



Appendix T

Domestic Woodcutting Consultation Plan

Appendix T
Domestic Woodcutting Consultation Plan

Argentia Renewables Project

Issued by: Argentia Renewables Wind LP

Project Facility: All Locations

Affected Facility: All Locations

Effective Date: July 31, 2024

Document Maintenance and Control

Argentia Renewables Wind LP (Argentia Renewables), an affiliate of Pattern Energy Group LP (Pattern), is responsible for the distribution, maintenance and updating of this Domestic Woodcutting Consultation Plan for the Argentia Renewables Project (the “Project”). This plan will be updated when needed for reasons including but not limited to reflecting changes in site-specific implementation, updating contact information, changes to scientific methods and survey best practices.

Document Version

Version #	Section(s) Revised	Prepared By	Approved By	Date Issued

Index of Major Changes/Modifications in Latest Version

Item #	Description of Change	Relevant Section

Table of Contents

1.0	Introduction	1
1.2	Legal	1
1.3	Purpose and Scope	1
1.4	Objectives	1
1.5	Site Description	2
2.0	Existing Conditions.....	4
3.0	Environmental Effects and Mitigation Measures.....	6
3.1	Overview	6
3.2	Site Preparation and Construction.....	6
3.3	Operations and Maintenance.....	7
3.4	Decommissioning and Rehabilitation.....	7
3.5	Mitigation Measures	7
4.0	Consultation Strategy.....	8
4.1	Stakeholder Engagement.....	8
4.2	Information Distribution.....	8
4.3	Ongoing Communication	9
5.0	References.....	9

List of Figures

Figure T-1.5-1	Study Area Boundaries Associated with the Project.....	3
Figure T-2.0-1	Domestic Wood Harvesting in the Project and Assessment Areas.....	5

1.0 Introduction

The Domestic Woodcutting Consultation Plan (DWCP) has been prepared by Argentia Renewables Wind LP (Argentia Renewables), an affiliate of Pattern Energy Group LP (Pattern Energy) for the Argentia Renewables Project (the Project), which involves the planning, construction, operation and maintenance, and eventual decommissioning and rehabilitation of an onshore wind energy generation facility (Argentia Wind Facility), a green hydrogen and ammonia production, storage, and export facility (Argentia Green Fuels Facility), and a Project Interconnect Line from the Port of Argentia (POA) to Long Harbour. The Project is located on POA property located within the Town of Placentia, Newfoundland and Labrador (NL); the Project Interconnect Line is sited on Crown Lands. This plan is intended to address the scope of work noted in Section 4.5 of the “Guidance for Registration of Onshore Wind Energy Generation and Green Hydrogen Production Projects” (Doc-2022-1022 issued by Department of Environment and Climate Change, GNL April 2023).

As per the guidance of the NL Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture (NL DFFA), this DWCP shall identify approaches on how to engage and understand concerns related to domestic woodcutting in the Project Area for the life of the Project.

1.2 Legal

This document has been developed in compliance with the requirements of the Province of NL. As a component of a Project Registration under the **Environmental Protection Act** and the **Environmental Assessment Regulations**, the document is considered to reflect a commitment by Argentia Renewables to carry out the actions described.

1.3 Purpose and Scope

The DWCP has been developed to outline the planned consultation methods and activities with domestic wood harvesters and other related stakeholders in the Project area over the lifetime of the Project.

1.4 Objectives

The DWCP has been prepared to ensure stakeholders are identified and consulted with in a meaningful way to ensure any concerns related to domestic woodcutting in the Project Area are understood and addressed. The main objectives of this plan are:

- Timely information sharing regarding wood harvesting requirements in the Project area;
- Early identification of wood harvesters active in the Project area;

- Development of mitigation measures, in consultation with stakeholders; and
- Equitable wood distribution and access for wood harvesters.

1.5 Site Description

The Project Area, Local Assessment Area (LAA), and Regional Assessment Area (RAA) considered in this DWCP are identified on Figure T-1.5-1 and described in Section 2.1 of the Environmental Assessment Registration Document.





