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# Manitoba Infrastructure:

*Nuisance Beaver Management Program for Remote Roads Operations*

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September 2017

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## **1. Purpose**

The Nuisance Beaver Management Program (NBMP) is intended to serve as part of the Remote Road Operations maintenance program for All-Season Road linking Manto Sipi Cree Nation, God's Lake First Nation and Bunibonibee Cree Nation (P6-ASR). The NBMP will act as a supplementary measure in instances where standard beaver control structures, such as beaver cones, are ineffective at reducing beaver activity at and around culverts, ditches, and water crossings. This activity increases the risk of washout and will be identified by routine road inspections, typically done twice a year in spring and fall and as discussed between MI and local communities.

The NBMP includes measures for removal of nuisance beaver as well as for the removal of beaver dams, but is not a bounty system. Unlike a bounty system, the NBMP will employ a more proactive and site specific approach to managing nuisance beavers. The NBMP intends to involve local trappers to assist MI staff in road maintenance activities within their registered trap line areas.

The NBMP identifies the regional limits, permitting requirements, trapper eligibility, nuisance beaver removal methods, payment, and record keeping requirements.

## **2. Effective Area**

The area of focus can generally be defined as a 200m buffer to either side of the P6-ASR. Any damage to roads, water crossings, and other structures resulting from beaver activity within that area will fall under the scope of NBMP.

Under the direction of Manitoba Infrastructure (MI) staff, extenuating circumstances may require that beaver control measures be conducted beyond the 200m buffer.

## **3. Permitting Requirements and Implementation**

The removal of nuisance beaver during the normal trapping season as identified in the Manitoba Trapping Guide (typically October 1 – May 31) does not require special authorization but must be conducted by a licensed trapper.

The removal of nuisance beaver beyond the trapping season (typically April 1- September 30) requires the issuance of a valid Wild Animal Kill Permit by a Manitoba Sustainable Development District Office. Copies of the Wild Animal Kill Permit must be on hand when removing nuisance beaver under its authorization.

The removal of beaver dams requires site-specific authorization under a Muskrat House, Beaver Dam and/or Beaver Lodge Removal Permit. Dam removals should be done in ice-free conditions when possible and may require removal of beavers prior to removal of the dam and adherence to other

special conditions as listed on the permit. If problematic beaver dams are located within fish bearing waters, Department of Fisheries and Oceans timing windows for in water work apply (Appendix A). Clearing or cleaning-out plugged culverts do not require special authorization.

The MI-NBMP shall be in effect year-round, but will only be utilized as needed. Kill permits will only be effective for periods beyond the beaver trapping season. Note that beaver dam removal permits may not be issued by Manitoba Sustainable Development during the winter season.

## **4. Trapper Eligibility**

In order to be considered eligible to partake in MI NBMP, trappers must:

- hold a valid trapping license;
- be registered as the line holder or helper for a Registered Trap Line (RTL) intersecting P6-ASR (Appendix B);
- be designated or identified as an alternate to remove nuisance beaver if the trapper or helper declines.

MI will strive to respect the existing RTL system, and will give first priority for beaver removal to existing RTL line holders. In the event that a line holder, helper, or community line trapper declines an offer to participate in the removal of nuisance beaver an alternate trapper will be asked to conduct the work.

All trappers acting under MI NBMP will be required to carry a valid copy of the Wild Animal Kill Permit when removing nuisance beaver beyond the normal trapping season.

MI will maintain an up-to-date listing of designated trappers for all RTLs intersecting the P6-ASR alignment (Appendix B). These trappers will be contacted by MI and asked to partake in the removal of nuisance beavers within their RTL and community line limits as required.

## **5. Identification and Removal of Nuisance Beaver**

### **Identification**

Beavers are to be designated as “nuisance beavers” if roads, water crossings, culverts or other water exchange or equalization structures have been, or are expected to be, compromised by beaver activity (damming or other).

Nuisance beaver areas along the P6- ASR will be identified by MI staff or contractors during annual road inspections or community members that have raised the issue with MI’s project manager or contacted MI through its Indigenous and Public Engagement Program (IPEP).

The removal of nuisance beavers is to be done by the designated trapper for the RTL in which the problem area exists. The trapper will be contacted by MI and will be advised of the location of the nuisance beaver for removal. Prior to the removal of nuisance beaver, a MI representative will meet with the designated trapper and pre-approve the number of beaver to be removed from the area on Beaver Tail Payment form (Appendix C).

