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Part

2

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Laws and Regulations

Volume 152

Summary

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Regulations and other Acts

Gouvernement du Québec

O.C. 434-2020, 8 April 2020

Natural Heritage Conservation Act
(chapter C-61.01)

Permanent status of the Réserve aquatique de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite, the Regulation respecting that reserve and its conservation plan

WHEREAS, under the first paragraph of section 43 of the Natural Heritage Conservation Act (chapter C-61.01), the Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change may recommend to the Government that all or part of land set aside under section 27 of the Act be assigned a permanent protection status as aquatic reserve;

WHEREAS, under the second paragraph of section 43 of the Act, the Minister is to submit at the same time to the Government for its approval the conservation plan for the land;

WHEREAS, by Order in Council 636-2005 dated 23 June 2005, the Government authorized the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks to assign the status of proposed aquatic reserve to the territory of the Réserve aquatique projetée de la vallée de la rivière Sainte-Marguerite and approved the plan of that area and the conservation plan proposed for the area;

WHEREAS, by Minister's Order dated 27 July 2005 (2005, *G.O.* 2, 4072), the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks assigned in particular temporary protection status to the territory of the Réserve aquatique projetée de la vallée de la rivière Sainte-Marguerite, for a term of four years commencing on 7 September 2005;

WHEREAS, by Order in Council 136-2008 dated 20 February 2008, the Government approved the amendments to the conservation plan to the reserve;

WHEREAS the setting aside of the territory was extended for four years under the Order of the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks dated 17 July 2009 (2009, *G.O.* 2, 2233), and eight years under the Order of the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment, Wildlife and Parks dated 13 March 2013 (2013, *G.O.* 2, 769);

WHEREAS, in accordance with the first paragraph of section 39 of the Natural Heritage Conservation Act, the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks entrusted the mandate to hold a public consultation on the Réserve aquatique de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite to the Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement and its inquiry and public hearing report was made public on 20 November 2012;

WHEREAS the report deals in particular with the feasibility of changing the limits of the territory of the Réserve aquatique projetée de la vallée de la rivière Sainte-Marguerite and concludes, among other things, that permanent protection status may be assigned to it;

WHEREAS the limits of the Réserve aquatique projetée de la vallée de la rivière Sainte-Marguerite were reassessed by the Minister and changed after the public consultation to expand to the west, around the Réserve écologique G.-Oscar-Villeneuve and to the east extending the protection of the north bank of the river by a dozen kilometres, and to rely, where possible, on natural or man-made elements easily visible on the site to facilitate management;

WHEREAS the plan of the Réserve aquatique projetée de la vallée de la rivière Sainte-Marguerite and its conservation plan were adjusted based on the changed limits and the technical description corresponding to the new limits has been prepared;

WHEREAS the land included in the territory forms part of the domain of the State and is not part of a reserved area or an agricultural zone established under the Act respecting the preservation of agricultural land and agricultural activities (chapter P-41.1);

WHEREAS, in accordance with the first paragraph of section 151 of the Act respecting land use planning and development (chapter A-19.1), the Minister of Sustainable Development, the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change notified an opinion describing the planned intervention to the council of Municipalité régionale de comté du Fjord-du-Saguenay and the council of Municipalité régionale de la Haute-Côte-Nord;

WHEREAS, in accordance with the first paragraph of section 152 of that Act, the council of Municipalité régionale de comté du Fjord-du-Saguenay, by resolution No. C-16-364 dated 23 November 2016, and the council of Municipalité régionale de comté de La Haute-Côte-Nord, by resolution No. 2016-10-213 dated 18 October

2016, confirmed that the project for the establishment of the Réserve aquatique de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite complies with the objectives of the land use planning and development plan and to the provisions of the complementary documents;

WHEREAS the Commission de toponymie sent to the Minister its approval of the name “Réserve aquatique de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite” to designate the permanent aquatic reserve;

WHEREAS, under subparagraph *f* of paragraph 1 of section 46 of the Natural Heritage Conservation Act, in an aquatic reserve and a biodiversity reserve, any activity which the Government may prohibit by regulation is prohibited;

WHEREAS, under subparagraph *g* of paragraph 1 of section 46 of the Act, in an aquatic reserve and a biodiversity reserve, subject to measures in the conservation plan authorizing the activities and specifying the conditions on which they may be carried on, any allocation of a right to occupy land for vacation resort purposes, earthwork, backfilling or construction work and commercial activities are prohibited;

WHEREAS, under paragraph 2 of section 46 of the Act, all other activities are permitted, in addition to those prohibited by paragraph 1 of that section, subject to the applicable conditions;

WHEREAS, under section 47 of the Act, in an aquatic reserve, any type of activity likely to degrade the bed, banks or shores or to otherwise affect the integrity of the body of water or watercourse and any operation of a motorized vessel in contravention of the conditions contained in the conservation plan approved by the Government are prohibited;

WHEREAS, in accordance with sections 10 and 11 of the Regulations Act (chapter R-18.1), the draft Regulation respecting the Réserve aquatique de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite was published in Part 2 of the *Gazette officielle du Québec* of 15 May 2019 with a notice that it could be made by the Government on the expiry of 45 days following that publication;

WHEREAS it is expedient to make the Regulation respecting the Réserve aquatique de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite with amendments, in particular to include the technical description of the territory and to make technical adjustments;

WHEREAS, under paragraph 3 of section 44 of the Natural Heritage Conservation Act, the establishment of an aquatic reserve and a change in its limits, or its abolishment, is effected by order of the Government, on a proposal by the Minister, subject to the publication of a notice of the decision of the Government to establish an aquatic reserve in the *Gazette officielle du Québec* with the plan of the area and the conservation plan;

WHEREAS the publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec* of this Order in Council, of the Regulation respecting the Réserve aquatique de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite and of its conservation plan constitutes the notice required by that paragraph, including the documents that must accompany it;

WHEREAS, under section 45 of the Natural Heritage Conservation Act, permanent protection status for land, conservation plans and applicable agreements, and amendments or revocations take effect on the date of publication of the order in the *Gazette officielle du Québec* or on any later date specified in the order;

IT IS ORDERED, therefore, on the recommendation of the Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change:

THAT permanent aquatic reserve status be assigned to the territory described in the Regulation attached to Schedule I to this Order in Council, under the name “Réserve aquatique de Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite”;

THAT the Regulation respecting the Réserve aquatique de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite, attached to Schedule I to this Order in Council, be made;

THAT the conservation plan applicable to the Réserve aquatique de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite, attached to Schedule II to this Order in Council, be approved;

THAT permanent status of the Réserve aquatique de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite and its conservation plan take effect on the fifteenth day following the date of their publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.

YVES OUELLET,
Clerk of the Conseil exécutif

SCHEDULE I

Regulation respecting the Réserve aquatique de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite

Natural Heritage Conservation Act
(chapter C-61.01, s. 43 and s. 46, par. 1, subpars. *e, f*
and *g*, and par. 2, and s. 47)

1. The Réserve aquatique de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite is constituted in the territory described in the Schedule.

2. For the purposes of this Regulation,

(1) the words or terms “high-water mark”, “littoral zone”, “floodplain”, “lakeshore” and “riverbank” have the meaning given to them in the Protection Policy for Lakeshores, Riverbanks, Littoral Zones and Floodplains (chapter Q-2, r. 35);

(2) the term “wetlands and bodies of water” has the meaning given to it in section 46.0.2 of the Environment Quality Act (chapter Q-2);

(3) the term “forest development activity” has the meaning given to it in the Sustainable Forest Development Act (chapter A-18.1).

DIVISION I

PROTECTION OF RESOURCES AND THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

3. Subject to the prohibition in the second paragraph, no person may introduce any individuals of a native or non-native species of fauna into the aquatic reserve, including by stocking, unless the person has been authorized by the Minister.

No person may stock a lake or watercourse for aquaculture, commercial fishing or any other commercial purpose.

Except with the authorization of the Minister, no person may introduce non-native species of flora into the aquatic reserve.

4. No person may use fertilizers in the aquatic reserve. Compost for domestic purposes is however permitted if it is used at least 20 metres from a lake or watercourse, measured from the high-water mark.

5. No person may remove from the aquatic reserve species of flora, small fruits or any other non-timber forest product by mechanical means.

6. No person may in the aquatic reserve, unless the person has been authorized by the Minister,

(1) intervene in a wetland area, in particular a marsh, swamp or peat bog;

(2) modify the natural drainage or water regime, including by creating or developing lakes and watercourses;

(3) dig, fill, obstruct or divert a lake or watercourse;

(4) install or construct a structure, infrastructure or new works in the littoral zone, on the banks or shores or the floodplains of a lake or watercourse; no authorization is however required for minor works — quay or platform, boat shelter — installed for private purposes and may be free of charge under section 2 of the Regulation respecting the water property in the domain of the State (chapter R-13, r. 1);

(5) carry on an activity other than those referred to in paragraphs 1 to 4 likely to directly and substantially affect the biochemical characteristics or quality of wetlands and bodies of water in the aquatic reserve, including by discharging or dumping residual materials or contaminants into the wetlands or bodies of water;

(6) carry out soil development work or an activity likely to degrade the soil or a geological formation, or to damage the vegetation cover, in particular by stripping, the digging of trenches or excavation work, including any burial, earthwork, removal or displacement of surface materials or vegetation cover, for any purpose;

(7) install or construct a structure, infrastructure or new works;

(8) reconstruct or demolish a structure, infrastructure or works;

(9) use a pesticide; no authorization is required for the use of personal insect repellent;

(10) carry on educational or research-related activities if the activities are likely to directly or significantly damage or disturb the natural environment, in particular because of the nature or size of the samples taken or the invasive character of the method or process used; or

(11) hold a sports event, tournament, rally or any other similar event where

(a) fauna or flora species are taken or are likely to be taken; or

(b) motor vehicles or craft are used.

7. Despite paragraphs 6, 7 and 8 of section 6, if the requirements provided for in the second paragraph are met, no authorization is required to carry out the following work:

(1) the maintenance, repair or improvement of any structure, infrastructure or works, including a camp, a cabin, a road or a trail, including an ancillary facility such as a lookout or stairs;

(2) the construction or installation

(a) of a dependency or a facility ancillary to a trapping camp, a rough shelter, a shelter or a cabin, including a shed, a water withdrawal facility or a system for the discharge and disposal of waste water, grey water and toilet effluents; or

(b) of a trapping camp, a rough shelter, a shelter or a cabin if, on the date of coming into force of this Regulation, such a building was permitted under the right of use or occupancy granted, but had not yet been carried out; or

(3) the demolition or reconstruction of a trapping camp, a rough shelter, a shelter or a cabin, including a dependency or a facility ancillary to such a structure, including a shed, a water withdrawal facility or a system for the discharge and disposal of waste water, grey water and toilet effluents.

The carrying out of the work referred to in the first paragraph must comply with the following requirements:

(1) the work involves a structure, infrastructure or works whose presence is permitted within the aquatic reserve;

(2) the work is carried out within the area of the land or right of way subject to the right to use or occupy the land in the aquatic reserve, whether the right results from a lease, a servitude or other form of title, permit or authorization;

(3) the nature of the work or elements installed by the work will not operate to increase the area of land that may remain deforested beyond the limits permitted under the provisions applicable to the sale, lease and granting of immovable rights under the Act respecting the lands in the domain of the State (chapter T-8.1) and, if applicable, the limits set under an authorization issued in connection with that structure, works or infrastructure;

(4) the work is carried out in accordance with the prescriptions of any permit or authorization issued for the work or in connection with the structure, infrastructure or works to which they are related, as well as in compliance with the applicable legislative and regulatory measures;

(5) in the case of forest roads, the work must not operate to alter or exceed the existing right of way, widen the roadway or convert the road to a higher class.

For the purposes of this section, repair and upgrading work includes work to replace or install works or facilities to comply with the requirements of an environmental regulation.

8. No person may bury, incinerate, abandon or dispose of residual materials or snow, except if they are disposed of in waste disposal containers, facilities or sites determined by the Minister or, in other cases, with the authorization of the Minister.

Despite the first paragraph, a controlled zone does not need an authorization to use a disposal facility or site, in compliance with the Environment Quality Act (chapter Q-2) and its regulations, if the controlled zone was already using the facility or site on the date of coming into force of this Regulation.

DIVISION II RULES OF CONDUCT FOR USERS

9. No person may enter, carry on an activity or operate a vehicle in a given sector of the aquatic reserve if the signage installed by the Minister restricts access, traffic or certain activities in the sector in order to protect the public from a danger or to avoid placing the fauna, flora or other components of the natural environment at risk, unless the person has been authorized by the Minister.

10. No person may destroy, remove, move or damage any poster, sign, notice or other type of signage posted by the Minister within the aquatic reserve.

DIVISION III ACTIVITIES REQUIRING AN AUTHORIZATION

11. No person may, for a period of more than 90 days in the same year, occupy or use the same site of the aquatic reserve, unless the person has been authorized by the Minister.

For the purposes of the first paragraph,

(1) the occupation or use of a site includes

(a) staying or settling in the aquatic reserve, for instance for vacation purposes;

(b) setting up a camp or a shelter; and

(c) installing, burying or abandoning any property in the reserve, including equipment, a device or a vehicle; and

(2) the expression “same site” includes any other site within a radius of 1 kilometre from the site.

Despite the first paragraph, an authorization is not required if a person,

(1) on the date of coming into force of this Regulation, was a party to a lease or had already obtained another form of right or another authorization allowing the person to legally occupy the land under the Act respecting the lands in the domain of the State (chapter T-8.1) or, if applicable, the Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife (chapter C-61.1), and whose right to occupy the land is renewed or extended on the same conditions, subject to possible changes in fees; or

(2) in accordance with the law, has entitlement under a sublease, an assignment of a lease or a transfer of a right or authorization referred to in subparagraph 1, and whose right to occupy the land is renewed or extended on the same conditions, subject to possible changes in fees.

12. No person may carry on forest management activities to meet domestic needs or for the purpose of maintaining biodiversity, unless the person has been authorized by the Minister.

Despite the first paragraph, persons staying or residing within the aquatic reserve and who collect wood required to make a campfire are not required to obtain the authorization of the Minister.

No such authorization is required if a person collects firewood to meet domestic needs to supply a trapping camp or a rough shelter permitted within the reserve in the following cases and on the following conditions:

(1) the wood is collected by a person in compliance with the conditions set out in the permit for the harvest of firewood for domestic purposes issued under the Sustainable Forest Development Act (chapter A-18.1);

(2) the quantity of wood collected does not exceed 7 apparent cubic metres per year.

In addition, no authorization to carry on a forest management activity is required if a person authorized by lease to occupy land within the aquatic reserve in accordance with this Regulation carries on the activity for the purpose of

(1) clearing, maintaining or creating visual openings, and any other similar removal work permitted under the provisions governing the sale, lease and granting of immovable rights under the Act respecting the lands in

the domain of the State (chapter T-8.1), including for access roads, stairs or other trails permitted under those provisions; or

(2) clearing the necessary area for the installation, connection, maintenance, repair, reconstruction or upgrading of facilities, lines or mains for water, sewer, electric power or telecommunications services.

If the work referred to in subparagraph 2 of the fourth paragraph is carried on for or under the responsibility of an enterprise providing any of those services, the work requires the prior authorization of the Minister, other than in the case of the exemptions provided for in sections 14 and 16.

13. No person may carry on commercial activities in the aquatic reserve, except with the authorization of the Minister.

Despite the first paragraph, no authorization is required

(1) if the activity does not involve the taking of fauna or flora resources, or the use of a motor vehicle; or

(2) to carry on commercial activities which, on the date of coming into force of this Regulation, were the subject of a right to use the land for such a purpose, whether the right results from a lease or other form of title, permit or authorization, within the limits of the right.

DIVISION IV **AUTHORIZATION EXEMPTIONS**

14. Despite the preceding provisions, an authorization is not required for an activity or other form of intervention within the aquatic reserve if urgent action is necessary to prevent harm to the health or safety of persons, or to repair or prevent damage caused by a real or apprehended catastrophe. The person concerned must, however, immediately inform the Minister of the activity or intervention that has taken place.

15. Despite the preceding provisions, an authorization is not required for a member of a Native community for an intervention within the aquatic reserve where that intervention is part of the exercise of rights covered by section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 (Schedule B of the Canada Act, chapter 11 in the 1982 volume of the Acts of the Parliament of the United Kingdom) and those rights are credibly asserted or established.

16. Despite the preceding provisions, the following activities and interventions carried out by Hydro-Québec (hereinafter the “Société”) or by any other person for Hydro-Québec do not require the prior authorization of the Minister under this Regulation:

(1) any activity or intervention required within the aquatic reserve to complete a project for which express authorization had previously been given by the Government and the Minister, or only by the latter, in accordance with the requirements of the Environment Quality Act (chapter Q-2), if the activity or intervention is carried out in compliance with the authorizations issued;

(2) any activity or intervention necessary for the preparation and presentation of a pre-project report for a project requiring an authorization under the Environment Quality Act;

(3) any activity or intervention relating to a project requiring the prior authorization of the Minister under the Environment Quality Act if the activity or intervention is in response to a request for a clarification or for additional information made by the Minister to the Société and it is carried out in accordance with the request.

The Société informs the Minister of the various activities or interventions referred to in this section it proposes to carry out before the work is begun within the reserve.

For the purposes of this section, the activities and interventions of the Société include but are not restricted to pre-project studies, analysis work or field research, work required to study and monitor the impact of electric power transmission and distribution line corridors and rights of way, geological or geophysical surveys and survey lines, and the opening and maintenance of roads required for the purposes of access, construction or traffic incidental to the work.

DIVISION V FINAL

17. This Regulation comes into force on the fifteenth day following the date of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.

SCHEDULE

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION

RÉSERVE AQUATIQUE DE LA VALLÉE-DE-LA-RIVIÈRE-SAINTE-MARGUERITE (s. 1)

[Translation of the technical description filed in French only at the office of the Surveyor-General of Québec of the Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles.]

FOREWORD

In this technical description, it is understood that:

When the perimeter described follows a watercourse or lakeshore, it does so, unless otherwise indicated, along the outer edge of the bank or shore, in other words along the high-water mark of the hydrographic entity concerned.

In general, the beds of all watercourses, rivers and lakes are included in the territory. Only those that are excluded are mentioned in this technical description.

When a coordinate is accompanied by the sign “±”, it is approximate and given for location purposes only. The hydrographic or topographic feature, or any other limit described, takes priority.

When the perimeter described follows the right of way of the Micoua-Saguenay section of the Duvernay-Micoua power transmission line, it corresponds to the land placed at the disposal of Hydro-Québec under reference no. 85-T (Right #699908).

When the perimeter described follows the limit of the right of way of a road, it corresponds to the land occupied by the road and its improvements (shoulder, bank, ditches, channels and bridges).

A territory of irregular shape situated in the regional county municipalities of Fjord-du-Saguenay and Haute-Côte-Nord, in the registration divisions of Chicoutimi and Saguenay, in the municipalities of Saint-Fulgence and Sainte-Rose-du-Nord (parish), in the unorganized territories of Mont-Valin and Sacré-Coeur, in the townships of Albert, Champigny, Chardon, Coquart, Couillard, Couture, Durocher, Harvey, La Brosse, Saint-Germains and Silvy, and in the cadastre of Québec. The perimeter of the territory may be described as follows, namely:

PARCEL 1

Starting from a point situated at the intersection of the southeastern limit of Parc national des Monts-Valin with the northern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 1;

Point 1 5 378 596 m North, 292 191 m East ±

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along the northern bank of the said intermittent stream, to point 2;

Point 2 5 378 518 m North, 292 607 m East ±

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the northern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 3;

Point 3 5 378 241 m North, 292 910 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the eastern shore of the said lake to the intersection with the eastern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 4;

Point 4 5 378 186 m North, 292 893 m East ±

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the western shore of an unnamed lake, being point 5;

Point 5 5 377 807 m North, 293 652 m East ±

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along the northern shore of the said lake, to point 6;

Point 6 5 377 822 m North, 293 813 m East ±

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the eastern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 7;

Point 7 5 377 718 m North, 293 971 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the eastern bank of the said stream, to the intersection with the northwestern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 8;

Point 8 5 377 247 m North, 293 976 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the northwestern bank of the said intermittent stream, to point 9;

Point 9 5 377 544 m North, 294 455 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along a broken line whose apexes are:

Point 10 5 377 179.22 m North, 294 723.80 m East

Point 11 5 376 521.17 m North, 294 516.91 m East

Point 12 5 375 863.49 m North, 295 180.32 m East

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the southeastern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 13;

Point 13 5 375 973 m North, 295 548 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the southeastern bank of the said intermittent stream, in such a way as to exclude it from the aquatic reserve, to the intersection with the southeastern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 14;

Point 14 5 376 074 m North, 295 692 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the southeastern bank of several unnamed streams and the southeastern shore of an unnamed lake, in such a way as to exclude them from the aquatic reserve, to the intersection with the southwestern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 15;

Point 15 5 376 228 m North, 296 212 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along a broken line whose apexes are:

Point 16 5 375 834.87 m North, 296 467.22 m East

Point 17 5 375 225.35 m North, 296 382.92 m East

Point 18 5 374 964.26 m North, 296 513.26 m East

Point 19 5 374 786.46 m North, 296 527.16 m East

Point 20 5 374 553.79 m North, 297 340.73 m East

Point 21 5 374 051.73 m North, 297 291.64 m East

Thence, in an easterly direction, along a straight line until it meets the intersection of the southeastern bank of an intermittent stream with the eastern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 22;

Point 22 5 373 966 m North, 299 568 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the southeastern bank of the said stream, to the intersection with the northeastern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 23;

Point 23 5 373 097 m North, 299 285 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the northeastern bank of the said intermittent stream, to point 24;

Point 24 5 372 821 m North, 299 641 m East ±

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along a straight line until it meets the intersection of the western bank of an intermittent stream with the western shore of an unnamed lake, being point 25;

Point 25 5 372 919 m North, 299 854 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the northwestern shore of several unnamed lakes and Lac Louise and the northeastern bank of several unnamed streams, to the intersection with the extension of the northeastern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 26;

Point 26 5 373 438 m North, 301 019 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the said extension and then the northeastern bank of the intermittent stream, to point 27;

Point 27 5 373 267 m North, 301 238 m East ±

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the northeastern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 28;

Point 28 5 373 146 m North, 301 381 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the northeastern bank of the said intermittent stream and its extension, to the intersection with the southeastern bank of another intermittent stream, being point 29;

Point 29 5 372 822 m North, 301 747 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the eastern bank of an intermittent stream, to the intersection with the northeastern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 30;

Point 30 5 372 788 m North, 301 749 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the northeastern bank of the said stream and its extension, to the intersection with the northeastern bank of another unnamed stream, being point 31;

Point 31 5 372 087 m North, 302 901 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the northeastern bank of the said stream, to the intersection with the northern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 32;

Point 32 5 371 948 m North, 302 948 m East ±

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the northeastern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 33;

Point 33 5 371 672 m North, 303 261 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the northeastern bank of the said intermittent stream and its extension to the intersection with the western limit of Réserve écologique G.-Oscar-Villeneuve, being point 34;

Point 34 5 371 049 m North, 304 030 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the western, southern, eastern and northern limits of Réserve écologique G.-Oscar-Villeneuve, in such a way as to exclude it from the aquatic reserve, to the intersection with the northwestern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 35;

Point 35 5 371 466 m North, 305 113 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the northwestern bank of the said intermittent stream, to point 36;

Point 36 5 371 709 m North, 305 400 m East ±

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the northwestern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 37;

Point 37 5 371 819 m North, 305 503 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the northwestern bank of the said intermittent stream and the northwestern shore of an unnamed lake, to point 38;

Point 38 5 372 038 m North, 306 071 m East ±

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along a broken line whose apexes are:

Point 39 5 372 164.97 m North, 306 308.57 m East

Point 40 5 372 080.58 m North, 306 386.66 m East

Point 41 5 371 937.32 m North, 306 740.83 m East

Point 42 5 372 248.41 m North, 307 013.79 m East

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the northeastern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 43;

Point 43 5 372 097 m North, 307 101 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the northeastern bank of the said intermittent stream and its extension, to the intersection with the northeastern bank of another intermittent stream, being point 44;

Point 44 5 371 843 m North, 307 512 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the northeastern bank of the said intermittent stream and its extension, to the intersection with the northeastern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 45;

Point 45 5 371 737 m North, 307 740 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the northeastern bank of the said stream, the northeastern shore of an unnamed lake and the northeastern bank of Ruisseau Bras Harvey, to the intersection with the northwestern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 46;

Point 46 5 369 951 m North, 308 474 m East ±

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along the northern bank of the said stream and the northern shore of Lac des Parois, to point 47;

Point 47 5 370 320 m North, 310 310 m East ±

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line to point 48;

Point 48 5 370 101.70 m North, 310 538.36 m East

Thence, in an easterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the northern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 49;

Point 49 5 370 069 m North, 310 764 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the northwestern bank of the said intermittent stream and its extension, to the intersection with the northeastern bank of Ruisseau Bras des Murailles, being point 50;

Point 50 5 370 575 m North, 311 705 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the northeastern bank of the said stream, to the intersection with the northwestern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 51;

Point 51 5 368 516 m North, 315 352 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the northwestern bank the said stream, to the intersection with the extension of the northern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 52;

Point 52 5 368 868 m North, 315 906 m East ±

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along the said extension and then the northern bank of the intermittent stream, to point 53;

Point 53 5 368 810 m North, 316 243 m East ±

Thence, in an easterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the northern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 54;

Point 54 5 368 785 m North, 316 333 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the northeastern bank of the said intermittent stream, to point 55;

Point 55 5 368 513 m North, 316 719 m East ±

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the western shore of an unnamed lake, being point 56;

Point 56 5 368 648 m North, 316 931 m East ±

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along the northern shore of the said lake and the northern bank of an unnamed stream, to the intersection with the western bank of Ruisseau de la Muraille, being point 57;

Point 57 5 368 548 m North, 317 825 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northerly direction, along the western bank of the said stream, to the intersection with the extension of the northern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 58;

Point 58 5 369 271 m North, 317 996 m East ±

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along the said extension and then the northern bank of the stream, to the intersection with the western bank of another unnamed stream, being point 59;

Point 59 5 369 528 m North, 319 224 m East ±

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the eastern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 60;

Point 60 5 368 923 m North, 319 494 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the eastern bank of the said intermittent stream, to the intersection with the northwestern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 61;

Point 61 5 368 305 m North, 319 612 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the northwestern bank of the said stream, to point 62;

Point 62 5 368 664 m North, 320 197 m East ±

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the western shore of an unnamed lake, being point 63;

Point 63 5 368 336 m North, 320 668 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the northwestern shore of several lakes and the northwestern bank of an unnamed stream, to the intersection with the northwestern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 64;

Point 64 5 368 727 m North, 321 499 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the northwestern bank of the said intermittent stream, to point 65;

Point 65 5 368 833 m North, 321 770 m East ±

Thence, in an easterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the western shore of Lac de l'Écluse, being point 66;

Point 66 5 368 838 m North, 322 109 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the western, northern and eastern shore of the said lake and an unnamed lake, and along the western, northern and eastern bank of several unnamed streams, to the intersection with the extension of the northern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 67;

Point 67 5 367 589 m North, 322 772 m East ±

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the northern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 68;

Point 68 5 367 035 m North, 323 379 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the northeastern shore of the said lake and the northeastern bank of an unnamed stream, to the intersection with the northwestern bank of another unnamed stream, being point 69;

Point 69 5 366 330 m North, 323 753 m East ±

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along the northwestern bank of the said stream and then the northeastern shore of an unnamed lake, the northeastern bank of another unnamed stream and the northeastern shore of Lac Joseph, to point 70;

Point 70 5 366 252 m North, 324 925 m East ±

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the southwestern shore of Lac Banane, being point 71;

Point 71 5 366 423 m North, 325 368 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the western shore of the said lake and the western bank of an unnamed stream, in such a way as to exclude them from the aquatic reserve, to point 72;

Point 72 5 365 485 m North, 325 570 m East ±

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line to point 73;

Point 73 5 365 017.56 m North, 326 997.67 m East

Thence, in a southerly direction, along a straight line to point 74;

Point 74 5 364 570.09 m North, 327 060.21 m East

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the eastern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 75;

Point 75 5 364 676 m North, 327 311 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the eastern bank of the said intermittent stream, to point 76;

Point 76 5 364 329 m North, 327 342 m East ±

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along a broken line whose apexes are:

Point 77 5 363 883.54 m North, 327 370.30 m East

Point 78 5 364 355.36 m North, 327 658.81 m East

Point 79 5 364 319.24 m North, 327 885.19 m East

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the southern shore of Lac Tranquille, being point 80;

Point 80 5 364 476 m North, 327 983 m East ±

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along the eastern shore of the said lake and the eastern bank of an unnamed stream, the southeastern shore of Lac Carré and the southeastern bank of another unnamed stream, in such a way as to exclude them from the aquatic reserve, to the intersection with the extension of the northwestern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 81;

Point 81 5 364 418 m North, 328 665 m East ±

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line to point 82;

Point 82 5 364 133.15 m North, 329 146.98 m East

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line to point 83;

Point 83 5 363 913.71 m North, 329 287.91 m East

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the northeastern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 84;

Point 84 5 363 777 m North, 329 553 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the northeastern bank of the said intermittent stream and its extension, to the intersection with the southeastern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 85;

Point 85 5 362 584 m North, 330 118 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the eastern bank of the said stream, to the intersection with the northeastern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 86;

Point 86 5 361 453 m North, 329 709 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the northeastern bank of the said intermittent stream, to the intersection with the western limit of the right of way of the Micoua-Saguenay section of the Duvernay-Micoua power transmission line, being point 87;

Point 87 5 360 938 m North, 330 383 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the western limit of the right of way of the said power transmission line, to the intersection with the northeastern limit of the right of way of Highway 172, being point 88;

Point 88 5 358 925 m North, 329 901 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the northeastern limit of the right of way of the said highway, to the intersection with the southwestern bank of Rivière Sainte-Marguerite, being point 89;

Point 89 5 360 515 m North, 327 282 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the southwestern bank of the said Rivière Sainte-Marguerite, to the intersection with the northwestern limit of lot 55 of range V of the township of La Brosse, being point 90;

Point 90 5 360 730 m North, 326 814 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the northwestern limit of the said lot, to the intersection with the northeastern limit of the right of way of Highway 172, being point 91;

Point 91 5 360 665 m North, 326 785 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the northeastern limit of the right of way of the said highway, to the intersection with the eastern limit of lot 5 104 303 of the cadastre of Québec, being point 92;

Point 92 5 362 403 m North, 321 558 m East ±

Thence, in a westerly direction, along the northeastern limit and western limits of the said lot, to the intersection with the northeastern limit of the right of way of Highway 172, being point 93;

Point 93 5 362 514 m North, 321 046 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the northeastern limit of the right of way of the said highway, to point 94;

Point 94 5 366 037 m North, 309 551 m East ±

Thence, in a northerly direction, along a straight line, to the intersection with a line parallel to and at a distance of 75 metres from the southwestern bank of Rivière Sainte-Marguerite, being point 95;

Point 95 5 366 177 m North, 309 557 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the said parallel line, to point 96;

Point 96 5 366 579 m North, 309 074 m East ±

Thence, in a southerly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the northern limit of the right of way of Highway 172, being point 97;

Point 97 5 366 180 m North, 308 995 m East ±

Thence, in a westerly direction, along the northern limit of the right of way of the said highway, to the intersection with the northeastern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 98;

Point 98 5 365 853 m North, 305 418 m East ±

Thence, in a westerly direction, along the northern bank of several unnamed streams, and the northern shore of an unnamed lake and Lac Rouge, in such a way as to exclude them from the aquatic reserve, to the intersection with the extension of the northeastern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 99;

Point 99 5 366 128 m North, 303 771 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along a broken line whose apexes are:

Point 100 5 366 308.65 m North, 303 965.24 m East

Point 101 5 366 234.62 m North, 304 172.54 m East

Point 102 5 366 439.09 m North, 304 685.54 m East

Point 103 5 366 954.17 m North, 304 993.99 m East

Thence, in a westerly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the southwestern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 104;

Point 104 5 367 040 m North, 304 021 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the southwestern bank of the said intermittent stream, to the intersection with the southeastern bank of another intermittent stream, being point 105;

Point 105 5 367 223 m North, 303 787 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the southeastern bank of the said intermittent stream, to point 106;

Point 106 5 366 935 m North, 303 337 m East ±

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line to point 107;

Point 107 5 366 736.00 m North, 302 894.00 m East

Thence, in a northwesterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the southwestern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 108;

Point 108 5 366 755 m North, 302 855 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the southwestern bank of the said intermittent stream, to the intersection with the extension of the western bank of another intermittent stream, being point 109;

Point 109 5 366 861 m North, 302 674 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northerly direction, along the said extension, and then along the western bank of the intermittent stream, to point 110;

Point 110 5 367 203 m North, 302 770 m East ±

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the southeastern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 111;

Point 111 5 367 969 m North, 303 066 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the southern and western bank of the said intermittent stream, to the intersection with the southwestern bank of another intermittent stream, being point 112;

Point 112 5 368 294 m North, 302 697 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the southwestern bank of the said intermittent stream, to point 113;

Point 113 5 368 587 m North, 302 178 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along a broken line whose apexes are:

Point 114 5 368 504.66 m North, 301 214.12 m East

Point 115 5 368 694.56 m North. 300 608.97 m East
 Point 116 5 369 072.63 m North. 300 335.85 m East
 Point 117 5 369 058.70 m North. 299 975.47 m East
 Point 118 5 369 473.42 m North. 300 226.47 m East
 Point 119 5 369 834.19 m North. 299 844.49 m East
 Point 120 5 369 276.87 m North. 299 364.90 m East
 Point 121 5 369 146.67 m North. 299 109.49 m East
 Point 122 5 369 267.76 m North. 298 019.67 m East
 Point 123 5 369 689.04 m North. 297 156.37 m East
 Point 124 5 369 965.94 m North. 296 997.32 m East
 Point 125 5 370 023.39 m North. 296 775.44 m East
 Point 126 5 370 272.88 m North. 296 524.85 m East
 Point 127 5 370 702.15 m North. 296 726.49 m East
 Point 128 5 370 736.29 m North. 296 537.73 m East
 Point 129 5 370 691.84 m North. 296 211.77 m East
 Point 130 5 371 288.61 m North. 295 503.27 m East
 Point 131 5 371 218.50 m North. 295 132.92 m East
 Point 132 5 371 324.46 m North. 294 756.16 m East
 Point 133 5 371 468.32 m North. 293 744.48 m East

Thence, in a northwesterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the southern shore of Lac de la Bête Puante, being point 134;

Point 134 5 372 054 m North, 293 134 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the southern shore of the said lake and then the western bank of an intermittent stream, to point 135;

Point 135 5 372 595 m North, 292 268 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along a broken line whose apexes are:

Point 136 5 372 779.66 m North. 292 097.41 m East
 Point 137 5 373 112.29 m North. 292 010.27 m East
 Point 138 5 373 273.08 m North. 291 792.27 m East
 Point 139 5 373 228.54 m North. 291 532.49 m East
 Point 140 5 373 435.07 m North. 291 537.18 m East
 Point 141 5 373 584.73 m North. 291 642.44 m East

Thence, in a northwesterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the northeastern limit of the right of way of an unnamed road, being point 142;

Point 142 5 373 786 m North, 291 558 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the northeastern and then the northern limit of the right of way of the said road, in such a way as to exclude it from the aquatic reserve, to the intersection with the northeastern limit of the right of way of another unnamed road, being point 143;

Point 143 5 374 599 m North, 289 514 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the northeastern limit of the right of way of the said road, in such a way as to exclude it from the aquatic reserve, to the intersection with the northeastern limit of the right of way of another unnamed road, being point 144;

Point 144 5 374 788 m North, 289 346 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the northeastern limit of the right of way of the said road, in such a way as to exclude it from the aquatic reserve, to the intersection with the southern limit of Parc national des Monts-Valin, being point 145;

Point 145 5 375 769 m North, 288 759 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the southern and then eastern limit of the said national park, in such a way as to exclude it from the aquatic reserve, to starting point 1.

Having an area of 183.4 square kilometers.

To be excluded from this parcel:

Lots 5 104 304 and 5 104 305 of the cadastre of Québec.

The perimeter of the part of the territory to be excluded may be described as follows:

Starting from a point situated at the intersection of the northwestern limit of lot 55 of range VI of the township of La Brosse with the northeastern bank of Rivière Sainte-Marguerite, being point 146;

Point 146 5 360 845 m North, 326 870 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the northwestern limit of the said lot, to point 147;

Point 147 5 361 221 m North, 327 044 m East ±

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the southeastern limit of lot 55 of range VI of the township of La Brosse, being point 148;

Point 148 5 361 112 m North, 327 279 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the southeastern limit of the said lot, to point 149;

Point 149 5 361 154 m North, 327 298 m East ±

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the southeastern limit of lot 54 of range VI of the township of La Brosse, being point 150;

Point 150 5 361 044 m North, 327 535 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the southeastern limit of the said lot, to the intersection with the northeastern bank of Rivière Sainte-Marguerite, being point 151;

Point 151 5 360 615 m North, 327 336 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the northeastern bank of the said river, to starting point 146.

