

<u>PRESS RELEASE</u>

February 28, 2013

MONTPELIER- The Natural Resources Board formally settled Act 250 violations with Ronald and Gerry Devost of Devost Leasing located in Norton, Vermont. The Devosts failed to obtain an Act 250 permit prior to harvesting approximately 24.6 acres of timber above 2,500 feet in Warren's Gore, Vermont. While cutting this timber the Devosts violated a number of the Acceptable Management Practices that prevent runoff and silting of streams. Specifically, the Devosts failed to smooth and install waterbars on secondary skid trails, which resulted in rutting and channelization of the trails.

Under the settlement, the Devosts paid a civil penalty of \$17,800.00 to the State of Vermont, which included over \$10,000.00 in unlawfully obtained profits resulting from the violation. The settlement also required the Devosts to apply for an Act 250 permit to cover the logged area and employ the proper erosion controls. The Devosts obtained that permit from the District 7 Environmental Commission on January 23, 2013.

For further information please contact NRB Chair Ron Shems at 802-828-5440.



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