## Removal

Trapping is the preferred method for the removal of nuisance beaver. All traps used must be humane and meet the *Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards* as outlined in the Manitoba Trapping Guide. Some examples, of certified humane traps which may be used for beaver are as follows:

Bélisle Classic 330  
Bélisle Super X 280  
Bélisle Super X 330  
BMI 280 Body Gripper  
BMI 330 Body Gripper  
Bridger 330  
Duke 330  
LDL C280  
LDL C280 Magnum  
LDL C330  
LDL C330 Magnum

Rudy 280  
Rudy 330  
Sauvageau 1000-11F  
Sauvageau 2001-8  
Sauvageau 2001-11  
Sauvageau 2001-12  
Species-Specific 330 Dislocator Half-Magnum  
Species-Specific 440 Dislocator Half-Magnum  
Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 280  
Woodstream Oneida Victor Conibear 330

The use of a small calibre rifle (.22) may also be permitted for extenuating circumstances, or as approved by MI.

Designated trappers must have a valid copy of the Wild Animal Kill Permit in-hand when removing, or in possession of, a nuisance beaver beyond the trapping season.

Natural Resources Officers may be present along the P6- ASR and may request to see a copy of the Wild Animal Kill Permit for out-of-season beaver removal activity. Trappers who do not have a valid copy of the Wild Animal Kill Permit in-hand when removing or being in possession of nuisance beaver may be charged under the Wildlife Act (Manitoba).

## 6. Payment

Payment will be made to designated trappers who successfully remove pre-designated nuisance beavers. A total of \$50.00 will be paid for each pre-approved beaver tail returned to MI. The remainder of the carcass, including the pelt, meat, and castor glands will remain the property of the trapper.

Beaver tails for identified nuisance beaver are to be presented to MI shortly after the beaver(s) have been removed. MI staff will arrange an appropriate time and location in order to meet with the participating trapper, collect the beaver tail(s) and complete the Beaver Tail Payment form (Appendix C).

Nuisance beaver carcasses must be disposed of in an appropriate manner. Trappers will not receive payment if carcasses are left along the roadway.

## Conditions

Payment will be made for the removal of identified nuisance beavers only. No payment will be made for beavers taken in areas which have not been identified or pre-approved by MI staff.

## 7. Records and Reporting

All Beaver Tail Payment forms must be filled out correctly, and copies must be provided to MI Environment staff. Records of beaver removal are to be provided to Manitoba Sustainable Development regularly.

## 8. Identification and Removal of Beaver Dams

Beaver dams which risk compromising roads, water crossings, culverts or other water exchange or equalization structures must be identified by MI staff, contractors or community members whenever possible. Potential issues must be communicated to the MI Project Manager and MI Environment Officer(s) with sufficient notice to obtain necessary permits.

Once authorization is obtained beaver dams can be removed. Whenever possible, beaver dams should be drawn down by hand to ensure a slow release of water. Releasing water too fast may result in sedimentation issues, erosion or washout of downstream features, including roads. If equipment or explosives are required, further authorization from Manitoba Sustainable Development may be required.