PARCEL 2

Starting from a point situated at the intersection of the western bank of an unnamed stream with the southeastern limit of the right of way of Highway 172, being point 152;

Point 152 5 364 873 m North, 304 001 m East ±

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along the southern limit of the right of way of the said highway, to the intersection with the eastern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 153;

Point 153 5 363 487 m North, 318 077 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the southeastern bank of the said stream, to point 154;

Point 154 5 362 239 m North, 316 931 m East ±

Thence, in a northwesterly direction, along a straight line to point 155;

Point 155 5 362 515.14 m North, 316 749.92 m East

Thence, in a northwesterly direction, along a straight line to point 156;

Point 156 5 362 607.51 m North, 316 485.75 m East

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the northern shore of Lac Chicot, being point 157;

Point 157 5 362 347 m North, 316 045 m East ±

Thence, in a westerly direction, along the northern shore of the said lake and the northern bank of an unnamed stream, in such a way as to exclude them from the aquatic reserve, to point 158;

Point 158 5 362 309 m North, 315 445 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along a broken line whose apexes are:

Point 159 5 362 841.25 m North. 315 472.77 m East

Point 160 5 363 322.02 m North. 314 889.27 m East

Point 161 5 363 323.63 m North. 314 727.78 m East

Point 162 5 362 975.46 m North. 314 487.37 m East

Point 163 5 362 750.03 m North. 314 610.00 m East

Point 164 5 362 691.76 m North. 314 135.93 m East

Thence, in a northwesterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the northeastern limit of the right of way of an unnamed road, being point 165;

Point 165 5 363 123 m North, 313 897 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the northeastern limit of the right of way of the said road, in such a way as to exclude it from the aquatic reserve, to the intersection with the northwestern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 166;

Point 166 5 363 252 m North, 313 621 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the northwestern bank of the said stream and the northwestern shore of an unnamed lake, in such a way as to exclude them from the aquatic reserve, to point 167;

Point 167 5 362 973 m North, 313 527 m East ±

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the northeastern shore of Lac Fortin, being point 168;

Point 168 5 362 876 m North, 313 364 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the northeastern shore of the said lake, in such a way as to exclude it from the aquatic reserve, to the intersection with the southwestern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 169;

Point 169 5 363 180 m North, 312 970 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the southwestern bank of several unnamed streams and the southwestern shore of Petit lac Fortin and Lac Capitaine, to point 170;

Point 170 5 364 241 m North, 312 193 m East ±

Thence, in a westerly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the eastern shore of Lac du Cran, being point 171;

Point 171 5 364 183 m North, 311 890 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the southern shore of the said lake and then the eastern bank of a stream and the eastern shore of an unnamed lake, to point 172;

Point 172 5 363 516 m North, 311 778 m East ±

Thence, in a westerly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the eastern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 173;

Point 173 5 363 439 m North, 311 538 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the southeastern shore of several lakes and the southeastern bank of an unnamed stream, to point 174;

Point 174 5 362 944 m North, 311 202 m East ±

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the western shore of Lac Price, being point 175;

Point 175 5 362 605 m North, 311 893 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the western shore of the said lake, in such a way as to exclude it from the aquatic reserve, to point 176;

Point 176 5 362 197 m North, 311 776 m East ±

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the northwestern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 177;

Point 177 5 362 115 m North, 311 498 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the northwestern bank of the said intermittent stream, in such a way as to exclude it from the aquatic reserve, to the intersection with the northeastern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 178;

Point 178 5 361 668 m North, 311 238 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the northeastern bank of several unnamed streams and the northeastern shore of Lac de l'Étang and Petit lac de la Mère Originale, in such a way as to exclude them from the aquatic reserve, to point 179;

Point 179 5 362 745 m North, 310 303 m East ±

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line to point 180;

Point 180 5 362 687.00 m North, 310 148.00 m East

Thence, in a westerly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the northern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 181;

Point 181 5 362 708 m North, 309 932 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the northern bank of several unnamed streams, the northern shore of an unnamed lake and Lac Catalogne and then the eastern shore of Lac Emmuraillé, in such a way as to exclude them from the aquatic reserve, to point 182;

Point 182 5 363 193 m North, 308 891 m East ±

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the southeastern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 183;

Point 183 5 363 327 m North, 309 064 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the southeastern bank of several unnamed streams and the southeastern shore of several unnamed lakes, in such a way as to exclude them from the aquatic reserve, to the intersection with the southern shore du Grand lac des Îles, being point 184;

Point 184 5 363 808 m North, 309 725 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the western shore of Grand lac des Îles and then the southwestern bank of several streams and the southwestern shore of an unnamed lake and Lac Croche, to point 185;

Point 185 5 364 438 m North, 309 262 m East ±

Thence, in a northerly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the southern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 186;

Point 186 5 364 662 m North, 309 206 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the western shore of the said lake and the western bank of an unnamed stream, and then along the southeastern shore of Lac Warren and the southeastern bank of an intermittent stream, to point 187;

Point 187 5 364 189 m North, 308 018 m East ±

Thence, in a westerly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the southern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 188;

Point 188 5 364 277 m North, 307 673 m East ±

Thence, in a westerly direction, along the southern bank of the said intermittent stream, to the intersection with the southeastern bank of another intermittent stream, being point 189;

Point 189 5 364 360 m North, 306 835 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the southeastern bank of the said intermittent stream, to the intersection with the northeastern limit of the right of way of an unnamed road, being point 190;

Point 190 5 364 191 m North, 306 474 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the northeastern limit of the right of way of an unnamed road, in such a way as to exclude it from the aquatic reserve, to point 191;

Point 191 5 364 426 m North, 305 823 m East ±

Thence, in a southerly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the southern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 192;

Point 192 5 364 400 m North, 305 819 m East ±

Thence, in a westerly direction, along the southern bank of the said intermittent stream, to the intersection with the southeastern bank of another intermittent stream, being point 193;

Point 193 5 364 429 m North, 305 389 m East ±

Thence, in a westerly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the southeastern shore of Lac Les Étangs, being point 194;

Point 194 5 364 524 m North, 304 887 m East ±

Thence, in a westerly direction, along the southeastern shore of the said lake, the southwestern bank of an unnamed stream, and then along the western shore of Lac de la Roche and the western bank of another unnamed stream, to starting point 152.

Having an area of 25.6 square kilometers.

PARCEL 3

Starting from a point situated at the intersection of the southwestern limit of the right of way of Highway 172 with the western limit of the right of way of the Micoua-Saguenay section of the Duvernay-Micoua power transmission line, being point 195;

Point 195 5 358 905 m North, 329 896 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the western limit of the right of way of the said power transmission line, to the intersection with the northeastern limit of Parc national du Fjord-du-Saguenay, being point 196;

Point 196 5 352 235 m North, 328 506 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the northeastern limit of the said national park, in such a way as to exclude it from the aquatic reserve, to point 197;

Point 197 5 362 077 m North, 321 943 m East ±

Thence, in an easterly direction, along a straight line to point 198;

Point 198 5 362 044.42 m North, 322 597.57 m East

Thence, in an easterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the southwestern limit of the right of way of Highway 172, being point 199;

Point 199 5 361 904 m North, 323 258 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the southwestern limit of the right of way of the said highway, to the intersection with the northwestern limit of lot 55 of range V of the township of La Brosse, being point 200;

Point 200 5 360 646 m North, 326 776 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the said lot limit, to point 201;

Point 201 5 360 308 m North, 326 624 m East ±

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the northwestern limit of lot 54 of range V of the township of La Brosse, being point 202;

Point 202 5 360 200 m North, 326 858 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the said lot limit, to point 203;

Point 203 5 360 404 m North, 326 950 m East ±

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the northwestern limit of lot 53 of range V of the township of La Brosse, being point 204;

Point 204 5 360 295 m North, 327 186 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the said lot limit, to the intersection with the southwestern limit of the right of way of Highway 172, being point 205;

Point 205 5 360 495 m North, 327 276 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the southwestern limit of the right of way of the said highway, to starting point 195.

Having an area of 38.8 square kilometers.

PARCEL 4

Starting from a point situated at the intersection of the northeastern limit of the right of way of Highway 172 with the eastern limit of the right of way of the Micoua-Saguenay section of the Duvernay-Micoua power transmission line, being point 206;

Point 206 5 358 880 m North, 329 981 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northerly direction, along the eastern limit of the right of way of the said power transmission line, to point 207;

Point 207 5 360 966 m North, 330 483 m East ±

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along a straight line to point 208;

Point 208 5 361 101.88 m North, 330 855.26 m East

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the western shore of an unnamed lake, being point 209;

Point 209 5 360 731 m North, 331 520 m East ±

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along the northern shore of the said lake, to point 210;

Point 210 5 360 752 m North, 331 591 m East ±

Thence, in an easterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the northern shore of Grand lac Épinette, being point 211;

Point 211 5 360 843 m North, 332 042 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the northeastern shore of the said lake and the northeastern bank of an unnamed stream, to the intersection with the western limit of the right of way of an unnamed road, being point 212;

Point 212 5 359 445 m North, 333 121 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the western limit of the right of way of the said road, in such a way as to exclude it from the aquatic reserve, to the intersection with the extension of the southern limit of the right of way of another unnamed road, being point 213;

Point 213 5 359 437 m North, 333 121 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the southeastern limit of the right of way of the said road, in such a way as to exclude it from the aquatic reserve, to the intersection with the southeastern limit of the right of way of another unnamed road, being point 214;

Point 214 5 360 571 m North, 334 205 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the southeastern limit of the right of way of the said road, in such a way as to exclude it from the aquatic reserve, to the intersection with the northeastern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 215;

Point 215 5 360 914 m North, 334 653 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the northeastern bank of the said intermittent stream, to point 216;

Point 216 5 360 494 m North, 335 062 m East ±

Thence, in a southerly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the western bank of an intermittent stream, being point 217;

Point 217 5 359 719 m North, 335 063 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the western bank of the said intermittent stream and its extension, in such a way as to exclude it from the aquatic reserve, to the intersection with the southeastern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 218;

Point 218 5 358 865 m North, 335 186 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the southeastern bank of the said stream and the southeastern shore of Lac des Monts, in such a way as to exclude them from the aquatic reserve, to point 219;

Point 219 5 359 625 m North, 336 157 m East ±

Thence, in an easterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the northeastern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 220;

Point 220 5 359 547 m North, 336 564 m East ±

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along the northeastern bank of the said intermittent stream, the northern shore of Lac de la Pie and then the northwestern bank of an unnamed stream and its extension, to the intersection with the northeastern bank of Ruisseau Bras Morin, being point 221;

Point 221 5 359 720 m North, 337 430 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the northeastern bank of the said stream, to the intersection with the northwestern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 222;

Point 222 5 358 438 m North, 339 164 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the northwestern bank of the said stream, to the intersection with the extension of the northern bank of another unnamed stream, being point 223;

Point 223 5 359 447 m North, 339 898 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the northern banks and shores and then the eastern banks and shores of several unnamed streams and lakes, to point 224;

Point 224 5 358 206 m North, 340 409 m East ±

Thence, in a southerly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the northern shore of Lac de la Passe, being point 225;

Point 225 5 358 052 m North, 340 438 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the eastern shore of the said lake, the eastern bank of an unnamed stream and the eastern shore of an unnamed lake, to point 226;

Point 226 5 357 088 m North, 340 542 m East ±

Thence, in a southerly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the northern limit of Réserve écologique Marcelle-Gauvreau, being point 227;

Point 227 5 356 821 m North, 340 607 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the northwestern limit of the said ecological reserve, being the southeastern bank of an unnamed stream, to its western corner, which corresponds to survey disk #210 placed by Stéphane Brassard, land surveyor, as shown on his plan bearing No. 1353 of his minutes, being point 228;

Point 228 5 355 739.68 m North, 339 311.17 m East

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the southeastern bank of the said stream, to the intersection with the northeastern limit of the right of way of Highway 172, being point 229;

Point 229 5 355 683 m North, 339 277 m East ±

Thence, in a westerly direction, along the northeastern limit of the right of way of the said highway, to point 230;

Point 230 5 356 458 m North, 336 534 m East ±

Thence, in a northerly direction, along a straight line, to the intersection with the northeastern corner of the mining title bearing the number CDC2522370, being point 231;

Point 231 5 356 722 m North, 336 497 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the northern limit of the said mining title and then the northern and northwestern limit of the mining title bearing the number CDC2522369, in such a way as to exclude them from the aquatic reserve, to the intersection with the northern limit of the right of way of Highway 172, being point 232;

Point 232 5 356 456 m North, 335 803 m East ±

Thence, in a westerly direction, along the northern limit of the right of way of the said highway, to point 233;

Point 233 5 356 554 m North, 335 286 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along a broken line whose apexes are:

Point 234 5 357 047.18 m North. 334 619.49 m East

Point 235 5 357 441.13 m North. 333 964.27 m East

Point 236 5 357 467.45 m North. 333 204.49 m East

Thence, in a northwesterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the northeastern limit of the right of way of Highway 172, being point 237;

Point 237 5 357 603 m North, 332 906 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the northeastern limit of the right of way of the said highway, to starting point 206.

Having an area of 29.0 square kilometers.

PARCEL 5

Starting from a point situated at the intersection of the southwestern limit of the right of way of Highway 172 with the eastern limit of the right of way of the Micoua-Saguenay section of the Duvernay-Micoua power transmission line, being point 238;

Point 238 5 358 859 m North, 329 976 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the southwestern limit of the right of way of the said highway, to the intersection with the northwestern limit of the mining title bearing the number CDC2522369, being point 239;

Point 239 5 356 437 m North, 335 794 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the northwestern limit of the said mining title and then the southeastern limit of lot 18 of range V of the township of La Brosse, to the intersection with the northwestern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 240;

Point 240 5 356 130 m North, 335 650 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the northwestern and then southwestern bank of the said stream, in such a way as to exclude it from the aquatic reserve, to the intersection with the southeastern limit of lot 18 of range V of the township of La Brosse, being point 241;

Point 241 5 355 872 m North, 335 533 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the said lot limit, to the intersection with the southwestern limit of part of lot 17 of range V of the township of La Brosse, excluded from the domain of the State (letter patent #7280), being point 242;

Point 242 5 355 823 m North, 335 511 m East ±

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along the southwestern limit of the said part of lot (letter patent #7280), to the intersection with the northwestern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 243;

Point 243 5 355 799 m North, 335 558 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the northwestern bank the said stream, in such a way as to exclude it from the aquatic reserve, to the intersection with the northern bank of another unnamed stream, being point 244;

Point 244 5 355 299 m North, 335 175 m East ±

Thence, in a westerly direction, along the northern bank of the said stream, in such a way as to exclude it from the aquatic reserve, to the intersection with the northwestern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 245;

Point 245 5 355 444 m North, 334 380 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the northwestern bank of the said intermittent stream, in such a way as to exclude it from the aquatic reserve, to point 246;

Point 246 5 355 374 m North, 334 215 m East ±

Thence, in a westerly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the southeastern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 247;

Point 247 5 355 384 m North, 334 044 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the eastern and then the northern bank of the said intermittent stream, along the northern shore of several unnamed lakes and Deuxième lac du Portage, and the northern bank of several unnamed streams, to the intersection with the northwestern bank of another unnamed stream, being point 248;

Point 248 5 354 052 m North, 334 327 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the northwestern bank the said stream and its extension, to the intersection with the northeastern bank of another unnamed stream, being point 249;

Point 249 5 354 136 m North, 334 445 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the eastern shore of the said stream, to the intersection with the northeastern bank of another unnamed stream, being point 250;

Point 250 5 353 152 m North, 334 386 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the northeastern bank of the said stream, to the intersection with the northwestern limit of the right of way of an unnamed road, being point 251;

Point 251 5 353 134 m North, 334 401 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the northwestern limit of the right of way of the said road, to the intersection with the northeastern limit of Parc national du Fjord-du-Saguenay, being point 252;

Point 252 5 351 847 m North, 330 929 m East ±

Thence, in a westerly direction, along the northeastern and northwestern limit of the said national park, to the intersection with the eastern limit of the right of way of the Micoua-Saguenay section of the Duvernay-Micoua power transmission line, being point 253;

Point 253 5 352 170 m North, 328 585 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northerly direction, along the eastern limit of the right of way of the said power transmission line, to starting point 238.

Having an area of 30.5 square kilometers.

PARCEL 6

Starting from a point situated at the intersection of the southeastern limit of Réserve écologique Marcelle-Gauvreau with the eastern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 254;

Point 254 5 356 475 m North, 340 698 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the eastern bank of the said stream, to the intersection with the extension of the northwestern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 255;

Point 255 5 356 342 m North, 340 740 m East ±

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along a straight line to the intersection with the northwestern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 256;

Point 256 5 356 601 m North, 341 199 m East ±

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along the northwestern and then the northeastern bank of the said intermittent stream and several unnamed streams, and the northeastern shore of Quatrième lac Onésime, an unnamed lake, Troisième lac Onésime, Deuxième lac Onésime and Premier lac Onésime, to the intersection with the western limit of the right of way of an unnamed road, being point 257;

Point 257 5 355 678 m North, 344 577 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the southwestern limit of the right of way of the said road, in such a way as to exclude it from the aquatic reserve, to the intersection with the arc of a circle having a radius of 500 metres and its centre at point A (5 351 334.175 m North, 347 574.911 m East), corresponding to the centre of the exclusive lease to mine surface mineral substances bearing number BEX573, being point 258;

Point 258 5 351 543 m North, 347 121 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the said arc of a circle, to the intersection with the arc of another circle having a radius of 500 metres and its centre at point B (5 351 097.336 m North, 347 739.928 m East), corresponding to the centre of the exclusive lease to mine surface mineral substances bearing number BNE987, being point 259;

Point 259 5 350 942 m North, 347 265 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the said arc of circle, to the intersection with the southwestern corner of the mining title bearing the number CDC2519443, being point 260;

Point 260 5 350 682 m North, 347 461 m East ±

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along the southern limit of the said mining title, in such a way as to exclude it from the aquatic reserve, to the intersection with the southern limit of the right of way of an unnamed road, being point 261;

Point 261 5 350 708 m North, 348 053 m East ±

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along the southern limit of the right of way of the said road, in such a way as to exclude it from the aquatic reserve, to the intersection with the north corner of lot 4 700 229 of the cadastre of Québec, being point 262;

Point 262 5 350 673 m North, 348 137 m East ±

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along the northwestern limit of the said lot, in such a way as to exclude it from the aquatic reserve, to the intersection with the northeastern limit of lot 4 700 204 of the cadastre of Québec, being point 263;

Point 263 5 349 515 m North, 347 726 m East ±

Thence, in a northwesterly direction, along the northeastern limit of the said lot, in such a way as to exclude it from the aquatic reserve, to the intersection with the eastern shore of Rivière Sainte-Marguerite, being point 264;

Point 264 5 349 614 m North, 347 447 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the northeastern bank of the said river, in such a way as to exclude it from the aquatic reserve, to the intersection with the southeastern limit of lot 4 701 633 of the cadastre of Québec, being point 265;

Point 265 5 353 836 m North, 342 909 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the southeastern limit of the said lot 4 701 633 of the cadastre of Québec, in such a way as to exclude it from the aquatic reserve, to its northeastern corner, being point 266;

Point 266 5 354 262 m North, 343 111 m East ±

Thence, in a westerly direction, along the northern limit of the said lot 4 701 633 of the cadastre of Québec, in such a way as to exclude it from the aquatic reserve, to the northwestern corner of the said lot, being point 267;

Point 267 5 354 167 m North, 342 487 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the northwestern limit of the said lot 4 701 633 of the cadastre of Québec, in such a way as to exclude it from the aquatic reserve, to the intersection with the northeastern limit of lot 4 701 591 of the cadastre of Québec, being point 268;

Point 268 5 354 135 m North, 342 472 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the northeastern limit of the said lot 4 701 591 of the cadastre of Québec, in such a way as to exclude it from the aquatic reserve, to the intersection with the northwestern limit of the township of Albert, being point 269;

Point 269 5 355 235 m North, 340 133 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the northwestern limit of the said township, to the southeastern corner of Réserve écologique de Marcelle-Gauvreau, which corresponds to survey disk #207 placed by Stéphane Brassard, land surveyor, as shown on his plan bearing No. 1353 of his minutes, being point 270;

Point 270 5 355 281.27 m North, 340 151.31 m East

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the southeastern limit of the said ecological reserve, to starting point 254.

Having an area of 14.1 square kilometers.

The territory as a whole having a total area of 321.4 square kilometers.

Notes:

— The boundary of the territory shown on the plan accompanying the technical description was determined using the digital files in the Adresses Québec geobase kept by Québec's Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles as of 15 October 2018, the database of the eco-forest information system (système d'information écoforestière, or SIEF) kept by Québec's Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles, the geobase of Québec's hydrographic network (géobase du réseau hydrographique du Québec, or GRHQ) kept by the Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles du Québec as of 3 January 2018, the Québec administrative boundary system (système de découpage administratif du Québec, or SDA) at a scale of 1:20 000 as of 7 November 2018, the digital compilation of surveys produced by the Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles du Québec at a scale of 1:20 000, an excerpt from the Québec cadastral database (Base de données cadastrales du Québec) as of 7 November 2018, an excerpt from the surveys officialised in the register of land in the domain of the State as of 7 November 2018, and an excerpt from the mining rights management system (système de gestion des droits miniers, or Gestim) of the Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles du Québec as of 9 November 2018.

— The coordinates and areas mentioned in this technical description were determined graphically using the same data as the data used to determine the boundary of the territory. They are expressed in metres with reference to the Québec plane coordinate system (QPCS), Modified Transverse Mercator projection (MTM), Time Zone 7 (central meridian 70°30'), North American Datum 1983 (NAD83).

— Measurements are expressed in International System units.

— The boundary of the territory is based on the actual layout of the elements described in this document and must be legally interpreted on that basis. It was defined by the Direction des aires protégées of the Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques.

— The territory of the aquatic reserve, as described in this technical description, contains only lands in the domain of the State. Any land that that proves to be not part of the domain of the State is excluded from the aquatic reserve.

— The territory is shown on a plan drawn at a scale of 1:30 000.

— In accordance with the instructions of the Direction des aires protégées of the Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, the information contained in the source documents provided by the mandator, from which this technical description was prepared, has been accepted as fact.

The whole as shown on the plan prepared by the undersigned on 27 February 2019 and filed with the office of the Surveyor-General of Québec at the Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles under document number 538389.

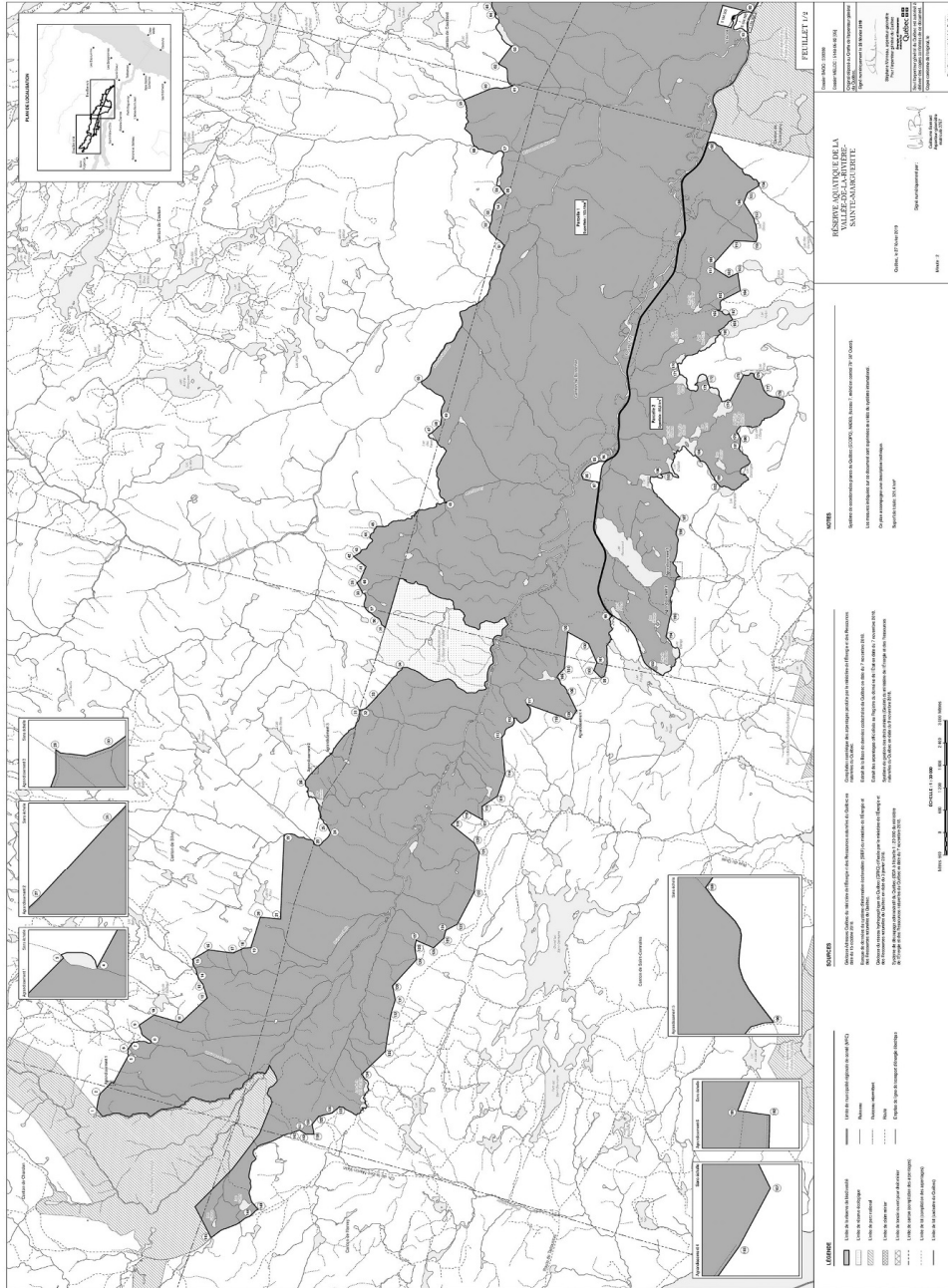
Prepared at Québec on 27 February 2019, under number 2 of my minutes.

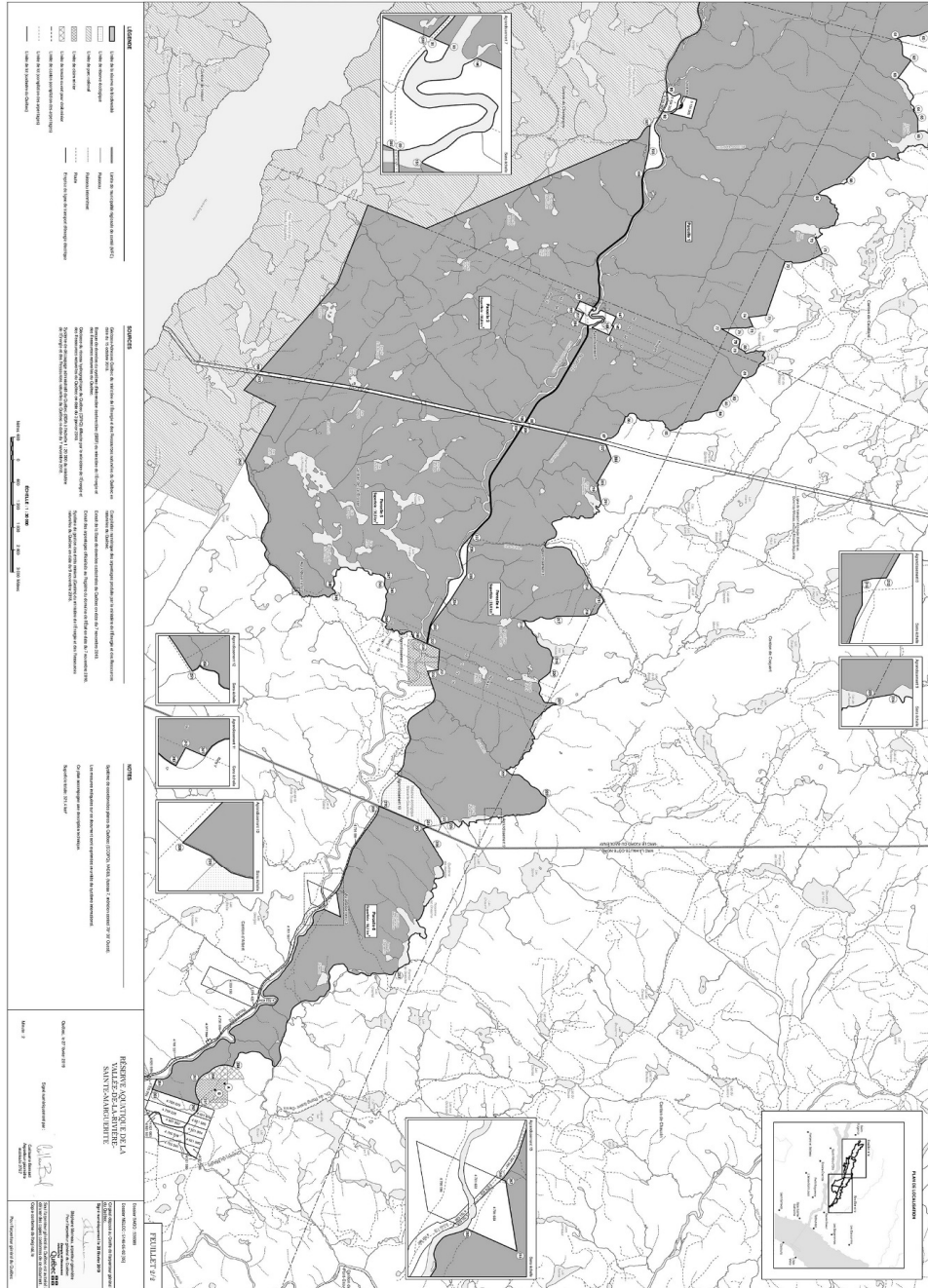
Digitally signed by:

GUILLAUME BERNARD,
Land surveyor

BAGQ file: 538389
MELCC file: 5148-06-02 [05]

Original filed at the office of the Surveyor-General of Québec.
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SCHEDULE II
CONSERVATION PLAN FOR THE RÉSERVE AQUATIQUE
DE LA VALLÉE-DE-LA-RIVIÈRE-SAINTE-MARGUERITE



Réserve aquatique de la
Vallée-de-la-Rivière-
Sainte-Marguerite



CONSERVATION PLAN

Cover page photos: Barrow's goldeneye: L. Master; other photos: Marc-André Bouchard, Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques.

Reference to cite:

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Introduction

By Order in Council No. 636-2005 of June 23, 2005, pursuant to section 27 of the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act* (chapter C-61.01), the government authorized the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks to create Réserve aquatique projetée de la vallée de la rivière Sainte-Marguerite, and approved the boundaries and conservation plan proposed for it. The creation of this provisional protected area by the ministerial order of July 27, 2005 (2005, G.O. 2, 4072) came into force on September 7, 2005 for a duration of four years. This provisional protection status was extended twice, first until September 7, 2013 by order of the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks on July 17, 2009 (2009, G.O. 2, 2233), and then until September 7, 2021 by order of the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment, Wildlife and Parks on March 13, 2013 (2013, G.O. 2, 769).

On January 26, 2012 the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks (MDDEP) mandated the Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement (BAPE) to hold public consultations on ten proposed protected areas in the Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean region, one of them being Réserve aquatique projetée de la vallée de la rivière Sainte-Marguerite. This mandate was given to the BAPE in accordance with section 39 of the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act*, which provides for a public consultation process before permanent protection status is recommended to the Gouvernement du Québec for a territory reserved for the creation of a new protected area. The

BAPE's mandate began on February 13, 2012 and concluded on July 20 of the same year. The consultation was held in March and April 2012 in Saguenay and Saint-Félicien. The BAPE's inquiry and public hearing report (No. 287) was submitted to the Minister on July 20, 2012 (BAPE, 2012).

Following this consultation, and with a view toward granting the territory permanent protection status, the Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques (MELCC), the MRC of Fjord-du-Saguenay and the Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles (MERN) worked out a process for dealing with possible area extension of resort leases covering less than 4 000 m².

The MELCC rejected the request to exclude Lac Résimond from the protected area, because it is the largest lake in that part of the watershed and is close to, and upstream from, the protected part of the river. The lake's role in protecting the river is essential to the achievement of the primary objectives of the protected area. The final boundaries of Réserve aquatique de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite therefore include Lac Résimond, and correspond essentially to the territory proposed by the MDDEP and MRN at the hearings of 2012.

1 The territory of Réserve aquatique de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite

1.1 Official toponym

The toponym chosen for this protected area is “Réserve aquatique de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite”.

1.2 Boundaries and location

The boundaries and location of the reserve are shown on the map comprising Appendix 1.

The reserve is about fifteen kilometres northeast of the city of Saguenay, lying between 48° 18' 15" and 48° 32' 43" north latitude and between 70° 01' 01" and 70° 43' 02" west longitude. Covering an area of 321.4 km², most of it (95.6%) is in Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean administrative region (MRC Le Fjord-du-Saguenay). It is mostly in the unorganized territory of Mont-Valin, with a section to the west in the municipality of Saint-Fulgence and a very small part (12.5 hectares) in the municipality of Sainte-Rose-du-Nord. The eastern extremity of the reserve is in Côte-Nord region, in the municipality of Sacré-Cœur. Route 172 and power line #7004 (735 kV) are excluded from the reserve, together with their rights of way.

Wherever possible, the boundaries of the reserve were defined on the basis of natural or anthropic elements that are easily identified on the ground, such as watercourses, lakes, forest roads and the edges of bogs. For sections along the banks of a

water body (e.g. Lac de la Roche in the southwest), the real boundary is the natural high-water mark. Where the boundary corresponds to a forest road, the right of way of the road is excluded from the protected area. The legal boundaries of the reserve are defined in the technical description and the survey map prepared by land surveyor Guillaume Bernard with the following minutes 2 (February 27, 2019) and filed in the surveying archives of the Surveyor General of Québec (Greffé de l'arpenteur général du Québec), Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles under document number 538389.

1.3 Ecological portrait

1.3.1 Physical environment

The reserve is in the southern part of Central Laurentian natural province (Li, T. and J.-P. Ducruc, 1999¹), in Grenville geological province. The latter corresponds to the roots of a chain of mountains formed nearly a billion years ago, during the Grenville orogeny. The reserve straddles two distinct ecological units, for Rivière Sainte-Marguerite flows between two natural regions: the Saguenay graben in the south and the Monts Valin in the north.

The Monts-Valin massif is the southernmost of the three great massifs of the natural province, forming the southwest portion of the Monts-Valin natural region. At level 3 in the ecological reference framework of Québec, the massif corresponds to the physiographic complex of the

¹http://www.mddelcc.gouv.qc.ca/biodiversite/cadre-ecologique/rapports/Provinces_Internet_16-12-2014.pdf

Lac-Tremblay low hills, whose summits are generally over 700 m and can reach nearly 1000 m. The southern slope of this mountain massif is often very rugged, with vertical drops of up to 500 m over distances of one to two kilometres. On a central part of the slope between Bras des Murailles and Ruisseau Épinette, there is an intermediate step (400 to 500 m) between the top of the massif and the Rivière Sainte-Marguerite valley, caused by a linear fracture of the basement rock.

The Saguenay graben natural region was formed through the collapse of part of the earth's crust in what was then the Rodinia supercontinent, about 600 million years ago. The Rivière Sainte-Marguerite valley corresponds to the main fault at the north side of the graben. Repeated glaciations during the Quaternary transformed the straight, narrow prequaternary valley into an incised, glaciated valley, relatively flat on the bottom and a few hundred metres wide. The hills along the south bank of Rivière Sainte-Marguerite rise to 350 to 500 m, while summits on the Monts-Valin massif, on the north side, reach 700 m and higher. A gneissic complex (charnockitic and mixed gneiss) forms the foundation of the east and west parts of the reserve, while orthopyroxene granitoids underlie the most spectacular part of the valley, in the centre of the reserve, where the river is bordered on either side by high hills and steep cliffs. In terms of relief, as its name implies the aquatic reserve essentially protects the Rivière Sainte-Marguerite valley and its proximate slopes, which are particularly steep on the side of the Monts-Valin massif. The southern portion, adjacent to Parc national du Fjord-du-Saguenay, also includes low hills. Due

to the rugged relief, water bodies and bogs (3.4% and 0.4% respectively) are rare in the reserve. The largest lakes are Lac Résimond and Premier lac du Portage, but the most important aquatic environment is unquestionably the river itself. Both north and south of the river, the surface deposits are of glacial origin (till), and are generally thin, but thicker in depressions. Bare rock is very common on steep slopes and along fractures. Extensive fluvio-glacial deposits occupy the valley bottom, forming outwash deposits and kame terraces (Robitaille and Saucier, 1998).

Rivière Sainte-Marguerite belongs to the great watershed of the Saguenay, draining a territory of more than 2000 km². The main branch of the river rises about ten kilometres north of Parc national des Monts-Valin, in lakes Sainte-Marguerite and Castor gras. It then heads south to cross Parc national des Monts-Valin, flowing through deep canyons before turning almost 90° to the east, to follow the fault line marking the northern boundary of the Saguenay graben. Where it leaves Parc national des Monts-Valin, the river enters the aquatic reserve, flowing there for over 50 km before exiting at a point less than five km from the municipality of Sacré-Cœur. Some 20 km further east it empties into the Saguenay, after first being joined by its largest tributary, Rivière Sainte-Marguerite Nord-Est. Its second largest tributary is Rivière Sainte-Marguerite Nord-Ouest (also called "Bras des Murailles"), whose lower 15 km are included in the reserve and form its northern boundary over about a third of that length.

According to Gerardin and McKenney (2001), the territory of the aquatic reserve has a steep

climatic gradient. Thus, although the overall climate is subarctic and subhumid, it can be qualified as mild subarctic in the south (average temperature 1.9 to 4.5 °C) and cold subarctic on the Monts Valin in the north (-9.4 to -6.0°C). It has a long growing season in the south (180 to 209 days), but a medium growing season in the east and north (150 to 179 days). The average annual precipitation ranges from 800 to 1359 mm.

