

**Draft Wabadowgang Noopming Forest 2016-
2024 Independent Forest Audit Management
Unit Action Plan**

Wabadowgang Noopming 2024 Forest Independent Forest Audit

Action Plan Submission Signature Page

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Date: 2025-03-04



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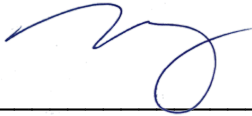
Submitted By:



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**Wabadowgang Noopming 2024 Forest Independent Forest Audit
Action Plan Approval Signature Page**

Approved By:



Michael Gluck
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Date: 03/11/2025

Introduction

The Wabadowgang Noopming 2024 Forest Independent Forest Audit (IFA) Report was accepted by the Ministry of Natural Resources Divisional Support Branch for an IFA conducted by Caliber Consulting Co. for the period April 1, 2016, to March 31, 2024.

Upon review of the audit report, it has been determined that an action plan is needed to address its findings.

A total of five findings were noted for the management unit. For each finding, this action plan provides a description of the actions required, the organization and position responsible, timelines for each of the action items, as well as the method of tracking.

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Findings

Finding #1: The Armstrong Local Citizens Committee (ALCC) does not represent a balance of interests.

Action Required:

1. The MNR will review current ALCC membership and seek to fill current vacancies with individuals who represent local community interests.
2. MNR to work with ALCC to identify ways to maintain local engagement.

Organization and Position Responsible:

1. MNR Thunder Bay Ignace District Manager
2. MNR Thunder Bay Ignace District Supervisor
3. MNR Thunder Bay Ignace Management Forester

Deadline Date:

1. 2025-04-30

Method of Tracking Progress:

1. ALCC Terms of Reference and meeting agendas and minutes.

Finding #2: A tending protocol was not developed as identified in the action plan to address a 2016 Independent Forest Audit finding.

Action Required:

1. Wabadowgang Noopming Forest Management Inc. (WNM) will continue its participation in the herbicide alternative project (HAP). HAP is a project that involves the development of a community-driven, cost-effective silviculture program framework using herbicide alternatives and economic opportunities in forestry operations.
2. MNR District and/or regional employees will actively participate in HAP.
3. An overall strategy/protocol for tending or reducing the need for herbicide tending will be developed to ensure that the objectives in the forest management plan regarding caribou habitat can be achieved.

Organization and Position Responsible:

1. WNM General Manager
2. MNR Thunder Bay Ignace Management Forester
3. MNR Regional Forested Ecosystem Science Specialist

Deadline Date:

1. 2034-11-15
2. 2030-11-15 and 2034-11-15
3. 2030-11-15 and 2034-11-15

Method of Tracking Progress:

1. For action 1 and 2: Meeting records, attendance list and meeting minutes
2. The information for actions 1 and 2 will be documented in enhanced annual reports.
3. For action three there will be discussion in the enhanced annual report regarding the completion of that tending protocol

Finding #3: The lack of a tending operation is reducing the success of re-establishing conifer dominated stands.

Action Required:

1. WNM will continue its participation in the HAP. HAP is a project that involves the development of a community-driven, cost-effective silviculture program framework using herbicide alternatives and economic opportunities in forestry operations.
2. MNR District and/or regional employees will actively participate in HAP meetings.
3. WNM will implement a renewal program that is consistent with the approved FMP and implement tending protocol as created under Finding #2.

Organization and Position Responsible:

1. WNM – General Manager and Silviculture Forester
2. MNR Thunder Bay Ignace Management Forester
3. MNR Regional Forested Ecosystem Science Specialist
4. WNM Planning Forester

Deadline Date:

1. March 2026
2. March 2026
3. 2030-11-15 and 2034-11-15

Method of Tracking Progress:

1. For action 1 and 2: Meeting records, attendance list and meeting minutes
2. Action 3: Enhanced annual reports.
3. Action 4: Enhanced annual reports.

Finding #4: The MNR does not have an effective bridge inspection program for bridges that are used for heavy truck hauls on an annual basis.

Action Required:

1. MNR and WNM will identify bridges used for heavy truck haul on an annual basis. This list will identify the road network, bridge identification number and organization responsible for inspection and be available in the AWS/AR text.

2. MNR will continue to monitor and inspect bridges not active for hauling every 3 years as per FMP requirements. WNM will monitor and inspect bridges used for truck haul annually as per the Forestry Agreement in effect at the time.

Organization and Position Responsible:

1. MNR Management Forester
2. WNM General Manager and Operations Forester

Deadline Date:

1. 2025-11-15 for bridge identification
2. Ongoing for annual monitoring, inspection files to be submitted by end of fiscal for inspected bridges.

Method of Tracking Progress:

1. List of Bridges to be available in Annual Work Schedule text and inspection will be recorded in Annual Report text.
2. WNM will create a bridge inspection file and submit completed annual inspections to MNR once inspections are completed.

Finding #5: The objectives table contains targets that are not clear or concise.

Action Required:

1. MNR and WNM will collaborate to amend the wording in Objective 6, Indicator 6.2, and Objective 7, Indicators 7.1, 7.2, and 7.3 to clarify targets identified as vague in the Final Report.

Organization and Position Responsible:

1. MNR Thunder Bay Ignace District Supervisor
2. MNR Thunder Bay Ignace Management Forester
3. WNM General Manager and planning Forester

Deadline Date:

1. 2025-09-31

Method of Tracking Progress:

1. Natural Resource Information Portal submission and approval of the FMP amendment.