

PATTERSON SAWMILL LTD.
60 PATTERSON ROAD
HAY RIVER, N.W.T. XOE OR4

PHONE (867)874-6814 FAX (867) 874-6902

May 21, 2001

Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
200 Scotia Centre, 5102 - 50th Avenue
Yellowknife, N.T. X1A 2N7

Attention: Roland Semjanovs,
A/Executive Director

RE: Request for clarification, April 27, 2001 letter

During the field work required for the timber application we did not see any traps. There was evidence that traps had been placed along the cut line leading to the timber. We understand those traps are set by Lawrence Fabian. We contacted Lawrence Fabian, who was willing to lift those traps for payment under the NWT compensation program as required under a timber licence and or permit. Mr. Fabian can continue to set traps while the logging is in progress, and in all probability will have as much success as in other years.

In previous years of logging in the Cameron Hills our logging road became a trapline that was serviced by automobile.

Eddie Lafferty also traps in the vicinity, but is not directly affected by the logging operation. His trap line extends some 20 to 30 Km east of the logging area. Other trappers set traps along the highway where we would haul the logs. These people are unknown to us but as there traps are not near the actual logging they should not be affected.

As to the Hunters, any one with a hunting licence and a gun can hunt, it would be impossible to identify them. Hunter use access roads and the highway to hunt. Access road attract wild animals, since lack of snow does not inhibit their movement. As a result trapping and hunting is not reduced by logging, and may even be enhanced by it.

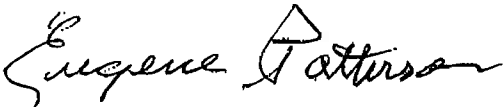
It is a myth that highways, access roads and logging drive animals away. Over the years we have employed trappers and hunters in logging. They have usually done very well hunting and trapping.

Less than one percent of the land mass is used for logging, this leaves 99% for trapping. Timber is a renewable Resource, and when allowed to proceed normally, provides economic activity , and in this instance jobs for people of the area.

The GNWT Forest Management Act and the Forest Management Regulations Cover these issues adequately. Also as part of the process required for a Forestry application the GNWT does an environment assessment. In this instance the assessment was completed in two weeks!

At this time (and for a year or more) this sawmill is out of business and all employees are unemployed. This is a disaster that should never have happened. It was completely preventable. This MVIRB inquiry has taken seven months and counting. Unacceptable and indefensible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eugene Patterson". The signature is fluid and somewhat stylized, with a large initial 'E' and a long, sweeping underline.

Eugene Patterson