1.3.2 Biological environment

Given the physical context described above, the vegetation and wildlife of the reserve are highly diverse. The areas south of Rivière Sainte-Marguerite and the lower slopes to the north of the same river are in the balsam fir/yellow birch bioclimatic domain, while at mid-slope, toward the summits in the north, we cross into the balsam fir/white birch bioclimatic domain. Thus, along with the characteristic species of the boreal zone there are species more often associated with the temperate zone, some of them at the northern limit of their range. However, the logging done in the 19th and 20th centuries has altered the structure and composition of forests in the reserve. In the last half-century, spruce budworm outbreaks have had a significant impact on balsam fir, while other natural disturbances (fires, windthrows, landslides) have disturbed certain areas of the reserve. As shown in Table 1, the present-day vegetation consists largely of mixed formations dominated by balsam fir. White birch stands (32.2%), balsam fir stands (24.5%) and yellow birch stands (23.1%) are omnipresent.

Table 1: Forest summary of the territory of Réserve aquatique de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite (MFFP, SIEF, 4th 10-year survey)

	Type of cover	Area (ha)	Proportion
Forest	Deciduous	3410.8	10.6%
	Mixed	21 988.1	68.4%
	Coniferous	4931.7	15.3%
	Regeneration	42.0	0.1%
Other	Alder stands	165.7	0.5%
	Wet barrens	140.9	0.4%
	Dry barrens	316.9	1.0%
	Water	1060.5	3.3%
	Island	9.6	0.0%
	Flooded	39.5	0.1%
	Other	5.8	0.0%
Total		32 196.1	100.0%

There are also stands of black or red spruce (10.6%), a few maple stands (red maple or sugar maple) and poplar stands. The last are abundant along Bras d'Allen (a north-south stream that joins Rivière Sainte-Marguerite to the east of Bardsville). Here and there one also finds white pine and cedar over 30 cm in diameter. American elm and black ash are fairly common along the riverbanks, where one occasionally finds balsam poplar. Due to the abundance of strong inclines, bogs and lakes are few in number and small in size. Overall there is a good proportion of old-growth forests, especially north of the river.

Surveys conducted between 1964 and 1972 revealed much about the vascular flora along Rivière Sainte-Marguerite. A more recent survey, in 2011, also studied the bryophytes (Lapointe et al. 2012, Faubert, 2012). From all of these surveys it can be stated that the total known flora numbers 367 taxa, many of them near the limit of

their range: *Cardamine diphylla*, *Carex radiata*, *Claytonia caroliniana*, *Dicentra cucullaria*, *Acer pennsylvanicum*, *Deparia acrostichoïde*, *Impatiens pallida*, *Picea Rubens*, *Antennaria howellii* s.l., *Asplenium trichomanes*, *Dichantherium acuminatum* subsp. *implicatum*, *Elymus wiegandii*, *Micranthes virginienensis*, *Sagittaria graminea* and *Toxicodendron radicans* subsp. *Rydbergii*. There is also a calcicole flora detached from the region's calcareous formations (La Malbaie, Rivière Shipshaw, south of Lac Saint-Jean). They include: *Carex capillaris* subsp. *capillaris*, *Cryptogramma stelleri*, *Primula mistassinica* and *Saxifraga oppositifolia*. The reserve also protects two populations of *Dulichium arundinaceum* var. *boreale*, a sedge found only in Québec, whose name should soon be added to the list of species that are threatened, vulnerable or likely to be so designated in Québec.

Turning to wildlife, no survey specific to the territory of the reserve has been done, but the elevation zoning of plant life, and the presence of rock faces favourable to certain rare species, make for an unusual diversity of wildlife. Common species in the region include black bear, moose, red fox, ruffed grouse, spruce grouse, Canada lynx, snowshoe hare and beaver, along with Atlantic salmon and anadromous brook trout (sea run brook trout) in the river. A number of water bodies are solely inhabited by freshwater brook trout. Rarer species are also present, such as Barrow's goldeneye, rock vole, arctic char Oquassa and woodland caribou, which frequent the reserve in spring and early summer (Chabot 2008). To these must be added the possibility of finding the red bat and hoary bat, whose

presence has been confirmed just outside the reserve, in Parc national du Fjord-du-Saguenay. There are fishless lakes in the reserve that present wildlife interest in terms of amphibians and Barrow's goldeneye (MRNF, 2012).

1.3.3 Ecological representativeness

The reserve increases the representativeness of the national and regional network of protected areas in several respects.

With its high slopes, the long, broad glacial valley of Rivière Sainte-Marguerite is a major geological element at the junction of two natural regions, which in turn results in a rich geomorphological diversity. Narrower and canyon-like, the upstream part is protected by Parc national des Monts-Valin. The aquatic reserve will protect most of the valley and the immediate slopes, which directly influence the quality of the river. Though the overall proportion of water bodies is low (3.4%), they are concentrated in the southern part of the reserve, and are representative of the general hydrography of the Saguenay fjord physiographic complex.

In sum, the aquatic reserve protects characteristic ecosystems of the contact zone between the eastern part of the Saguenay graben natural region (which includes the Saguenay fjord) and the Monts-Valin natural region. Since this contact zone also corresponds to a contact zone between the boreal forest and the northern temperate forest, ecosystems and species that are characteristic of both are found in the reserve, including many at the northern limit of their range.

Along with several other protected areas (notably Parc national des Monts-Valin, Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan, Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes and the G.-Oscar-Villeneuve and Marcelle-Gauvreau ecological reserves), the aquatic reserve enhances the representation of the Monts-Valin natural region. As for the Saguenay graben natural region, the ecosystems of its eastern part are now well represented, with the reserve joining the Monts-Valin and Fjord-du-Saguenay national parks, Parc marin du Saguenay–Saint-Laurent, and Réserve de biodiversité projetée de la Côte-de-Charlevoix to form a network of protected areas within it.

1.3.4 Outstanding ecological elements

The ecological integrity of the forest ecosystems of the reserve is remarkable, considering its proximity to inhabited areas. Despite the logging of the last two centuries, old-growth forests are relatively common on steep slopes, rugged summits and areas that are difficult to access (Appendix 2).

For example, between Rivière Sainte-Marguerite and Rivière Sainte-Marguerite Nord-Ouest (Bras des Murailles), there are over 200 hectares of maple/yellow birch stands in places with a favourable microclimate, in the valley bottom (one stand) and sheltered, well-exposed areas on the valley's north slopes (four stands). This type of forest is non-existent in the Monts-Valin massif. As for the forests between Bras des Murailles and Rivière Sainte-Marguerite, they are difficult to reach and thus present a high degree of ecological integrity, which is confirmed by the

bryophyte survey of 2012. From Lac Résimond to Bardsville (a distance of over 20 km), Route 172 runs to the south of Rivière Sainte-Marguerite, leaving the valley's north slope less accessible than the south, especially since it is steeper and hard to reach from the north. As a result, the present-day woodlands south of the river show all the impact of human activities, while the north slopes harbour old-growth forests, younger stands being due to natural disturbances. Although young forests dominate the reserve, there is a good proportion of old-growth forest (38.8%). It could be that hardwoods (sugar maple and yellow birch) were less affected by logging operations of the 19th and early 20th centuries, which centred on softwood harvesting. In any case, not only are there stands that are rare at this latitude, but some seem to have escaped the impact of human activities. In some of the old-growth forests there are very old, veteran trees that are large for this particular ecological context, as well as numerous dead trees (standing or fallen) that offer shelter and a source of food for various wildlife.

A number of plant species (vascular and bryophytes) are near the northern limit of their range, or rare at the regional, provincial and even continental level. One species, *Dulichium arundinaceum* var. *boreale*, is found nowhere else in the world, while another, *Saxifraga oppositifolia*, is found nowhere else in the region (Lapointe et al. 2012).

Regarding bryophytes (J. Faubert, 2012), a notable find is *Dicranella crispa*, a rare species that is unknown further south in eastern America, and whose presence here extends its range

considerably. The escarpments and scree slopes feature a wealth, luxuriance and great diversity of bryophytes. They include basophilic species, rare species and species on the edge of their range, while certain occurrences constitute significant range extensions (notably an arctic alpine species, *Tetralophozia setiformis*).

Regarding wildlife, apart from woodland caribou at the southern limit of its range (Équipe de rétablissement du caribou forestier du Québec, 2013), the aquatic reserve helps protect another species considered vulnerable in Québec, Barrow's goldeneye. Arctic char Oquassa and rock vole, two species likely to be designated threatened or vulnerable in Québec, are also present in the reserve.

Appendix 3 shows the location of some of the many forests of ecological interest.

1.4 Land occupation and uses

Well before the European colonization, Rivière Sainte-Marguerite was frequented by Aboriginal populations (Lavoie-Painchaud, 2008). Réserve aquatique de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite lies entirely within the Nitassinan of the Innu Essipit First Nation, as demarcated in Schedule 4.1 of the *Agreement-in-Principle of General Nature between the First Nations of Mamuitun and Nutashkuan and the Government of Québec and the Government of Canada* (signed in March 2004).

On arriving in the area, colonists of European descent made salmon fishing on Rivière Sainte-Marguerite a favourite activity. To illustrate, the following is a historical account from the

recreational development plan of the Association de la rivière Sainte-Marguerite (ARSM, 2005):

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A SHORT HISTORY OF SALMON FISHING ON RIVIÈRE SAINTE-MARGUERITE

For generations, the salmon fishing on Rivière Sainte-Marguerite has been held in high esteem. Back when the Hudson's Bay Company ran a fur-trading post at Tadoussac, it held hunting and fishing rights along the river. Starting in 1838, it operated a fishing camp at the river mouth. When the lease was terminated in 1842, David Price (who ran a small sawmill at Anse-à-l'Eau) promptly asked the government to lease him a lot to build a mill, to meet the demand from people living near the river mouth. From 1848 to 1853, a clerk at the Tadoussac post named James Grant accompanied groups of officers and visitors on river expeditions. From this sideline, Grant became a passionate salmon fisherman and an enthusiast of Rivière Sainte-Marguerite. In 1859 the Hudson's Bay Company closed its trading post at Tadoussac. David Price then obtained a lease from the government granting him salmon fishing rights on the river. The quality of the fishing was very impressive. One of Price's friends, Willis Russell from Québec, dazzled by the beauty of the river, persuaded Price to trade him the right to fish on the northwest arm of the river, in exchange for logging quotas that he had obtained from the government. Russell then joined forces with Robert Powell from Philadelphia to carry out the projects he had in mind. Price kept his fishing rights on the northeast arm of the river. In 1872, Russell and Powell built

the Lower Fork house, right in front of the island, which was known as the Club House Station. Several other buildings were put up later: the Home Pool house, six kilometres to the north, and the Château, five kilometres upriver, then Sand's Pool, thirteen kilometres further north. Then came Bardsville, another thirteen kilometres north, and last of all Upper Forks, eleven kilometres even further upriver, which they renamed Grantville in honour of James Grant. In 1859 the Corporation de pêche Sainte-Marguerite (CPSM, today a subsidiary of Alcan) acquired the fishing rights on the northeast branch of Rivière Sainte-Marguerite. In 1974 the Québec government renewed a lease for five years on the main branch and for nine years on the northeast branch. In 1980 the government created ZEC de la rivière Sainte-Marguerite, stripping the CPSM of exclusive fishing rights on the river. The CPSM remained in place however, operating the fishery on its private lots, and is now a strategic client and collaborator of the ZEC's managing body, the Association de la Rivière Sainte-Marguerite (ARSM).

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Since the Bardsville sector is privately held, it is excluded from the aquatic reserve.

The reserve connects the Monts-Valin and Fjord-du-Saguenay national parks, creating a network of protected areas of nearly 2000 km², more than half of which is a marine environment. Easily accessible by Route 172, which links Saguenay to Tadoussac via Saint-Fulgence, Sainte-Rose-du-Nord and Sacré-Cœur, the territory of the reserve is used extensively for a host of outdoor

activities, especially in the areas that overlie controlled harvesting zones (Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite ZEC, Martin-Valin ZEC and Chauvin ZEC).

Well before the completion of Route 172 in 1964, the valley's natural resources figured large in the local and regional economy. From the first half of the 19th century, Rivière Sainte-Marguerite was renowned for fishing, but logging was also done in the valley. In the 20th century, logging operations reached further away from the river, and the valley found favour with fishers, hunters, trappers and nature lovers. In the 1960s, the building of Route 172 along the river consolidated this vocation, facilitating access to this exceptional territory. Excluded from the protected area, the highway runs through the heart of the reserve for over 40 km, with a short stretch that follows the northern boundary of Parc national du Fjord-du-Saguenay.

In 2007, Route 172 was given the name Route du Fjord, becoming the first official tourist highway of Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean. There are also plans for a bicycle path along this road (MRNF, 2012).

The river itself is a well-known canoe-kayak route. A Trans-Québec snowmobile trail crosses the eastern part of the reserve (the road along Bras d'Allen), and there is a hiking trail at the western end (near Lac de la Roche). The territory was proposed for a protected area in recognition of the beauty of the valley, the salmon fishing, and the fact that the topography is not conducive to logging operations.

The strategic development and tourism plan for the Saguenay fjord region (Agence de développement du Saguenay fjord, 2005) proposes ways to further develop the valley's potential. Since 2005, the Fondation de la faune du Québec, together with private partners, has supported an experimental project to develop Route 172 from Tadoussac to Saint-Fulgence as a "biodiversity valley". As part of this project, in 2008 a footbridge was built near pool 53, crossing the river to a trail that leads through an old-growth maple forest to Bras des Murailles (Rivière Sainte-Marguerite Nord-Ouest). Lastly, in the regional development plan for public lands (MRNF, 2005), the Sainte-Marguerite valley is designated for study concerning its recreotourism potential. A development plan for recreational activities, approved by the MRNF, is now in force for the Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite ZEC (Association de la Rivière Sainte-Marguerite Inc., 2005).

Due to the relief of this area, and the resulting hydrography, most of the territory of the reserve is completely free of land rights for resort purposes and temporary shelters. The sort of lakes that cottagers prize are rare in the reserve, where strong inclines and rugged slopes dominate the landscape. Thus the fifty-odd existing leases for resort purposes and temporary shelters are concentrated around the few suitable lakes. A few are near Lac Résimond, in the west, but most are in the east, between the Sainte-Marguerite and Parc national du Fjord-du-Saguenay. These leases are around lakes Émérie, Morin, Louis and Pierre, plus the first and second Lac du Portage, the chain of Lacs à Édouard, and around ten small, nameless lakes

in the uplands (elevation 300 to 400 m) between the river and the fjord (but outside of Parc national du Fjord-du-Saguenay). There is also a cluster of cottage sites around the first Lac Onésime, northeast of the reserve.

The Association de la rivière Sainte-Marguerite offers accommodation near the river. Backcountry camping is also offered near eight salmon pools.

The following land rights are documented:

- a telecommunications line
- 34 resort leases and 19 leases for temporary shelters
- three rights of way for Trans-Québec snowmobile trails
- a refuge

Other land rights include: one for the municipal waste disposal site; two for community purposes; one for community purposes for recreational activities (thematic pavilion about the forest); one for community purposes for a backcountry campsite; one for a telecommunications tower; and one for an individual telephone or power line. Two-phase power distribution line CHN 293 also passes through the reserve. There is a right of way for a hiking trail near Lac de la Roche and Lac Les Étangs. The municipality of Sainte-Rose-du-Nord operates a campground and municipal beach at the north end of Lac Résimond. There are also five ZEC reception posts and three ZEC infrastructures (a fish farm and two ranger camps), but none of these eight occupations are tied to land rights. Finally, the reserve overlies

fourteen Aboriginal trapping grounds with exclusive rights.

Due to its central position, the Bardsville area (excluded from the reserve) is strategically located for the management and development of Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite ZEC. The ARSM maintains a seasonal reception post there. The buildings (including several cottages) originally belonged to the Alcan fishing club, but were ceded in 1985 to the Régie intermunicipale de la vallée de la rivière Sainte-Marguerite, then acquired by Fjord-du-Saguenay MRC in 2012.

Again due to its spectacular relief, the reserve is an idea for climbing enthusiasts. There are seven rock faces where the sport is practised (MRNF, 2012), and in winter, climbers come to the frozen waterfalls beneath escarpments (Filion and coll., 1999).

Appendix 4 presents the main occupations and uses of Réserve aquatique de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite.

2 Conservation and management issues

2.1 Introduction

Generally, an aquatic reserve is dedicated to protection of the natural environment, nature discovery and recreation. For this reason, activities that could have a significant impact on ecosystems and biodiversity, particularly of an industrial nature, are prohibited. Less harmful activities, such as those involving recreation, wildlife, ecotourism or education, are permitted in this type of protected area. However, the management framework to which they are

subject is conditioned by conservation issues specific to each aquatic reserve. Based on the information presented in section 1, the conservation issues to be taken into account for Réserve aquatique de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite, and the orientations and objectives to which they give rise, are set out in the sections that follow.

2.2 Protection of biodiversity

Protection of the river

Protection of the ecological integrity of Rivière Sainte-Marguerite (see sidebar) is the first conservation issue to take into account for this reserve. Therefore, a central management objective is to protect the river and its particular ichthyological fauna (Atlantic salmon and anadromous brook trout).

Ecological integrity

The condition of a protected area that is considered characteristic of its natural region and likely to persist, including abiotic [non-living] components and the composition and abundance of native species and biological communities, rates of change and supporting processes.

Adapted from the definition in the Canada National Parks Act (S.C. 2000, c. 32).

This can only be achieved by preserving the ecological integrity of the reserve's entire hydrographic network, together with that of the adjacent terrestrial and aquatic environments, especially its near-shore environments. The corresponding objective is: *Avoid any development that could have negative effects on*

the ecological integrity of the hydrographic network of the aquatic reserve.

Protection of rare, threatened or vulnerable species

The second conservation issue stems from the presence of threatened, vulnerable and rare species, in particular a number of species that are at the north or south limit of their range. Management of the reserve must ensure the protection of the habitats of these species, and preserve known occurrences. The corresponding objective is: *Prohibit any activity that could affect the habitat of a threatened, vulnerable or rare species.*

Protection of representative or exceptional ecosystems

The third conservation issue concerns the protection of a representative sample of the ecosystems of the Monts-Valin and Saguenay graben natural regions, as well as certain rarer ecosystems. Part of the reserve is almost undisturbed and contains representative or rare forests whose ecological integrity must be protected. Some are doubly protected, since the aquatic reserve includes eight conservation areas constituted under the *Sustainable Forest Development Act*. They include three exceptional forest ecosystems (rare and old-growth forests) and five biological refuges (see Appendix 1). Other parts of the reserve have undergone considerable disturbance, and should be managed with a view toward gradually restoring the structure and composition of the natural

landscapes to which they are suited. The corresponding objectives are:

- *Preserve the ecological integrity of the terrestrial ecosystems present in the aquatic reserve.*
- *Avoid any development that could reduce the age of the forest cover.*

2.3 Development activities

The territory of the reserve offers numerous attractions for recreation (hunting, fishing, vacationing). Readily accessible by Route 172, it is frequented by the regional population. The western part is mainly used by people from Sainte-Rose-du-Nord municipality, while the eastern part is mainly used by people from Sacré-Cœur municipality. The Martin-Valin and Chauvin ZECs are in charge of the development, harvesting and conservation of wildlife on 37.9% of the area of the reserve, while the Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite ZEC has the same responsibilities with regard to salmon fishing on the river. The three bodies are also responsible for facilitating user access. Climbing and hiking are also practised in the reserve.

Practised in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations, these activities by users of the territory are compatible with the status of aquatic reserve, and can continue to be practised normally. Existing activities could be intensified, and new activities developed, provided that they are compatible with the vocation of the reserve; for this reason they must be authorized by the MELCC.

The MELCC wants all concerned stakeholders to be involved in preparing zoning specifications and an action plan to carry out the conservation objectives, in particular the protection of sensitive or fragile natural environments, the recovery of old-growth forests, and the protection of threatened, vulnerable or rare species. To encourage participation by all stakeholders, the following objectives have been set: (1) *Establish participative and collaborative management.* (2) *Inform all users as to the conservation and management objectives being pursued in the protected area.*

2.4 Knowledge acquisition and environmental monitoring

Specific objective:

- **Conduct plant and animal surveys, and monitor the general evolution of ecosystems**

Past surveys have laid a foundation of knowledge about the flora and fauna of Réserve aquatique de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite, yet that knowledge is fragmentary. Knowledge acquisition, besides being crucial to the achievement of objectives specific to natural heritage protection, will make it possible to monitor the natural environment. The knowledge acquired could also be used in developing activities for nature discovery, education and public awareness. It will facilitate the analysis of development projects, and ensure that management partners have a common understanding of the issues.

Ecological knowledge, especially about the support capacity of natural environments, and about the impact of recreational and tourist activities on ecosystems, must also be developed. The corresponding objective is: *Promote knowledge building, in particular by conducting targeted surveys and monitoring biodiversity.*

The MELCC will target certain needs related to knowledge building on biodiversity. With the help of regional partners, the MELCC aims to establish an inventory of the plant and animal species found in the reserve. The subjects of surveys and research to prioritize will be determined later, and will concern both existing and expected ecological problems. Thanks to its unique location, the reserve offers a privileged space in which to measure the impact of climate change on biodiversity.

2.5 Conservation and management objectives

Réserve aquatique de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite is a “protected area” as defined in the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act*, and appears in the *Registre des aires protégées du Québec* constituted under the Act. Thus, it was primarily created to ensure the protection and maintenance of the area’s biological diversity, with the associated natural and cultural resources. In addition, protecting this territory enhances the representativeness of the national and regional protected areas network, since it holds numerous ecological components of interest that are representative of the characteristic ecosystems of the Monts-Valin and Saguenay graben natural regions, as well as

certain rarer ecosystems. For the government, the protection of these components and ecosystems, described in section 1.3, is a major objective.

Note that this protection will allow the pursuit of traditional activities by members of the Aboriginal communities who frequent the land, as well as the recreotourism activities currently practised there.

Taking into account the issues set out in sections 2.1 to 2.4, and the geographical sectors of interest corresponding to the elements described in section 1 (see Appendix 2 and Appendix 3), the conservation and management objectives specific to the reserve are:

- Avoid any development that could have negative effects on the ecological integrity of the hydrographic network of the aquatic reserve.
- Prohibit any activity that could affect the habitat of a threatened, vulnerable or rare species.
- Preserve the ecological integrity of terrestrial ecosystems present in the aquatic reserve.
- Avoid any development that could reduce the age of the forest cover.
- Establish participative and collaborative management.
- Inform all users as to the conservation and management objectives being pursued in the protected area.
- Promote knowledge building, in particular by conducting targeted surveys and monitoring biodiversity.

To achieve those objectives, the conservation and management of the reserve will be guided by an activity framework whose several dimensions are set out in sections 4, 5 and 6 of this plan.

3 Zoning

The MELCC does not propose any zoning in the present plan, but will invite interested parties to participate in drawing up a functional zoning plan for the aquatic reserve.

4 Activity framework applicable to Réserve aquatique de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite

The activity framework applicable to Réserve aquatique de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite follows from the provisions of the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act* and the Regulation respecting the Réserve aquatique de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite.

4.1 Activity framework established by the Natural Heritage Conservation Act

Activities carried out within the aquatic reserve are primarily governed by the provisions of the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act*.

Under the Act, the principal activities prohibited in a territory with the status of aquatic reserve are the following:

- mining and gas or oil extraction or exploration;
- forest management within the meaning of section 4 of the *Sustainable Forest Development Act* (chapter A-18.1);

- the development of hydraulic resources and any production of energy on a commercial or industrial basis;
- activities that could degrade the bed, banks or littoral zone, or otherwise affect the integrity of a water body or watercourse;
- operation of a motorized vessel in violation of the conditions contained in the Regulation.

Though fundamental to protecting the territory and its ecosystems, the above prohibitions do not cover all of the standards considered desirable to ensure the proper management of the reserve and the conservation of its natural environment. The *Natural Heritage Conservation Act* allows the Regulation to detail the legal framework applicable on the territory of an aquatic reserve.

4.2 Activity framework established by the Regulation respecting the Réserve aquatique de la Vallée de la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite

Accordingly, the provisions set out in Regulation respecting the Réserve aquatique de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite present additional prohibitions beyond those already stipulated in the Act. Their purpose is to set conditions for the performance of certain permitted activities, thus ensuring better protection of the natural environment in accordance with the principles of conservation and other management objectives for the aquatic reserve. Certain activities are therefore subject to prior authorization by the Minister.

The measures contained in Regulation specifically concern new interventions. They do not affect activities that are already being

practised or facilities that are already present, so many existing uses are therefore preserved.

However, for activities subject to authorization, the provisions set out in Regulation do not identify which activities could be refused authorization, being considered incompatible with the vocation of the aquatic reserve. Basic information about the compatibility or incompatibility of each type of activity is provided in the document *Activity Framework for Biodiversity Reserves and Aquatic Reserves*, which is available on the website of the MELCC at:

http://www.mddelcc.gouv.qc.ca/biodiversite/aires_protegees/regime-activites/regime-activite-reserve-bio-aqua-en.pdf.

For certain activities, Regulation also includes exemptions to the requirement for prior authorization.

5 Activities governed by other laws

Certain activities that could potentially be practised in the aquatic reserve are also governed by other applicable legislative and regulatory provisions, and some require a permit or authorization or the payment of certain fees. Certain activities could be prohibited or limited under other laws or regulations applicable on the territory of the reserve.

Within the aquatic reserve, a particular legal framework may govern permitted activities under the following categories:

- **Protection of the environment:** measures set out in particular by the *Environment Quality Act* (chapter Q-2) and its regulations.

- **Archeological research and discoveries:** measures set out in particular by the *Cultural Heritage Act* (chapter P-9.002).
- **Exploitation and conservation of wildlife resources:** measures stipulated by the *Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife* (chapter C-61.1) and its regulations, including provisions relating to threatened or vulnerable wildlife species, outfitters and beaver reserves; and measures in the applicable federal laws and regulations, including the legislation and regulations on fisheries.
- **Plant species designated as threatened or vulnerable:** measures prohibiting the harvesting of such species under the *Act respecting threatened or vulnerable species* (chapter E-12.01).
- **Access and property rights related to the domain of the State:** measures set out in particular by the *Act respecting the lands in the domain of the State* (chapter T-8.1) and the *Watercourses Act* (chapter R-13).
- **Issuance and oversight of forest development permits** (harvesting of firewood for domestic purposes, wildlife development, recreational development); and **delivery of authorizations** (forest roads) and **protection of exceptional forest ecosystems and biological refuges:** measures stipulated by the *Sustainable Forest Development Act* (chapter A-18.1).
- **Travel:** measures stipulated by the *Act respecting the lands in the domain of the State* and by the regulations on motor vehicle travel in fragile environments, under the *Environment Quality Act*.
- **Construction and development standards:** regulatory measures adopted by local and regional municipal authorities in accordance with the applicable laws.

6 Management

6.1 Responsibilities of the Minister of the Environment and the Fight against Climate Change

The Minister of the Environment and the Fight against Climate Change is responsible for the management of Réserve aquatique de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite. Among other things, the Minister sees to the application of the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act* (chapter C-61.01) and the Regulation respecting the Réserve aquatique de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite. In its management, the MELCC enjoys the collaboration and participation of other government representatives that have specific responsibilities in or adjacent to the territory. Since the latter is accessible and often frequented by humans, the MELCC intends to take a “participative” approach to management. The principal local and regional stakeholders concerned will be invited to participate in management activities. Depending on needs, their participation could take place through the creation of a management committee, a zoning

plan, the development and implementation of an action plan, and follow-up on actions taken.

6.2 Monitoring

As mentioned in section 2 on conservation and management issues, measures will be taken toward monitoring the status of the natural environment, in collaboration with the various stakeholders. In particular, the MELCC, in collaboration with the Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs, wants to evaluate the contribution of this protected area to the maintenance of rare, threatened and vulnerable species, by:

- monitoring the status of habitats
- following the evolution of herd numbers
- conducting botanical and wildlife surveys

6.3 Participation of stakeholders

To fulfill its management responsibilities, the MELCC will seek the collaboration and participation of the principal actors concerned by the territory, including:

- the MRC of Fjord-du-Saguenay and the MRC of Haute-Côte-Nord
- the Innu Essipit First Nation
- the municipalities of Saint-Fulgence, Sainte-Rose-du-Nord and Sacré-Cœur
- Sainte-Marguerite, Martin-Valin and Chauvin ZECs
- the holders of land rights
- fishers, hunters and trappers
- the regional units of other government departments that have responsibilities in the aquatic reserve

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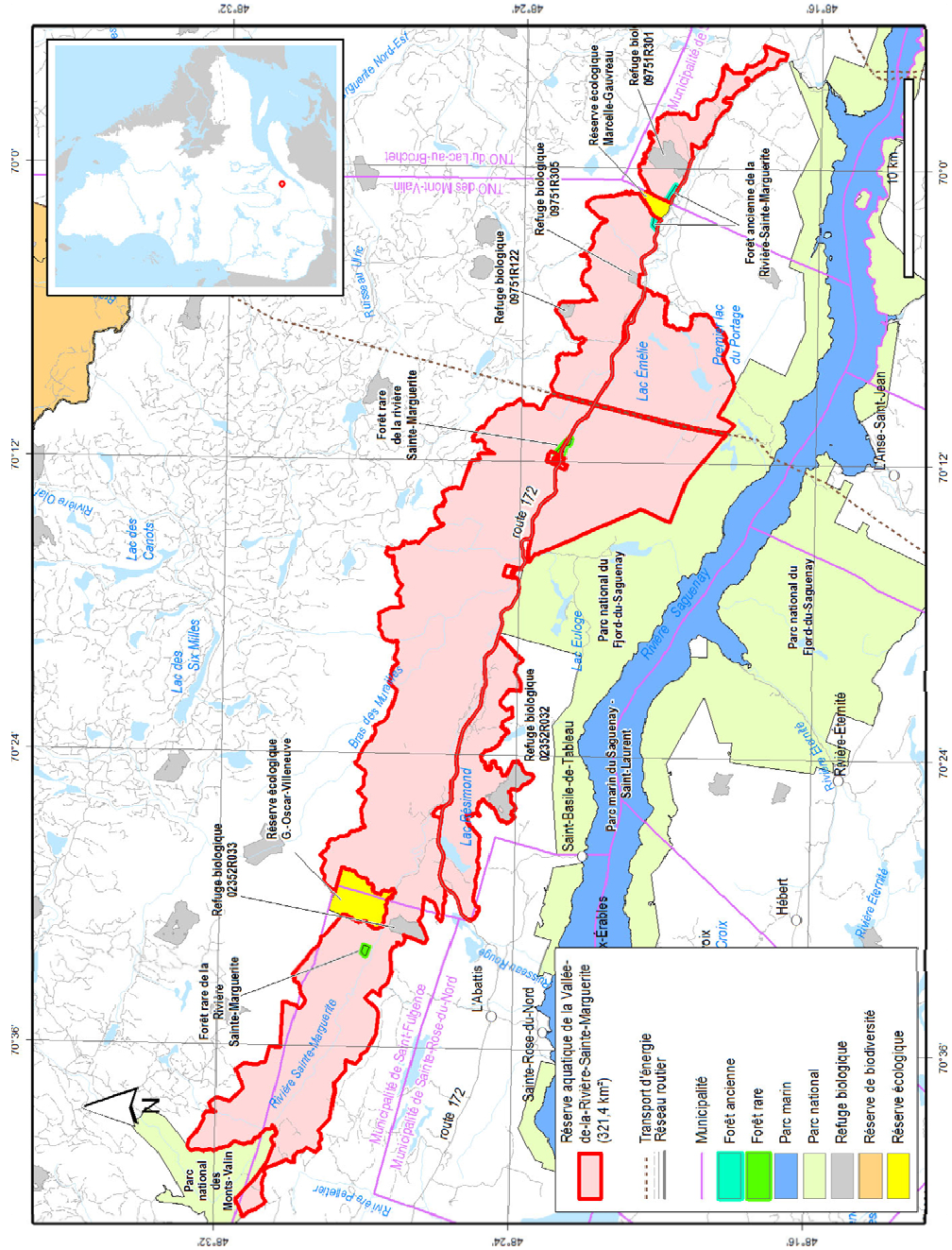
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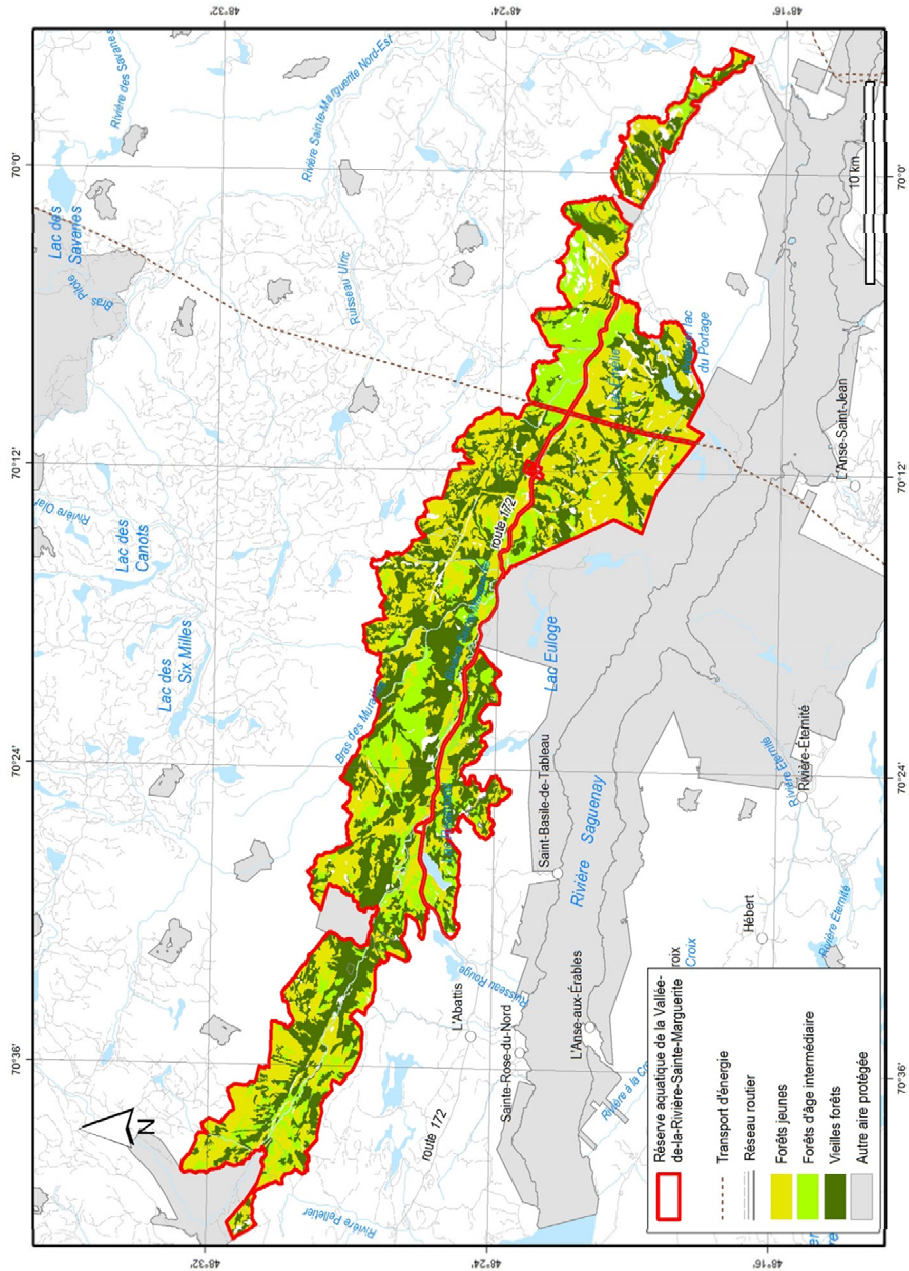
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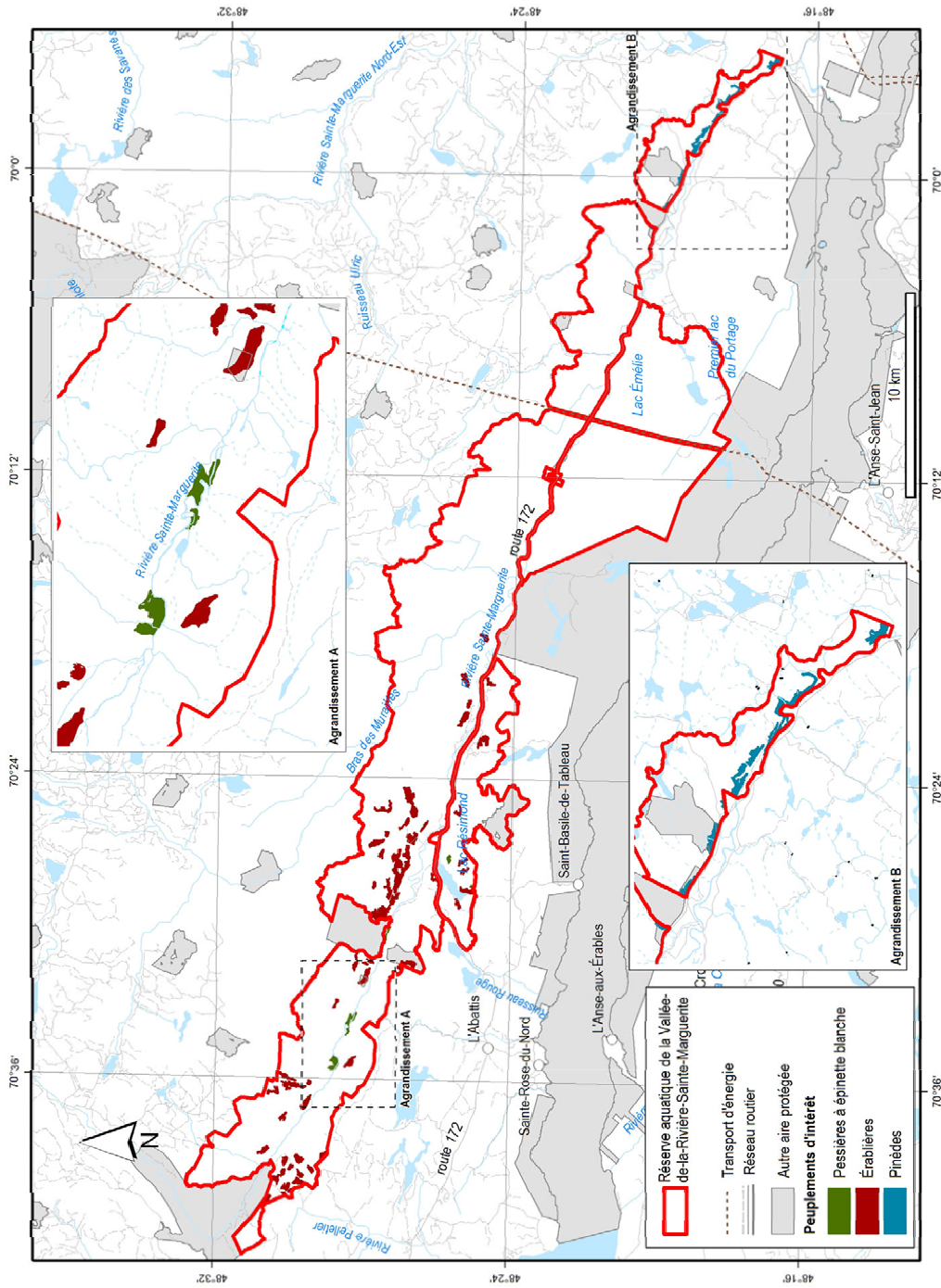
Appendix 1 — Boundaries and location