## 9. General Contact Information

### Manitoba Infrastructure

#### Remote Roads Operations

16<sup>th</sup> floor-255 Garry Street

Winnipeg, MB,

R3C 3P3

(204) 945-4900

## **MB Sustainable Development**

### **Lake Winnipeg Northeast District Office**

Box 828  
59 Elizabeth Drive  
Thompson, MB  
R8N 1X4  
(204) 667-6653

### **God's Lake Narrows Office**

General Delivery  
God's Lake Narrows, MB  
R0B 0M0  
(204) 335-2366

### **Oxford House Office**

Box 100  
Oxford House, MB  
R0B 1C0  
(204) 538-2248

## **Appendix A**

### **Department of Fisheries and Oceans Timing Windows for Avoidance of In-Water Work**

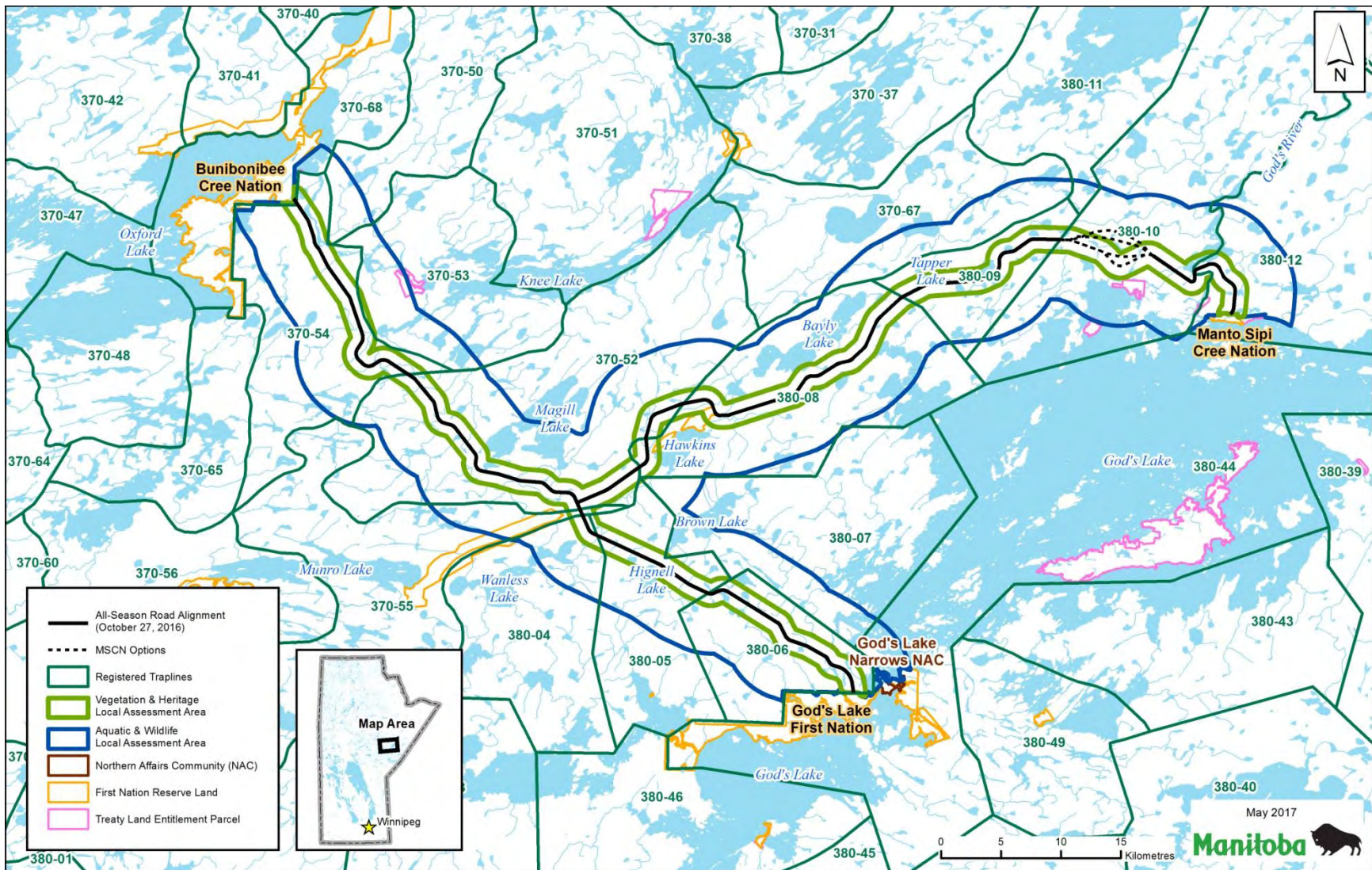


**Table 1. Department of Fisheries and Oceans Timing Windows for Avoidance of In-Water Work**

|  | <b>Spring<br/>Spawning<br/>Fish</b> | <b>Summer<br/>Spawning<br/>Fish</b> | <b>Fall<br/>Spawning<br/>Fish</b> |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Northern Manitoba<br>(North of Leaf River) | April 15 to June 30                 | May 15 to July 15                   | September 1 to May 15             |

## **Appendix B**

**Registered Trap Lines Intersecting the All-Season Road Linking Manto Sipi Cree Nation, God's Lake First Nation and Bunibonibee Cree Nation and Trapper Listing**



## **Appendix C**

### **Beaver Tail Payment Form**

## **AUTHORIZATION TO REMOVE PROBLEM BEAVER**

**Part A: to be completed prior to removal of problem Beaver in conjunction with MI Representative**

On behalf of Manitoba Infrastructure (MI), permission to remove problem beavers is hereby granted to:

Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

SIN #: \_\_\_\_\_

| Location (km) | Max. No. of Beaver to be Removed |
|---------------|----------------------------------|
|               |                                  |
|               |                                  |
|               |                                  |
|               |                                  |

**Additional Directives or Criteria (Specify):** \_\_\_\_\_

MI-RRO Authorization: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Part B: to be completed upon removal of problem Beaver:**

Tails must be submitted to MI representative as evidence of the number of problem beaver removed.

| Location (km) | No. of Beaver Taken |
|---------------|---------------------|
|               |                     |
|               |                     |
|               |                     |
|               |                     |

Total Number of beavers trapped and destroyed \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$50.00 = \_\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Trapper Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### For MI Use Only

The evidence received hereby authorizes payment for the removal of the above beaver @50.00.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(MI Rep)