	Project Area
	Local Assessment Area (LAA)
	Regional Assessment Area (RAA)




FIGURE NUMBER: T - 1.5 - 1
FIGURE TITLE: Study Area Boundaries Associated with the Project
PROJECT TITLE: Argentia Renewables

COORDINATE SYSTEM: NAD 1983 CSRS UTM Zone 22N
NOTES:

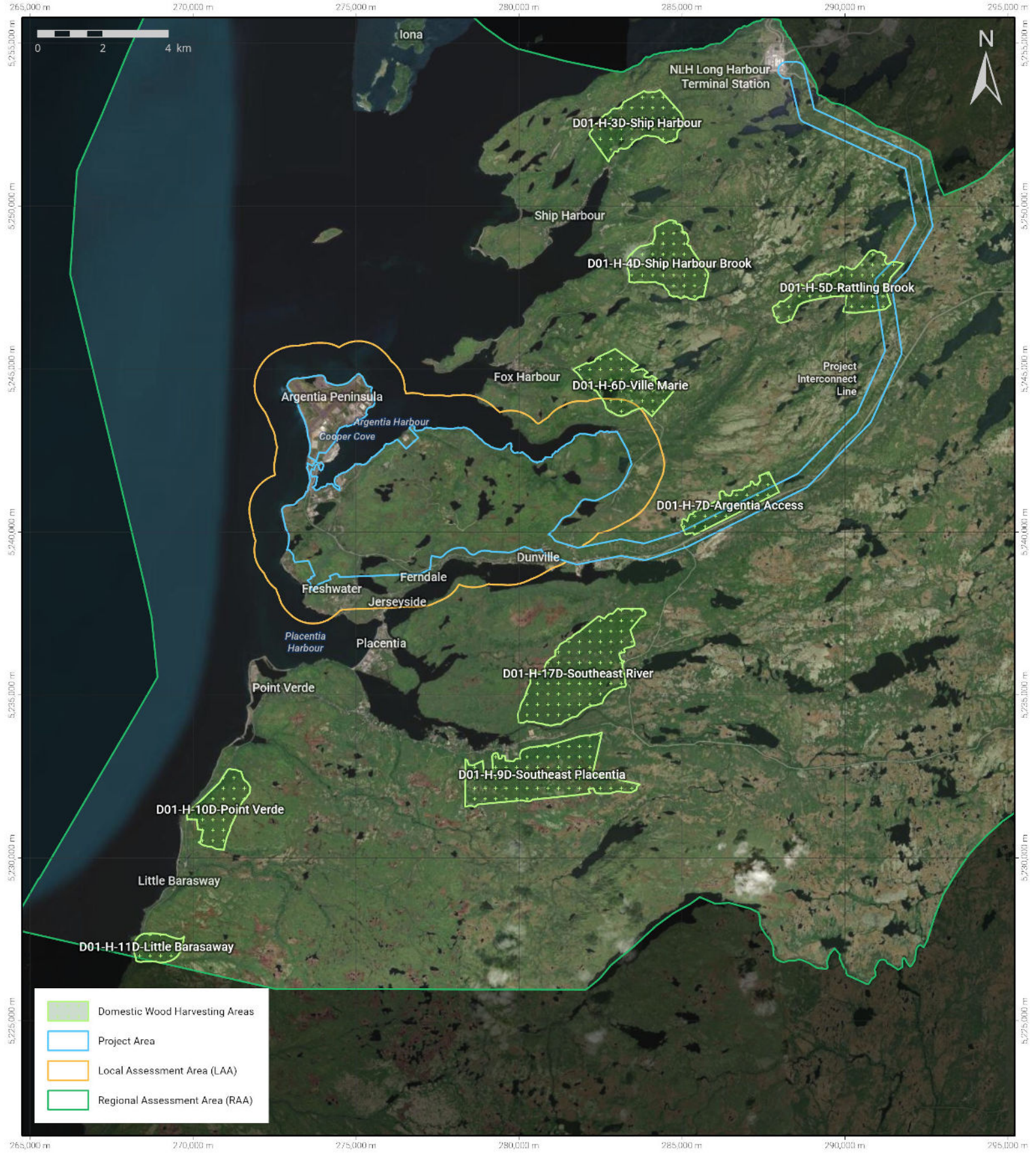
PREPARED BY: C. Burke	DATE: 24/07/25
REVIEWED BY: 	
APPROVED BY: 	
	