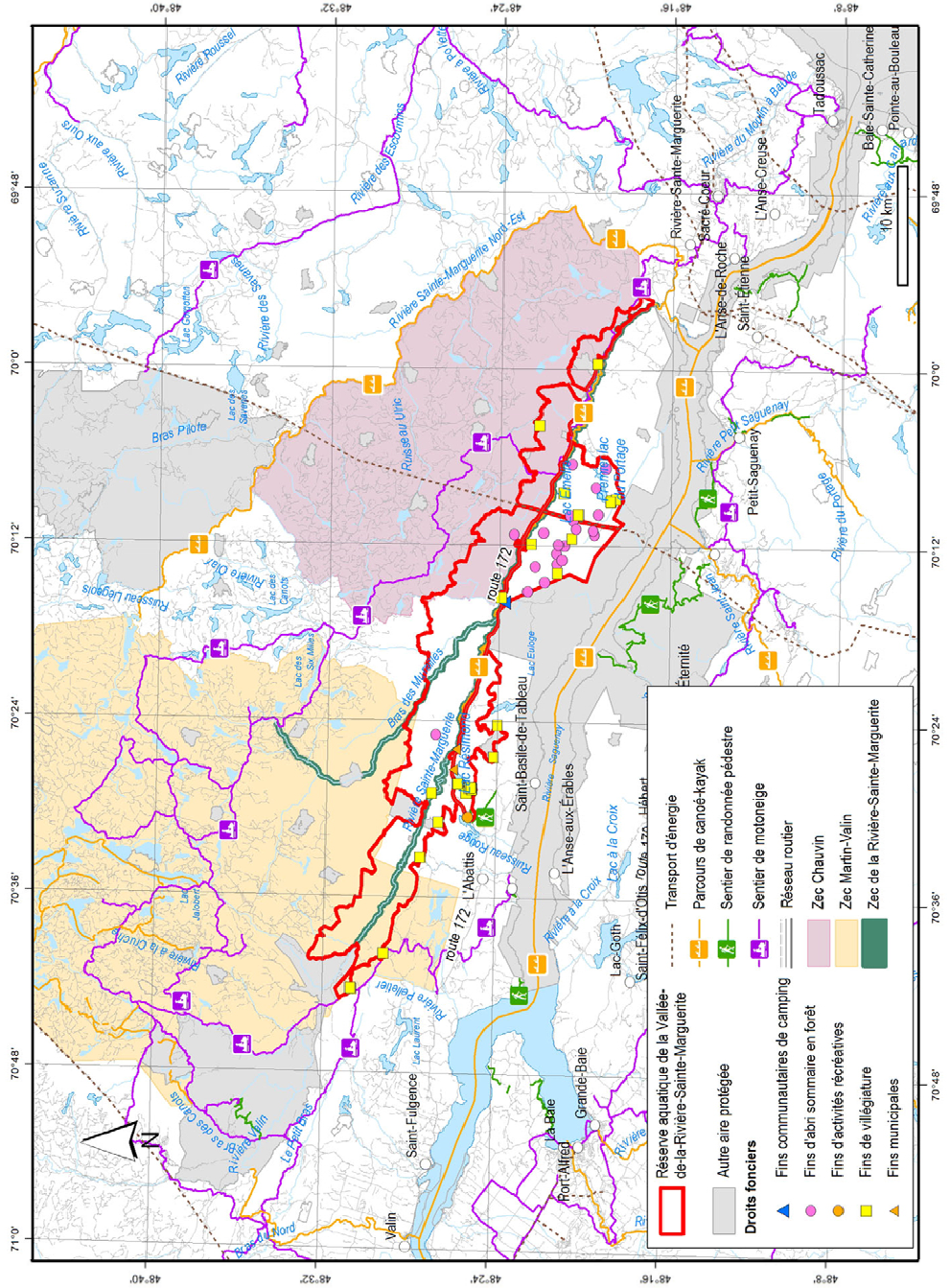
Appendix 2 —Distribution of forests by age class



Appendix 3 — Elements of ecological interest



Appendix 4 — Occupation and uses



Gouvernement du Québec

O.C. 435-2020, 8 April 2020

Natural Heritage Conservation Act
(chapter C-61.01)

Permanent status of the Réserve de biodiversité des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache, the Regulation respecting that reserve and its conservation plan

WHEREAS, under the first paragraph of section 43 of the Natural Heritage Conservation Act (chapter C-61.01), the Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change may recommend to the Government that all or part of land set aside under section 27 of the Act be assigned a permanent protection status as biodiversity reserve;

WHEREAS, under the second paragraph of section 43 of the Act, the Minister is to submit at the same time to the Government for its approval the conservation plan for the land;

WHEREAS, by Order in Council 445-2008 dated 7 May 2008, the Government authorized the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks to assign the status of proposed biodiversity reserve to the territory of the Réserve de biodiversité projetée des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache and approved the plan of that area and the conservation plan proposed for the area;

WHEREAS, by Minister's Order dated 29 May 2008 (2008, *G.O.* 2, 2124), the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks assigned in particular temporary protection status to the territory of the Réserve de biodiversité projetée des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache, for a term of four years commencing on 11 June 2008;

WHEREAS the setting aside of the territory was extended for eight years, under the Order of the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks dated 11 May 2012 (2012, *G.O.* 2, 709);

WHEREAS, in accordance with the first paragraph of section 39 of the Natural Heritage Conservation Act, the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks entrusted the mandate to hold a public consultation on the Réserve de biodiversité des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache to the Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement and its inquiry and public hearing report was made public on 20 November 2012;

WHEREAS the report deals in particular with the feasibility of changing the limits of the territory of the Réserve de biodiversité projetée des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache and concludes, among other things, that permanent protection status may be assigned to the territory;

WHEREAS the limits of the Réserve de biodiversité projetée des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache were reassessed by the Minister and changed after the public consultation to exclude a larger sector for vacation resort purposes on the shore of lac aux Iroquois and to add 5.8 km² to the centre-east, and to rely, where possible, on natural or man-made elements easily visible on the site to facilitate management;

WHEREAS the plan of the Réserve de biodiversité projetée des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache and its conservation plan were adjusted based on the changed limits and the technical description corresponding to the new limits has been prepared;

WHEREAS the land included in the territory forms part of the domain of the State and is not part of a reserved area or an agricultural zone established under the Act respecting the preservation of agricultural land and agricultural activities (chapter P-41.1);

WHEREAS, in accordance with the first paragraph of section 151 of the Act respecting land use planning and development (chapter A-19.1), the Minister of Sustainable Development, the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change notified an opinion describing the planned intervention to the council of Municipalité régionale de comté du Domaine-du-Roy;

WHEREAS, in accordance with the first paragraph of section 152 of that Act, the council of Municipalité régionale de comté du Domaine-du-Roy, by resolution No. 2016-232 dated 8 November 2016, confirmed that the project for the establishment of the Réserve de biodiversité des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache complies with the objectives of the revised land use planning and development plan;

WHEREAS the Commission de toponymie sent to the Minister its approval of the name "Réserve de biodiversité des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache" to designate that permanent biodiversity reserve;

WHEREAS, under subparagraph *f* of paragraph 1 of section 46 of the Natural Heritage Conservation Act, in an aquatic reserve and a biodiversity reserve, any activity which the Government may prohibit by regulation is prohibited;

WHEREAS, under subparagraph *g* of paragraph 1 of section 46 of the Act, in an aquatic reserve and a biodiversity reserve, subject to measures in the conservation plan authorizing the activities and specifying the conditions on which they may be carried on, any allocation of a right to occupy land for vacation resort purposes, earthwork, backfilling or construction work and commercial activities are prohibited;

WHEREAS, under paragraph 2 of section 46 of the Act, all other activities are permitted, in addition to those prohibited by paragraph 1 of that section, subject to the applicable conditions;

WHEREAS, in accordance with sections 10 and 11 of the Regulations Act (chapter R-18.1), the draft Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache was published in Part 2 of the *Gazette officielle du Québec* of 15 May 2019 with a notice that it could be made by the Government on the expiry of 45 days following that publication;

WHEREAS it is expedient to make the Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache with amendments, in particular to include the technical description of the territory and to make technical adjustments;

WHEREAS, under paragraph 3 of section 44 of the Natural Heritage Conservation Act, the establishment of a biodiversity reserve and a change in its limits, or its abolishment, is effected by order of the Government, on a proposal by the Minister, subject to the publication of a notice of the decision of the Government to establish a biodiversity reserve in the *Gazette officielle du Québec* with the plan of the area and the conservation plan;

WHEREAS the publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec* of this Order in Council, of the Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache and of its conservation plan constitutes the notice required by that paragraph, including the documents that must accompany it;

WHEREAS, under section 45 of the Natural Heritage Conservation Act, permanent protection status for land, conservation plans and applicable agreements, and amendments or revocations take effect on the date of publication of the order in the *Gazette officielle du Québec* or on any later date specified in the order;

IT IS ORDERED, therefore, on the recommendation of the Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change:

THAT permanent biodiversity reserve status be assigned to the territory described in the Regulation attached to Schedule I to this Order in Council, under the name “Réserve de biodiversité des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache”;

THAT the Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache, attached to Schedule I to this Order in Council, be made;

THAT the conservation plan applicable to the Réserve de biodiversité des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache, attached to Schedule II to this Order in Council, be approved;

THAT permanent status of the Réserve de biodiversité des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache and its conservation plan take effect on the fifteenth day following the date of their publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.

YVES OUELLET,
Clerk of the Conseil exécutif

SCHEDULE I

Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache

Natural Heritage Conservation Act
(chapter C-61.01, s. 43 and s. 46, par. 1, subpars. *e, f* and *g*, and par. 2)

1. The Réserve de biodiversité des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache is established in the territory described in the Schedule.

2. For the purposes of this Regulation,

(1) the words or terms “high-water mark”, “littoral zone”, “floodplain”, “lakeshore” and “riverbank” have the meaning given to them in the Protection Policy for Lakeshores, Riverbanks, Littoral Zones and Floodplains (chapter Q-2, r. 35);

(2) the term “wetlands and bodies of water” has the meaning given to it in section 46.0.2 of the Environment Quality Act (chapter Q-2);

(3) the term “forest development activity” has the meaning given to it in the Sustainable Forest Development Act (chapter A-18.1).

DIVISION I PROTECTION OF RESOURCES AND THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

3. Subject to the prohibition in the second paragraph, no person may introduce any individuals of a native or non-native species of fauna into the biodiversity reserve, including by stocking, unless the person has been authorized by the Minister.

No person may stock a lake or watercourse for aquaculture, commercial fishing or any other commercial purpose.

Except with the authorization of the Minister, no person may introduce non-native species of flora into the biodiversity reserve.

4. No person may use fertilizers in the biodiversity reserve. Compost for domestic purposes is however permitted if it is used at least 20 metres from a lake or watercourse, measured from the high-water mark.

5. No person may remove from the biodiversity reserve species of flora, small fruits or any other non-timber forest product by mechanical means.

6. No person may in the biodiversity reserve, unless the person has been authorized by the Minister,

(1) intervene in a wetland area, in particular a marsh, swamp or peat bog;

(2) modify the natural drainage or water regime, including by creating or developing lakes and watercourses;

(3) dig, fill, obstruct or divert a lake or watercourse;

(4) install or construct a structure, infrastructure or new works in the littoral zone, on the banks or shores or the floodplains of a lake or watercourse; no authorization is however required for minor works — quay or platform, boat shelter — installed for private purposes and may be free of charge under section 2 of the Regulation respecting the water property in the domain of the State (chapter R-13, r. 1);

(5) carry on an activity other than those referred to in paragraphs 1 to 4 likely to directly and substantially affect the biochemical characteristics or quality of wetlands and bodies of water in the biodiversity reserve, including by discharging or dumping residual materials or contaminants into the wetlands or bodies of water;

(6) carry out soil development work or an activity likely to degrade the soil or a geological formation, or to damage the vegetation cover, in particular by stripping, the digging of trenches or excavation work, including any burial, earthwork, removal or displacement of surface materials or vegetation cover, for any purpose;

(7) install or construct a structure, infrastructure or new works;

(8) reconstruct or demolish a structure, infrastructure or works;

(9) use a pesticide; no authorization is required for the use of personal insect repellent;

(10) carry on educational or research-related activities if the activities are likely to directly or significantly damage or disturb the natural environment, in particular because of the nature or size of the samples taken or the invasive character of the method or process used; or

(11) hold a sports event, tournament, rally or any other similar event where

(a) fauna or flora species are taken or are likely to be taken; or

(b) motor vehicles or craft are used.

7. Despite paragraphs 6, 7 and 8 of section 6, if the requirements provided for in the second paragraph are met, no authorization is required to carry out the following work:

(1) the maintenance, repair or improvement of any structure, infrastructure or works, including a camp, a cabin, a road or a trail, including an ancillary facility such as a lookout or stairs;

(2) the construction or installation

(a) of a dependency or a facility ancillary to a trapping camp, a rough shelter, a shelter or a cabin, including a shed, a water withdrawal facility or a system for the discharge and disposal of waste water, grey water and toilet effluents; or

(b) of a trapping camp, a rough shelter, a shelter or a cabin if, on the date of coming into force of this Regulation, such a building was permitted under the right of use or occupancy granted, but had not yet been carried out; or

(3) the demolition or reconstruction of a trapping camp, a rough shelter, a shelter or a cabin, including a dependency or a facility ancillary to such a structure, including a shed, a water withdrawal facility or a system for the discharge and disposal of waste water, grey water and toilet effluents.

The carrying out of the work referred to in the first paragraph must comply with the following requirements:

(1) the work involves a structure, infrastructure or works whose presence is permitted within the biodiversity reserve;

(2) the work is carried out within the area of land or right of way subject to the right to use or occupy the land in the biodiversity reserve, whether the right results from a lease, servitude or other form of title, permit or authorization;

(3) the nature of the work or elements installed by the work will not operate to increase the area of land that may remain deforested beyond the limits permitted under the provisions applicable to the sale, lease and granting of immovable rights under the Act respecting the lands in the domain of the State (chapter T-8.1) and, if applicable, the limits set under an authorization issued in connection with that structure, works or infrastructure;

(4) the work is carried out in accordance with the prescriptions of any permit or authorization issued for the work or in connection with the structure, infrastructure or works to which they are related, and compliance with the laws and regulations that apply;

(5) in the case of forest roads, the work must not operate to alter or exceed the existing right of way, widen the roadway or convert the road to a higher class.

For the purposes of this section, repair and upgrading work includes work to replace or install works or facilities to comply with the requirements of an environmental regulation.

8. No person may bury, incinerate, abandon or dispose of residual materials or snow, except if they are disposed of in waste disposal containers, facilities or sites determined by the Minister or, in other cases, with the authorization of the Minister.

Despite the first paragraph, a controlled zone does not need an authorization to use a disposal facility or site, in compliance with the Environment Quality Act (chapter Q-2) and its regulations, if the controlled zone was already using the facility or site on the date of coming into force of this Regulation.

DIVISION II

RULES OF CONDUCT FOR USERS

9. No person may enter, carry on an activity or operate a vehicle in a given sector of the biodiversity reserve if the signage installed by the Minister restricts access, traffic or certain activities in the sector in order to protect the public from a danger or to avoid placing the fauna, flora or other components of the natural environment at risk, unless the person has been authorized by the Minister.

10. No person may destroy, remove, move or damage any poster, sign, notice or other type of signage posted by the Minister within the biodiversity reserve.

DIVISION III

ACTIVITIES REQUIRING AN AUTHORIZATION

11. No person may, for a period of more than 90 days in the same year, occupy or use the same site of the biodiversity reserve, unless the person has been authorized by the Minister.

For the purposes of the first paragraph,

(1) the occupation or use of a site includes

(a) staying or settling in the biodiversity reserve, for instance for vacation purposes;

(b) setting up a camp or a shelter; and

(c) installing, burying or abandoning any property in the reserve, including equipment, a device or a vehicle; and

(2) the expression “same site” includes any other site within a radius of 1 kilometre from the site.

Despite the first paragraph, an authorization is not required if a person,

(1) on the date of coming into force of this Regulation, was a party to a lease or had already obtained another form of right or another authorization allowing the person to legally occupy the land under the Act respecting the lands in the domain of the State (chapter T-8.1) or, if applicable, the Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife (chapter C-61.1), and whose right to occupy the land is renewed or extended on the same conditions, subject to possible changes in fees; or

(2) in accordance with the law, has entitlement under a sublease, an assignment of a lease or a transfer of a right or authorization referred to in subparagraph 1, and whose right to occupy the land is renewed or extended on the same conditions, subject to possible changes in fees.

12. No person may carry on forest management activities to meet domestic needs or for the purpose of maintaining biodiversity, unless the person has been authorized by the Minister.

Despite the first paragraph, persons staying or residing within the biodiversity reserve and who collect wood required to make a campfire are not required to obtain the authorization of the Minister.

No such authorization is required if a person collects firewood to meet domestic needs to supply a trapping camp or a rough shelter permitted within the biodiversity reserve in the following cases and on the following conditions:

(1) the wood is collected by a person in compliance with the conditions set out in the permit for the harvest of firewood for domestic purposes issued under the Sustainable Forest Development Act (chapter A-18.1);

(2) the quantity of wood collected does not exceed 7 apparent cubic metres per year.

In addition, no authorization to carry on a forest management activity is required if a person authorized by lease to occupy land within the biodiversity reserve in accordance with this Regulation carries on the activity for the purpose of

(1) clearing, maintaining or creating visual openings, and any other similar removal work permitted under the provisions governing the sale, lease and granting of immovable rights under the Act respecting the lands in the domain of the State (chapter T-8.1), including for access roads, stairs or other trails permitted under those provisions; or

(2) clearing the necessary area for the installation, connection, maintenance, repair, reconstruction or upgrading of facilities, lines or mains for water, sewer, electric power or telecommunications services.

If the work referred to in subparagraph 2 of the fourth paragraph is carried on for or under the responsibility of an enterprise providing any of those services, the work requires the prior authorization of the Minister, other than in the case of the exemptions provided for in sections 14 and 16.

13. No person may carry on commercial activities in the biodiversity reserve, except with the authorization of the Minister.

Despite the first paragraph, no authorization is required

(1) if the activity does not involve the taking of fauna or flora resources, or the use of a motor vehicle; or

(2) to carry on commercial activities which, on the date of coming into force of this Regulation, were the subject of a right to use the land for such a purpose, whether the right results from a lease or other form of title, permit or authorization, within the limits of the right.

DIVISION IV **AUTHORIZATION EXEMPTIONS**

14. Despite the preceding provisions, an authorization is not required for an activity or other form of intervention within the biodiversity reserve if urgent action is necessary to prevent harm to the health or safety of persons, or to repair or prevent damage caused by a real or apprehended catastrophe. The person concerned must, however, immediately inform the Minister of the activity or intervention that has taken place.

15. Despite the preceding provisions, an authorization is not required for a member of a Native community for an intervention within the biodiversity reserve where that intervention is part of the exercise of rights covered by section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 (Schedule B of the Canada Act, chapter 11 in the 1982 volume of the Acts of the Parliament of the United Kingdom) and those rights are credibly asserted or established.

16. Despite the preceding provisions, the following activities and interventions carried out by Hydro-Québec (hereinafter the “Société”) or by any other person for Hydro-Québec do not require the prior authorization of the Minister under this Regulation:

(1) any activity or intervention required within the biodiversity reserve to complete a project for which express authorization had previously been given by the Government and the Minister, or only by the latter, in accordance with the requirements of the Environment Quality Act (chapter Q-2), if the activity or intervention is carried out in compliance with the authorizations issued;

(2) any activity or intervention necessary for the preparation and presentation of a pre-project report for a project requiring an authorization under the Environment Quality Act;

(3) any activity or intervention relating to a project requiring the prior authorization of the Minister under the Environment Quality Act if the activity or intervention is in response to a request for a clarification or for additional information made by the Minister to the Société and it is carried out in accordance with the request.

The Société informs the Minister of the various activities or interventions referred to in this section it proposes to carry out before the work is begun within the reserve.

For the purposes of this section, the activities and interventions of the Société include but are not restricted to pre-project studies, analysis work or field research, work required to study and monitor the impact of electric power transmission and distribution line corridors and rights of way, geological or geophysical surveys and survey lines, and the opening and maintenance of roads required for the purposes of access, construction or traffic incidental to the work.

DIVISION V

FINAL

17. This Regulation comes into force on the fifteenth day following the date of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.

SCHEDULE

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION

RÉSERVE DE BIODIVERSITÉ DES BUTTES-ET-BUTTONS-DU-LAC-PANACHE (s. 1)

[Translation of the technical description filed in French only at the office of the Surveyor-General of Québec of the ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles.]

A territory of irregular shape situated in the townships of Ross and Chabanel, in the watershed of Rivière Saint-Maurice, in the unorganized territory of Lac Ashuapmushuan, in the municipality of Sainte-Hedwidge, in the administrative region of Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean, and in the registration division of Lac-Saint-Jean-Ouest. The perimeter of the territory may be described as follows:

PARCEL A

Starting from a point situated on the southwestern right of way of the Chissibi/Jacques-Cartier power transmission line, corresponding to the land placed at the disposal of Hydro-Québec under reference no. 265-T (Right # 638570), being point 1 (5 361 062 m North, 376 084 m East);

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along the southwestern right of way of the Chissibi/Jacques-Cartier power transmission line, corresponding to the land placed at the disposal of Hydro-Québec under reference no. 265-T (Right #6 38570), to point 2 (5 357 207 m North, 377 027 m East);

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along the southwestern right of way of the Chissibi/Jacques-Cartier power transmission line, corresponding to the land placed at the disposal of Hydro-Québec under reference no. 265-T (Right # 638570), to the intersection with the southeastern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 3 (5 354 727 m North, 378 007 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the southern and eastern bank of several unnamed streams, the southern and eastern shore of Lac des Étangs, and the southern and eastern shore of an unnamed lake and of Lac du Cœur, to the intersection with the southern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 4 (5 354 004 m North, 376 438 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the southern and eastern bank of several unnamed streams, of an unnamed lake and of Lac Simon, to the intersection with the southern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 5 (5 353 704 m North, 375 830 m East);

Thence, in a southerly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 174°49'31" over a distance of approximately 266 metres, to the intersection with the southeastern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 6 (5 353 439 m North, 375 854 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the southeastern bank of an intermittent stream and several unnamed streams and the southeastern shore of several unnamed lakes, to point 7 (5 352 551 m North, 375 326 m East);

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 244°55'57" over a distance of approximately 205 metres, to the intersection with the southern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 8 (5 352 464 m North, 375 140 m East);

Thence, in a generally westerly direction, along the southern shore of an unnamed lake, to point 9 (5 352 463 m North, 375 114 m East);

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 253°12'34" over a distance of approximately 121 metres, to the intersection with the northeastern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 10 (5 352 428 m North, 374 998 m East);

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the northeastern shore of several unnamed lakes and the northeastern bank of Ruisseau Panache, to the intersection with the northwestern shore of an unnamed lake, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, being point 11 (5 350 111 m North, 375 540 m East);

Thence, in a southerly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 178°28'13" over a distance of approximately 1 424 metres, to the intersection with the southeastern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 12 (5 348 687 m North, 375 580 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the southeastern bank of an unnamed stream, to point 13 (5 348 597 m North, 375 139 m East);

Thence, in a southerly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 190°00'29" over a distance of approximately 639 metres, to the intersection with the northern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 14 (5 347 970 m North, 375 028 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the northwestern shore of an unnamed lake, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to point 15 (5 347 935 m North, 375 005 m East);

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 239°31'51" over a distance of approximately 1 043 metres, to point 16 (5 347 406 m North, 374 106 m East);

Thence, in a northwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 338°08'06" over a distance of 276.50 metres, to point 17 (5 347 663 m North, 374 004 m East);

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 235°32'50" over a distance of 900.63 metres, to point 18 (5 347 154 m North, 373 261 m East);

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 218°54'33" over a distance of approximately 259 metres, to the intersection with the western bank of an intermittent stream, being point 19 (5 346 952 m North, 373 099 m East);

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 227°41'24" over a distance of 670 metres, to the intersection with the northwestern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 20 (5 346 501 m North, 372 603 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the northwestern bank of an intermittent stream excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to point 21 (5 346 376 m North, 372 506 m East);

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 218°00'41" over a distance of approximately 641 metres, to point 22 (5 345 871 m North, 372 111 m East);

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 208°51'54" over a distance of approximately 327 metres, to the intersection with the northeastern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 23 (5 345 584 m North, 371 953 m East);

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the eastern bank of several unnamed streams and of an unnamed lake, to the intersection with the northern bank of another unnamed stream, being point 24 (5 345 291 m North, 371 930 m East);

Thence, in a southerly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 176°14'17" over a distance of approximately 732 metres, to the intersection with the northwestern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 25 (5 344 561 m North, 371 978 m East);

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the western bank of an intermittent stream excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to point 26 (5 344 390 m North, 371 976 m East);

Thence, in a southerly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 177°58'07" over a distance of approximately 141 metres, to the intersection with the western bank of an unnamed stream, being point 27 (5 344 249 m North, 371 981 m East);

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the western bank of an unnamed stream, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to point 28 (5 344 218 m North, 371 972 m East);

Thence, in a southerly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 189°34'50" over a distance of approximately 637 metres, to the intersection with the northeastern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 29 (5 343 590 m North, 371 866 m East);

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the eastern shore of an unnamed lake and the eastern bank of an unnamed stream, to point 30 (5 343 140 m North, 371 916 m East);

Thence, in a westerly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $279^{\circ}03'03''$ over a distance of approximately 114 metres, to point 31 (5 343 158 m North, 371 803 m East);

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $285^{\circ}00'26''$ over a distance of approximately 627 metres, to the intersection with a line parallel to and at a distance of 80 metres from Rivière Croche, being point 32 (5 343 320 m North, 371 197 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along a line parallel to and at a distance of 80 metres southeast of Rivière Croche, to the intersection with the southern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 33 (5 342 391 m North, 370 330 m East);

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the southern bank of an unnamed stream and the western bank of an intermittent stream, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to point 34 (5 342 207 m North, 370 434 m East);

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $198^{\circ}32'18''$ over a distance of approximately 352 metres, to the intersection with biological refuge #02251R025, being point 35 (5 341 874 m North, 370 322 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along an undulating line corresponding to the southeastern limit of biological refuge #02251R025, to point 36 (5 340 546 m North, 368 664 m East);

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $198^{\circ}42'27''$ over a distance of approximately 265 metres, to the intersection with the western bank of an intermittent stream, being point 37 (5 340 295 m North, 368 579 m East);

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the western bank of an intermittent stream, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to the intersection with biological refuge #02251R025, being point 38 (5 340 043 m North, 368 567 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along an undulating line corresponding to the southeastern limit of biological refuge #02251R025, to the intersection with the northeastern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 39 (5 339 341 m North, 368 421 m East);

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the northeastern bank of an intermittent stream, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to the intersection with the eastern bank of Rivière Croche, being point 40 (5 339 416 m North, 368 279 m East);

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $229^{\circ}23'36''$ over a distance of approximately 18 metres, to the intersection with the western bank of Rivière Croche, being point 41 (5 339 404 m North, 368 265 m East);

Thence, in a generally northerly direction, along the western bank of Rivière Croche, to the intersection with the western shore of Lac au Ruisseau, being point 42 (5 341 302 m North, 368 175 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the western shore of Lac au Ruisseau, to the intersection with biological refuge #02251R025, being point 43 (5 341 684 m North, 368 281 m East);

Thence, in a northerly direction, along the western limit of biological refuge #02251R025, to the intersection with the northwestern right of way of an unnamed road suitable for vehicular traffic, being point 44 (5 341 780 m North, 368 278 m East);

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along the northwestern right of way of an unnamed road suitable for vehicular traffic, to the intersection with the northeastern right of way of another unnamed road suitable for vehicular traffic, being point 45 (5 341 759 m North, 368 245 m East);

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the northeastern right of way of an unnamed road suitable for vehicular traffic, to the intersection with the eastern right of way of another unnamed road suitable for vehicular traffic, being point 46 (5 341 982 m North, 368 052 m East);

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $45^{\circ}48'12''$ over a distance of approximately 219 metres, to the intersection with the eastern bank of Ruisseau Frog, being point 47 (5 342 135 m North, 368 209 m East);

Thence, in a generally northerly direction, along the eastern bank of Ruisseau Frog, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to the intersection with the extension of the northeastern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 48 (5 342 607 m North, 368 163 m East);

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $113^{\circ}38'40''$ over a distance of approximately 61 metres, to the intersection with the southwestern right of way of an unnamed road suitable for vehicular traffic, being point 49 (5 342 582 m North, 368 219 m East);

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the southwestern right of way of an unnamed road suitable for vehicular traffic, to the intersection with the western bank of an unnamed stream, being point 50 (5 342 121 m North, 369 043 m East);

Thence, in a generally northerly direction, along the western bank of an unnamed stream and the western shore of Lac des Frères, to the intersection with the western bank of an intermittent stream, being point 51 (5 342 954 m North, 369 154 m East);

Thence, in a generally northerly direction, along the western bank of an intermittent stream, to point 52 (5 343 336 m North, 369 175 m East);

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $47^{\circ}58'03''$ over a distance of approximately 61 metres, to the intersection with the northern limit of biological refuge #02251R025, being point 53 (5 343 377 m North, 369 220 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along an undulating line à la northern limit of biological refuge #02251R025, to point 54 (5 343 954 m North, 370 602 m East);

Thence, in a northwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $343^{\circ}40'39''$ over a distance of approximately 292 metres, to the intersection with the southeastern shore of Lac Arthur, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, being point 55 (5 344 234 m North, 370 520 m East);

Thence, in a northerly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $3^{\circ}18'58''$ over a distance of approximately 1 003 metres, to the intersection with the southern shore of Lac des Oisillons, being point 56 (5 345 235 m North, 370 578 m East);

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the western and southwestern shore of Lac des Oisillons, the western and southwestern bank of an unnamed stream and Ruisseau du Jeune Bois, the western and southwestern shore of Lac des Aulnes and the western and southwestern bank of an intermittent stream, to point 57 (5 347 478 m North, 368 665 m East);

Thence, in a northwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $295^{\circ}10'24''$ over a distance of approximately 110 metres, to the intersection with the southwestern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 58 (5 347 525 m North, 368 565 m East);

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the southwestern bank of an intermittent stream, the southwestern shore of Lac du Bouleau, the southwestern bank of an unnamed stream, the southwestern shore of Lac des Souches and the southwestern bank of another intermittent stream, to the intersection with the northeastern right of way of an unnamed road suitable for vehicular traffic, being point 59 (5 348 648 m North, 366 784 m East);

Thence, in a generally northerly direction, along the eastern right of way of an unnamed road suitable for vehicular traffic, to the intersection with the northwestern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 60 (5 353 625 m North, 366 124 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the southeastern bank of an intermittent stream, to point 61 (5 353 556 m North, 365 873 m East);

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $259^{\circ}52'32''$ over a distance of approximately 484 metres, to the intersection with the southwestern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 62 (5 353 471 m North, 365 397 m East);

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the southwestern bank of an intermittent stream, the southwestern shore of Lac Merlin and the southwestern bank of several unnamed streams, to the intersection with the southeastern right of way of an unnamed road suitable for vehicular traffic, being point 63 (5 354 216 m North, 364 276 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the southeastern right of way of an unnamed road suitable for vehicular traffic, to the intersection with the northeastern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 64 (5 358 670 m North, 366 761 m East);

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $116^{\circ}15'25''$ over a distance of approximately 332 metres, to the intersection with an intermittent stream, being point 65 (5 358 523 m North, 367 059 m East);

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 28°12'50" over a distance of approximately 357 metres, to the intersection with the southwestern right of way of Chemin de la Lièvre, being point 66 (5 358 838 m North, 367 228 m East);

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along the southern right of way of Chemin de la Lièvre, to the intersection with the southwestern right of way of an unnamed road suitable for vehicular traffic, being point 67 (5 358 730 m North, 368 231 m East);

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the southwestern right of way of an unnamed road suitable for vehicular traffic, to the intersection with the western bank of an intermittent stream, being point 68 (5 356 576 m North, 370 093 m East);

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along the western and southeastern bank of several unnamed streams and several intermittent streams and the western and southeastern shore of Lac Philippe, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to the intersection with the southeastern right of way of an unnamed road suitable for vehicular traffic, being point 69 (5 356 686 m North, 371 500 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction along the southeastern right of way of an unnamed road suitable for vehicular traffic, to the intersection with the southeastern right of way of Chemin de la Lièvre, being point 70 (5 358 714 m North, 372 577 m East);

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along the southern right of way of Chemin de la Lièvre, to the intersection with the eastern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 71 (5 359 134 m North, 375 005 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the southeastern bank of several unnamed streams and the southeastern shore of Lac Charley, Lac de l'Abri à Canot and several unnamed lakes, corresponding to the limit of Réserve écologique J.-Clovis-Laflamme, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to the southern corner of Réserve écologique J.-Clovis-Laflamme, being point 72 (5 353 447.65 m North, 374 386.12 m East);

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along the surveyed limit of Réserve écologique J.-Clovis-Laflamme, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to the intersection with the southwestern bank of Lac des Roches, being point 73 (5 354 197.00 m North, 375 355.30 m East);

Thence, in a generally northerly direction, along the western shore of Lac des Roches, corresponding to the limit of Réserve écologique J.-Clovis-Laflamme, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to point 74 (5 354 808.21 m North, 375 377.21 m East);

Thence, in a northwesterly direction, along the surveyed limit of Réserve écologique J.-Clovis-Laflamme, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to point 75 (5 354 982.61 m North, 375 242.36 m East), corresponding to survey disk #E placed by Dany Renaud, land surveyor, as illustrated on his plan bearing number 2633 of his minutes;

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along the surveyed limit of Réserve écologique J.-Clovis-Laflamme, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to the intersection with the southwestern limit of the township of Ross, being point 76 (5 355 043.78 m North, 375 321.47 m East) corresponding to survey disk #D placed by Dany Renaud, land surveyor, as illustrated on his plan bearing number 2633 of his minutes;

Thence, in a northwesterly direction, along the surveyed limit of Réserve écologique J.-Clovis-Laflamme, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to point 77 (5 355 769.79 m North, 374 756.40 m East) corresponding to survey disk #C placed by Dany Renaud, land surveyor, as illustrated on his plan bearing number 2633 of his minutes;

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along the surveyed limit of Réserve écologique J.-Clovis-Laflamme, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to the intersection with the western right of way of the road unsuitable for vehicular traffic to Lac-Mathabé, being point 78 (5 356 360.22 m North, 375 519.97 m East);

Thence, in a generally northerly direction, along the western right of way of the road unsuitable for vehicular traffic to Lac-Mathabé corresponding to the eastern limit of Réserve écologique J.-Clovis-Laflamme, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to the intersection with the northeastern limit of Réserve écologique J.-Clovis-Laflamme, being point 79 (5 358 893 m North, 375 820 m East);

Thence, in a generally northerly direction, along the eastern right of way of an unnamed road suitable for vehicular traffic, to starting point 1.

Having an area of 108.76 square kilometres (excluding the parcel to be subtracted as described below).

