated during construction. All work will be completed according to the Environmental Farm Practice Guidelines for Livestock Producers (2002, Department of Fisheries and Land Resources) as well as conditions set out in the leased document. There are no potential causes of resource conflicts identified. The area of Crown Land applied for is being processed through the normal Crown Land referral process and all relevant government departments will have the opportunity to identify land use conflicts.

During construction and operation a 30 meters (100 feet) a naturally vegetated buffer will be maintained along all roadways, and wetlands to protect sensitive species and their habitat.

iv. Operation:

Once the land is cleared, all arable land will be put into forage production on an ongoing basis for the life of the farm. Depending on the specific crop this will include the regular addition of soil amendments such as limestone, fertilizers and cow manure. Forage crops will be harvested two to three times per season with multiple manure applications (two or three applications annually). Normal farm operations include the use of agriculture herbicides including broad spectrum defoliant. All herbicides are approved for agricultural use and are applied by a licensed applicator, all Federal and Provincial regulations regarding the use of pesticides will be followed.

All farm operations in the project area will be carried out according to the Environmental Farm Practice Guidelines for Livestock Producers (2002, Department of Fisheries and Land Resources) as well as the developmental conditions set out within the lease document to ensure that there are no impacts on the environment and on the surrounding area. A 30 meter (100 feet) naturally vegetated buffer along all roadways and wetlands will be maintained in order to protect sensitive species and their habitat. To minimize odor, manure will be applied on the surface of the cleared land and cultivated into the soil after applying the manure as per standard farm practices. No manure will be spread within 75 meters (250 feet) of surface drainage. Riparian zones will be maintained at the end of fields to further restrict run off. We are not in any residential zone.

V. Occupations:

Development Phase:

It is anticipated that the majority of land clearing required will be done by Gordon's Farm/Maccles Ridge Ranch, as the owners currently own a 320 Cat excavator, with a root rake and thumb attachment, for this purpose.

Vi. Project Related Documents:

- Appendix A: General Location 1:50,000 photo-image
deeded property outlined in yellow(ready to rock pick and seed).
- General Location 1:10,000 photo-image (extension)
- General Location 1:50,000 photo-image
- General Location 1:100,000 photo image

APPROVAL OF THE UNDERTAKING:

1. Crown Lands Lease - Department of Municipal Affairs - This project is listed as Application number 159640
2. Approval of submission to to Environmental Assessment - Department of Environment and Conservation
3. Pesticide Applicators License - Department of Environment and Conservation
4. Cutting Permit - Department of Fisheries and Land Resources

SCHEDULE:

The development of fields is to begin in the summer of 2022, when site conditions are favorable. Land Development will take place over approximately five to seven years during the normal construction season (May1st to November 15th) for the Maccles area. In consultation with the Canadian Wildlife Service,it is Recommended that the majority of land clearing would commence in the late summer to minimize the impact on nesting birds.

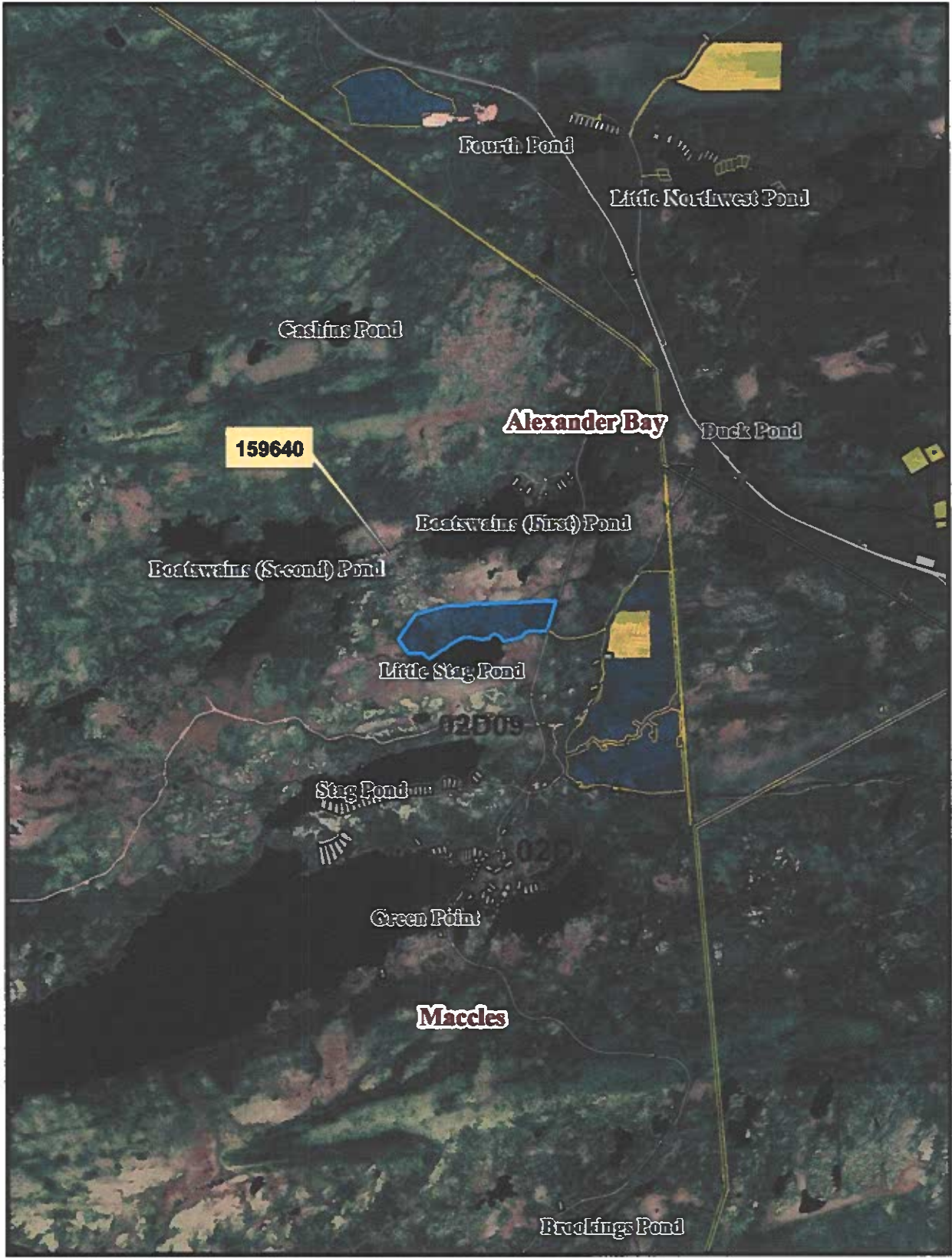
FUNDING:

This project will be funded by Gordon's Farm and is not dependent on outside funding. Gordon's Farm will Apply for funding through the Provincial Agrifoods Assistance Program and Canadian Agricultural Partnership if available but the project is not dependent on this funding.

Signature of Chief Executive Officer: Robert Gordon

Signature of Second Executive Officer: Diaine Gordon

Date: Oct 18/23



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 Lands Inquiries Line by telephone at 1-833-891-3249 or by email at CrownLandsInfo@gov.nl.ca.

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Scale 1:50,000
Compiled on October 5 2022



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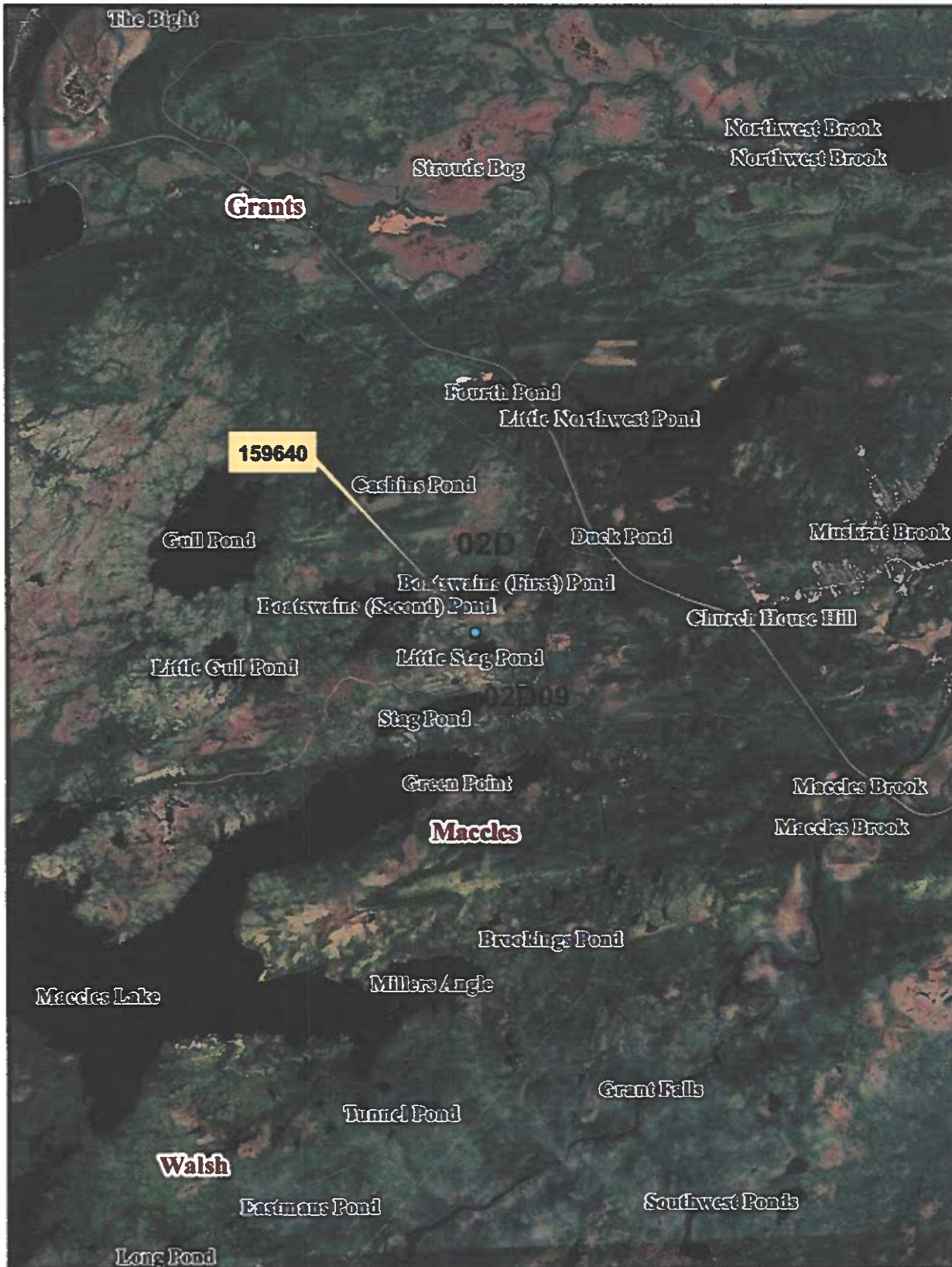
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Scale 1:10,000
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