

Romeo Malette Forest
April 1, 2019 – March 31, 2025 Independent Forest Audit

Management Unit Action Plan

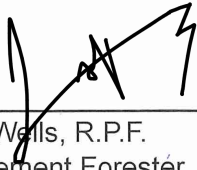
Romeo Malette Forest 2019-2025 Independent Forest Audit Action Plan
Action Plan Submission Signature Page

Prepared and Reviewed by:



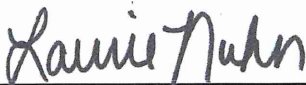
Krista Mayrand, R.P.F.
Planning Superintendent - Forestry
GreenFirst Forest Products

Date: May 1, 2026



Jacob Wells, R.P.F.
Management Forester
MNR Timmins Kirkland Lake District

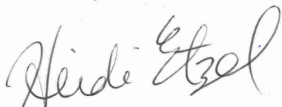
Date: May 1, 2026



Laurie Nuhn, R.P.F.
Forest Operations Specialist
MNR Northeast Region

Date: May 1, 2026

Submitted by:

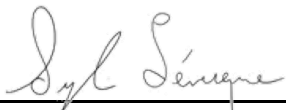


Heidi Etzel
District Manager
MNR Timmins Kirkland Lake District

Date: May 5, 2026

Romeo Malette Forest 2019-2025 Independent Forest Audit Action Plan
Action Plan Approval Signature Page

Approved by:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Sylvain Lévesque', written in black ink.

Sylvain Lévesque,
R.P.F. Regional Director
MNR Northeast Region

Date: May 5th, 2026

Cette publication hautement spécialisée (Independent Forest Audit Report – Romeo Malette Forest 2019-2025) n'est disponible qu'en anglais conformément au Règlement 671/92, selon lequel il n'est pas obligatoire de la traduire en vertu de la Loi sur les services en français. Pour obtenir des renseignements en français, veuillez communiquer avec le Ministère des Richesses naturelles au NRISC@ontario.ca

Introduction

In 2025, an Independent Forest Audit (IFA) was conducted on the Romeo Malette Forest for the period of April 1, 2019, to March 31, 2025. Auditees were notified of the Divisional Support Branch's acceptance of the report as being final on February 5, 2026. A Management Unit Action Plan is due May 5, 2026.

The final audit report for the Romeo Malette Forest included six findings, five of which will be addressed in this action plan. This action plan outlines the actions required, responsibility, timelines and method of tracking progress of said actions.

The following finding number 6(b) has been assessed as a corporate MNR finding and will be considered as part of the regular Ministry corporate planning and policy review cycle;

"Finding 6(b): There are currently no provincial policies dictating a required method or standard by which to evaluate the Sustainable Forest Licence holder's regeneration assessment results."

Finding #1: The current level of Crown road density in km/km² exceeded the target level by more than the 10% variance allowed

Action Required:

1. The Roads Task Team for the 2029 Romeo Malette Forest Management Plan will review the existing road use inventory for the forest and will update the layer to remove any roads that are no longer passable.

Organization and Position Responsible:

1. Area Forester - GreenFirst Forest Products

Deadline Date:

1. March 31, 2029

Method of Tracking Progress:

1. Updated existing road use layer submitted with the 2029 Romeo Malette Forest Management Plan

Finding #2: The loss of productive forest land from roads, landings and slash exceeded the Forest Management Plan modeling assumption of 3.12%

Action Required:

1. Sustainable Forest Licencee to continue to minimize the areas lost to roads, landings and slash as harvest and silviculture operations are complete.

Organization and Position Responsible:

1. Area Forester - GreenFirst Forest Products

Deadline Date:

1. March 31, 2031

Method of Tracking Progress:

1. Objective analysis in the Year 10 Enhanced Annual Report for the Romeo Malette Forest

Finding #3: The Ministry of Natural Resources' forest protection program was effective in mitigating budworm damage in target stands, however, not all stands treated met the selection criteria

Action Required:

1. The Northeast Region will ensure that the forest management planning manual and selection criteria are followed in all future insect pest management plans.

Organization and Position Responsible:

1. Regional Forest Operations Specialist – Ministry of Natural Resources

Deadline Date:

1. March 31, 2026

Method of Tracking Progress:

1. Completion in the Annual Reports for the Romeo Malette Forest

Finding #4: Compliance Reporting timelines in FOIP reporting are not consistently being met by the MNR and the SFL holder

Action Required:

1. Forest compliance deadlines will be reviewed by District compliance inspectors at an upcoming District Forestry Compliance Meeting.
2. Sustainable Forest Licensee will review compliance deadlines with supervisors on the Romeo Malette Forest as part of the annual training for the Annual Work Schedule.

Organization and Position Responsible:

1. District Supervisor, Timmins Kirkland Lake District – Ministry of Natural Resources
2. Operations Superintendent – GreenFirst Forest Products

Deadline Date:

1. June 30, 2026
2. June 30, 2026

Method of Tracking Progress:

1. Forest Operations Inspection Program
2. Forest Operations Inspection Program

Finding #5: The FMP objective target of having >90% of the area assessed declared as free-to-grow by forest unit was not met

Action Required:

1. Sustainable Forest Licensee to assess objective achievement as part of the Year 6 and Year 10 enhanced annual reports. Where target is not achieved, perform a root cause analysis of the silviculture program and determine what is causing the gap between the modeled treatment and the free-to-grow forest unit results.
2. The Modeling and Analysis Task Team for the 2029-2039 Romeo Malette Forest Management Plan will ensure that their analysis of past silvicultural outcomes and post-harvest succession rules align with current trends considering achievability based on factors such as (but not limited to) actual site conditions found, FRI accuracy, and silvicultural constraints/success by forest unit.

Organization and Position Responsible:

1. Planning Superintendent - GreenFirst Forest Products
2. Modeling and Analysis Task Team – 2029-2039 Romeo Malette Forest Management Plan

Deadline Date:

1. March 31, 2031
2. March 31, 2031

Method of Tracking Progress:

1. Year 6 and 10 annual reports for the 2029-2039 FMP
2. Documentation of the 2029-2039 FMP (analysis package). Year 6 and 10 annual reports for the 2029-2039 FMP

Finding #6(a): There continues to be a lack of alignment between the Sustainable Forest Licence holder's and Ministry of Natural Resources' free-to-grow survey results.

Action Required:

1. Ministry to contact Sustainable Forest License holder to compare the results from the monitoring programs. Where results are inconsistent, a joint field visit will be scheduled between the Ministry and Sustainable Forest License holder to work together to verify/validate results on the ground.

Organization and Position Responsible:

1. Management Forester, Kirkland Lake Timmins Ministry of Natural Resources

Deadline Date:

1. Annually, until March 31, 2031

Method of Tracking Progress:

1. Year 10 Enhanced Annual Report for the Romeo Malette Forest