EXCEPTING PARCEL A-1 TO BE SUBTRACTED AS DESCRIBED BELOW:

PARCEL A-1

A parcel of land known as the experimental forest (FE #1083 Ross C, contrainte 265010) of the Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs, excluded from the biodiversity reserve and being described as follows:

Starting from point 2 (5 357 212 m North, 377 031 m East) of Parcel A as described above, in a northwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 321°28'19" over a distance of 925 metres, to point 80 (5 357 935 m North, 376 455 m East), being the starting point of the parcel to be described;

Thence, along the limit of the experimental forest (FE #1083 Ross C, contrainte 265010) of the Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs, passing successively through the points having the following approximate coordinates:

- 81 (5 357 926 m North, 376 512 m East);
- 82 (5 357 931 m North, 376 526 m East);
- 83 (5 357 923 m North, 376 565 m East);
- 84 (5 357 891 m North, 376 608 m East);
- 85 (5 357 783 m North, 376 571 m East);
- 86 (5 357 796 m North, 376 513 m East);
- 87 (5 357 792 m North, 376 501 m East);
- 88 (5 357 828 m North, 376 416 m East);

to starting point 80.

Having an area of 0.02 square kilometres (23 095 m²).

PARCEL B

Starting from a point situated on the northeastern right of way of the Chissibi/Jacques-Cartier power transmission line, corresponding to the land placed at the disposal of Hydro-Québec under reference no. 265-T (Right # 151449), being point 89 (5 361 090 m North, 376 246 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the southeast right of way of several unnamed roads suitable for vehicular traffic, to point 90 (5 362 141 m North, 379 262 m East);

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 61°06'28" over a distance of approximately 308 metres, to the intersection with the southern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 91 (5 362 290 m North, 379 532 m East);

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the southwestern bank of an unnamed stream, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to the intersection with the western right of way of an unnamed road suitable for vehicular traffic, being point 92 (5 362 086 m North, 380 038 m East);

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the western right of way of an unnamed road suitable for vehicular traffic, to the intersection with the northwestern right of way of an unnamed road suitable for vehicular traffic, being point 93 (5 362 014 m North, 380 043 m East);

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along northwestern right of way of an unnamed road suitable for vehicular traffic, to the intersection with the southwestern right of way of an unnamed road unsuitable for vehicular traffic, being point 94 (5 361 993 m North, 380 005 m East);

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the southwestern right of way of an unnamed road unsuitable for vehicular traffic, to point 95 (5 361 324 m North, 380 274 m East);

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 126°07'46" over a distance of approximately 371 metres, to the intersection with the southwestern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 96 (5 361 105 m North, 380 574 m East);

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the southwestern bank of an unnamed stream, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to the northwestern right of way of Chemin de la Lièvre, being point 97 (5 360 048 m North, 381 301 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the northwestern right of way of Chemin de la Lièvre, to the intersection with the northwestern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 98 (5 359 183 m North, 379 824 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the northwestern bank of an unnamed stream, to the intersection with the southern shore of Lac aux Iroquois, being point 99 (5 359 317 m North, 379 882 m East);

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the southwestern bank of Lac aux Iroquois, to the north-eastern corner of lot 4 069 116 of the cadastre of Québec, being point 100 (5 360 233 m North, 378 787 m East);

Thence, in a northwesterly direction, along the northern limit of lot 4 069 116 of the cadastre of Québec, to the northwestern corner of the said lot, being point 101 (5 360 261 m North, 378 714 m East);

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the western limit of lot 4 069 116 and part of the western limit of lot 4 069 114, to the intersection with the northern right of way of an unnamed road suitable for vehicular traffic, being point 102 (5 360 187 m North, 378 737 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the northwestern right of way of an unnamed road suitable for vehicular traffic, to the intersection with the southwestern right of way of another unnamed road suitable for vehicular traffic, being point 103 (5 360 014 m North, 378 576 m East);

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the southwestern right of way of an unnamed road suitable for vehicular traffic, to the intersection with the southern right of way of Chemin de la Lièvre, being point 104 (5 359 234 m North, 378 959 m East);

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along the southern right of way of Chemin de la Lièvre, to the intersection with the northwestern right of way of Chemin de la Cruche, being point 105 (5 359 202 m North, 379 715 m East);

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the western right of way of Chemin de la Cruche, to the intersection with the northern right of way of an unnamed road unsuitable for vehicular traffic, being point 106 (5 356 143 m North, 379 359 m East);

Thence, in a generally westerly direction, along the northern right of way of an unnamed road unsuitable for vehicular traffic, to the intersection with the western bank of an intermittent stream, being point 107 (5 356 145 m North, 379 320 m East);

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the northwestern bank of an intermittent stream, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to point 108 (5 355 295 m North, 379 233 m East);

Thence, in a southerly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 189°12'21" over a distance of approximately 294 metres, to the intersection with the northern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 109 (5 355 005 m North, 379 186 m East);

Thence, in a generally westerly direction, along the northern bank of an intermittent stream excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to point 110 (5 354 988 m North, 378 752 m East);

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 251°01'14" over a distance of approximately 566 metres, to the intersection with the northwestern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 111 (5 354 804 m North, 378 217 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the northwestern bank of an unnamed stream, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to the intersection with the northeastern right of way of the Chissibi/Jacques-Cartier power transmission line, corresponding to the land placed at the disposal of Hydro-Québec under reference no. 265-T (Right # 151449), being point 112 (5 354 756 m North, 378 173 m East);

Thence, in a northwesterly direction, along the northeastern right of way of the Chissibi/Jacques-Cartier power transmission line, corresponding to the land placed at the disposal of Hydro-Québec under reference no. 265-T (Right # 151449), to point 113 (5 357 258 m North, 377 189 m East);

Thence, in a northwesterly direction, along the northeastern right of way of the Chissibi/Jacques-Cartier power transmission line, corresponding to the land placed at the disposal of Hydro-Québec under reference no. 265-T (Right # 151449), to starting point 89.

Having an area of 20.46 square kilometres (excluding the two parcels to be subtracted as described below).

EXCEPTING PARCELS B-1 AND B-2 TO BE SUBTRACTED AS DESCRIBED BELOW:

PARCEL B-1

A parcel of private land corresponding to lot 4 069 098 of the cadastre of Québec, in the registration division of Lac-Saint-Jean-Ouest, excluded from the biodiversity reserve and described as follows:

Starting from point 99 (5 359 317 m North, 379 882 m East) of Parcel B described above, in a northerly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 356°59'04" over a distance of approximately 309 metres, to the eastern corner of lot 4 069 098 of the cadastre of Québec, being point 114 (5 359 626 m North, 379 866 m East), being the starting point of the parcel to be described;

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along the southeastern limit of lot 4 069 098 of the cadastre of Québec, to the southern corner of the said lot, being point 115 (5 359 572 m North, 379 793 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the southwestern, northwestern and northeastern limit of lot 4 069 098 of the cadastre of Québec, to the eastern corner of the said lot, being starting point 114.

Having an area of 0.01 square kilometres (7 656 m²).

PARCEL B-2

A parcel of private land corresponding to lot 4 069 097 of the cadastre of Québec, in the registration division of Lac-Saint-Jean-Ouest, excluded from the biodiversity reserve and described as follows:

Starting from point 99 (5 359 317 m North, 379 882 m East) of Parcel B described above, in a northwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 344°48'51" over a distance of approximately 228 metres, to point 116 (5 359 537 m North, 379 822 m East), being the starting point of the parcel to be described;

Thence, in a southeasterly direction along the northeastern limit of lot 4 069 097 of the cadastre of Québec, to the eastern corner of the said lot, being point 117 (5 359 525 m North, 379 838 m East);

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the southeastern and northwestern limit of lot 4 069 097 of the cadastre of Québec, to the northern corner of the said lot, being starting point 116.

Having an area of 0.003 square kilometres (2 806 m²).

The whole of the biodiversity reserve having an area of 129.22 square kilometres.

Notes:

— The boundary of the biodiversity reserve shown on the plan accompanying the technical description was determined using the digital files in the Québec topographic database (base de données topographique du Québec, or BDTQ) at a scale of 1:20 000 kept by Québec's ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles (MERN), an excerpt from the surveys officialised in the register of lands in the domain of the State as of 17 October 2017, an excerpt from the Québec cadastral database (Base de données cadastrale du Québec) as of 17 October 2017 and the database of the eco-forest information system (système d'information écoforestière, or SIEF) kept by the MERN.

— The right of way 90 metres in width for the Chamouchouane/Jacques-Cartier power transmission line (1st line) corresponds to the land placed at the disposal of Hydro-Québec under reference no. 19-T (right #151449);

— The right of way 75 metres in width for the Chissibi/Jacques-Cartier power transmission line (12th line) corresponds to the land placed at the disposal of Hydro-Québec under reference no. 265-T (right #638570);

— In general, the beds of all watercourses, rivers and lakes are included in the biodiversity reserve. Only those that are excluded are mentioned in this technical description.

— A limit defined by a lakeshore, riverbank or stream-bank runs along the high-water mark.

— The coordinates and areas mentioned in this technical description are approximate. They were determined graphically using the same data as the data used to determine the boundary of the biodiversity reserve. They are expressed in metres with reference to the Québec plane coordinate system (QPCS), Modified Transverse Mercator projection (MTM), Time Zone 8 (central meridian 73°30'), North American Datum 1983 (NAD83).

— Measurements are expressed in International System units.

— The boundary of the biodiversity reserve is based on the actual layout of the elements described in this document and must be legally interpreted on that basis. It was defined by the Direction des aires protégées of Québec's ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques.

— The territory of the biodiversity reserve, as described in this technical description, contains only lands in the domain of the State. Any land that proves to be not part of the domain of the State is excluded from the biodiversity reserve.

— The territory is shown on a plan drawn at a scale of 1:30 000.

— In accordance with the instructions of the Direction des aires protégées of Québec's Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, the information contained in the source documents provided by the mandator, from which this technical description was prepared, has been accepted as fact.

The whole as shown on the plan prepared by the undersigned on 9 May 2018 and filed with the office of the Surveyor-General of Québec at the ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles under document number 536703.

Prepared at Québec on 9 May 2018, under number 11 677 of my minutes.

Digitally signed by:

PIERRE HAINS,
Land surveyor

Ministère du Développement durable,
de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre
les changements climatiques

Direction des aires protégées

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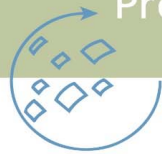
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SCHEDULE II

**CONSERVATION PLAN FOR THE RÉSERVE DE BIODIVERSITÉ
DES BUTTES-ET-BUTTONS-DU-LAC-PANACHE**



Protected areas
in Québec:

A Lifelong Heritage

Réserve de biodiversité
des Buttes-et-Buttons-
du-Lac-Panache



CONSERVATION PLAN

Québec 

Cover page photos: André R. Bouchard, Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques.

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Introduction

By Order in Council No. 445-2008 of May 7, 2008, pursuant to section 27 of the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act* (chapter C-61.01), the government authorized the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks to create Réserve de biodiversité projetée des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache, and approved the boundaries and conservation plan proposed for it. The creation of this provisional protected area by the ministerial order of May 29, 2008 (2008, G.O. 2, 2124) came into force on June 11, 2008 for a duration of four years. This provisional protection status was extended to June 11, 2020 by order of the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks on May 11, 2012 (2012, G.O. 2, 1552).

On January 26, 2012 the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks (MDDEP) mandated the Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement (BAPE) to hold public consultations on ten proposed protected areas in the Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean region, one of them being Réserve de biodiversité projetée des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache. This mandate was given to the BAPE in accordance with section 39 of the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act*, which provides for a public consultation process before permanent protection status is recommended to the Gouvernement du Québec for a territory reserved for the creation of a new protected area. The BAPE's mandate began on February 13, 2012 and concluded on July 20 of the same year. The consultation was held in March and April 2012 in Saguenay and Saint-Félicien. The BAPE's inquiry and public hearing report (No. 287) was

submitted to the Minister on July 20, 2012 (BAPE, 2012).

With a view toward granting the territory permanent protection status, the Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques (MELCC), in collaboration with Le Domaine-du-Roy MRC and in accordance with the BAPE's report, modified the boundaries of the protected area along the shore of Lac aux Iroquois, to exclude a larger area for resort purposes. The MELCC, the MRC and the Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles (MERN) also worked out a process for dealing with resort leases that are not in compliance with regulations. Additionally, the protected area was enlarged by 5.8 km² in response to proposals at the public hearings, notably by forestry company Produits Forestiers Résolu.

1 The territory of Réserve de biodiversité des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache

1.1 Official toponym

The toponym “Réserve de biodiversité des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache” reflects the features that define the relief of the area, as well as the name of its largest lake.

1.2 Boundaries and location

The boundaries and location of Réserve de biodiversité des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache are shown on the map comprising Appendix 1. Covering an area of 129.2 km², the reserve lies between 48° 13' and 48° 25' north latitude and between 72° 28' and 72° 42' west longitude, about 25 km southwest of Roberval. It is partly in the unorganized territory of

Lac-Ashuapmushuan and partly in the municipality of Sainte-Hedwige (northeastern point), both of which are in the heart of Le Domaine-du-Roy MRC, in the administrative region of Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean. The reserve is divided into two sections by the exclusion of the right of way for power lines 7024 and 7025.

Wherever possible, the boundaries of the reserve were defined on the basis of natural or anthropic elements that are easily identified on the ground, such as watercourses, lakes, forest roads and the edges of bogs. For sections along the banks of a water body (e.g. Lac Merlin in the northwest), the real boundary is the natural high-water mark. Where the boundary runs along a forest road, the right of way of the road is excluded from the protected area. The legal boundaries of the reserve are defined in the technical description and the survey map prepared by land surveyor Pierre Hains with the following minutes 11677 (May 9, 2018) and filed in the surveying archives of the Surveyor General of Québec (Grefte de l'arpenteur général du Québec), Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles under document number 536703.

1.3 Ecological portrait

1.3.1 Physical environment

The biodiversity reserve is in the Southern Laurentian natural province, near its northeastern boundary (Li and Ducruc, 1999). This ecological unit corresponds to a segment of Grenville geological province, the roots of a chain of mountains formed nearly a billion years ago. At a more precise level, the reserve is in the Windigo massif natural region. In the northwestern part of the massif, where various tributaries of the Saint-

Maurice arise (including the Windigo, Trenché, Pierriche and Croche rivers), the highest mountains reach an elevation of 734 metres. The overall surface of the massif gently dips toward the southeast, where it is more or less horizontal until its contact with the Lac-Jacques-Cartier massif natural region, which lies to the east. The reserve itself is at the bottom of that gentle slope, and its elevation ranges between 350 and 525 metres. The landforms of the natural region here consist predominantly of mounds or large hillocks with rounded summits (elevation 450 to 500 m) separated by valleys (elevation 350 to 400 m).

The bedrock of the natural region consists of metamorphic rocks (migmatite and gneiss) along with igneous rocks (granitoids), created before the Grenville orogeny, in an orogenic cycle known to geologists as the "polycyclic allochthonous". The bedrock of the reserve itself consists essentially of granitoid orthogneiss, migmatite and orthopyroxene granitoids, the last of which underlie the northern part of Lac Panache and the low hill north of it, whose summit is the highest point in the reserve.

The dominant surface deposits of the reserve (67.8%) are undifferentiated till (glacial deposits with no particular morphology). Fluvioglacial and fluvial deposits cover 16% of the reserve, concentrated around Rivière Croche, Ruisseau Frog and lakes Iroquois and Panache. Lastly, organic deposits account for 4.9% of the reserve, while rocky outcrops and thin soil with frequent outcrops account for another 4.5%. More than 82% of the soils of the reserve enjoy good to moderate drainage.

Occupying 6.3% of the territory, the hydrographic network includes nearly 200 bodies of water, most of them quite small, with a great number being the product of beaver dams. Lac Panache (173 ha) and Lac aux Iroquois (59.4 ha) are the largest lakes. The reserve protects the headwaters of Rivière aux Iroquois, which flows toward Lac Saint-Jean, and Rivière Croche, which empties into the Saint-Maurice. In the southeast part of the reserve, a few areas drain into the Rivière Ouïatchouaniche watershed, which flows toward Lac Saint-Jean.

According to Gerardin and McKenney (2001), the territory of the reserve is subject to a subarctic continental climate, subhumid with a medium growing season. Average temperatures are on the order of -1.5 to -1.9°C. The average annual precipitation ranges from 800 mm to 1359 mm, while the average growing season is from 150 to 179 days.

1.3.2 Biological environment

The reserve lies in a band where the natural vegetation is balsam fir/white birch forest, between the fir/yellow birch zones of Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean and Mauricie. It is in the bioclimatic subdomain of the western part of the fir/white birch forest, reflecting a dryer continental climate, with a relatively short forest fire cycle. Productive forest environments dominate the landscape, with woodlands occupying 82% of the area of the reserve (Table 1). However, old-growth forests (> 90 years) are nearly absent (just 2.1% of the reserve), while young and regenerating forests predominate (97.9%), as a result of the many natural and anthropic disturbances of the last century.

Table 1: Forest summary of the territory of Réserve de biodiversité des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache (MFFP, SIEF, 4th ten-year survey)

Type of cover		Area (ha)	Proportion(%)
Forest	Deciduous	1891.1	14.6
	Mixed	3259.5	25.2
	Coniferous	4749.5	36.7
	Regenerating	712.8	5.5
Other	Alder stands	213.7	1.7
	Wet barrens	545.5	4.2
	Dry barrens	684.3	5.3
	Water	816.6	6.3
	Island	2.8	0.0
	Flooded	45.3	0.4
	Other	0.4	0.0
Total		12 932.8	100.0%

Fires and logging have largely determined the forests that are found today, consisting primarily of grey pine stands (35.9%) and shade-intolerant deciduous stands (35.6%). Practically all the reserve's woodlands have been disturbed in the last century, and 9% of the territory was logged quite recently (1993-2015).

In 2009 the MELCC did a summary plant survey in the territory of the reserve. The following species were observed: lowbush blueberry, Indian-root, large-leaved aster, paper birch, leatherleaf, Canada fly-honeysuckle, creeping snowberry, yellow clintonia, goldthread, bunchberry, northern bush-honeysuckle, trailing arbutus, mountain maple, black spruce, sheep laurel, Labrador tea, twinflower, flat-branched

tree-clubmoss, Canada mayflower, tamarack, interrupted fern, white wood-sorrel, trembling aspen, early meadow-rue, grey pine, red pine, broad-leaved meadowsweet, sessile-leaved twisted-stalk, northern starflower, and wild raisin.

These observations confirmed those made at five observation points studied in 1991 for the MFFP's ecological inventory program (1986-2000), which also reported the following species: velvet-leaved blueberry, serviceberry sp., wild sarsaparilla, American green alder, pin cherry, reindeer moss, lady's slipper, fork moss sp., northern oak fern, skunk currant, knight's-plume moss, red-stemmed feathermoss, running clubmoss, mountain holly, horsetail sp., haircap moss sp., bracken fern, shinleaf, willow sp., goldenrod sp., American mountain-ash, rusty peat moss, peat moss sp., and painted trillium.

Aquatic environments occupy 6.3% of the reserve, while bogs account for 3.9%, one of them being an ombrotrophic bog of nearly 100 hectares, beside Lac Plat in the western part of the reserve. The Ruisseau Frog sector, near the western boundary, is another area of interest for the preservation of wetlands.

ECOLOGICAL INTEGRITY

The condition of a protected area that is considered characteristic of its natural region and likely to persist, including abiotic [non-living] components and the composition and abundance of native species and biological communities, rates of change and supporting processes.

Adapted from the definition in the Canada National Parks Act (S.C. 2000, c. 32).

CONSERVATION NUCLEUS

An area where the protection of biodiversity, ecological integrity, the natural environment and other similar values take precedence over usage values.

Brassard et al., 2010.

With regard to wildlife, no survey specific to the territory of the reserve has been done. Besides the species commonly exploited for fishing, hunting and trapping, the reserve is likely home to a representative sample of species that frequent the southern part of the boreal forest (balsam fir/white birch), except for those more associated with old-growth forests. There are brook trout in nearly every body of water, along with monkfish, minnows (lake chub and common shiner), suckers (white and longnose), fallfish and yellow perch

1.3.3 Ecological representativeness

Réserve de biodiversité des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache will enrich the representation of the characteristic ecosystems of the Windigo massif natural region in Québec's protected areas network. Together with Réserve écologique J.-Clovis-Laflamme, the reserve forms a conservation nucleus of nearly 140 km² whose biodiversity components (types of physical environments and assemblages of associated species) will be assured greater ecological integrity as time goes by (see sidebar).

Expanding a conservation nucleus helps to ensure its long-term effectiveness in protecting ecosystem functionality, while reducing its vulnerability to natural disturbances and changes in the surrounding landscape.

In terms of configuration, the edge effect can have a significant impact on protected areas, depending on their size and shape. Ideally, a protected area should be round, limiting the ratio of perimeter to contained area. In addition, conservation biology theory posits that a protected area should be large enough to contain all the successional stages of forest ecosystems, larger therefore than any disturbance that could affect it. However, with its 129.2 km² (139.4 km² including the ecological reserve), the biodiversity reserve is less than half the size of two forest fires that swept nearby in recent decades (fires of over 300 km² in 1983 and 1995, both less than 100 km away).

At level 3 in the ecological reference framework of Québec, the reserve is part of the Buttes-du-lac-des-Commissaires physiographic complex. At level 4 it overlaps four ecological districts, all characterized by the presence of mounds covered by deposits comparable to those in the reserve. Thus, in physiographic terms the reserve is representative of the ecosystems present in these ecological units. Its various types of deposits are also represented in similar proportions to those of the natural region. Its proportion of aquatic environments is slightly greater than that of the natural region (6.3% versus 5.6%, likely due to its location at the bottom of a slope). However, its general

hydrography (numerous lakes of small size) is comparable to that of the natural region.

On the other hand, in biological terms the present-day forest landscapes of the reserve and environs are very different, in both structure and composition, from the natural landscapes that would normally be there (Grondin *et al.* 2010). The latter authors recommend that the white birch/balsam fir stands typical of the Lac St-Jean area (western mixed forest) be the focus of forest restoration efforts, to gradually bring their structure and composition closer to those of natural landscapes. The rarity of certain types of environment (especially old-growth forest and balsam fir stands) and the over-abundance of shade-intolerant deciduous stands, bear out the fact that the present-day situation is not what it should be.

1.4 Land occupation and uses

The principal occupations and uses of the territory of Réserve de biodiversité des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache are shown on the map comprising Appendix 2.

Except for a small area to the south of Lac Panache, the reserve is almost entirely inside the ZEC de la Lièvre controlled harvesting zone, which dates from 1978. It is easily accessed by a class 1 forest road that leads to the ZEC's main reception post, about seven kilometres east of the eastern boundary of the biodiversity reserve. In winter, section 83 of the Trans-Québec snowmobile trail between Lac-Saint-Jean and Mauricie runs along two stretches of the northern boundary. Aside from the class 1 forest road, a number of secondary and tertiary forest roads

also provide access to parts of the reserve, particularly in the north, where large areas were stripped of forest just before provisional protection status was granted.

Apart from hunting and fishing, which are managed by the De la Lièvre ZEC, there are a fair number of cottages (44 resort leases) plus three temporary shelters (MRNF, 2012). Excluded from the reserve are the cottage sites along the shores of Lac aux Iroquois and Lac Philippe, the rights of way of power transmission lines MAD 19T and MAD 265T, and experimental forest 1083-Ross "C", where silviculture research is done. There is also single-phase distribution line RBV 237.

The reserve is part of fur-bearing animal management unit 48 (MFFP, Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean), and overlies six trapping grounds (leases with exclusive trapping rights). A canoe-kayak route crosses the reserve via Rivière Croche, then continues through Lac Panache. There is a backcountry campground in the northwest extremity of the reserve. ZEC de la Lièvre hopes to further develop recreational activities on its territory, and has prepared a plan to that end (Ouellet and Coté, 2005).

Réserve de biodiversité des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache is located entirely in the Nitassinan of the Mashteuiatsh Innu First Nation, as demarcated in Schedule 4.1 of the *Agreement-in-Principle of General Nature between the First Nations of Mamuitun and Nutashkuan and the Government of Québec and the Government of Canada*. In the sector containing the biodiversity reserve, there are territorial overlaps between the Mashteuiatsh Innu First Nation and the Attikamek

First Nation, under the Comprehensive Land Claim Negotiations (MRNF, 2012).

1.4.1 Particular heritage element

The Lac Panache area is rich in Amerindian archeological sites from prehistoric times (12 000 to 450 years B.C.). In the 1960s, Abbé Robert Simard identified 19 archeological sites around Lac Panache (Simard, 1967). His report mentions that his own father, who worked in logging camps there in the early 1900s, had met Aborigines who spent the winter there. He also reports that log driving was done on Rivière Croche and that there was a system of locks on Lac Panache.

The Mashteuiatsh's Innus (also called Pekuakamiulnuatsh or Montagnais) refer to *Rivière Panache*, *Ishkin shipi* [eshkan shipi] in their documentation. A number of documents refer to their occupation of this area. The 1983 study by the Atikamekw Montagnais Council reveals that they too came to Lac Panache. Even in 1926, Montagnais families went to the Lac Panache and La Croche area each year. In 1980 the trip was done by car to the Panache forks, the rest of the journey being on foot through the brush. Historic paths and portages have been identified, notably between lakes Lucien and Philippe, Lac Souche and Grand lac Verreault, and between Ruisseau Frog and Lac de la Galette. Based on data from the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications, there are 21 known archeological sites around Lac Panache. The whole area is a very important part of the heritage of the Mashteuiatsh Innu First Nation (Pekuakamiulnuatsh Takuhikan, 2012).

2 Conservation and management issues

2.1 Introduction

Generally, a biodiversity reserve is dedicated to protection of the natural environment, nature discovery and recreation. For this reason, activities that could have a significant impact on ecosystems and biodiversity, particularly of an industrial nature, are prohibited. Less harmful activities, such as those involving recreation, wildlife, ecotourism or education, are permitted in this type of protected area. However, the management framework to which they are subject is conditioned by conservation issues specific to each biodiversity reserve. The conservation and other issues to be taken into account for Réserve de biodiversité des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache, and the orientations and objectives to which they give rise, are set out in the sections that follow.

2.2 Protection of biodiversity

Restoration of forest ecosystems

The first conservation issue concerns the need to gradually restore the characteristic ecosystems of the Windigo massif natural region. The absence of industrial activities will allow the average age of forest stands to slowly increase. The reserve already includes a territory designated as a “biological refuge” (#02251R025, see Appendix 2) under the *Sustainable Forest Development Act*. Created in 2008, the refuge has preserved one of the rare areas of old-growth forest in the reserve. Based on the ecological types (and potential vegetation) identified in the ecoforestry information system, it can be expected that coniferous forests will eventually

dominate the territory of the reserve. Ultimately, balsam fir stands (fir/black spruce and fir/white birch) could cover up to 55% of the reserve, with black spruce stands occupying another 30%. Fir stands should occupy the uplands, while black spruce stands should be more common on the lower slopes. Appendix 3 illustrates the expected long-term theoretical evolution of the reserve’s forest cover. The corresponding objective for this conservation issue is: *Avoid any development that could reduce the age of the forest cover.*

Protection of lacustrine ecosystems and near-shore environments

Containing the headwaters of the Croche, Aux Iroquois and Ouiatchouaniche rivers, the hydrographic network of the reserve has great ecological integrity and excellent water quality. Accordingly, maintaining the integrity of aquatic, wetland and near-shore environments is another conservation issue for the reserve. The corresponding objective is: *Avoid any new development that could degrade the quality of aquatic, wetland or near-shore environments.*

2.3 Protection of archeological sites

A crucial management issue for the reserve is to ensure the protection of the shores of Lac Panache, where there is a concentration of archeological sites. The corresponding objective is: *Prohibit any new development around Lac Panache.*

2.4 Development activities

Réserve de biodiversité des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache offers numerous attractions for recreation (hunting, fishing, vacationing, canoeing). It is readily accessible by a class 1

forest road, and is less than 30 km from provincial Route 169. It is mostly frequented by hunters, fishers and trappers, along with cottagers. ZEC de la Lièvre is responsible for wildlife development, harvesting and conservation, and for facilitating access to users.

Practised in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations, these activities by users of the territory are compatible with the status of biodiversity reserve, and can continue to be practised normally.

The MELCC wants all concerned stakeholders to be involved in preparing an action plan and refining the zoning outline in the present conservation plan. This will help ensure the achievement of the conservation objectives, in particular the protection of sensitive or fragile natural environments, the recovery of old-growth forest and the protection of Amerindian archeological sites. To encourage participation by all stakeholders who use the territory, the following objectives have been set: (1) *Establish participative and collaborative management.* (2) *Inform all users as to the conservation and management objectives being pursued in the protected area.*

2.5 Knowledge acquisition and environmental monitoring

As sketched in section 1.3, existing knowledge about the ecosystems of the reserve is fragmentary, so knowledge acquisition will be essential with regard to all objectives concerning the natural heritage. The knowledge acquired will facilitate monitoring of the natural environment, and could also be used in developing activities for nature discovery, education and public

awareness. It will facilitate the analysis of development projects, and ensure that management partners have a common understanding of the issues.

Ecological knowledge, especially about the support capacity of natural environments, and about the impact of recreational and tourist activities on ecosystems, must also be developed.

Specific objectives:

- Perform targeted surveys and subsequent monitoring.

The MELCC will target needs related to knowledge gaps about biodiversity. With the help of regional partners, the MELCC will establish an inventory of the plant and animal species found in the reserve. The subjects of surveys or research to prioritize will be determined later, but will reflect existing or anticipated ecological problems.

2.6 Conservation and management objectives

Réserve de biodiversité des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache is a “protected area” as defined in the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act*, and appears in the *Registre des aires protégées du Québec* constituted under the Act. Thus, it was primarily created to ensure the protection and maintenance of the area’s biological diversity, with the associated natural and cultural resources. In addition, protecting this territory enhances the representativeness of the national and regional protected areas network, since it holds numerous ecological components of interest that are representative of the characteristic ecosystems of the Windigo massif

natural region. For the government, the protection of these components and ecosystems, described in section 1.3, is a major objective. However, it is important to note that this protection will allow the pursuit of traditional activities by members of the Aboriginal communities who frequent the land, as well as the recreotourism activities currently practised there.

Taking into account the issues set out in sections 2.1 to 2.4, and the geographical sectors of interest corresponding to the elements described in section 1, the conservation and management objectives specific to the reserve are as follows:

- Promote the restoration of forest stands typical of the balsam fir/white birch domain.
- Protect wetlands and maintain water quality.
- Prohibit any additional development around Lac Panache.
- Establish participative and collaborative management.
- Inform all users as to the conservation and management objectives being pursued in the protected area.

To achieve those objectives, the conservation and management of the reserve will be guided by an activity framework whose several dimensions are set out in sections 4, 5 and 6 of this plan.

3 Zoning

Taking into account the ecosystems, occupation and use of the territory, along with the present condition of the natural environment and the protection and management objectives, the biodiversity reserve has been subdivided into three zones. While all three enjoy the same degree of legal protection and have the same activity framework, their protection measures and

development possibilities reflect their respective features

The three zones are presented in the map comprising Appendix 4. The MELCC will take this zoning into account in managing the reserve and when evaluating applications for authorization concerning activities or developments.

The zones are:

Zone I: Lac Panache low hill

Zone II: Lac Plat basin

Zone III: Lac aux Iroquois mounds and hillocks

Zone I: Lac Panache low hill

This zone includes all the southern part of the reserve, including Lac Panache and the low hill to the north of it. The main concern in this zone is to protect the known archeological sites and the general archeological potential. The thinness of surface deposits on the heights, and the presence of a few old forests in the south (notably in biological refuge 02251R025), demand special attention in this zone.

Zone II: Lac Plat basin

North of the previous zone and west of Réserve écologique J.-Clovis-Laflamme, this zone features an abundance of wetlands along with fluvio-glacial and fluvial deposits. It has been heavily disturbed by logging, but a few middle-age forests remain. The main concern in this zone will be to protect the wetlands and aquatic environments. Natural restoration of the forests and the maintenance of a buffer around the ecological reserve are also important issues here.

Zone III: Lac aux Iroquois mounds and hillocks

Zone III contains the eastern part of the reserve, and borders on the south and east boundaries of Réserve écologique J.-Clovis-Laflamme. Crossed by a major hydroelectric line, and almost wholly in the municipality of Sainte-Hedwidge, Zone III is the main gateway to the biodiversity reserve. The proximity of the reception post of ZEC De la Lièvre and the Lac Brousseau campground mean that it will be especially important to build awareness about conservation issues. Of all the zones, this is the most heavily disturbed by logging. The area of cottages along Lac aux Iroquois is in this zone, but excluded from the reserve. As with Zone II, restoring natural forests and maintaining a buffer around the ecological reserve are especially important issues here, given the significant human presence. The MELCC will seek the collaboration of all stakeholders in preserving the few remaining old-growth forests and wetlands, and in promoting the natural restoration of regenerating woodlands.

4 Activity framework applicable to Réserve de biodiversité des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache

The activity framework applicable to Réserve de biodiversité des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache follows from the provisions of the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act* and the Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache.

4.1 Activity framework established by the Natural Heritage Conservation Act

Activities carried out within the reserve are primarily governed by the provisions of the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act*.

Under the Act, the principal activities prohibited in a territory with the status of biodiversity reserve are the following:

- mining and gas or oil extraction or exploration;
- forest management within the meaning of section 4 of the *Sustainable Forest Development Act* (chapter A-18.1);
- the development of hydraulic resources and any production of energy on a commercial or industrial basis.

Though fundamental to protecting the territory and its ecosystems, the above prohibitions do not cover all of the standards considered desirable to ensure the proper management of the reserve and the conservation of its natural environment. The *Natural Heritage Conservation Act* allows the Regulation to detail the legal framework applicable on the territory of a biodiversity reserve.

4.2 Activity framework established by the Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache

Accordingly, the provisions set out in Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache present additional prohibitions beyond those already stipulated in the Act. Their purpose is to set conditions for the performance of certain permitted activities, thus ensuring better protection of the natural environment in accordance with the principles of conservation and other management objectives for the biodiversity reserve. Certain activities are therefore subject to prior authorization by the Minister.

The measures contained in Regulation specifically concern new interventions. They do not affect activities that are already being practised or facilities that are already present, so many existing uses are therefore preserved.

However, for activities subject to authorization, the provisions set out in Regulation do not identify which activities could be refused authorization, being considered incompatible with the vocation of the biodiversity reserve. Basic information about the compatibility or incompatibility of each type of activity is provided in the document *Activity Framework for Biodiversity Reserves and Aquatic Reserves*, which is available on the website of the MELCC at:

http://www.mddelcc.gouv.qc.ca/biodiversite/aires_protegees/regime-activites/regime-activite-reserve-bio-aqua-en.pdf.

For certain activities, Regulation also includes exemptions to the requirement for prior authorization.

5 Activities governed by other laws

Certain activities that could potentially be practised in the biodiversity reserve are also governed by other applicable legislative and regulatory provisions, and some require a permit or authorization or the payment of certain fees. Certain activities could be prohibited or limited under other laws or regulations applicable on the territory of the reserve.

Within the biodiversity reserve, a particular legal framework may govern permitted activities under the following categories:

- **Protection of the environment:** measures set out in particular by the *Environment Quality Act* (chapter Q-2) and its regulations.
- **Archeological research and discoveries:** measures set out in particular by the *Cultural Heritage Act* (chapter P-9.002).
- **Exploitation and conservation of wildlife resources:** measures stipulated by the *Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife* (chapter C-61.1) and its regulations, including provisions relating to threatened or vulnerable wildlife species, outfitters and beaver reserves; and measures in the applicable federal laws and regulations, including the legislation and regulations on fisheries.
- **Plant species designated as threatened or vulnerable:** measures prohibiting the harvesting of such species under the *Act respecting threatened or vulnerable species* (chapter E-12.01).
- **Access and property rights related to the domain of the State:** measures set out in particular by the *Act respecting the lands in the domain of the State* (chapter T-8.1) and the *Watercourses Act* (chapter R-13).
- **Issuance and oversight of forest development permits** (harvesting of firewood for domestic purposes, wildlife development, recreational development); **delivery of authorizations** (forest roads) and **protection of biological refuges:** measures stipulated by the *Sustainable Forest Development Act* (chapter A-18.1).
- **Travel:** measures stipulated by the *Act respecting the lands in the domain of the*

State and by the regulations on motor vehicle travel in fragile environments, under the *Environment Quality Act*.

- **Construction and development standards:** regulatory measures adopted by local and regional municipal authorities in accordance with the applicable laws.

6 Management

6.1 Responsibilities of the Minister of the Environment and the Fight against Climate Change

The Minister of the Environment and the Fight against Climate Change is responsible for the management of Réserve de biodiversité des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache. Among other things, the Minister sees to the application of the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act* (chapter C-61.01) and the Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache. In its management, the MELCC enjoys the collaboration and participation of other government representatives that have specific responsibilities in or adjacent to the territory. Since the territory is accessible and frequented by humans, the MELCC intends to take a “participative” approach to management. The principal local and regional stakeholders concerned will be invited to participate in management activities. Depending on needs, their participation could take place through the creation of a management committee, zoning refinements, the development and implementation of an action plan, and follow-up on actions taken.

6.2 Monitoring

As mentioned in section 2, measures will be taken toward monitoring the status of the natural environment, in collaboration with the various stakeholders. Botanical and wildlife surveys may also be conducted.

6.3 Participation of stakeholders

To fulfill its management responsibilities, the MELCC will seek the collaboration and participation of the main stakeholder, including Le Domaine-du-Roy MRC, Aboriginal communities whose members frequent the territory, the municipality of Sainte-Hedwige, ZEC De la Lièvre, the holders of land rights, and the regional units of other government departments that have responsibilities in the biodiversity reserve.

