
Illegal Logging Operation Costs Port Sydney man more than \$2,500

NEWS

December 9, 2009

Illegal road work has cost a Port Sydney man more than \$2,500.

James Moffatt pleaded guilty to unlawfully constructing a road on Crown land without a work permit, contrary to the Public Lands Act. He has been fined \$500, and ordered to pay \$1,000 in cleanup costs and \$1,066.75 for Crown timber harvested and damaged during a logging operation in Bethune Township, north of Burks Falls.

Court heard that Moffatt was working under a work permit issued for road construction to access private land for logging purposes. Moffatt failed to comply with the conditions of the permit, which voided the permit. Several piles of waste wood materials were left on Crown land. Crown land trees were both harvested and damaged in the operation.

Justice of the Peace Susan Hilton heard the case in the Ontario Court of Justice, Sundridge Court, Parry Sound, on December 3, 2009.

The public is reminded that conditions of a work permit are mandatory and if violated the permit becomes void. A permit, and compliance with the conditions set out in it, helps ensure that natural resources remain healthy and sustainable for generations to come.

To report a natural resources violation, call 1-877-TIPS-MNR (847-7667) toll-free any time or contact your local ministry office during regular business hours. You can also call Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).