

Section 8 (3.1) Order Respecting the AAC Determination for the Cranberry TSA

Section 8 (3.1) of the *Forest Act* (for full sub-section see Appendix 1) stipulates in part that:

If... the chief forester considers that the allowable annual cut...is not likely to be changed significantly with a new determination, then...the chief forester by written order may postpone the next determination...to a date that is up to 10 years after the date of the relevant last determination, and must give written reasons for the postponement.

In considering whether to postpone the next allowable annual cut (AAC) determination for the Cranberry TSA, located near Hazelton, I have reviewed the previous 1997 Cranberry timber supply analysis and the last relevant (1998) AAC rationale for the Cranberry TSA. The rationale contained a number of instructions to gather new information in order to improve assumptions about the timber supply data.

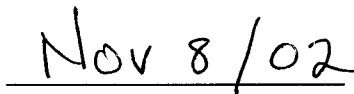
I have examined the new data and information collected to date, and I have considered how it might impact timber supplies in the Cranberry TSA. The sensitivity analyses reported in the 1997 timber supply analysis indicate that the timber supply projections are stable for several decades. They show that even if the timber harvesting land base was 10 percent smaller, a harvest level of 110 000 cubic metres per year could still be maintained for 6 decades before starting to decline. Given this stability, I do not believe that the new information would affect the timber supply in the short term, specifically within the next five years.

From my review of the factors discussed in the 1998 AAC rationale, recent data collected in 2001 and 2002, and the 1997 timber supply analysis, I have determined that the AAC for the Cranberry TSA, as set in May 1998 is not likely to be changed with a new determination.

Under my authority as outlined in Section 8 (3.1) of the *Forest Act*, I hereby postpone the next AAC determination for the Cranberry TSA to May 2008, a date that is 10 years since the last determination.



Larry Pedersen
Chief Forester



Date

Appendix 1

Forest Act, Section 8

Allowable annual cut

- (3.1) If, in respect of the allowable annual cut for a timber supply area or tree farm licence area, the chief forester considers that the allowable annual cut that was determined under subsection (1) is not likely to be changed significantly with a new determination, then, despite subsections (1) to (3), the chief forester
- (a) by written order may postpone the next determination under subsection (1) to a date that is up to 10 years after the date of the relevant last determination, and
 - (b) must give written reasons for the postponement.
- (3.2) If the chief forester, having made an order under subsection (3.1), considers that because of changed circumstances the allowable annual cut that was determined under subsection (1) for a timber supply area or tree farm licence area is likely to be changed significantly with a new determination, he or she
- (a) by written order may rescind the order made under subsection (3.1) and set an earlier date for the next determination under subsection (1), and
 - (b) must give written reasons for setting the earlier date.