

other woodworkers; (4) direct observation of cutovers, logging, and logging trucks; and (5) direct observation of sawmill activity and biomass collection.

Residents attributed the overcut to several factors.

(1) Inadequate supervision of loggers and fuelwood cutters by Forestry. "Firewood cutters take too much," said one person. "They cut right to the water's edge, over there across the harbour. It looks awful. There should be more control of them." A logger reported, "The company overcuts. You can go into the woods and see the trees. I've rubbed shoulders with every stick, I know. The company was cutting double the AAC {annual allowable cut} for awhile, and also highgrading {removing only the best trees}. If they are not monitored better they could cut all the wood out of here."

(2) Excessive demand by the pulpmills, the large local sawmills, and the electricity generating plant's biomass burner. "The big mills in Roddickton are overcutting the woods; there should only be one mill. There isn't enough timber for both of them," a resident told us.

(3) Forestry officials set the annual allowable cut too high. Said one man, "Forestry is aware that it can't sustain the AAC it has set lately. They are looking for more timber stands...We'll slide into cutting everything out, right down to our doors." Another asserted,

If you fly over the country, from here to Gander, most of the way all you see is clearcut. It's a bit better in the north here, but the cutovers behind Hawkes Bay and elsewhere on the peninsula are big...Forestry is saying there's thousands {of trees} out there, and I'm saying it's getting cut out.

(4) Political pressure on Forestry to create opportunities for employment and to find resources to promote the region's industrial development. "{The forester} gets overridden, he's not in control. {The company} has government connections, it goes over his head, then the rules don't get followed, and overcutting occurs," said a woman. A man said, "The forest is overcut as government responds to pressures to keep making jobs so people can get UI {unemployment insurance.} Politicians override the professional foresters."

(5) Waste of the resource by harmful logging practices. A logger reported,

Until recently, when I cut company wood I might have to push roads through immature stands to get at the mature trees. Then, in dropping and dragging logs, I destroyed many of the young ones. We've been wasting trees like the draggers wasted fish, bringing up a net of 50 thousand pounds, perhaps most of which is immature, and throwing them away dead.

In fact, most residents drew parallels between the current logging regime and the fishery crisis. "We trusted Fisheries and Oceans to manage the resource, but they didn't listen to the fishermen and they lost it. So we shouldn't trust Forestry and they should listen to us more," said one ex-logger. A man who logged in his youth said,