

COURTESY TRANSLATION

Québec, June 17, 2010

Madam Nathalie Normandeau
Minister
Ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune
5700, 4^e Avenue Ouest, A 308
Québec (Québec) G1H 6R1

Subject: 2008-2013 modified General Forest Management Plan of FMU 26-64

Dear Madam Minister,

On February 22, 2010, the General Director of the Nord-du-Québec region from your Department submitted to the Board a modified general forest management plan of forest management unit (FMU) 26-64 for review. These modifications follow the new allowable cut and requirements announced by the Chief Forester in the spring of 2009.

In accordance with its mandate described in section 3.30 e) of the *Agreement Concerning a New Relationship between le Gouvernement du Québec and the Crees of Québec*, the Board reviewed the plan and the related documents submitted by the Department. The Board also reviewed the analysis reports from Oujé-Bougoumou and Mistissini Joint Working Groups, submitted on May 3, 2010.

With this letter, Board members wish to advise you that:

at the completion of the review of the documents submitted, Board members recommend the approval of the modifications presented to the 2008-2013 GFMPs of FMU 26-64.

It is with satisfaction that we observe that the general forest management plan was modified in compliance with the provisions of the adapted forestry regime and according to the new allowable cut and requirements. Consequently, following the approval of these modifications, the Board considers that the 2009-2010 annual plans and the intervention permits issued should be adjusted, if need be, as soon as possible in compliance with the processes and terms and conditions of the Agreement.

Further to the information in this advice, we include in appendix a detailed revision sheet of the modifications presented. This document is produced for the benefit of the representatives of your Department.

Yours truly,

The Chairman of the Board,

(Original signed)

Jean-Pierre Gauthier


APPENDIX

Revision sheet of modified 2008-2013 GFMP

FMU 026-64.....

**REVISION SHEET BY THE CQFB
MODIFIED GFMP 2008-2013: FMU 026-64**

FMU technical information

Area of the FMU	6 024 km ²	
Productive forested area of the FMU	3 655 km ²	
Concerned Cree communities	Oujé-Bougoumou and Mistissini	
Beneficiary responsible for the FMU	Les Chantiers Chibougamau ltée	
Traplins included in the FMU (territories with forest planning in the GFMP underlined)	<u>M49</u> , <u>O55</u> , <u>OM57</u> , <u>O58</u> , <u>O59</u> , <u>O60</u> , <u>O61</u> and <u>O62</u>	

Analysis results of the JWGs

- Both parties of the Oujé-Bougoumou JWG recommend approval of the plan. The Cree party states that the harmonisation measures shall be monitored adequately during the annual consultations.
- Both parties of the Mistissini JWG recommend approval of the plan. The Cree party states that the trappers requests shall be monitored adequately during the annual consultations.
- The Cree members of the Mistissini JWG recommend that all major roads outlined in the plan be submitted for review under Section 22 of the JBNQA.

Revision results of the CQFB *

The CQFB recommends that this GFMP be

- Accepted
- Accepted with recommendation (s)
- Refused

*Revision findings presented are the outcome of the Secretariat of the Board's analysis of the information given by the beneficiaries' representative, the MRNF and the JWGs. A detailed description of the revision methodology can be found annexed to the first CQFB advice on the 2008-2013 GFMPs sent to the Minister on March 3, 2008.

CQFB specific recommendation

R.1 The Board recommends the approval of the plan under the condition that the annual plans are monitored adequately to guarantee that the harvesting thresholds are respected, in accordance with the provisions of the Agreement.

Revision timeline

Reception date of GFMP conform to chap. 3 by the CQFB	February 22, 2010
Reception date of JWG analysis reports by the CQFB	May 3, 2010
Production date of the GFMP revision sheet	May 28, 2010

**REVISION SHEET BY THE CQFB
MODIFIED GFMP 2008-2013: FMU 026-64**

Principle 1: GFMPs' conformity to forest allocations per FMU

Statements

- The MRNF has certified that the five-year program presented in the GFMP conforms to the forest allocations based on the annual allowable cut the Chief Forester determined in March 2009.
- The conformity analysis of the MRNF notes however that some harvesting thresholds are exceeded within the five-year program and it specifies that the annual plans should be closely monitored to guarantee compliance with Agreement's modalities.

Comment

- The annual plans shall be monitored adequately to guarantee that the harvesting thresholds are respected, in accordance with the provisions of the Agreement.

Principle 2: Compliance with the instructions and guidelines

Statements

- The MRNF has certified that the GFMP conforms to the instructions and guidelines it defined to supervise the elaboration of the 2008-2013 GFMPs in compliance with the Agreement.
- The conformity analysis of the MRNF notes that an intervention is planned within a Cree site of interest (1%) on trapline O-59. The participation report of the GFMP and the Oujé-Bougoumou JWG report don't mention if an authorization was provided by the concerned tallyman. Such an authorization is necessary for any forest management activity to occur in a 1% area.
- Even if the FMU includes a part of the projected area for Assinica Park, neither the GFMP, nor the conformity analysis from MRNF, nor the JWGs reports mention anything about a special consideration given to this matter.

Comments

- After verification, the Oujé-Bougoumou JWG confirms that the tallyman for O-59 agreed with the intervention in the 1% site.
- After verification, MRNF confirms that no intervention is planned in the core area subject to discussion between the parties to become Assinica Park.

Principle 3: Integration of Cree information

Statements

- The GFMP and the JWG's reports reveal that no significant disagreement was identified for this FMU. Nevertheless, the Oujé-Bougoumou JWG mentions that there are still certain features that are problematic for the tallymen (width of buffer strips, scarifying and rutting). However, nothing indicates that these features were specifically addressed during the participation meetings.
- All the tallymen's harmonization requests appear in the harmonization measures table of the GFMP. Some measures are the subject of specific arrangements, while others will be the subject of a feasibility review during the annual plans.
- According to the participation report included in the GFMP, tallymen shared their planning support maps with agreement holders in the course of the participation process leading to the first version of the plan, but nothing in the report indicates if these maps were used again for the modified version of the plan. The JWGs reports specify that the maps were actually used for the elaboration of the modified plan.

Comment

- JWGs mention that the forest planning support maps should be updated.

**REVISION SHEET BY THE CQFB
MODIFIED GFMP 2008-2013: FMU 026-64**

Principle 4: Proper consultation of tallymen

Statements

- Both the GFMP and the JWG's reports confirm that the participation process fostered fruitful discussions and information sharing between the beneficiaries' representative and tallymen. According to the JWGs, many tallymen participated actively and really influenced the planning.
- According to the participation report, all the tallymen whose trapline is the object of a modification were met and the majority of the harmonization requests or changes in the planning were taken into consideration by the agreement holder.
- The JWGs reports indicate that the participation report included in the plan describes the participation process accordingly and JWGs specify that the agreement holder was open to taking the tallymen's requests into consideration.

Comment

- The participation report documents thoroughly the requests of the tallymen, which makes it easier to understand and follow-up.