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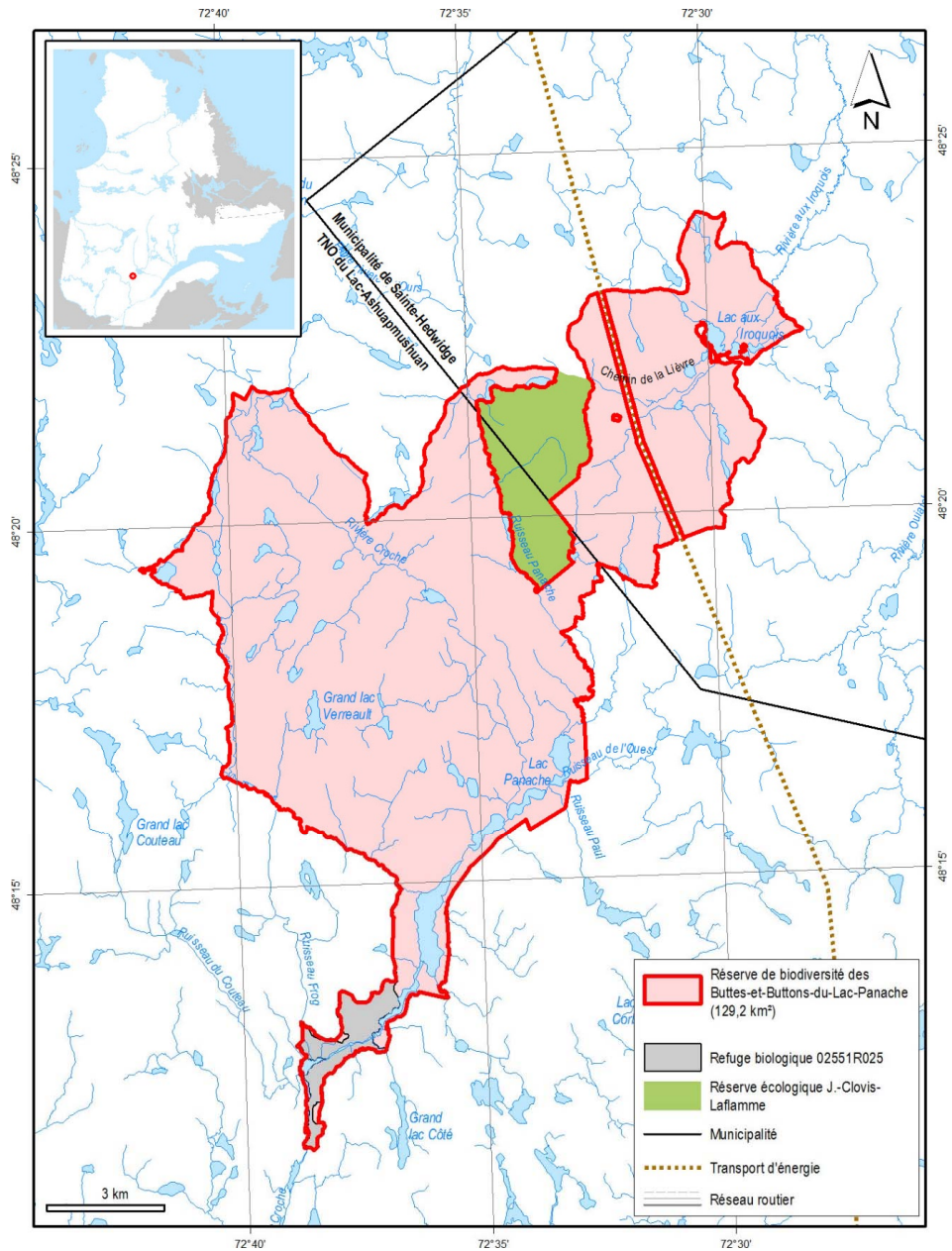
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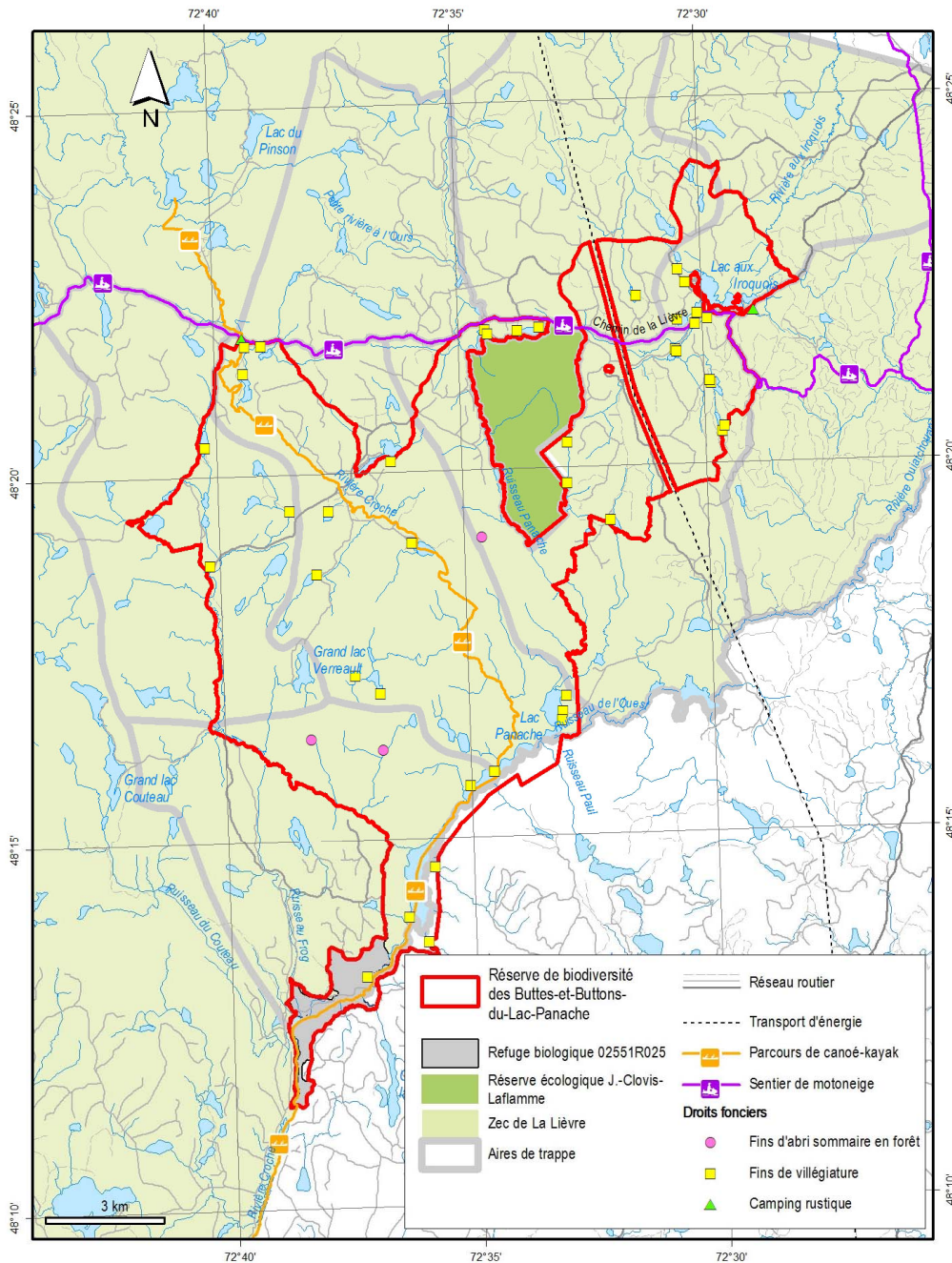
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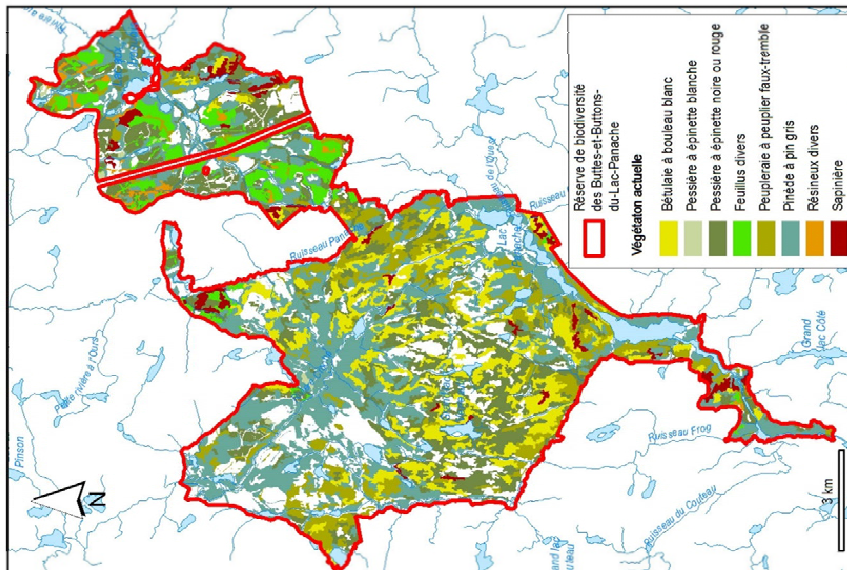
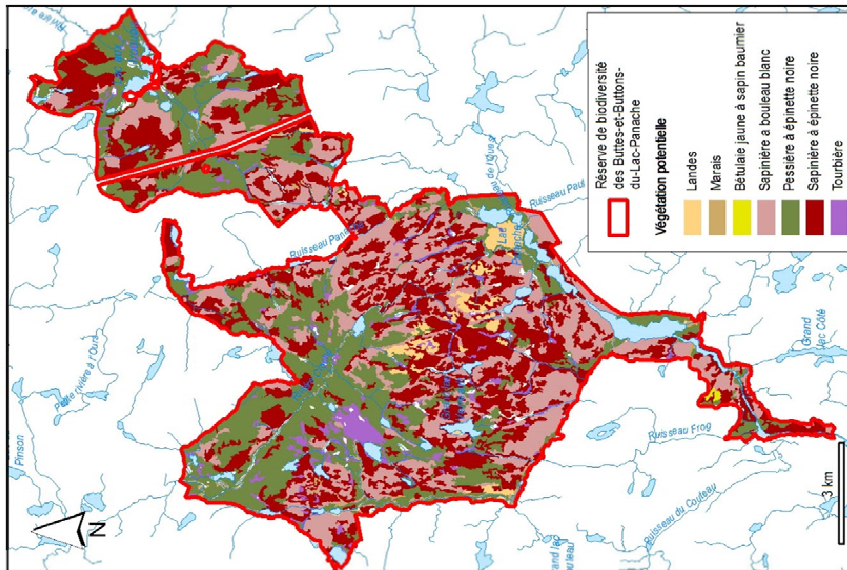
Appendix 1 — Boundaries and location



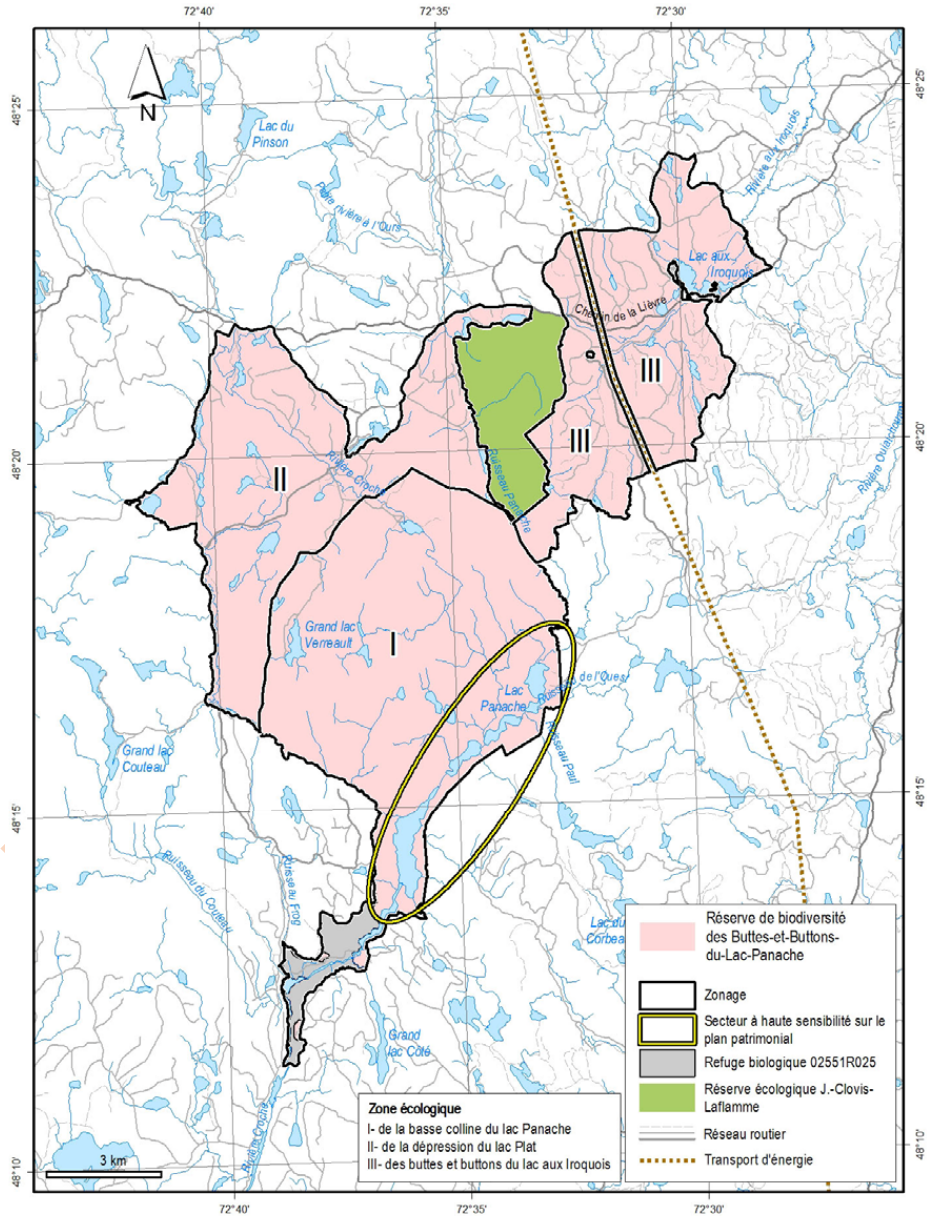
Appendix 2 — Occupation and uses



Appendix 3 — Existing vegetation and potential vegetation



Appendix 4 — Zoning



Gouvernement du Québec

O.C. 436-2020, 8 April 2020

Natural Heritage Conservation Act
(chapter C-61.01)

Permanent status of the Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac, the Regulation respecting that reserve and its conservation plan

WHEREAS, under the first paragraph of section 43 of the Natural Heritage Conservation Act (chapter C-61.01), the Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change may recommend to the Government that all or part of land set aside under section 27 of the Act be assigned a permanent protection status as biodiversity reserve;

WHEREAS, under the second paragraph of section 43 of the Act, the Minister is to submit at the same time to the Government for its approval the conservation plan for the land;

WHEREAS, by Order in Council 636-2005 dated 23 June 2005, the Government authorized the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks to assign the status of proposed biodiversity reserve to the territory of the Réserve de biodiversité projetée des Drumlins-du-lac-Clérac and approved the plan of that area and the conservation plan proposed for the area;

WHEREAS, by Minister's Order dated 27 July 2005 (2005, *G.O.* 2, 4072), the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks assigned in particular temporary protection status to the territory of the Réserve de biodiversité projetée des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac, for a term of four years commencing on 7 September 2005;

WHEREAS, by Order in Council 136-2008 dated 20 February 2008, the Government approved the amendments to the conservation plan of the reserve;

WHEREAS the setting aside of the territory was extended for four years under the Order of the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks dated 17 July 2009 (2009, *G.O.* 2, 2233), and eight years under the Order of the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment, Wildlife and Parks dated 13 March 2013 (2013, *G.O.* 2, 769);

WHEREAS, in accordance with the first paragraph of section 39 of the Natural Heritage Conservation Act, the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks entrusted the mandate to hold a public consultation on the Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac to the Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement and its inquiry and public hearing report was made public on 20 November 2012;

WHEREAS the report deals in particular with the feasibility of expanding the territory of the Réserve de biodiversité projetée des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac and concludes, among other things, that permanent protection status may be assigned to the territory;

WHEREAS the limits of the Réserve de biodiversité projetée des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac were reassessed by the Minister and changed after the public consultation to expand to the south-east and to expand the corridor connecting it eastward to the Réserve de biodiversité projetée Albanel-Témiscamie-Otish, and to rely, where possible, on natural or man-made elements easily visible on the site to facilitate management;

WHEREAS the plan of the Réserve de biodiversité projetée des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac and its conservation plan were adjusted based on the changed limits and the technical description corresponding to the new limits has been prepared;

WHEREAS the land included in the territory forms part of the domain of the State and is not part of a reserved area or an agricultural zone established under the Act respecting the preservation of agricultural land and agricultural activities (chapter P-41.1);

WHEREAS, in accordance with the first paragraph of section 151 of the Act respecting land use planning and development (chapter A-19.1), the Minister of Sustainable Development, the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change notified an opinion describing the planned intervention to the council of Municipalité régionale de comté de Maria-Chapdelaine;

WHEREAS, in accordance with the first paragraph of section 152 of that Act, the council of Municipalité régionale de comté de Maria-Chapdelaine, by resolution No. 48-02-17 dated 8 February 2017, confirmed that the project for the establishment of the Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac complies with the objectives of the revised land use planning and development plan and to the layout of the complementary document;

WHEREAS the Commission de toponymie sent to the Minister its approval of the name “Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac” to designate that permanent biodiversity reserve;

WHEREAS, under subparagraph *f* of paragraph 1 of section 46 of the Natural Heritage Conservation Act, in an aquatic reserve and a biodiversity reserve, any activity which the Government may prohibit by regulation is prohibited;

WHEREAS, under subparagraph *g* of paragraph 1 of section 46 of the Act, in an aquatic reserve and a biodiversity reserve, subject to measures in the conservation plan authorizing the activities and specifying the conditions on which they may be carried on, any allocation of a right to occupy land for vacation resort purposes, earthwork, backfilling or construction work and commercial activities are prohibited;

WHEREAS, under paragraph 2 of section 46 of the Act, all other activities are permitted, in addition to those prohibited by paragraph 1 of that section, subject to the applicable conditions;

WHEREAS, in accordance with sections 10 and 11 of the Regulations Act (chapter R-18.1), the draft Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac was published in Part 2 of the *Gazette officielle du Québec* of 15 May 2019 with a notice that it could be made by the Government on the expiry of 45 days following that publication;

WHEREAS it is expedient to make the Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac with amendments, in particular to include the technical description of the territory and to make technical adjustments;

WHEREAS, under paragraph 3 of section 44 of the Natural Heritage Conservation Act, the establishment of a biodiversity reserve and a change in its limits, or its abolishment, is effected by order of the Government, on a proposal by the Minister, subject to the publication of a notice of the decision of the Government to establish a biodiversity reserve in the *Gazette officielle du Québec* with the plan of the area and the conservation plan;

WHEREAS the publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec* of this Order in Council, of the Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac and of its conservation plan constitutes the notice required by that paragraph, including the documents that must accompany it;

WHEREAS, under section 45 of the Natural Heritage Conservation Act, permanent protection status for land, conservation plans and applicable agreements, and amendments or revocations take effect on the date of publication of the order in the *Gazette officielle du Québec* or on any later date specified in the order;

IT IS ORDERED, therefore, on the recommendation of the Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change:

THAT permanent biodiversity reserve status be assigned to the territory described in the Regulation attached to Schedule I to this Order in Council, under the name “Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac”;

THAT the Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac, attached to Schedule I to this Order in Council, be made;

THAT the conservation plan applicable to the Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac, attached to Schedule II to this Order in Council, be approved;

THAT permanent status of the Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac and its conservation plan take effect on the fifteenth day following the date of their publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.

YVES OUELLET,
Clerk of the Conseil exécutif

SCHEDULE I

Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac

Natural Heritage Conservation Act
(chapter C-61.01, s. 43 and s. 46, par. 1, subpars. *e, f* and *g*, and par. 2)

1. The Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac is established in the territory described in the Schedule.

2. For the purposes of this Regulation,

(1) the words or terms “high-water mark”, “littoral zone”, “floodplain”, “lakeshore” and “riverbank” have the meaning given to them in the Protection Policy for Lakeshores, Riverbanks, Littoral Zones and Floodplains (chapter Q-2, r. 35);

(2) the term “wetlands and bodies of water” has the meaning given to it in section 46.0.2 of the Environment Quality Act (chapter Q-2);

(3) the term “forest development activity” has the meaning given to it in the Sustainable Forest Development Act (chapter A-18.1).

DIVISION I

PROTECTION OF RESOURCES AND THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

3. Subject to the prohibition in the second paragraph, no person may introduce any individuals of a native or non-native species of fauna into the biodiversity reserve, including by stocking, unless the person has been authorized by the Minister.

No person may stock a lake or watercourse for aquaculture, commercial fishing or any other commercial purpose.

Except with the authorization of the Minister, no person may introduce non-native species of flora into the biodiversity reserve.

4. No person may use fertilizers in the biodiversity reserve. Compost for domestic purposes is however permitted if it is used at least 20 metres from a lake or watercourse, measured from the high-water mark.

5. No person may remove from the biodiversity reserve species of flora, small fruits or any other non-timber forest product by mechanical means.

6. No person may in the biodiversity reserve, unless the person has been authorized by the Minister,

(1) intervene in a wetland area, in particular a marsh, swamp or peat bog;

(2) modify the natural drainage or water regime, including by creating or developing lakes and watercourses;

(3) dig, fill, obstruct or divert a lake or watercourse;

(4) install or construct a structure, infrastructure or new works in the littoral zone, on the banks or shores or the floodplains of a lake or watercourse; no authorization is however required for minor works — quay or platform, boat shelter — installed for private purposes and may be free of charge under section 2 of the Regulation respecting the water property in the domain of the State (chapter R-13, r. 1);

(5) carry on an activity other than those referred to in paragraphs 1 to 4 likely to directly and substantially affect the biochemical characteristics or quality of wetlands and bodies of water in the biodiversity reserve, including by discharging or dumping residual materials or contaminants into the wetlands or bodies of water;

(6) carry out soil development work or an activity likely to degrade the soil or a geological formation, or to damage the vegetation cover, in particular by stripping, the digging of trenches or excavation work, including any burial, earthwork, removal or displacement of surface materials or vegetation cover, for any purpose;

(7) install or construct a structure, infrastructure or new works;

(8) reconstruct or demolish a structure, infrastructure or works;

(9) use a pesticide; no authorization is required for the use of personal insect repellent;

(10) carry on educational or research-related activities if the activities are likely to directly or significantly damage or disturb the natural environment, in particular because of the nature or size of the samples taken or the invasive character of the method or process used; or

(11) hold a sports event, tournament, rally or any other similar event where

(a) fauna or flora species are taken or are likely to be taken; or

(b) motor vehicles or craft are used.

7. Despite paragraphs 6, 7 and 8 of section 6, if the requirements provided for in the second paragraph are met, no authorization is required to carry out the following work:

(1) the maintenance, repair or improvement of any structure, infrastructure or works, including a camp, a cabin, a road or a trail, including an ancillary facility such as a lookout or stairs;

(2) the construction or installation

(a) of a dependency or a facility ancillary to a trapping camp, a rough shelter, a shelter or a cabin, including a shed, a water withdrawal facility or a system for the discharge and disposal of waste water, grey water and toilet effluents; or

(b) of a trapping camp, a rough shelter, a shelter or a cabin if, on the date of coming into force of this Regulation, such a building was permitted under the right of use or occupancy granted, but had not yet been carried out; or

(3) the demolition or reconstruction of a trapping camp, a rough shelter, a shelter or a cabin, including a dependency or a facility ancillary to such a structure, including a shed, a water withdrawal facility or a system for the discharge and disposal of waste water, grey water and toilet effluents.

The carrying out of the work referred to in the first paragraph must comply with the following requirements:

(1) the work involves a structure, infrastructure or works whose presence is permitted in the biodiversity reserve;

(2) the work is carried out within the area of the land or right of way subject to the right to use or occupy the land in the biodiversity reserve, whether the right results from a lease, servitude or other form of title, permit or authorization;

(3) the nature of the work or elements installed by the work will not operate to increase the area of land that may remain deforested beyond the limits permitted under the provisions applicable to the sale, lease and granting of immovable rights under the Act respecting the lands in the domain of the State (chapter T-8.1) and, if applicable, the limits set under an authorization issued in connection with that structure, works or infrastructure;

(4) the work is carried out in accordance with the prescriptions of any permit or authorization issued for the work or in connection with the structure, infrastructure or works to which they are related, and compliance with the laws and regulations that apply;

(5) in the case of forest roads, the work must not operate to alter or exceed the existing right of way, widen the roadway or convert the road to a higher class.

For the purposes of this section, repair and improvement work includes work to replace or install works or facilities with facilities to comply with the requirements of an environmental regulation.

8. No person may bury, incinerate, abandon or dispose of residual materials or snow, except if they are disposed of in waste disposal containers, facilities or sites determined by the Minister or, in other cases, with the authorization of the Minister.

DIVISION II **RULES OF CONDUCT FOR USERS**

9. No person may enter, carry on an activity or operate a vehicle in a given sector of the biodiversity reserve if the signage installed by the Minister restricts access, traffic or certain activities in the sector in order to protect the public from a danger or to avoid placing the fauna, flora or other components of the natural environment at risk, unless the person has been authorized by the Minister.

10. No person may destroy, remove, move or damage any poster, sign, notice or other type of signage posted by the Minister within the biodiversity reserve.

DIVISION III **ACTIVITIES REQUIRING AN AUTHORIZATION**

11. No person may, for a period of more than 90 days in the same year, occupy or use the same site of the biodiversity reserve, unless the person has been authorized by the Minister.

For the purposes of the first paragraph,

(1) the occupation or use of a site includes

(a) staying or settling in the biodiversity reserve, for instance for vacation purposes;

(b) setting up a camp or a shelter; and

(c) installing, burying or abandoning any property in the reserve, including equipment, a device or a vehicle; and

(2) the expression “same site” includes any other site within a radius of 1 kilometre from the site.

Despite the first paragraph, an authorization is not required if a person,

(1) on the date of coming into force of this Regulation, was a party to a lease or had already obtained another form of right or another authorization allowing the person to legally occupy the land under the Act respecting the lands in the domain of the State (chapter T-8.1) or, if applicable, the Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife (chapter C-61.1), and whose right to occupy the land is renewed or extended on the same conditions, subject to possible changes in fees; or

(2) in accordance with the law, has entitlement under a sublease, an assignment of a lease or a transfer of a right or authorization referred to in subparagraph 1, and whose right to occupy the land is renewed or extended on the same conditions, subject to possible changes in fees.

12. No person may carry on forest management activities to meet domestic needs or for the purpose of maintaining biodiversity, unless the person has been authorized by the Minister.

Despite the first paragraph, persons staying or residing within the biodiversity reserve and who collect wood required to make a campfire are not required to obtain the authorization of the Minister.

No such authorization is required if a person collects firewood to meet domestic needs to supply a trapping camp or a rough shelter permitted within the biodiversity reserve in the following cases and on the following conditions:

(1) the wood is collected by a person in compliance with the conditions set out in the permit for the harvest of firewood for domestic purposes issued under the Sustainable Forest Development Act (chapter A-18.1);

(2) the quantity of wood collected does not exceed 7 apparent cubic metres per year.

In addition, no authorization to carry on a forest management activity is required if a person authorized by lease to occupy land within the biodiversity reserve in accordance with this Regulation carries on the activity for the purpose of

(1) clearing, maintaining or creating visual openings, and any other similar removal work permitted under the provisions governing the sale, lease and granting of immovable rights under the Act respecting the lands in the domain of the State (chapter T-8.1), including for access roads, stairs or other trails permitted under those provisions; or

(2) clearing the necessary area for the installation, connection, maintenance, repair, reconstruction or upgrading of facilities, lines or mains for water, sewer, electric power or telecommunications services.

If the work referred to in subparagraph 2 of the fourth paragraph is carried on for or under the responsibility of an enterprise providing any of those services, the work requires the prior authorization of the Minister, other than in the case of the exemptions provided for in sections 14 and 16.

13. No person may carry on commercial activities in the biodiversity reserve, except with the authorization of the Minister.

Despite the first paragraph, no authorization is required if the activity does not involve the taking of fauna or flora resources, or the use of a motor vehicle.

DIVISION IV **AUTHORIZATION EXEMPTIONS**

14. Despite the preceding provisions, an authorization is not required for an activity or other form of intervention within the biodiversity reserve if urgent action is necessary to prevent harm to the health or safety of persons, or to repair or prevent damage caused by a real or apprehended catastrophe. The person concerned must, however, immediately inform the Minister of the activity or intervention that has taken place.

15. Despite the preceding provisions, an authorization is not required for a member of a Native community for an intervention within the biodiversity reserve where that intervention is part of the exercise of rights covered by section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 (Schedule B of the Canada Act, chapter 11 in the 1982 volume of the Acts of the Parliament of the United Kingdom) and those rights are credibly asserted or established.

16. Despite the preceding provisions, the following activities and interventions carried out by Hydro-Québec (hereinafter the “Société”) or by any other person for Hydro-Québec do not require the prior authorization of the Minister under this Regulation:

(1) any activity or intervention required within the biodiversity reserve to complete a project for which express authorization had previously been given by the Government and the Minister, or only by the latter, in accordance with the requirements of the Environment Quality Act (chapter Q-2), if the activity or intervention is carried out in compliance with the authorizations issued;

(2) any activity or intervention necessary for the preparation and presentation of a pre-project report for a project requiring an authorization under the Environment Quality Act;

(3) any activity or intervention relating to a project requiring the prior authorization of the Minister under the Environment Quality Act if the activity or intervention is in response to a request for a clarification or for additional information made by the Minister to the Société and it is carried out in accordance with the request.

The Société informs the Minister of the various activities or interventions referred to in this section it proposes to carry out before the work is begun within the reserve.

For the purposes of this section, the activities and interventions of the Société include but are not restricted to pre-project studies, analysis work or field research, work required to study and monitor the impact of electric power transmission and distribution line corridors and rights of way, geological or geophysical surveys and survey lines, and the opening and maintenance of roads required for the purposes of access, construction or traffic incidental to the work.

DIVISION V FINAL

17. This Regulation comes into force on the fifteenth day following the date of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.

SCHEDULE

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION

RÉSERVE DE BIODIVERSITÉ DES DRUMLINS-DU-LAC-CLÉRAC (s. 1)

[Translation of the technical description filed in French only at the office of the Surveyor-General of Québec of the Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles.]

A territory of irregular shape in the townships of Clérac and Beauregard, in the watersheds of Rivière Mistassini and Rivière Rupert, in the unorganized territory of Rivière-Mistassini, in the administrative region of Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean, and in the registration division of Lac-Saint-Jean-Ouest. The perimeter of the territory may be described as follows:

PARCEL A

Starting from a point situated on an undulating line corresponding to the divide between the watershed of Rivière Saguenay and the watershed of Rivière Rupert, being point 1 (5 638 302 m North, 369 851 m East);

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 45°06'27'' over a distance of approximately 69 metres, to the intersection with the western shore of an unnamed lake, being point 2 (5 638 351 m North, 369 900 m East);

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along the northern shore of an unnamed lake, to the intersection with the northern limit of the biological refuge number 02551R146, being point 3 (5 638 359 m North, 369 942 m East);

Thence, in an easterly direction, along the northern limit of the biological refuge number 02551R146, to the intersection with the western shore of an unnamed lake, being point 4 (5 638 378 m North, 370 042 m East);

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along the northern shore of an unnamed lake, to the intersection with the northern limit of the biological refuge number 02551R146, being point 5 (5 638 332 m North, 370 419 m East);

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along the northern limit of the biological refuge number 02551R146, to the intersection with the northern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 6 (5 638 327 m North, 370 461 m East);

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the northeastern bank of an unnamed stream and the northeastern bank of an unnamed lake, to the intersection with the northern limit of the biological refuge number 02551R146, being point 7 (5 638 184 m North, 370 728 m East);

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along the northern limit of the biological refuge number 02551R146, to the intersection with the northwestern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 8 (5 638 171 m North, 370 786 m East);

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the eastern shore of an unnamed lake, to point 9 (5 636 976 m North, 370 806 m East);

Thence, in an easterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 86°01'12'' over a distance of approximately 240 metres, to the intersection with a line parallel to and at a distance of 200 metres from the eastern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 10 (5 636 993 m North, 371 045 m East);

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along a line parallel to and at a distance of 200 metres from the eastern shore of an unnamed lake and Lac Boudreault, to point 11 (5 632 008 m North, 370 045 m East);

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 160°26'53'' over a distance of 259.99 metres, to point 12 (5 631 763 m North, 370 132 m East);

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 165°40'19'' over a distance of 242.54 metres, to point 13 (5 631 528 m North, 370 192 m East);

Thence, in an easterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 84°28'26'' over a distance of 275.23 metres, to point 14 (5 631 554 m North, 370 466 m East);

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 39°37'25'' over a distance of 308.32 metres, to point 15 (5 631 792 m North, 370 662 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 50°10'52'' over a distance of approximately 317 metres, to the intersection with the divide between the watershed of Rivière Saguenay and the watershed of Rivière Rupert, being point 16 (5 631 995 m North, 370 906 m East);

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along an undulating line corresponding to the divide between the watershed of Rivière Saguenay and the watershed of Rivière Rupert, to point 17 (5 624 216 m North, 370 166 m East);

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 237°04'14'' over a distance of approximately 1 030 metres, to the intersection with the southeastern shore of Lac Jules, being point 18 (5 623 656 m North, 369 301 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the southeastern shore of Lac Jules, to point 19 (5 623 261 m North, 368 974 m East);

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 199°12'57'' over a distance of approximately 486 metres, to the intersection with the northeastern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 20 (5 622 802 m North, 368 814 m East);

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the eastern shore of an unnamed lake, to point 21 (5 622 723 m North, 368 792 m East);

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 212°57'26'' over a distance of approximately 217 metres, to the northwestern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream, being point 22 (5 622 541 m North, 368 674 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the northwestern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to the intersection with the western bank of an unnamed stream, being point 23 (5 622 086 m North, 368 359 m East);

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the western bank of an unnamed stream, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to the intersection with the northern bank of another unnamed stream, being point 24 (5 621 978 m North, 368 320 m East);

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 193°15'50'' over a distance of approximately 2537 metres, to the intersection with the southwestern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream, being point 25 (5 619 509 m North, 367 738 m East);

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the southwestern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to point 26 (5 619 376 m North, 367 794 m East);

Thence, in a northwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 288°00'15'' over a distance of approximately 210 metres, to the intersection with the northeastern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 27 (5 619 441 m North, 367 594 m East);

Thence, in a generally westerly direction, along the northern bank of an unnamed river, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to the intersection with the eastern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 28 (5 619 585 m North, 366 612 m East);

Thence, in a generally northerly direction, along the southern and western shore of an unnamed lake, to the intersection with the western bank of an unnamed river, being point 29 (5 620 168 m North, 366 510 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the western bank of an unnamed river, to the intersection with the southern shore of Lac Atshikash, being point 30 (5 620 487 m North, 366 635 m East);

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the southern shore of Lac Atshikash, the southern bank of an unnamed stream and the southern shore of an unnamed lake, to point 31 (5 620 985 m North, 365 626 m East);

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 257°58'08'' over a distance of approximately 62 metres, to the intersection with the southeastern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 32 (5 620 972 m North, 365 565 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the southeastern shore of an unnamed lake, to point 33 (5 620 854 m North, 365 347 m East);

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 217°21'23'' over a distance of approximately 165 metres, to the intersection with the eastern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 34 (5 620 723 m North, 365 247 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the southeastern shore of an unnamed lake, to the intersection with the eastern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 35 (5 620 049 m North, 364 943 m East);

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the eastern bank of an unnamed stream, to the intersection with the eastern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 36 (5 619 815 m North, 364 902 m East);

Thence, in a generally westerly direction, along the southern shore of a lake and the southern bank of an unnamed stream, to the intersection with a line parallel to and at a distance of 30 metres east of the centre line of an unnamed road, being point 37 (5 619 768 m North, 364 607 m East);

Thence, in a generally northerly direction, along a line parallel to and at a distance of 30 metres east of the centre line of the road, to the intersection with the southeastern right of way of another unnamed road, being point 38 (5 621 372 m North, 364 395 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the southeastern right of way of an unnamed road, to the intersection with the southern right of way of another unnamed road, being point 39 (5 626 468 m North, 367 303 m East);

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $18^{\circ}40'57''$ over a distance of approximately 159 metres, to the intersection with the southern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 40 (5 626 619 m North, 367 354 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the southeastern shore of an unnamed lake, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to point 41 (5 626 980 m North, 367 491 m East);

Thence, in a northwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $348^{\circ}08'08''$ over a distance of approximately 365 metres, to the intersection with the western shore of Lac Boudreault, being point 42 (5 627 337 m North, 367 416 m East);

Thence, in a generally northerly direction, along the western shore of Lac Boudreault and the western bank of an unnamed intermittent stream, to point 43 (5 627 569 m North, 367 458 m East);

Thence, in a northerly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $9^{\circ}27'45''$ over a distance of approximately 298 metres, to the intersection with an unnamed intermittent stream, being point 44 (5 627 863 m North, 367 507 m East);

Thence, in a northerly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $11^{\circ}34'50''$ over a distance of approximately 374 metres, to the intersection with the southern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 45 (5 628 229 m North, 367 582 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the northwestern bank of an unnamed stream, to the intersection with the southern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 46 (5 628 361 m North, 367 771 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the western and northern shore of an unnamed lake, to point 47 (5 628 503 m North, 367 891 m East);

Thence, in a northerly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $4^{\circ}52'34''$ over a distance of approximately 212 metres, to the intersection with the outlet of an unnamed lake, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, being point 48 (5 628 714 m North, 367 909 m East);

Thence, in a northerly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $14^{\circ}54'00''$ over a distance of approximately 354 metres, to the intersection with the northern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream, being point 49 (5 629 056 m North, 368 000 m East);

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along the northern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream, to the intersection with the northwestern shore of Lac Boudreault, being point 50 (5 629 103 m North, 368 233 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the northwestern shore of Lac Boudreault, to point 51 (5 629 619 m North, 368 461 m East);

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $55^{\circ}22'51''$ over a distance of approximately 215 metres, to the intersection with a line parallel to and at a distance of 200 metres to the east of Lac Boudreault, being point 52 (5 629 741 m North, 368 638 m East);

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along a line parallel to and at a distance of 200 metres to the west of Lac Boudreault, to the intersection with the eastern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 53 (5 632 592 m North, 368 167 m East);

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the southern and western shore of an unnamed lake, to the intersection with a line parallel to and at a distance of 200 metres to the west of Lac Boudreault, being point 54 (5 632 691 m North, 368 110 m East);

Thence, in a generally northerly direction, along a line parallel to and at a distance of 200 metres to the west of Lac Boudreault, to the intersection with the divide between the watershed of Rivière Saguenay and the watershed of Rivière Rupert, being point 55 (5 633 719 m North, 368 088 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along an undulating line corresponding to the divide between the watershed of Rivière Saguenay and the watershed of Rivière Rupert, to the intersection with a line parallel to and at a distance of 200 metres to the west of Lac Boudreault, being point 56 (5 633 832 m North, 368 301 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along a line parallel to and at a distance of 200 metres to the west of Lac Boudreault, to the intersection with the divide between the watershed of Rivière Saguenay and the watershed of Rivière Rupert, being point 57 (5 634 976 m North, 368 920 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along an undulating line corresponding to the divide between the watershed of Rivière Saguenay and the watershed of Rivière Rupert, to starting point 1.