2.0 Existing Conditions

The Project is in Domestic Harvesting District 01-Avalon and is managed by the NL DFFA. This area encompasses Avalon Peninsula east of Come by Chance. Permits are required for wood harvesting on Crown Lands. The surface area of the Avalon Peninsula is approximately 969,000 hectares (ha), where 628,800 hectares of Crown Land are included in the intensive forest inventory of the Avalon (NL DFFA, 2016). Except for private land, the entire land area located in Domestic Harvesting District 01-Avalon is currently managed by the Crown (NL DFFA, 2016). There is no ownership of land by Corner Brook Pulp and Paper (NL DFFA, 2016). The majority of Project activities will occur on POA Property; in which case, permitting of domestic wood harvesting is not applicable.




There are nine domestic cutting zones within the RAA. Two zones, D01-H-5D and D01-H-7D run along Route NL-101 and Route NL-100, respectively, and are located within the LAA for the Project Interconnect Line (Figure T-2.0-1).

In addition to the designated cutting zones in the area, within domestic harvesting District 01-Avalon there are special considerations for roadside wood harvesting. Excluding designated cutting zones, private lands, protected areas, parks, and outlined exclusion areas (not in RAA), domestic wood harvesting is permitted within 100 m from the center of a provincial highway or a NL Hydro transmission Line Right-of-Way (ROW) (NL DFFA, 2022). Within this area, people must only harvest dead and/or blowdown timber and only existing accesses may be used to reach the site (NL DFFA, 2022).



	Domestic Wood Harvesting Areas
	Project Area
	Local Assessment Area (LAA)
	Regional Assessment Area (RAA)



FIGURE NUMBER: T - 2.0 - 1	COORDINATE SYSTEM: NAD 1983 CSRS UTM Zone 22N	PREPARED BY: C. Burke	DATE: 24/07/25
FIGURE TITLE: Domestic Wood Harvesting in the Project and Assessment Areas	NOTES: Domestic Harvest Area data sourced from NL Government Land Use Atlas on April 26, 2024.	REVIEWED BY: 	APPROVED BY: 
PROJECT TITLE: Argentia Renewables			

3.0 Environmental Effects and Mitigation Measures

The following section outlines how the Project potentially effects domestic woodcutting activities within the Project area.

3.1 Overview

The Project examined the recreational and subsistence resource use of hunting and trapping, fishing/angling, domestic wood harvesting, and foraging in the Land and Resource Use chapter (see Chapter 3.1.4, Section 3.1.4.3), and assessed the Project activities and components that may result in adverse effects to land and resource use during each phase of the Project. These effects are anticipated to range from negligible to moderate in magnitude.

The Project is anticipated to have a low impact on land and resource use, including domestic woodcutting, since only the Project Interconnect Line is proposed to occur on Crown Lands. The majority of Project activities will occur on POA Property; in which case, permitting of domestic wood harvesting is not applicable. A portion of the Project Interconnect Line route runs through, or adjacent to, wood harvesting zones D01-H-5D and D01-H-7D. Upon determination of the final ROW, the effect on domestic woodcutting resource will be determined.

An examination of how the Project could potentially impact the domestic woodcutting resource, the mitigation measures, and consultation strategy throughout the life of the Project are provided in the sections below.

3.2 Site Preparation and Construction

Project site clearing may result in the alteration of recreational and/or subsistence land use along the Project Interconnect Line ROW due to changes in resource accessibility and availability. Site preparation and construction activities may reduce access to, or quality of, recreational use (i.e., noise, dust, visual).

