



**FEBRUARY 24, 2025**

# **WEEKLY UPDATE OF LOG JACK PROJECT AT BAD RIVER**



*Mashkiizibii Natural Resources Department*

## **CURRENT PROJECT PERMIT/APPROVALS STATUS**

- Easements were issued by Bad River Band and the Bureau of Indian Affairs the week ending February 21.
- Log jack installation is scheduled to begin February 26th and end on March 15, 2025.
- Removal of matting, initial site restoration activities, and demobilization is scheduled to begin after March 15 and end on April 1, 2025.

## **PROJECT WORK COMPLETED WEEK ENDING FEB 21, 2025**

- Continued removing ice from log jack structure area-roughly 70 percent complete at end of week.
- Installation of water quality monitoring stations up- and downstream of project site.
- Wood turtle surveys occurred at the Project area. One wood turtle was found and relocated.
- Helicopter delivered and test lifts of log jack structures at TWS.

## **PROJECT WORK COMPLETED WEEK ENDING FEB 14, 2025**

- Permittee completed mat installation in the temporary workspace (TWS) west of Government road and began delivering log jacks from Aggies Road.
- Permittee developed access from Government Road to the Bad River, including clearing trees, installing matting, and installing temporary staircases to the bottom of the hillslope.
- Permittee began ice removal in Bad River to facilitate wood turtle surveys and log jack installation.

## **PROJECT SCHEDULE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 24**

- Installation of turbidity curtain to prevent release of sediments from log jack installation area.
- Log jack flights are scheduled to begin on Wednesday, February 26, 2025.
- Log jack flights will continue seven days a week until installation is complete, weather permitting.

## **NOTICES TO BAD RIVER BAND TRIBAL MEMBERS**

- Birch products from the Project site are available for tribal member use at the community center.
- Portions of Government Road will be closed during daytime hours when helicopter flights are planned and log jacks will be flown from the TWS, over Government Road, to the river.
- Use caution if traveling on the Bad River both upstream and downstream. There are signs signaling construction activity but unmarked hazards may exist in this area.
- Report any concerns or questions to MNRD (715) 682-7123.





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## **SUMMARY OF MNRD REVIEW ACTIVITIES**

- MNRD has staff and contractors on Project site daily to conduct environmental checklist inspections and observe Permittee's work at TWS, access, and the river installation area.
- MNRD reviews daily inspection reports prepared by Permittee and its consultants and which are provided to MNRD throughout the week.

## **MNRD OBSERVATIONS OF PERMIT COMPLIANCE TO-DATE**

Permittee has substantially complied with conditions of the relevant permits. It has, however, failed to comply with specific requirements in the following instances since the start of work when it:

- Began transporting log jacks to the staging area prior to submitting all required documentation.
- Cut a birch tree without awaiting MNRD guidance, and trimmed vegetation beyond the boundaries of the approved workspace clearing area.
- Fell into the River with a chain saw while ice cutting and failed to properly notify the Band of the safety issue. No one was hurt and the chainsaw was retrieved.
- Leaked mechanical fluids from equipment on four occasions. In each incident, the spills was contained and cleaned, the contaminants disposed of, and the River was not impacted.
- At least twice accessed the site using unapproved routes.

These incidents have caused unnecessary impacts to environmental and cultural resources. MNRD will enforce the relevant permit requirements violated in each case, while Permittee has taken steps to improve compliance.