Having an area of 43.29 square kilometres.

PARCEL B

Starting from a point situated at the intersection of a line parallel to and at a distance of 30 metres southwest of the centre line of an unnamed road with the eastern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream, being point 58 (5 619 275 m North, 364 892 m East);

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the eastern bank of an intermittent stream and unnamed stream and the eastern shore of an unnamed lake, to point 59 (5 618 514 m North, 364 788 m East);

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $206^{\circ}06'16''$ over a distance of approximately 111 metres, to the intersection with the northern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 60 (5 618 414 m North, 364 739 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the northwestern shore of an unnamed lake, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to point 61 (5 618 361 m North, 364 694 m East);

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $226^{\circ}37'24''$ over a distance of approximately 175 metres, to the intersection with the outlet from an unnamed lake, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, being point 62 (5 618 241 m North, 364 567 m East);

Thence, in a generally northerly direction, along the western bank of a stream and the western shore of an unnamed lake, to the intersection with the northeastern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 63 (5 618 670 m North, 364 554 m East);

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the northeastern bank of an unnamed stream, the northeastern shore of a lake and the northeastern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to point 64 (5 618 814 m North, 364 254 m East);

Thence, in a northwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $337^{\circ}12'43''$ over a distance of 183.31 metres, to point 65 (5 618 983 m North, 364 183 m East);

Thence, in a westerly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $263^{\circ}48'30''$ over a distance of 126.78 metres, to point 66 (5 618 969 m North, 364 057 m East);

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $244^{\circ}51'40''$ over a distance of approximately 111 metres, to the intersection with the eastern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 67 (5 618 922 m North, 363 956 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the southeastern shore of an unnamed lake, to the intersection with the northwestern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 68 (5 618 385 m North, 363 728 m East);

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the northwestern bank of an unnamed stream, the northeastern shore of an unnamed lake and the northeastern bank of an unnamed stream, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to the intersection with the southeastern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 69 (5 618 523 m North, 363 454 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the southwestern and southeastern shore of several unnamed lakes and the southwestern and southeastern bank of several unnamed streams, to point 70 (5 616 524 m North, 361 164 m East);

Thence, in a southerly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $179^{\circ}59'59''$ over a distance of approximately 155 metres, to the intersection with the southeastern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream, being point 71 (5 616 369 m North, 361 164 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the southeastern bank of an intermittent stream, the southeastern bank of several unnamed streams and the southeastern shore of several unnamed lakes, to the intersection with the eastern bank of an unnamed river, being point 72 (5 614 741 m North, 360 049 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the southeastern bank of an unnamed river, the southeastern shore of several unnamed lakes, the southeastern bank of several unnamed streams and the southeastern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream, to point 73 (5 610 430 m North, 357 894 m East);

Thence, in a southerly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 187°36'43" over a distance of approximately 219 metres, to the intersection with the northern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 74 (5 610 213 m North, 357 865 m East);

Thence, in a generally westerly direction, along the northern bank of an unnamed stream, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to the intersection with the northeastern bank of another unnamed stream, being point 75 (5 610 203 m North, 357 594 m East);

Thence, in a northwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 299°58'20" over a distance of approximately 406 metres, to the intersection with the northeastern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream, being point 76 (5 610 406 m North, 357 242 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the northwestern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to point 77 (5 610 135 m North, 356 971 m East);

Thence, in a westerly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 270°42'19" over a distance of approximately 325 metres, to the intersection with the southeastern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream, being point 78 (5 610 139 m North, 356 646 m East);

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the northeastern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to point 79 (5 610 918 m North, 356 355 m East);

Thence, in a westerly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 263°21'18" over a distance of approximately 104 metres, to the intersection with the northwestern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream, being point 80 (5 610 906 m North, 356 252 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the northwestern bank of several intermittent streams and an unnamed stream, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to point 81 (5 609 458 m North, 354 759 m East);

Thence, in a westerly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 272°11'26" over a distance of approximately 733 metres, to the intersection with the southeastern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream, being point 82 (5 609 486 m North, 354 027 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the southeastern bank of an intermittent stream and an unnamed stream, to point 83 (5 609 198 m North, 353 830 m East);

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 230°40'02" over a distance of approximately 559 metres, to the intersection with the southeastern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream, being point 84 (5 608 844 m North, 353 398 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the southeastern bank of several intermittent streams and an unnamed stream and the southeastern shore of an unnamed lake, to point 85 (5 606 199 m North, 351 914 m East);

Thence, in an easterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 102°41'10" over a distance of approximately 237 metres, to the intersection with the southeastern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream, being point 86 (5 606 147 m North, 352 145 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the eastern and southeastern of an intermittent stream and several streams and the eastern and southeastern shore of several unnamed lakes, to point 87 (5 601 016 m North, 349 531 m East);

Thence, in a southerly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 189°10'25" over a distance of approximately 163 metres, to the intersection with the northern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 88 (5 600 855 m North, 349 505 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the southeastern, southern and western shore of several unnamed lakes and the southeastern, southern and western bank of several streams and an unnamed intermittent stream, to point 89 (5 598 294 m North, 347 169 m East);

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 69°40'10" over a distance of approximately 239 metres, to the intersection with the western shore of an unnamed lake, being point 90 (5 598 377 m North, 347 393 m East);

Thence, in a generally northerly direction, along the western and northwestern shore of several unnamed lakes and the western and northwestern bank of several unnamed streams, to point 91 (5 599 497 m North, 347 677 m East);

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 25°30'49" over a distance of approximately 146 metres, to the intersection with the southern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 92 (5 599 629 m North, 347 740 m East);

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the southwestern and southeastern shore of several unnamed lakes and the southwestern and southeastern bank of several unnamed streams, to point 93 (5 600 500 m North, 344 970 m East);

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 252°55'21'' over a distance of approximately 457 metres, to the intersection with the eastern shore of Lac Clérac, being point 94 (5 600 366 m North, 344 533 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the eastern and southern shore of Lac Clérac, to point 95 (5 595 451 m North, 343 537 m East);

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 225°40'27'' over a distance of approximately 1 082 metres, to the southeastern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream, being point 96 (5 594 695 m North, 342 763 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the southeastern bank of several streams and an intermittent stream and the southeastern shore of several unnamed lakes, to the intersection with the northern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 97 (5 592 820 m North, 341 880 m East);

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the eastern, southern and western shore of several unnamed lakes and the eastern, southern and western bank of several unnamed streams, to point 98 (5 596 106 m North, 339 702 m East);

Thence, in a northwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 320°55'53'' over a distance of approximately 438 metres, to the intersection with the southern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 99 (5 596 446 m North, 339 426 m East);

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the southwestern shore of several unnamed lakes and the southwestern bank of several unnamed streams, to point 100 (5 599 163 m North, 337 822 m East);

Thence, in a westerly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 277°05'54'' over a distance of 267 metres, to the intersection with an intermittent stream, being point 101 (5 599 196 m North, 337 557 m East);

Thence, in a westerly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 269°27'46'' over a distance of approximately 320 metres, to the intersection with the southeastern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 102 (5 599 193 m North, 337 237 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the southeastern bank of an unnamed stream and the southeastern shore of an unnamed lake, to point 103 (5 598 962 m North, 336 838 m East);

Thence, in a northwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 289°27'53'' over a distance of approximately 1 020 metres, to the northwestern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream, being point 104 (5 599 302 m North, 335 876 m East);

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the southwestern bank of an intermittent stream and several unnamed streams and the southwestern shore of several unnamed lakes, to the intersection with the eastern bank of Rivière Nestaocano, being point 105 (5 600 130 m North, 335 131 m East);

Thence, in a northwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 302°06'22'' over a distance of approximately 60 metres, to the western bank of Rivière Nestaocano, being point 106 (5 600 162 m North, 335 080 m East);

Thence, in a generally northerly direction, along the western bank of Rivière Nestaocano and the western shore of an unnamed lake, to the intersection with the mouth of Rivière Nestaocano, being point 107 (5 606 394 m North, 334 129 m East);

Thence, in an easterly direction, along the outlet of an unnamed lake, to the intersection with the eastern bank of Rivière Nestaocano, being point 108 (5 606 379 m North, 334 196 m East);

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along the northern shore of an unnamed lake and the northwestern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream, to point 109 (5 606 445 m North, 334 652 m East);

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 56°02'28'' over a distance of approximately 118 metres, to the intersection with the western shore of an unnamed lake, being point 110 (5 606 511 m North, 334 750 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the northwestern and western shore of several unnamed lakes, the northwestern and western bank of several unnamed streams, and the southern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream, to point 111 (5 612 627 m North, 336 721 m East);

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 45°36'14'' over a distance of approximately 67 metres, to the northwestern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream, being point 112 (5 612 674 m North, 336 769 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the northwestern and northeastern bank of several unnamed streams and intermittent streams and the northwestern and northeastern shore of several unnamed lakes, to point 113 (5 614 653 m North, 339 901 m East);

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 197°45'17'' over a distance of approximately 213 metres, to the intersection with the northeastern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream, being point 114 (5 614 450 m North, 339 836 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the northwestern bank of several unnamed streams and intermittent streams, to point 115 (5 618 142 m North, 342 990 m East);

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 63°09'54'' over a distance of approximately 569 metres, to the intersection with the western bank of an unnamed marsh, being point 116 (5 618 399 m North, 343 498 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the northwest bank of an unnamed marsh, to point 117 (5 618 445 m North, 343 586 m East);

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 67°40'04'' over a distance of approximately 721 metres, to the northwestern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream, being point 118 (5 618 719 m North, 344 253 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the northwestern and northeastern bank of several unnamed streams and intermittent streams and the northwestern and northeastern shore of several unnamed lakes, to point 119 (5 620 062 m North, 346 907 m East);

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 108°54'40'' over a distance of approximately 228 metres, to the northern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 120 (5 619 988 m North, 347 123 m East);

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the northern and northeastern shore of several unnamed lakes and the northern and northeastern bank of several unnamed streams, to point 121 (5 619 621 m North, 348 430 m East);

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 119°21'59'' over a distance of approximately 357 metres, to the intersection with the northern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 122 (5 619 446 m North, 348 741 m East);

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along the northern shore of several unnamed lakes and the northern bank of an unnamed stream, to point 123 (5 619 356 m North, 349 717 m East);

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 110°52'48'' over a distance of approximately 497 metres, to the intersection with the northern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 124 (5 619 179 m North, 350 181 m East);

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the eastern shore of an unnamed lake, to point 125 (5 619 129 m North, 350 186 m East);

Thence, in a southerly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 172°22'44'' over a distance of approximately 287 metres, to the intersection with the northern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream, being point 126 (5 618 845 m North, 350 224 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the northern and western bank of several unnamed streams and an intermittent stream and the northern and western shore of several unnamed lakes, to the intersection with the southeastern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 127 (5 619 480 m North, 350 830 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the southeastern shore of an unnamed lake, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to the intersection with the northern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 128 (5 620 346 m North, 352 616 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the northwestern bank of several unnamed streams and the northeastern shore of several unnamed lakes, to point 129 (5 621 086 m North, 353 533 m East);

Thence, in an easterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 94°23'55'' over a distance of approximately 378 metres, to the intersection with the western shore of an unnamed lake, being point 130 (5 621 057 m North, 353 910 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the northwestern shore of several unnamed lakes and the northwestern bank of an unnamed stream, to point 131 (5 621 804 m North, 354 694 m East);

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 133°54'49'' over a distance of approximately 261 metres, to the intersection with the northeastern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream, being point 132 (5 621 623 m North, 354 882 m East);

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along the north-eastern bank of several unnamed streams and intermittent streams and the northeastern shore of several unnamed lakes, to point 133 (5 621 111 m North, 356 094 m East);

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $119^{\circ}18'08''$ over a distance of approximately 225 metres, to the intersection with the eastern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream, being point 134 (5 621 001 m North, 356 290 m East);

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the northeastern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream and the northwestern bank of an unnamed stream to the intersection with the northwestern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream, being point 135 (5 620 480 m North, 356 666 m East);

Thence, in an easterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $93^{\circ}04'24''$ over a distance of approximately 448 metres, to the intersection with the northern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream, being point 136 (5 620 456 m North, 357 113 m East);

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along the northeastern and northwestern bank of an intermittent stream and several unnamed streams and the northeastern and northwestern shore of several unnamed lakes, to the intersection with the southeastern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 137 (5 620 636 m North, 358 811 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the southeastern bank of several unnamed streams and the southeastern shore of several unnamed lakes, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to the intersection with the northern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 138 (5 620 858 m North, 359 581 m East);

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the northeastern shore of an unnamed lake and the northeastern bank of an unnamed stream and intermittent stream, to point 139 (5 620 445 m North, 360 648 m East);

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $114^{\circ}12'28''$ over a distance of approximately 783 metres, to the intersection with the northern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 140 (5 620 124 m North, 361 362 m East);

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along the northern shore of several unnamed lakes and the northern bank of an unnamed stream, to point 141 (5 620 275 m North, 361 985 m East);

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $115^{\circ}46'09''$ over a distance of approximately 32 metres, to the intersection with the eastern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 142 (5 620 261 m North, 362 014 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the northern and northwestern shore of several unnamed lakes and the northern and northwestern bank of an unnamed stream and intermittent stream, to point 143 (5 620 962 m North, 362 869 m East);

Thence, in a northerly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $1^{\circ}29'51''$ over a distance of approximately 153 metres, to the intersection with the southwestern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 144 (5 621 115 m North, 362 873 m East);

Thence, in a generally northerly direction, along the western shore of several unnamed lakes and the western bank of an unnamed stream and intermittent stream, to point 145 (5 621 877 m North, 362 967 m East);

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $69^{\circ}54'38''$ over a distance of approximately 230 metres, to the intersection with the outlet of an unnamed lake, being point 146 (5 621 956 m North, 363 183 m East);

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $124^{\circ}00'57''$ over a distance of approximately 341 metres, to the intersection with the northern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 147 (5 621 765 m North, 363 466 m East);

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the eastern shore of an unnamed lake, to point 148 (5 621 701 m North, 363 475 m East);

Thence, in a southerly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of $166^{\circ}37'33''$ over a distance of approximately 147 metres, to the eastern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream, being point 149 (5 621 558 m North, 363 509 m East);

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the eastern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream, to the intersection with the southern right of way of an unnamed road, being point 150 (5 621 194 m North, 363 471 m East);

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along the southern right of way of several unnamed roads, to the intersection with a line parallel to and at a distance of 30 metres west of the centre line of an unnamed road, being point 151 (5 621 252 m North, 364 336 m East);

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along a line parallel to and at a distance of 30 metres west of the centre line of an unnamed road, to the intersection with the eastern bank of an unnamed intermittent stream, being starting point 58.

Having an area of 405.67 square kilometres.

The biodiversity reserve as a whole having an area of 448.96 square kilometres.

Notes:

—The boundary of the biodiversity reserve shown on the plan accompanying the technical description was determined using the digital files in the Québec topographic database (base de données topographique du Québec, or BDTQ) at a scale of 1:20 000 kept by Québec's Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles (MERN), the database of the eco-forest information system (système d'information écoforestière, or SIEF) kept by the MERN, the Québec multi-scale hydrographic basin level 1 maps at a scale of 1:20 000 and 1:50 000 produced by Québec's Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques (MDDELCC), and an excerpt from the surveys officialised in the register of lands in the domain of the State as of 19 September 2017.

—In general, the beds of all watercourses, rivers and lakes are included in the biodiversity reserve. Only those that are excluded are mentioned in this technical description.

—A limit defined by a lakeshore, riverbank or stream-bank runs along the high-water mark.

—The coordinates and areas mentioned in this technical description are approximate. They were determined graphically using the same data as the data used to determine the boundary of the biodiversity reserve. They are expressed in metres with reference to the Québec plane coordinate system (QPCS), Modified Transverse Mercator projection (MTM), Time Zone 8 (central meridian 79°30'), North American Datum 1983 (NAD83).

—Measurements are expressed in International System units.

—The boundary of the biodiversity reserve is based on the actual layout of the elements described in this document and must be legally interpreted on that basis. It was defined by the Direction des aires protégées of Québec's Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques.

—The territory of the biodiversity reserve, as described in this technical description, contains only lands in the domain of the State. Any land that that proves to be not part of the domain of the State is excluded from the biodiversity reserve.

—The territory is shown on a plan drawn at a scale of 1:60 000.

—In accordance with the instructions of the Direction des aires protégées of Québec's Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, the information contained in the source documents provided by the mandator, from which this technical description was prepared, has been accepted as fact.

The whole as shown on the plan prepared by the undersigned on 23 April 2018 and filed with the office of the Surveyor-General of Québec at the Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles under document number 536702.

Prepared at Québec on 23 April 2018, under number 11 631 of my minutes.

Digitally signed by:

PIERRE HAINS,
Land surveyor

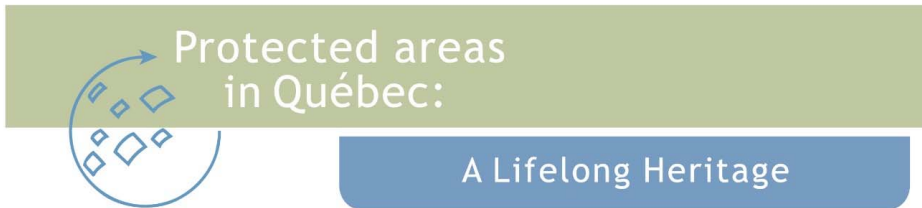
Ministère du Développement durable,
de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre
les changements climatiques du Québec

Direction des aires protégées

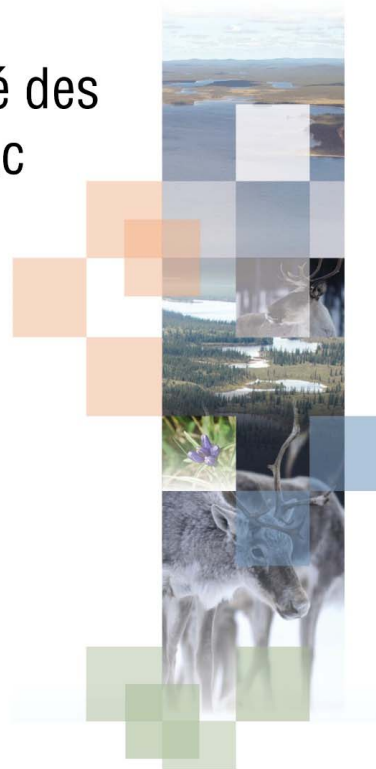
MDDELCC file: 5148-06-02(07)

Original filed at the office of the Surveyor-General of Québec.
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SCHEDULE II
CONSERVATION PLAN FOR THE RÉSERVE DE BIODIVERSITÉ
DES DRUMLINS-DU-LAC-CLÉRAC



Réserve de biodiversité des
Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac



CONSERVATION PLAN

Québec 

Cover page photos: woodland caribou: Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs; other photos: André R. Bouchard and Marc-André Bouchard, Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques.

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Introduction

By Order in Council No. 636-2005 of June 23, 2005, pursuant to section 27 of the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act* (chapter C-61.01), the government authorized the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks to create Réserve de biodiversité projetée des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac, and approved the boundaries and conservation plan proposed for it. The creation of this provisional protected area by the ministerial order of July 27, 2005 (2005, G.O. 2, 4072), came into force on September 7, 2005 for a duration of four years. This provisional protection status was extended twice, first until September 7, 2013 by order of the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks on July 17, 2009 (2009, G.O. 2, 2233), and then until September 7, 2021 by order of the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment, Wildlife and Parks on March 13, 2013 (2013, G.O. 2, 769).

On January 26, 2012 the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks (MDDEP) mandated the Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement (BAPE) to hold public consultations on ten proposed protected areas in the Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean region, one of them being Réserve de biodiversité projetée des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac. This mandate was given to the BAPE in accordance with section 39 of the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act*, which provides for a public consultation process before permanent protection status is recommended to the Gouvernement du Québec for a territory reserved for the creation of a new protected area.

The BAPE's mandate began on February 13, 2012 and concluded on July 20 of the same year. The consultation was held in March and April 2012 in Saguenay and Saint-Félicien. The BAPE's inquiry and public hearing report (No. 287) was submitted to the Minister on July 20, 2012 (BAPE, 2012). In its report, the commission recommended giving permanent protection status to Réserve de biodiversité projetée des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac, with the enlargements jointly proposed during hearings by the MDDEP and the Ministère des Ressources naturelles. Additionally, to widen the corridor connecting the reserve to the neighbouring protected area (Réserve de biodiversité projetée Albanel-Témiscamie-Otish), the Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques (MELCC) accepted some of the enlargement proposals made by forestry company Produits Forestiers Résolu during the public hearings of 2012.

1 The territory of Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac

1.1 Official toponym

The toponym "Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac" reflects the presence, near Lac Clérac, of a particular type of moraine¹ called *drumlins*. A drumlin is a rounded hill, semi ovoid or ellipsoidal in shape (like the back of a whale), formed under a moving glacier and oriented in the direction of ice flow (A. Robitaille and M. Allard, 2007).

¹ Moraine: topographic expression of accumulations of glacial sediments of sufficient size to create a relief.

1.2 Boundaries and location

The boundaries and location of Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac are shown on the map comprising Appendix 1.

The reserve is located about 200 km north of the municipality of Dolbeau-Mistassini and 125 km northeast of Chibougamau, between 50°26' and 50°44' north latitude and between 72°42' and 73°06' west longitude. It covers an area of 449 km² and is entirely within the administrative region of Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean. West of Lac Boudreault, a forest road is excluded from the reserve, dividing the protected area into two sections. The reserve intersects unorganized territories at the extreme north of the municipality of Rivière-Mistassini (Maria-Chapdelaine MRC). In the northeast, the reserve overlaps what is at present Réserve de biodiversité projetée Albanel-Témiscamie-Otish. When the latter is given permanent protection status, with a new name and adjusted boundaries, the boundaries of the reserve will run along two sectors of what will then be called Parc national Nibiischii.

Wherever possible, the boundaries of the reserve were defined on the basis of natural or anthropic elements that are easily identified on the ground, such as watercourses, lakes, forest roads and the edges of bogs. For sections along the banks of a water body (e.g. Lac Clérac in the southwest), the real boundary is the natural high-water mark. Where the boundary corresponds to a forest road, the right of way of the road is excluded from the protected area. The legal boundaries of the

reserve are defined in the technical description and the survey map prepared by land surveyor Pierre Hains with the following minutes 11 631 (April 23, 2018) and filed in the surveying archives of the Surveyor General of Québec (Greffé de l'arpenteur général du Québec), Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles under document number 536702.

1.3 Ecological portrait

1.3.1 Physical environment

The biodiversity reserve is in the northern part of the Central Laurentian natural province (Li, T. and J.-P. Ducruc, 1999²). It is in Grenville geological province, but near the contact zone with Superior geological province, to the north, where the general elevation is much higher. Grenville geological province corresponds to the roots of a chain of mountains formed nearly a billion years ago, during the Grenville orogeny. Gneiss, anorthosite and granite dominate the rock foundation. The relief of the reserve and environs is one of the least rugged in the natural province, corresponding to the Lac Manouane Depression natural region. The general physiography of the latter is that of a macro cuesta, the front slope of which is on the northwest edge (Grenville front). Its relief is dominated by often elongated hollows with thick glacial deposits, separated by small blocks of mounds or isolated hillocks, mostly with a drumlinoid shape and a north/south or northeast/southwest orientation.

² http://www.mddelcc.gouv.qc.ca/biodiversite/cadre-ecologique/rapports/Provinces_Internet_16-12-2014.pdf

Like the natural region, Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac presents a fairly even relief, formed essentially of hillocks (25 to 50 metres in height). The elevation generally ranges from 455 to 550 m, except for two low hills (100 to 200 metres in height) northeast of Lac Clérac, whose summits have an elevation of 600 metres.

The dominant surface deposits, of glacial and fluvioglacial origin, are often covered by organic deposits (bogs). Thousands of hectares of bogs dominate the landscape to the west and north of Lac Clérac, where there are also drumlins. Near Rivière Nestaocano, at the western edge of the reserve, the dominant surface deposits are of fluvioglacial origin (proglacial and ice-marginal deposits), along with dunes stabilized by forest stands and one esker. There are also large areas of dead-ice moraine (especially near Lac Kaamichaapuhskau) and of Rogen or ribbed moraine near Lac Boudreault. Less than 30% of the soils of the reserve have good to moderate drainage.

In the last glaciation, the flow of the ice sheet profoundly marked the land. Thus, as with the drumlins, the other surface deposits along with the hydrographic network are generally oriented north/south or northeast/southwest, in the direction of glacial flow. Throughout the eastern half of the reserve, bands of fluvioglacial deposits, aligned northeast/southwest, alternate with bands of glacial deposits (ground moraine with no particular morphology [undifferentiated till]), with countless little areas of organic deposits scattered within them.

The reserve is essentially at the head of Rivière Nestaocano, a tributary of Rivière du Chef, which empties into Rivière Ashuapmushuan. To the northeast, the thinner section connecting the reserve to Réserve de biodiversité projetée Albanel-Témiscamie-Otish (the future Parc national Nibiischii) is at the head of the Rivière Mistassini watershed. The northeast and northwest boundary is very close to the height of land separating the great watersheds of the St. Lawrence and James Bay (via Rivière Rupert). As a result, the reserve's aquatic ecosystems, wetlands and near-shore environments have outstanding ecological integrity. Water bodies are abundant, accounting for nearly 16% of the area of the reserve, though only lakes Clérac, Kaamichaapuhskau, Boudreault, Minie, Jules and Atshikash ("mink lake" in Innu) and Rivière Nestaocano have official toponyms.

According to Gerardin and McKenney (2001), the territory of the reserve is subject to a cold subarctic continental climate, subhumid with a medium growing season. Average temperatures are on the order of -9.4 to -6.0 °C. The average annual precipitation ranges from 800 mm to 1359 mm, while the average growing season is 150 to 179 days.

1.3.2 Biological environment

Vegetation: Though located in the heart of the spruce/moss bioclimatic domain, the reserve has very few productive wooded areas: in 57 % of the reserve there are no forests at all (Table 1), while nearly half of the areas that do have forest present poor drainage conditions. Black spruce stands (often of low density) predominate, along with dry barrens. Grey pine stands (also often of

low density) are well represented, associated with fluvio-glacial deposits and dead-ice moraine.

Table 1: Forest summary of the territory of Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac (MFFP, SIEF, 4th ten-year survey)

	Type of cover	Area (ha)	Proportion (%)
Forest	Coniferous	22 642.3	50.4%
	Regenerating	1542.6	3.4%
	Alder stands	433	1.0%
	Wet barrens	8990.5	20.0%
Other	Dry barrens	4095.3	9.1%
	Water	7097.6	15.8%
	Island	48.1	0.1%
	Flooded	55.6	0.1%
Total		44 911	100.0%

The rare stands of balsam fir are confined to the slopes of the two low hills northeast of Lac Clérac. The bogs are immense, sometimes structured and very abundant to the west and north of Lac Clérac, while heathlands are common in the central part of the reserve. In 1996 a fire burned nearly 1000 hectares of forest along the western edge of the reserve. Old-growth forest (> 90 years) accounts for 61% of the forest cover, yet represents just 30% of the total area of the reserve, due to the abundance of non-forest environments (water, wetlands and barrens). A quarter of the wooded areas have poor drainage (levels 4, 5 and 6), and 92.8% are of low density (levels C and D). The reserve includes a territory designated as a “biological refuge” (#02551R146, see Appendix 3) under the Sustainable Forest Development Act. Created in 2008, the refuge has preserved old-growth forest since then.

No plant survey specific to the territory of the reserve has been done, but in 1990 observations were made at several ecological sampling points

(Table 2), to the east of Lac Clérac and west of Lac Boudreault. Besides the species listed in Table 2, the MELCC also identified early meadow-rue (*Thalictrum dioicum*), shrubby cinquefoil (*Potentilla fruticosa*) and narrowleaf gentian (*Gentiana linearis*) in an inventory conducted in 2008.

Wildlife: With regard to wildlife, no survey specific to the territory of the reserve has been done, but telemetric monitoring has confirmed that woodland caribou frequent almost all of the reserve, both in winter and during the rut and calving periods. The woodland caribou is considered a threatened species across Canada and vulnerable in Québec. The territory of the reserve is thus included in the area of application of the *Plan de rétablissement du caribou forestier (Rangifer tarandus caribou) au Québec — 2013-2023* (ÉRCFQ, 2013) (recovery strategy for woodland caribou, boreal population).

Table 2: Species identified at 6 ecological observation points surveyed for the ecological inventory program of the MFFP (1986-2000).

Tree species	Black spruce (<i>Picea mariana</i>), grey pine (<i>Pinus banksiana</i>), balsam fir (<i>Abies balsamea</i>)
Shrubs	Speckled alder (<i>Alnus incana</i> subsp. <i>rugosa</i>), serviceberry (<i>Amelanchier</i> sp), willow (<i>Salix</i> sp)
Small shrubs and understory herbaceous plants	Lowbush blueberry (<i>Vaccinium angustifolium</i>), velvet-leaf blueberry (<i>Vaccinium myrtilloides</i>), dwarf birch (<i>Betula glandulosa</i>), sedge (<i>Carex</i> sp), leatherleaf (<i>Cassandra calyculata</i>), creeping snowberry (<i>Gaultheria hispidula</i>), bluebead lily (<i>Clintonia borealis</i>), threelobed goldthread (<i>Coptis groenlandica</i>), sheep laurel (<i>Kalmia angustifolia</i>), swamp laurel (<i>Kalmia polifolia</i>), labrador tea (<i>Rhododendron groenlandicum</i>), stiff clubmoss (<i>Lycopodium annotinum</i>), Canada mayflower (<i>Maianthemum canadense</i>), cloudberry (<i>Rubus chamaemorus</i>)
Mosses, lichens and horsetails	Greater whipwort (<i>Bazzania trilobata</i>), green reindeer lichen (<i>Cladina mitis</i>), grey reindeer lichen (<i>Cladina rangiferina</i>), northern reindeer lichen (<i>Cladina stellaris</i>), fork moss (<i>Dicranum</i> sp), horsetail (<i>Equisetum</i> sp), glittering woodmoss (<i>Hylocomium splendens</i>), red-stemmed feathermoss (<i>Pleurozium Schreberi</i>), knights-plume moss (<i>Ptilium crista-castrensis</i>), haircap moss (<i>Polytricum</i> sp), rusty bogmoss (<i>Sphagnum fuscum</i>), Girgensohn's bogmoss (<i>Sphagnum girgensohnii</i>), peat moss (<i>Sphagnum</i> sp.)

Two other vulnerable species, the red bat (*Lasiurus borealis*) and southern bog lemming (*Synaptomys cooperi*) have been sighted near the biodiversity reserve.

In terms of aquatic wildlife, Lac Clérac is home to lake whitefish (*Coregonus clupeaformis*), yellow perch (*Perca flavescens*), walleye (*Sander vitreus*) and sculpin (*Cottus* sp.). White sucker (*Catostomus commersonii*), northern pike (*Esox*

lucius) and fallfish (*Semotilus corporalis*) have also been found in the reserve.

1.3.3 Ecological representativeness

Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac is in the Lac Manouane Depression natural region, in the western part of the central Laurentian natural province. Elongated in shape, this natural region has a southwest/northeast orientation. It underlies the western part of the spruce/moss bioclimatic domain, extending all the way from the fir/white birch domain in the southwest (lakes Ashuapmushuan and Chigoubiche), almost to the taiga in the north, near Rivière Témiscamie-Est and the Monts Otish.

The reserve is in the physiographic complex of the Lac à l'Eau Froide mounds, which is at the confluence of three large watersheds: Rivière Témiscamie (which flows toward James Bay via Rivière Rupert), Rivière Ashuapmushuan and Rivière Mistassini, which both empty into the St. Lawrence (via Lac Saint-Jean and Rivière Saguenay). The territory of the reserve corresponds essentially to a depression, a topographic situation reflected by the ecosystems there. The proportion of aquatic environments (16%) is higher than the average for the natural region (11%), and much of the territory is poorly drained. Thus the reserve contains a good sample of aquatic ecosystems, including wetlands and near-shore environments, and a good sample of unproductive forest environments (low density or poor drainage). There is not much productive forest of the kind used by the forestry industry.

1.3.4 Ecological zones

Based primarily on the distribution of surface deposits, the reserve can be divided into four distinct ecological zones, from west to east, as shown in the map comprising Appendix 2.

Zone I: Rivière Nestaocano ecological zone (32.2 km²)

At the western edge of the reserve, the dominant surface deposits are of fluvioglacial origin (proglacial and ice-marginal deposits). The relief is almost completely flat, except for some dunes stabilized by stands of grey pine and black spruce, a few eskers, and a mound near Rivière Nestaocano. A number of water bodies meet in this zone, notably in the sector named Confluent Maatauwaaskuyau. In 1996 a fire swept across nearly 1000 hectares in this part of the reserve.

Zone II: Drumlins ecological zone (149.2 km²)

This ecological zone extends from Lac Clérac north and consists almost entirely of immense ombrotrophic bogs, often structured in pools or strings, along with stands of black spruce/sphagnum moss. Numerous drumlins emerge from these deposits, rising to barely a few metres above the surrounding fen. This type of moraine is elongated, aligned in parallel with the flow of the ice sheet, here with a north/south or slightly northeast/southwest orientation. The drumlins are generally covered with stands of black spruce over 100 years old. Dead-ice moraine is abundant in the southern part of this zone.

Zone III: Lac Kaamichaapuhskau ecological zone (188.5 km²)

This ecological zone covers the central part of the protected area. It is chiefly characterized by the presence of a great number of small, narrow bodies of water with a north/south or northeast/southwest orientation.

Lac Kaamichaapuhskau lies in the centre of this zone, in an area with little relief and abundant lakes, generally aligned north/south or northeast/southwest. The deposits are varied (glacial, fluvioglacial, dead-ice moraines and organic deposits), mostly with unproductive cover of the "dry barrens" type, the only trees being grey pine (for the most part) or black spruce.

In the southern part of this zone, a few low hills and mounds support forest ecosystems that could be called productive in terms of woody matter. In 1991 a small fire burned just over 100 hectares to the west of Lac Kaamichaapuhskau. West of this lake there are several eskers.

Zone IV: Connectivity corridor ecological zone (79.2 km²)

The easternmost portion of the biodiversity reserve connects up with Réserve de biodiversité projetée Albanel-Témiscamie-Otish (the future Parc national Nibiischii) and will allow wildlife to move safely between the two protected areas. Thick glacial deposits dominate in the southwest, while in the northeast the shores of Lac Boudreault are surrounded by organic and fluvioglacial deposits, along with Rogen and dead-ice moraine. Dry and wet barrens define the landscape, along with black spruce stands. A

forest road traverses the zone, and logging was done on about 2% of it (170 ha) between 2003 and 2015. Use of this road should be harmonized with the woodland caribou's life cycle.

1.3.5 Outstanding ecological elements

The exceptional ecological integrity of all the ecosystems present in the reserve is in itself an outstanding feature. In the boreal forest, most productive forest territory has been or will soon be subjected to logging. Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac protects forest ecosystems that have never been disturbed by industrial activities, and include sizeable areas of old-growth forest.

Forest development is gradually changing the landscapes of the boreal forest. Mature and over-mature forests will become increasingly rare as average forest age decreases. An important contribution of the biodiversity reserve will therefore be provide a quality habitat for species that thrive in mature and over-mature forests.

