

COURTESY TRANSLATION

Québec, September 2, 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 87-63**

Dear Madam Minister,

On April 29, 2010, the General Director of the Nord-du-Québec region from your Department submitted to the Cree-Québec Forestry Board a second modification to the general forest management plan of forest management unit (FMU) 87-63 for review.

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 report from the Waswanipi Joint Working Group, submitted on August 5, 2010.

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

- a) *at the completion of the review of the documents submitted, Board members recommend the approval of the modifications presented to the 2008-2013 GFMP of FMU 87-63, 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.*

The conformity analysis of your Department reveals that some harvesting thresholds are actually exceeded within the GFMP and that this situation should be rectified when doing the annual plans.

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)

Albin Tremblay

Appendix

Revision sheet of 2008-2013 modified GFMPs of FMU 087-63

**REVISION SHEET BY THE CQFB
MODIFIED GFMP 2008-2013: FMU 087-63**

FMU technical information

Area of the FMU	3 568 km ²	
Productive forested area of the FMU	3 016 km ²	
Concerned Cree communities	Waswanipi	
Beneficiary responsible for the FMU	Tembec	
Traplines included in the FMU (territories with forest planning in the GFMP underlined)	<u>W13B</u> , <u>W19</u> , <u>W20</u> , <u>W21</u> , <u>W24</u> , <u>W24A</u> , <u>W24B</u>	

Analysis results of the JWG

- The JWG recommends the approval of the plan, under the condition that the remaining issues are solved during the annual consultations.
- The Cree members of the JWG recommend revisiting the localization of biological refuges and old growth stands which overlap with Cree sites of interest.

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 JWG. 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 recommendations

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 conform GFMP by the CQFB	May 4, 2010
Reception date of JWG analysis report by the CQFB	August 5, 2010
Production date of the GFMP revision sheet	August 16, 2010

**REVISION SHEET BY THE CQFB
MODIFIED GFMP 2008-2013: FMU 087-63**

Principle 1: GFMPs' conformity to forest allocations per FMU

Statements

- The MRNF has certified that the five-year program presented in the GFMP is conform to the forest allocations based on the annual allowable cut the Chief Forester determined in March 2008.
- 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 is conform 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 however that some cutting blocks exceed the thresholds established within the adapted forestry regime of the Agreement.

Comment

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

Principle 3: Integration of Cree information

Statements

- The participation report does not mention the use of the forest planning support maps by the agreement holder.
- The JWG reports that the agreement holder included Cree information in his plans in an optimal manner by using the forest planning support maps before and during consultations with the tallymen.
- The JWG report indicates that the territory covered by the FMU notably includes a project for a protected area submitted by the Cree party; the report does not mention any conflict between the modification to the plan and this project for a protected area.

Comment

- The Cree members of the JWG are still concerned with the overlapping in some cases of biological refuges and old growth stands with Cree sites of interest identified by the tallymen.

Principle 4: Proper consultation of tallymen

Statements

- The participation report and the JWG report indicate that all the tallymen were met at one occasion and that the latter judged a second meeting to be unnecessary.
- The Cree JWG members point out that the Cree tallymen never had the chance to see the final draft of the plan and therefore to validate if the modifications convened through harmonisation measures are respected.
- The JWG report specifies that the agreement holder was very open to adapting the plan, taking into consideration many of the tallymen's requests while some other requests were postponed to the annual planning.
- All the tallymen's harmonization requests appear in the harmonization measures table of the GFMP except for one. For this one, the JWG report indicates, and a discussion with the agreement holder confirms, that this measure is already considered in the planning.

**REVISION SHEET BY THE CQFB
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Comment

- The JWG report recommends that the participation meetings are not held during Cree traditional holidays.