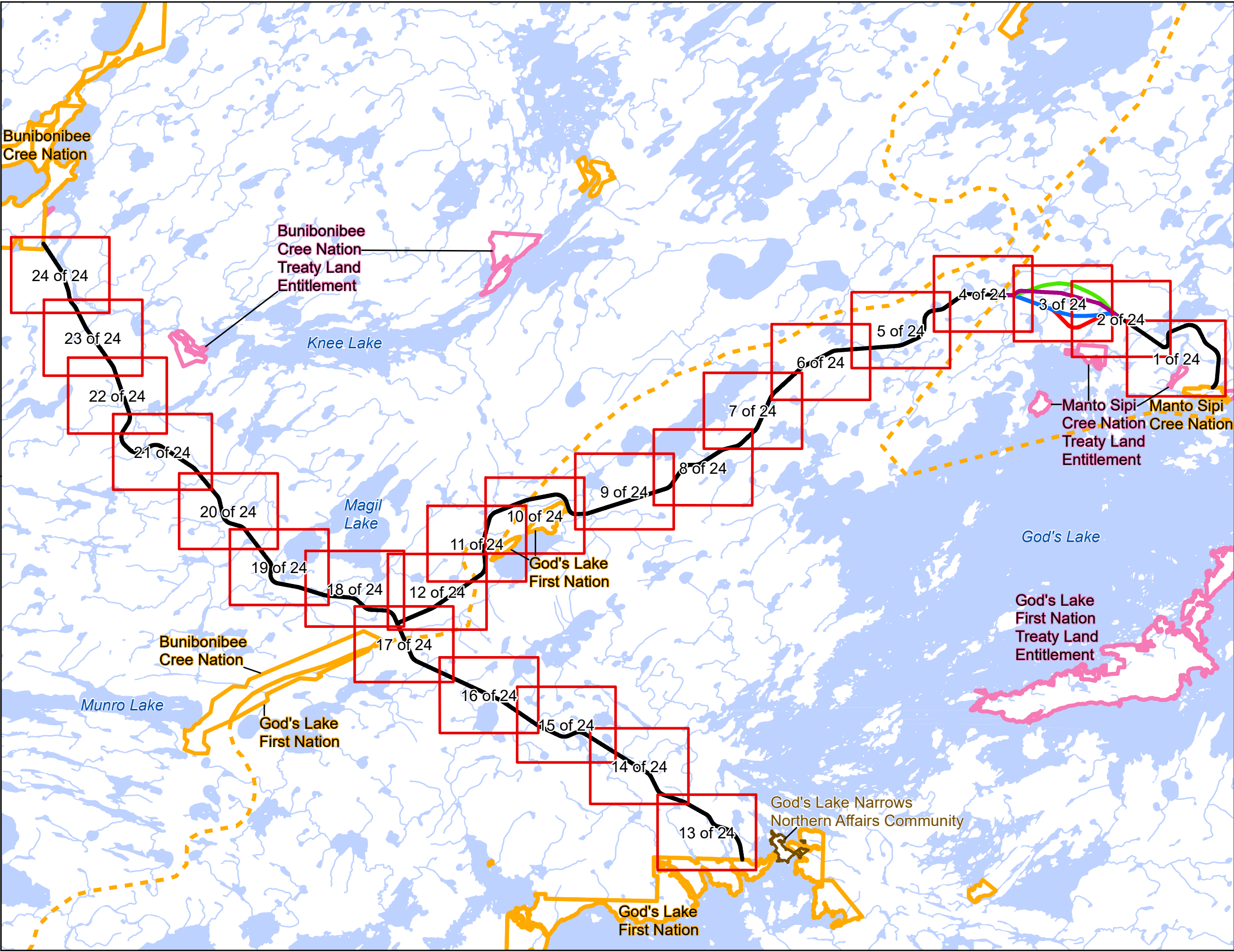
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(MI, Manager of Construction & Engineering)

## Appendix 3-7: Topographic Maps of Route Alignment

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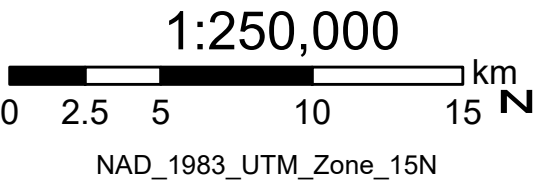




# Project 6 All-Season Road 5m Contour

Reference Map

- Large Scale Maps
- Manto Sipi Option 1
- Manto Sipi Option 2
- Manto Sipi Option 3
- Manto Sipi Option 4
- P6 Centerline
- NAC Boundary
- Traditional Territory Boundary
- Reserve Boundary
- TLE Boundary





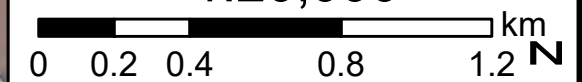
# Project 6 All-Season Road 5m Contour

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- P6 Centerline
- 60m Clearing Limit
- Potential Quarry Sites
- Water Course Crossing
- Reserve Boundary
- TLE Boundary
- Elevation (m ASL)

1:20,000



NAD\_1983\_UTM\_Zone\_15N