Along the Project Interconnect Line, subsistence and recreational users are permitted to continue use on Crown Lands, when there is no active construction. This differs from the larger Project area located on POA Property. Where practicable, the Project will avoid and or minimize the loss of vegetation in harvesting areas through micro siting of the Project Interconnect Line during the detail design and ROW selection. Where woodcutting is required, Argentina Renewables will provide advanced notification

to domestic wood harvesters of the area to be cleared, to provide an opportunity for harvesting before Project Interconnect Line construction begins. If wood is harvested by the Project, it will be made available to the public and a notification will be issued to advise that it is available for collection.

3.3 Operations and Maintenance

Project infrastructure will continue to reduce the availability of quality land available to domestic wood harvesting due to vegetation management requirements within the Project Interconnect Line ROW. This may result in the alteration of recreational and/or subsistence land use along Project Interconnect Line due to changes in resource accessibility and availability. During operations and maintenance, the Project Interconnect Line portion of the Project will not restrict public access; subsistence and recreational users are to continue use.

Primary mitigation is to continue communication with local wood harvesters and the public regarding vegetation management throughout the Operation and Maintenance Phase.

3.4 Decommissioning and Rehabilitation

Project clearing for infrastructure removal may result in the alteration of recreational and/or subsistence land use along the Project Interconnect Line due to changes in resource accessibility and availability. Disturbed areas will be restored and rehabilitated, to the extent necessary, to restore full subsistence land resource use.

Primary mitigation is to continue communication with local wood harvesters and the public regarding decommissioning and rehabilitation plans.

3.5 Mitigation Measures

Planned mitigations to minimize the impact to domestic woodcutting stakeholders are:

- Project micro siting, including the twinning of lines along existing linear corridors such as transmission lines and roads, where practicable, to reduce the volume of vegetation removal and limit damage associated with Construction and Maintenance activities (i.e., equipment).
- Consultation with NL DFFA prior to the start of construction to identify wood harvest permit holders in the area and assess how wood cut during Construction can be made available to the local community. This would primarily be implemented where cutting on Crown Lands within domestic cutting areas is unavoidable.

- Communication with local wood harvesters throughout all Project phases (see Section 4.0). This includes consultation with stakeholders of affected domestic woodcutting areas to identify and address any issues or concerns.

4.0 Consultation Strategy

The consultation process will be open and transparent with stakeholders to ensure that the Project scope is fully understood, and any questions are answered. The loss of area available for woodcutting will be examined and mitigation measures noted in Section 3.5 will be reviewed with affected stakeholders. Strategies will be developed, through consultation, to ensure access to resources during all phases of the Project.

The following section outlines how the Project plans to engage with stakeholders regarding domestic woodcutting activities potentially affected by the Project.

4.1 Stakeholder Engagement

- Argentia Renewables will consult with the NL DFFA to identify active wood harvesters in the area to initiate direct engagement. The list will need to be updated annually to account for new permit holders.
- Meetings with NL DFFA and local wood harvesters will occur, as required.
- Public information sessions will include maps and information regarding woodcutting along the Project Interconnect Line ROW.
- The community liaison committee will be made aware of woodcutting requirements and asked to share information with known wood harvesters and raise any questions or concerns from the community to be addressed by the Project.

4.2 Information Distribution

- Interested stakeholders can request to be added to the Project email distribution list. Notifications or advisories regarding Project woodcutting requirements will be shared through email.
- Public Service Announcements (PSAs) will be used to inform the public of upcoming woodcutting activities. PSAs will be distributed through media, local websites, including the Town of Placentia and the POA, and via social media, to ensure broad reach.

4.3 Ongoing Communication

- The Project website will contain a map of the Project Interconnect Line ROW and information regarding woodcutting activities, including timing and contact information for affected stakeholders.
- Social media posts will be used to share notifications and advisories to the broader community.
- The Project newsletter may include an update on woodcutting activities, including a map and schedule.

5.0 References

Department of Fisheries, Forestry & Agriculture. (2016). *Five Year Sustainable Forest Management Plan for Forest Management District 01*. <https://www.gov.nl.ca/ecc/projects/project-1863/>

Department of Fisheries, Forestry & Agriculture. (2022). *Domestic Harvest Area 2022-2026*. Forest Service of NL. <https://www.gov.nl.ca/ffa/files/D01-H-1D-Long-Harbour.pdf>