

2017 INDEPENDENT FOREST AUDIT ~ ABITIBI RIVER FOREST ~ PUBLIC SURVEY

Every five to seven years, as part of the Province's responsibility for resource management in Ontario, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) contracts firms to evaluate forest management activities on Crown lands. KBM Resources Group of Thunder Bay, Ontario has been engaged by the MNRF this year to conduct an independent forest audit of the **Abitibi River Forest** for the period **April 1, 2010 – March 31, 2017**.

As part of our evaluation, we would appreciate your input as a member of the public with an interest in forest management for the Abitibi River Forest. If you have comments related to forestry activities during the past seven years, please complete and submit this form.

Thank you in advance for your input.

Name: _____
(optional)

Tel. and/or email: _____
(optional)

1. Please indicate if we may contact you for more information. **Yes** **No**

2. What is your interest in forest management on the Abitibi River Forest?

- Recreation _____ (e.g. fishing, hunting, camping, hiking, etc.)
- Employment _____ (e.g. forest industry, government, tourism, trapping, etc.)
- Conservation _____
- Other _____

3. Can you identify any specific planning/operational activities or locations in the forest that illustrate good **OR** poor management practices, and that the audit team should be aware of in conducting their evaluation? Please provide specific details.

4. Have you ever contacted forest managers during the audit period from April 1, 2010 – March 31, 2017 with comments or concerns regarding management of the Abitibi River Forest?

Yes **No** Whom did you contact? _____
(e.g., local MNRF office, SFL holder, etc)

5. If Yes, were you satisfied with the response? **Yes** **No** If you were **not** satisfied, please explain why.

6. Include any additional comments specific to the management of the Abitibi River Forest (use an additional sheet if required).

Triin Hart, Audit Secretariat/Wildlife auditor - KBM Resources Group

349 Mooney Ave., Thunder Bay, ON P7B 5L5
Email: thart@kbm.ca
Tel: (807) 345-5445 ext.246 Fax: (807) 345-5858

All correspondence sent to KBM is confidential.

KBM provides this opportunity to comment on this audit under the authority of Ontario Regulation 160/04 made under the *Crown Forest Sustainability Act, 1994*. **Any personal information provided will be used solely by the audit team as input to the Abitibi River Forest Audit.** Any questions regarding the collection, use, and retention of the personal information can be directed to Laird VanDamme, Lead Auditor at 807-345-5445 ext. 232; Email: vandamme@kbm.ca; 349 Mooney Avenue, Thunder Bay, Ontario, P7B 5L5.

INDEPENDENT FOREST AUDIT

~

ABITIBI RIVER FOREST

KBM Resources Group has been retained by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry to conduct an Independent Forest Audit, consistent with the *Crown Forestry Sustainability Act*, on the management of the Abitibi River Forest.

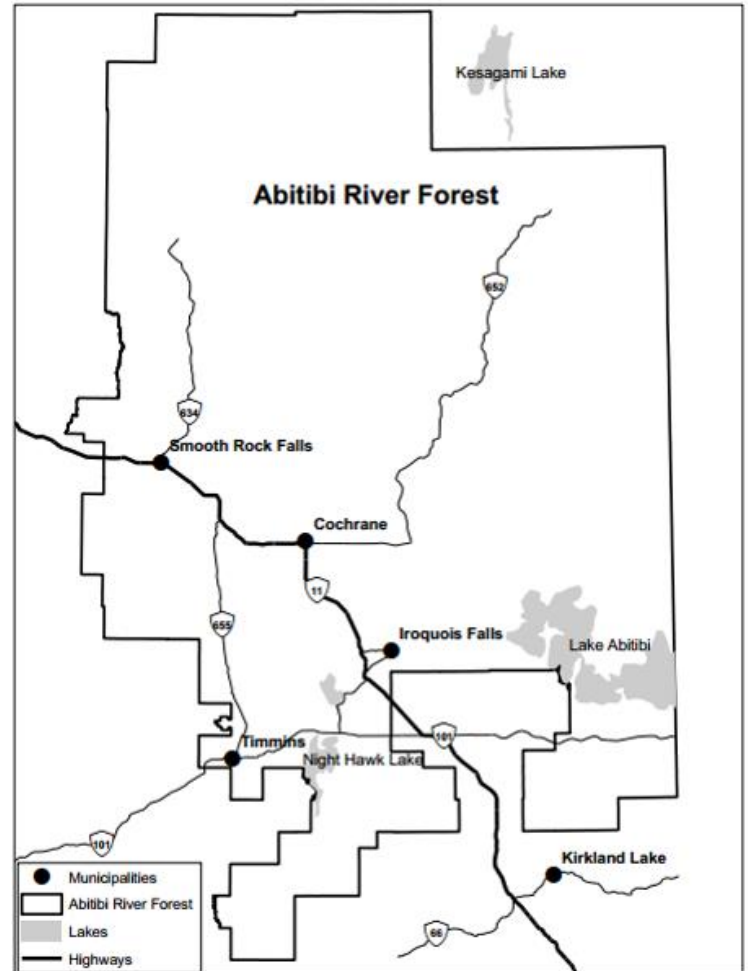
The audit covers the **April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2017** operating period.

You are invited to comment on the forest management activities on Abitibi River Forest for this period of time. Please provide your comments by Friday October 3rd, 2017.

Please send your comments to:

Triin Hart, Audit Secretariat/Wildlife auditor
KBM Resources Group
349 Mooney Ave., Thunder Bay, ON P7B 5L5
Email: thart@kbm.ca
Tel: (807) 345-5445 ext. 246
Fax: (807) 345-5858

All correspondence sent to KBM is confidential.



Purpose of the Independent Forest Audit

The Purpose of the audit is to assess:

- compliance with the *Crown Forest Sustainability Act*,
- compliance with the Forest Management Planning Process,
- a comparison of planned versus actual forest management activities,
- the effectiveness of forest management activities in achieving audit criteria and management objectives,
- the effectiveness of previous audit action plans, and
- a licensee's compliance with the terms and conditions of the Sustainable Forest Licence.

The six-member audit team will evaluate forest management practices such as **forest management planning, harvest operations, forest renewal activities, road construction and maintenance as well as opportunities for public input and Aboriginal community consultation**. The main objectives of the audit are to assess compliance with provincial laws and regulations as well as comment on the effectiveness and sustainability of forestry activities on the management unit.

In addition, the independent forest audit provides an opportunity to improve Crown land management in Ontario through adaptive management. The audits are conducted by consultants that are independent of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, and the audited forest licence holders.