

Algonquin Park Forest  
2017-2024 Independent Forest Audit  
Management Unit Action Plan

# Algonquin Park Forest 2024 Independent Forest Audit

## Action Plan Submission Signature Page

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Algonquin Forestry Authority (AFA)  
Date: June 27, 2025

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Date: June 27, 2025

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# **Algonquin Park Forest 2024 Independent Forest Audit**

## **Action Plan Approval Signature Page**

### **Approved By:**

Original Signed by: *Trevor Griffin*

*Regional Director*

Insert MNR Southern Region

Date: July 2, 2025

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## Introduction

In September 2024 an Independent Forest Audit (IFA) was conducted on the Algonquin Park Forest (APF) for the period April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2024. Auditees were notified of the Divisional Support Branch's acceptance of the report as being final on January 23, 2025. A Management Unit Action Plan is due April 23, 2025.

The final audit report for the Algonquin Park Forest included six findings of which four management unit findings will be addressed in this action plan. Based on the analysis of the 2024 IFA Findings, findings 1 (partial), 5 and 6 have been assessed as a corporate MNR and will be considered as part of the regular corporate planning and policy review cycle. It will not be reported on in this action plan.

For each management unit audit findings, the action plan outlines the actions required, responsibility, timelines, and method of tracking progress of actions.

## Findings

### Finding #1:

Forest Management Plan amendments and Annual Work Schedule revisions are not being approved in a timely manner.

### Action Required:

1. The MNR Pembroke District will ensure compliance with the 2024 FMPM and FIM planning requirements when reviewing and consulting on amendments and revisions.
2. The MNR Pembroke District will continue to use staff from Pembroke and other Districts to provide Resource Liaison support for APF Indigenous consultation.
3. The MNR Pembroke District will develop and implement a standard operating procedure to complete the review for Forest Management Plan (FMP) amendments and Annual Work Schedule (AWS) revisions in collaboration with AFA.

### Organization and Position Responsible:

1. MNR Pembroke District Manager, District Supervisor and Management Forester.
2. MNR Pembroke District Manager.
3. MNR Pembroke Resource Liaison Specialist, District Supervisor, Management Forester and Algonquin Forest Authority (AFA) General Manager.

**Deadline Date:**

1. April 1st, 2027.
2. April 1st, 2027.
3. April 1st, 2027.

**Method of Tracking Progress:**

1. FMP amendment and revision approval documents.
2. Emails/meeting notes/ records.
3. Emails / document of procedures.

**Finding #2:**

The Algonquin Forestry Authority does not document all the bridge deficiencies in the bridge inspection program for bridges.

**Action Required:**

1. AFA will conduct required maintenance (i.e. signage and railing repairs) on bridges identified during the IFA, and elsewhere as required.
2. AFA has an extensive water crossing monitoring program in place. AFA will improve the implementation of this program by refreshing water crossing monitoring training with AFA Operations Supervisors.
3. AFA will Investigate field data collection programs and information management systems for water crossing monitoring.

**Organization and Position Responsible:**

1. AFA Operations Supervisors.
2. AFA Area Manager and Manager of Operations.
3. AFA GIS Officer.

**Deadline Date:**

1. March 31, 2026.
2. Spring training June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025.
3. June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

**Method of Tracking Progress:**

1. AFA water crossing monitoring database.
2. AFA training records.
3. AFA training records.

**Finding #3:**

Culverts require maintenance to avoid sediment from entering waterways.

**Action Required:**

1. AFA will conduct required maintenance on culverts identified during the IFA, and elsewhere as required and feasible (contingent on accessibility, ownership and resources).
2. AFA will refresh training with AFA Operations Supervisors on culvert installation and erosion/sediment control.
3. AFA will refresh training with grader operators on grading practices around water crossings.
4. AFA will improve the implementation of the water crossing monitoring program by refreshing water crossing monitoring training with AFA Operations Supervisors.

**Organization and Position Responsible:**

1. AFA Operations Supervisors.
2. AFA Area Manager and Manager of Operations.
3. AFA Operations Supervisors.
4. AFA Area Manager and Manager of Operations.

**Deadline Date:**

1. March 31, 2027.
2. June 30, 2025.
3. Nov 15, 2025.
4. Spring training June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

**Method of Tracking Progress:**

1. AFA water crossing monitoring database.
2. AFA training records.
3. AFA training records.
4. AFA training records.

**Finding #4:**

Ministry of Natural Resources has not effectively implemented the Compliance Plan and non-compliant Forest Operations Information Program reports are not assigned a final status in a timely manner.

**Action Required:**

1. The MNR Pembroke District will have certified Forest Operations Compliance Inspectors available to implement a compliance plan for APF.

2. The MNR Pembroke District will continue to implement an Annual District Compliance Operations Plan (ACOP) that incorporates a risk-based approach.
3. The MNR Pembroke District will ensure FOIP reports are approved in a timely fashion.
4. MNR Pembroke District will collaborate with AFA to set up a joint compliance meeting and continue doing joint inspections for ongoing improvement and calibration between inspectors from each organization.

**Organization and Position Responsible:**

1. MNR Pembroke District Manager and District Supervisor.
2. MNR Pembroke District Supervisor, ACOP Lead and Forest Operations Compliance Inspector.
3. MNR Pembroke District Supervisor and Forest Operations Compliance Inspector.
4. MNR Pembroke Forest Operations Compliance Inspector, Management Forester and AFA Monitoring and Measurement Supervisor.

**Deadline Date:**

1. April 1st, 2026.
2. April 1st, 2026.
3. April 1st, 2026.
4. April 1st, 2026.

**Method of Tracking Progress:**

1. Forest Operations Information Program reports/database, Scheduled Compliance Committee Meetings. District risk ranking/tracker excel document.
2. District risk ranking/tracker excel document, Record of ACOP targets.
3. Forest Operations Information Program reports/database. Emails between Forest Operations Compliance Inspectors and FOIP Approver (District Supervisor).
4. Scheduled Meeting Invites/Agenda/Records/Notes/Email.