Apart from woodland caribou, according to the Centre de données sur le patrimoine naturel du Québec (2015) no plant or animal species that is threatened, vulnerable or likely to be so designated has been observed on the territory of the reserve. However, since no survey has been done of its plant and animal life, the absence of such species other than woodland caribou cannot be assumed.

1.4 Land occupation and uses

Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac is very remote and only accessible by forest road. West of Lac Boudreault, the forest

road that cuts the reserve in two constitutes the main access to the eastern part of the protected area. Other forest roads offer access to the west bank of Rivière Nestaocano and the south and east shore of Lac Clérac, without entering the reserve itself. Thus, practically all of the reserve can only be reached by air or water (mainly Lac Clérac and Rivière Nestaocano).

The activities carried out on the territory of the reserve are primarily those of the Pekuakamiulnuatsh and the Cree of Mistissini. They are shown on the map comprising Appendix 3.

The Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles (MERN) has granted a single resort lease on the territory, plus there is an automated weather station operated by Rio Tinto Alcan on the western shore of Lac Clérac (a lease for purposes of meteorological instrument). Additionally, Rivière Nestaocano is a recognized canoe-kayak route (FQCK, 2005).

The reserve is located entirely within the Nitassinan of the Innu of Mashteuiatsh First Nation, as demarcated in Schedule 4.1 of the *Agreement-in-Principle of General Nature between the First Nations of Mamuitun and Nutashkuan and the Government of Québec and the Government of Canada*. It is south of the territory covered by the James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement. Certain terms and conditions of the Agreement to resolve the Baril-Moses forestry dispute between the Cree Nation of Eeyou Istchee and the Government of Quebec apply on the territory of Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac. The same applies to the Entente concernant certains

enjeux forestiers et fauniques entre la Première Nation des Pekuakamiulnuatsh et le gouvernement du Québec (Agreement concerning certain forestry and wildlife issues between the Pekuakamiulnuatsh First Nation and the Government of Quebec³). More than 90% of the territory of Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac overlaps with the Mistassini beaver reserve, the remainder being included in the Roberval beaver reserve. Only Indians and Inuit may hunt or trap fur-bearing animals in these two beaver reserve.

1.4.1 Particular heritage elements

According to Pekuakamiulnuatsh Takuhikan, many documents refer to the occupation of this land by the Pekuakamiulnuatsh (Montagnais of Lac-St-Jean), including the 1980 study by the Conseil Atikamewk Montagnais conducted for the Comprehensive Land Claim Negotiations. This study revealed that in the 1930s they travelled as far as Lac Témiscamie. In the 1960s, Innuatsh families (i.e. Montagnais families) lived on the shores of Lac Clérac, as shown by the presence of gravesites as well as Innu and Cree toponyms. Names were given to places where people often went. They refer to water courses, camp sites, portages and other topographical elements like mountains, islands, rapids or the mouths of rivers. A large number of toponyms in a given area can be a sign of archeological potential (Lac Clérac, Lac Beauregard and Lac à l'Eau Froide). Conservation and management issues

2 Conservation and management issues

2.1 Introduction

Generally, a biodiversity reserve is dedicated to protection of the natural environment, nature discovery and recreation. For this reason, activities that could have a significant impact on ecosystems and biodiversity, particularly of an industrial nature, are prohibited. Less harmful activities, such as those involving recreation, wildlife, ecotourism or education, are permitted in this type of protected area. However, the management framework to which they are subject is conditioned by conservation issues specific to each biodiversity reserve. Based on the information presented in section 1, the conservation and other issues to be taken into account for Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac, and the orientations and objectives to which they give rise, are set out in the sections that follow.

2.2 Protection of biodiversity

The remoteness and inaccessibility of the territory of Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac are such that there is very little human footprint on its present-day ecosystems, which have a very high degree of ecological integrity.

ECOLOGICAL INTEGRITY

The condition of a protected area that is considered characteristic of its natural region and likely to persist, including abiotic [non-living] components and the composition and abundance of native species and biological communities, rates of change and supporting processes.

Adapted from the definition in the Canada National Parks Act (S.C. 2000, c. 32)

³ Free translation

Additionally, since it is at the head of two watersheds, in an area where human activities are almost nil, the ecological integrity of the reserve's terrestrial, aquatic and wetland environments is also very high. The water quality of the lakes and rivers is particularly exceptional. The first conservation issue for the reserve will therefore be to maintain the ecological quality of its terrestrial, aquatic, wetland and near-shore environments.

The second conservation issue stems from the presence of woodland caribou, a species that is intolerant of human presence. The abundant bogs, dry barrens, conifer/lichen stands (often very old), with a few dense old-growth forests, offer all the habitat components needed by woodland caribou. To improve the status of the species by maintaining viable herd size and adequate recruitment, Québec's woodland caribou recovery team (ÉRCFQ) believes that it is essential to reduce the human footprint throughout the animal's range. The creation of the biodiversity reserve will contribute to that end insofar as the impact of human activities is reduced.

The third conservation issue concerns the objective of preserving a representative sample of the ecosystems of the Lac Manouane Depression natural region. The reserve contains a good sample of aquatic, wetland and near-shore environments. It also contains a few examples of productive woodlands, including the old balsam fir stands on the slopes of the two low hills northeast of Lac Clérac. All of these ecosystems have an exceptional level of ecological integrity.

The three conservation issues mentioned above converge toward a management approach that restricts human intervention as much as possible. Achieving that objective will be facilitated by the fact that the territory of the reserve is relatively inaccessible and little used.

2.3 Knowledge acquisition and environmental monitoring

Specific objective:

- **Conduct plant and wildlife surveys and monitor the general evolution of ecosystems**

Very little is known about the flora and fauna of Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac. Accordingly, the MELCC intends to work with various partners to carry out specific surveys to learn more about the biodiversity of these natural environments. Among others, the MELCC will work with the Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs (MFFP) to monitor the woodland caribou herd that frequents the reserve, and to measure the reserve's contribution to maintaining viable herd size, maintaining adequate recruitment, and facilitating the circulation of caribou between Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac, Réserve de biodiversité projetée Albanel-Témiscamie-Otish, and the surrounding developed forest.

2.4 Conservation and management objectives

Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac is a "protected area" as defined in the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act*, and appears in the *Registre des aires protégées du Québec* constituted under the Act. Thus, it was primarily

created to ensure the protection and maintenance of the area's biological diversity, with the associated natural and cultural resources. In addition, protecting this territory increases the representativeness of the national and regional protected areas network, since it holds many ecological components of interest that are representative of the characteristic ecosystems of the Lac Manouane Depression natural region. For the government, the protection of these components and ecosystems, described in section 1.3, is a major objective. Accordingly, taking into account the issues explained in sections 2.1 and 2.2 of the present plan, the principal conservation and management objective for the reserve is: *Preserve the ecological integrity of the ecosystems present in the biodiversity reserve.*

To accomplish this, the MELCC will have to ensure that there continues to be only limited access to the territory, to avoid allowing usage to increase beyond the current level. This should also contribute to maintaining a quality habitat for the woodland caribou. However, by itself the reserve is not large enough to ensure the protection of the woodland caribou, which needs multiple interconnected protected areas ranging from 5000 to 13 000 km² (Schneider 2001, Wilkinson 2008). The enlargement of the initial project to connect it to the future Parc national Nibiischii (currently Réserve de biodiversité projetée Albanel-Témiscamie-Otish), should encourage circulation between the two protected areas, provided that the caribou are willing to cross the forest road that traverses the corridor. This will depend largely on how much the road is used during certain parts of the year. In light of the road avoidance behaviour described in

several studies (ÉRCFQ, 2013), the effectiveness of the corridor is far from certain. This makes it all the more important that forest planning be adapted to the presence of woodland caribou in and around the reserve. This will improve the long-term chances of maintaining the herds that frequent the area.

The principal objective stated earlier (to preserve the ecological integrity of the ecosystems of the reserve) will allow the continued pursuit of traditional activities by the Aboriginal communities that frequent the land, as well as activities by the two holders of existing land rights. However, these activities must be practised in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations as well as treaties or agreements signed between the government of Québec and the Aboriginal communities concerned.

To achieve the objectives set out above, the conservation and management of Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac will be guided by an activity framework whose several dimensions are set out in sections 4, 5 and 6 of this plan.

3 Zoning

Since the territory of Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac is very little used, the MELCC does not propose management zoning.

4 Activity framework applicable to Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac

The activity framework applicable to Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac follows from the provisions of the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act* and the Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac.

4.1 Activity framework established by the Natural Heritage Conservation Act

Activities carried out within the biodiversity reserve are primarily governed by the provisions of the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act*.

Under the Act, the principal activities prohibited in a territory with the status of biodiversity reserve are the following:

- mining and gas or oil extraction or exploration;
- forest management within the meaning of section 4 of the *Sustainable Forest Development Act* (chapter A-18.1);
- the development of hydraulic resources and any production of energy on a commercial or industrial basis.

Though fundamental to protecting the territory and its ecosystems, the above prohibitions do not cover all of the standards considered desirable to ensure the proper management of the reserve and the conservation of its natural environment. The *Natural Heritage Conservation Act* allows the Regulation to detail the legal framework applicable on the territory of a biodiversity reserve.

4.2 Activity framework established by the Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac

Accordingly, the provisions set out in Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac present additional prohibitions beyond those already stipulated in the Act. Their purpose is to set conditions for the performance of certain permitted activities, thus

ensuring better protection of the natural environment in accordance with the principles of conservation and other management objectives for the biodiversity reserve. Certain activities are therefore subject to prior authorization by the Minister.

The measures contained in Regulation specifically concern new interventions. They do not affect activities that are already being practised or facilities that are already present, so many existing uses are therefore preserved.

However, for activities subject to authorization, the provisions set out in Regulation do not identify which activities could be refused authorization, being considered incompatible with the vocation of the biodiversity reserve. Basic information about the compatibility or incompatibility of each type of activity is provided in the document *Activity Framework for Biodiversity Reserves and Aquatic Reserves*, which is available on the website of the MELCC at:

http://www.mdelcc.gouv.qc.ca/biodiversite/aires_protegees/regime-activites/regime-activite-reserve-bio-aqua-en.pdf.

For certain activities, Regulation also includes exemptions to the requirement for prior authorization.

5 Activities governed by other laws

Certain activities that could potentially be practised in the biodiversity reserve are also governed by other applicable legislative and regulatory provisions, and some require a permit or authorization or the payment of certain fees. Certain activities could be prohibited or limited under other laws or regulations applicable on the territory of the reserve.

Within the biodiversity reserve, a particular legal framework may govern permitted activities under the following categories:

- **Protection of the environment:** measures set out in particular by the *Environment Quality Act* (chapter Q-2) and its regulations.
- **Archeological research and discoveries:** measures set out in particular by the *Cultural Heritage Act* (chapter P-9.002).
- **Exploitation and conservation of wildlife resources:** measures stipulated by the *Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife* (chapter C-61.1) and its regulations, including provisions relating to threatened or vulnerable wildlife species, outfitters and beaver reserves; and measures in the applicable federal laws and regulations, including the legislation and regulations on fisheries.
- **Plant species designated as threatened or vulnerable:** measures prohibiting the harvesting of such species under the *Act respecting threatened or vulnerable species* (chapter E-12.01).
- **Access and property rights related to the domain of the State:** measures set out in particular by the *Act respecting the lands in the domain of the State* (chapter T-8.1) and the *Watercourses Act* (chapter R-13).
- **Issuance and oversight of forest development permits** (harvesting of firewood for domestic purposes, wildlife development, recreational development); and **delivery of authorizations** (forest roads): measures stipulated by the

Sustainable Forest Development Act (chapter A-18.1).

- **Travel:** measures stipulated by the *Act respecting the lands in the domain of the State* and by the regulations on motor vehicle travel in fragile environments, under the *Environment Quality Act*.
- **Construction and development standards:** regulatory measures adopted by local and regional municipal authorities in accordance with the applicable laws.

6 Management

6.1 Responsibilities of the Minister of the Environment and the Fight against Climate Change

The Minister of the Environment and the Fight against Climate Change is responsible for the management of Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac. Among other things, the Minister sees to the application of the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act* (chapter C-61.01) and the Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac. In its management, the MELCC enjoys the collaboration and participation of other government representatives that have specific responsibilities in or adjacent to the territory. Since the territory is difficult to access and little used, the MELCC intends to take a minimal approach to management. Signage and surveillance will be very limited.

6.2 Monitoring

As mentioned in section 2, “Conservation and management issues”, measures will be taken toward monitoring the status of the natural environment, in collaboration with the various

stakeholders. The MELCC particularly wishes, in collaboration with the Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs, to evaluate the contribution of the reserve to maintaining the woodland caribou herds that frequent the area. For example, the following parameters could be documented:

- Evolution of caribou numbers
- Level of recruitment by herds
- Circulation of woodland caribou between Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac, the future Parc national Nibiischii, and the surrounding developed forest

Botanical and wildlife surveys may also be conducted.

6.3 Participation of stakeholders

To fulfill its management responsibilities, the MELCC will seek the collaboration and participation of the principal actors concerned by the territory, including the MRC of Maria-Chapdelaine, the Aboriginal communities whose members frequent the area, the holders of land rights and the regional units of other government departments that have responsibilities in the biodiversity reserve.

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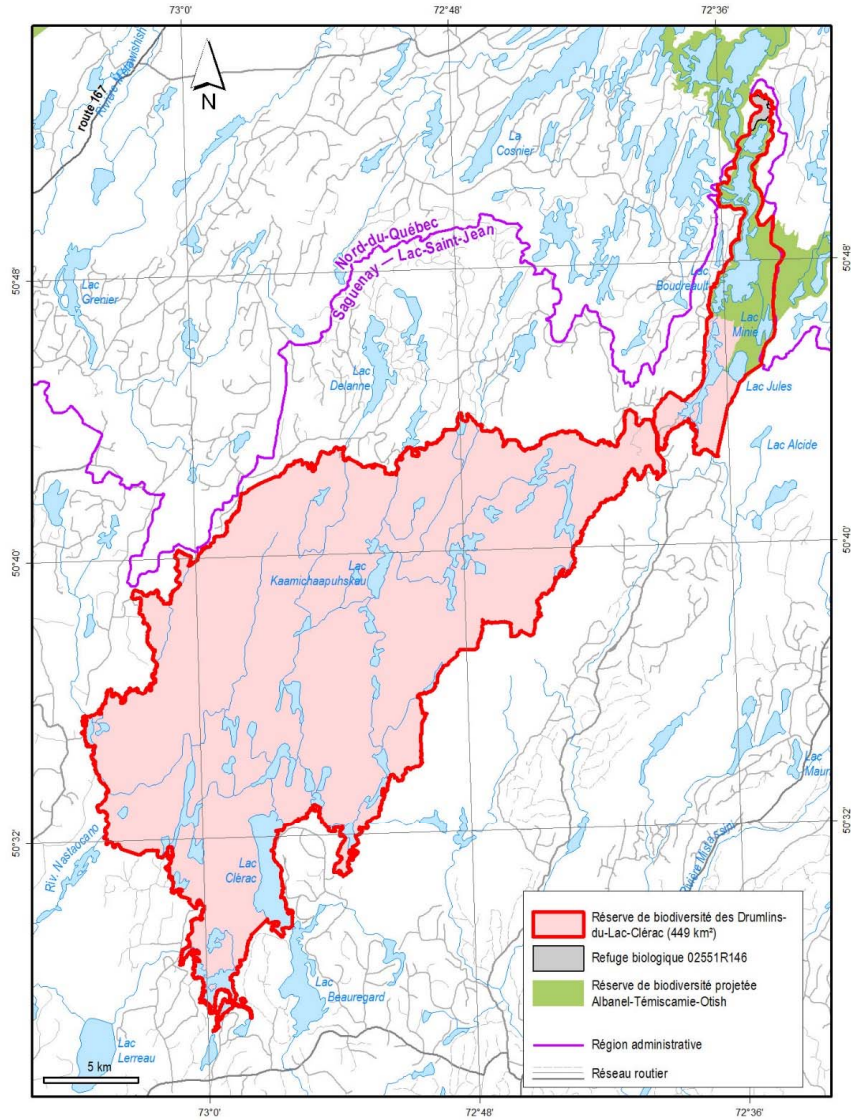
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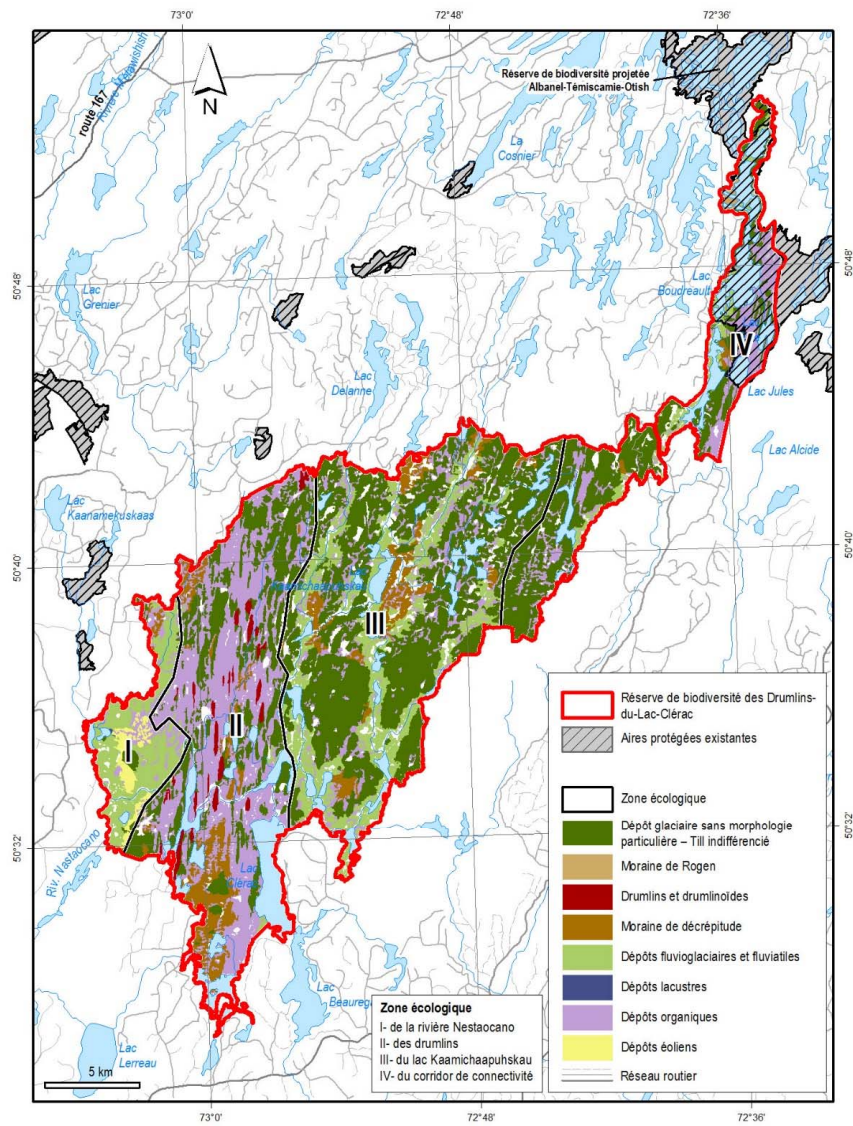
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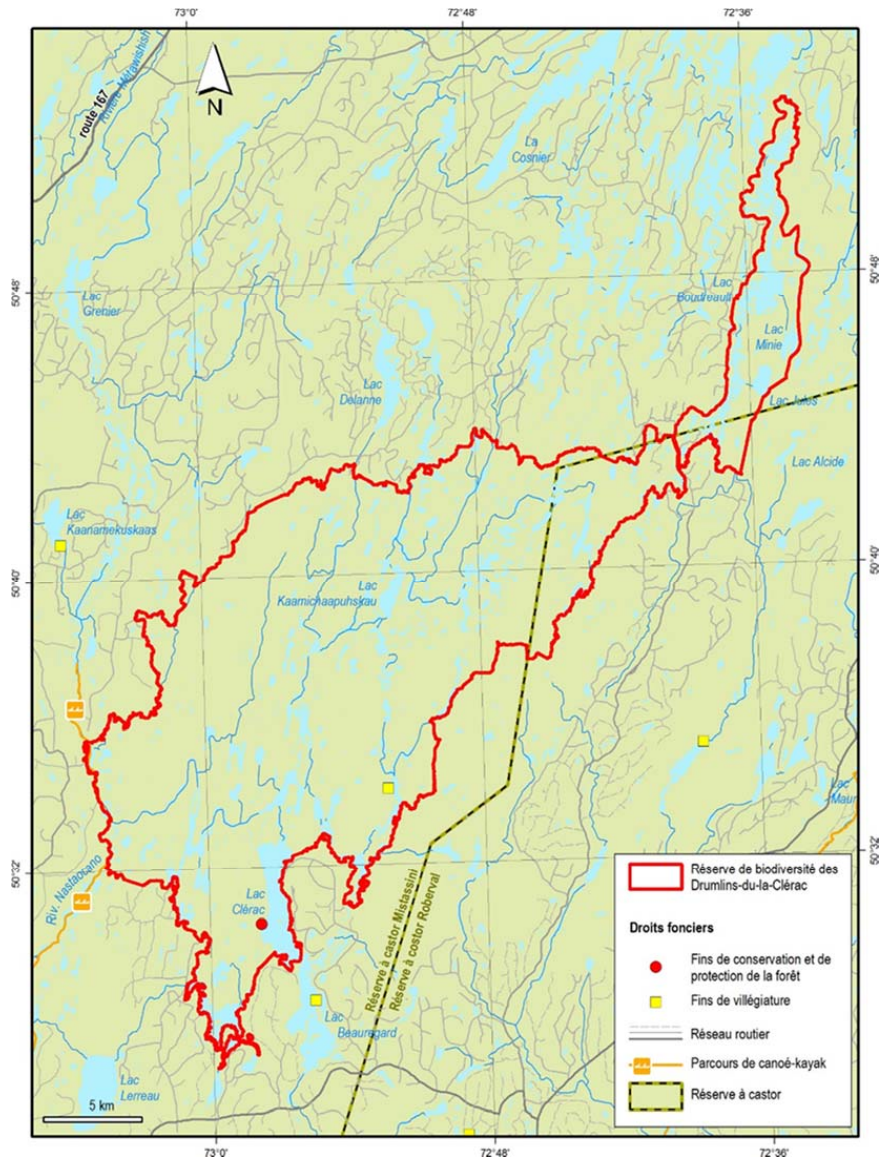
Appendix 1 - Boundaries and location



Appendix 2 — Ecological zones



Appendix 3 — Occupation and uses



Gouvernement du Québec

O.C. 437-2020, 8 April 2020

Natural Heritage Conservation Act
(chapter C-61.01)

Permanent status of the Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan, the Regulation respecting that reserve and its conservation plan

WHEREAS, under the first paragraph of section 43 of the Natural Heritage Conservation Act (chapter C-61.01), the Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change may recommend to the Government that all or part of land set aside under section 27 of the Act be assigned a permanent protection status as biodiversity reserve;

WHEREAS, under the second paragraph of section 43 of the Act, the Minister is to submit at the same time to the Government for its approval the conservation plan for the land;

WHEREAS, by Order in Council 636-2005 dated 23 June 2005, the Government authorized the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks to assign the status of proposed biodiversity reserve to the territory of the Réserve de biodiversité projetée Akumunan and approved the plan of that area and the conservation plan proposed for the area;

WHEREAS, by Minister's Order dated 27 July 2005 (2005, *G.O.* 2, 4072), the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks assigned in particular temporary protection status to the territory of the Réserve de biodiversité projetée Akumunan, for a term of four years commencing on 7 September 2005;

WHEREAS, by Order in Council 136-2008 dated 20 February 2008, the Government approved the amendments to the conservation plan of the reserve;

WHEREAS the setting aside of the territory was extended for four years under the Order of the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks dated 17 July 2009 (2009, *G.O.* 2, 2233), and eight years under the Order of the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment, Wildlife and Parks dated 13 March 2013 (2013, *G.O.* 2, 769);

WHEREAS, in accordance with the first paragraph of section 39 of the Natural Heritage Conservation Act, the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks entrusted the mandate to hold a public consultation on the Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan to the Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement and its inquiry and public hearing report was made public on 20 November 2012;

WHEREAS the report deals in particular with the feasibility of expanding the territory of the Réserve de biodiversité projetée Akumunan and concludes, among other things, that permanent protection status may be assigned to the territory;

WHEREAS the limits of the Réserve de biodiversité projetée Akumunan were reassessed by the Minister and changed after the public consultation to add 80 km² situated north-west and east of the biodiversity reserve and to remove small sectors overlapping the Domaine du lac des Coeur Inc. outfitting operation, and to rely, where possible, on natural or man-made elements easily visible on the site to facilitate management;

WHEREAS the plan of the Réserve de biodiversité projetée Akumunan and its conservation plan were adjusted based on the changed limits and the technical description corresponding to the new limits has been prepared;

WHEREAS the land included in the territory forms part of the domain of the State and is not part of a reserved area or an agricultural zone established under the Act respecting the preservation of agricultural land and agricultural activities (chapter P-41.1);

WHEREAS, in accordance with the first paragraph of section 151 of the Act respecting land use planning and development (chapter A-19.1), the Minister of Sustainable Development, the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change notified an opinion describing the planned intervention to the council of Municipalité régionale de comté du Fjord-du-Saguenay and the council of Municipalité de La Haute-Côte-Nord;

WHEREAS, in accordance with the first paragraph of section 152 of that Act, the council of Municipalité régionale de comté du Fjord-du-Saguenay, by resolution No. C-16-364 dated 23 November 2016 and the council of Municipalité régionale de comté de La Haute-Côte-Nord, by resolution No. 2016-10-214 dated 18 October 2016, confirmed that the project for the establishment of the Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan complies with the objectives of the revised land use planning and development plan and to the layout of the complementary document;

WHEREAS the Commission de toponymie sent to the Minister its approval of the name “Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan” to designate that permanent biodiversity reserve;

WHEREAS, under subparagraph *f* of paragraph 1 of section 46 of the Natural Heritage Conservation Act, in an aquatic reserve and a biodiversity reserve, any activity which the Government may prohibit by regulation is prohibited;

WHEREAS, under subparagraph *g* of paragraph 1 of section 46 of the Act, in an aquatic reserve and a biodiversity reserve, subject to measures in the conservation plan authorizing the activities and specifying the conditions on which they may be carried on, any allocation of a right to occupy land for vacation resort purposes, earthwork, backfilling or construction work and commercial activities are prohibited;

WHEREAS, under paragraph 2 of section 46 of the Act, all other activities are permitted, in addition to those prohibited by paragraph 1 of that section, subject to the applicable conditions;

WHEREAS, in accordance with sections 10 and 11 of the Regulations Act (chapter R-18.1), the draft Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan was published in Part 2 of the *Gazette officielle du Québec* of 15 May 2019 with a notice that it could be made by the Government on the expiry of 45 days following that publication;

WHEREAS it is expedient to make the Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan with amendments, in particular to include the technical description of the territory and to make technical adjustments;

WHEREAS, under paragraph 3 of section 44 of the Natural Heritage Conservation Act, the establishment of a biodiversity reserve and a change in its limits, or its abolishment, is effected by order of the Government, on a proposal by the Minister, subject to the publication of a notice of the decision of the Government to establish a biodiversity reserve in the *Gazette officielle du Québec* with the plan of the area and the conservation plan;

WHEREAS the publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec* of this Order in Council, of the Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan and of its conservation plan constitutes the notice required by that paragraph, including the documents that must accompany it;

WHEREAS, under section 45 of the Natural Heritage Conservation Act, permanent protection status for land, conservation plans and applicable agreements, and amendments or revocations take effect on the date of publication of the order in the *Gazette officielle du Québec* or on any later date specified in the order;

IT IS ORDERED, therefore, on the recommendation of the Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change:

THAT permanent biodiversity reserve status be assigned to the territory described in the Regulation attached to Schedule I to this Order in Council, under the name “Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan”;

THAT the Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan, attached to Schedule I to this Order in Council, be made;

THAT the conservation plan applicable to the Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan, attached to Schedule II to this Order in Council, be approved;

THAT permanent status of the Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan and its conservation plan take effect on the fifteenth day following the date of their publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.

YVES OUELLET,
Clerk of the Conseil exécutif

SCHEDULE I

Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan

Natural Heritage Conservation Act
(chapter C-61.01, s. 43 and . 46, par. 1, subpars. *e, f* and *g*, and par. 2)

1. The Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan is established in the territory described in the Schedule.

2. For the purposes of this Regulation,

(1) the words or terms “high-water mark”, “littoral zone”, “floodplain”, “lakeshore” and “riverbank” have the meaning given to them in the Protection Policy for Lakeshores, Riverbanks, Littoral Zones and Floodplains (chapter Q-2, r. 35);

(2) the term “wetlands and bodies of water” has the meaning given to it in section 46.0.2 of the Environment Quality Act (chapter Q-2);

(3) the term “forest development activity” has the meaning given to it in the Sustainable Forest Development Act (chapter A-18.1).

DIVISION I

PROTECTION OF RESOURCES AND THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

3. Subject to the prohibition in the second paragraph, no person may introduce any individuals of a native or non-native species of fauna into the biodiversity reserve, including by stocking, unless the person has been authorized by the Minister.

No person may stock a lake or watercourse for aquaculture, commercial fishing or any other commercial purpose.

Except with the authorization of the Minister, no person may introduce non-native species of flora into the biodiversity reserve.

4. No person may use fertilizers in the biodiversity reserve. Compost for domestic purposes is however permitted if it is used at least 20 metres from a lake or watercourse, measured from the high-water mark.

5. No person may remove from the biodiversity reserve species of flora, small fruits or any other non-timber forest product by mechanical means.

6. No person may in the biodiversity reserve, unless the person has been authorized by the Minister,

(1) intervene in a wetland area, in particular a marsh, swamp or peat bog;

(2) modify the natural drainage or water regime, including by creating or developing lakes and watercourses;

(3) dig, fill, obstruct or divert a lake or watercourse;

(4) install or construct a structure, infrastructure or new works in the littoral zone, on the banks or shores or the floodplains of a lake or watercourse; no authorization is however required for minor works — quay or platform, boat shelter — installed for private purposes and may be free of charge under section 2 of the Regulation respecting the water property in the domain of the State (chapter R-13, r. 1);

(5) carry on an activity other than those referred to in paragraphs 1 to 4 likely to directly and substantially affect the biochemical characteristics or quality of wetlands and bodies of water in the biodiversity reserve, including by discharging or dumping residual materials or contaminants into the wetlands or bodies of water;

(6) carry out soil development work or an activity likely to degrade the soil or a geological formation, or to damage the vegetation cover, in particular by stripping, the digging of trenches or excavation work, including any burial, earthwork, removal or displacement of surface materials or vegetation cover, for any purpose;

(7) install or construct a structure, infrastructure or new works;

(8) reconstruct or demolish a structure, infrastructure or works;

(9) use a pesticide; no authorization is required for the use of personal insect repellent;

(10) carry on educational or research-related activities if the activities are likely to directly or significantly damage or disturb the natural environment, in particular because of the nature or size of the samples taken or the invasive character of the method or process used; or

(11) hold a sports event, tournament, rally or any other similar event where

(a) fauna or flora species are taken or are likely to be taken; or

(b) motor vehicles or craft are used.

7. Despite paragraphs 6, 7 and 8 of section 6, if the requirements provided for in the second paragraph are met, no authorization is required to carry out the following work:

(1) the maintenance, repair or improvement of any structure, infrastructure or works, including a camp, a cabin, a road or a trail, including an ancillary facility such as a lookout or stairs;

(2) the construction or installation

(a) of a dependency or a facility ancillary to a trapping camp, a rough shelter, a shelter or a cabin, including a shed, a water withdrawal facility or a system for the discharge and disposal of waste water, grey water and toilet effluents; or

(b) of a trapping camp, a rough shelter, a shelter or a cabin if, on the date of coming into force of this Regulation, such a building was permitted under the right of use or occupancy granted, but had not yet been carried out; or

(3) the demolition or reconstruction of a trapping camp, a rough shelter, a shelter or a cabin, including a dependency or a facility ancillary to such a structure, including a shed, a water withdrawal facility or a system for the discharge and disposal of waste water, grey water and toilet effluents.

The carrying out of the work referred to in the first paragraph must comply with the following:

(1) the work involves a structure, infrastructure or works whose presence is permitted within the biodiversity reserve;

(2) the work is carried out within the area of the land or right of way subject to the right to use or occupy the land in the biodiversity reserve, whether the right results from a lease, a servitude or other form of title, permit or authorization;

(3) the nature of the work or elements installed by the work will not operate to increase the area of land that may remain deforested beyond the limits permitted under the provisions applicable to the sale, lease and granting of immovable rights under the Act respecting the lands in the domain of the State (chapter T-8.1) and, if applicable, the limits set under an authorization issued in connection with that structure, works or infrastructure;

(4) the work is carried out in accordance with the prescriptions of any permit or authorization issued for the work or in connection with the structure, infrastructure or works to which they are related, as well as in compliance with the applicable legislative and regulatory measures;

(5) in the case of forest roads, the work must not operate to alter or exceed the existing right of way, widen the roadway or convert the road to a higher class.

For the purposes of this section, repair and upgrading work includes work to replace or install works or facilities to comply with the requirements of an environmental regulation.

8. No person may bury, incinerate, abandon or dispose of residual materials or snow, except if they are disposed of in waste disposal containers, facilities or sites determined by the Minister or, in other cases, with the authorization of the Minister.

Despite the first paragraph, a controlled zone or an outfitter having a lease for lodging purposes in the reserve does not need an authorization to use a disposal facility or site, in compliance with the Environment Quality Act (chapter Q-2) and its regulations, if they were already using the facility or site on the date of coming into force of this Regulation.

DIVISION II RULES OF CONDUCT FOR USERS

9. No person may enter, carry on an activity or operate a vehicle in a given sector of the biodiversity reserve if the signage installed by the Minister restricts access, traffic or certain activities in the sector in order to protect the public from a danger or to avoid placing the fauna, flora or other components of the natural environment at risk, unless the person has been authorized by the Minister.

10. No person may destroy, remove, move or damage any poster, sign, notice or other type of signage posted by the Minister within the biodiversity reserve.

DIVISION III ACTIVITIES REQUIRING AN AUTHORIZATION

11. No person may, for a period of more than 90 days in the same year, occupy or use the same site of the biodiversity reserve, unless the person has been authorized by the Minister.

For the purposes of the first paragraph,

(1) the occupation or use of a site includes

(a) staying or settling in the biodiversity reserve, for instance for vacation purposes;

(b) setting up a camp or a shelter; and

(c) installing, burying or abandoning any property in the reserve, including equipment, a device or a vehicle; and

(2) the expression “same site” includes any other site within a radius of 1 kilometre from the site.

Despite the first paragraph, an authorization is not required if a person,

(1) on the date of coming into force of this Regulation, was a party to a lease or had already obtained another form of right or another authorization allowing the person to legally occupy the land under the Act respecting the lands in the domain of the State (chapter T-8.1) or, if applicable, the Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife (chapter C-61.1), and whose right to occupy the land is renewed or extended on the same conditions, subject to possible changes in fees; or

(2) in accordance with the law, has entitlement under a sublease, an assignment of a lease or a transfer of a right or authorization referred to in subparagraph 1, and whose right to occupy the land is renewed or extended on the same conditions, subject to possible changes in fees.

12. No person may carry on forest management activities to meet domestic needs or for the purpose of maintaining biodiversity, unless the person has been authorized by the Minister.

Despite the first paragraph, persons staying or residing within the biodiversity reserve and who collect wood required to make a campfire are not required to obtain the authorization of the Minister.

No such authorization is required if a person collects firewood to meet domestic needs to supply a trapping camp or a rough shelter permitted within the biodiversity reserve in the following cases and on the following conditions:

(1) the wood is collected by a person in compliance with the conditions set out in the permit for the harvest of firewood for domestic purposes issued under the Sustainable Forest Development Act (chapter A-18.1);

(2) the quantity of wood collected does not exceed 7 apparent cubic metres per year.

In addition, no authorization to carry on a forest management activity is required if a person authorized by lease to occupy land within the biodiversity reserve in accordance with this Regulation carries on the activity for the purpose of

(1) clearing, maintaining or creating visual openings, and any other similar removal work permitted under the provisions governing the sale, lease and granting of immovable rights under the Act respecting the lands in the domain of the State (chapter T-8.1), including for access roads, stairs or other trails permitted under those provisions; or

(2) clearing the necessary area for the installation, connection, maintenance, repair, reconstruction or upgrading of facilities, lines or mains for water, sewer, electric power or telecommunications services.

If the work referred to in subparagraph 2 of the fourth paragraph is carried on for or under the responsibility of an enterprise providing any of those services, the work requires the prior authorization of the Minister, other than in the case of the exemptions provided for in sections 14 and 16.

13. No person may carry on commercial activities in the biodiversity reserve, except with the authorization of the Minister.

Despite the first paragraph, no authorization is required

(1) if the activity does not involve the taking of fauna or flora resources, or the use of a motor vehicle; or

(2) to carry on commercial activities which, on the date of coming into force of this Regulation, were the subject of a right to use the land for such a purpose, whether the right results from a lease or other form of title, permit or authorization, within the limits of the right.

DIVISION IV **AUTHORIZATION EXEMPTIONS**

14. Despite the preceding provisions, an authorization is not required for an activity or other form of intervention within the biodiversity reserve if urgent action is necessary to prevent harm to the health or safety of persons, or to repair or prevent damage caused by a real or apprehended catastrophe. The person concerned must, however, immediately inform the Minister of the activity or intervention that has taken place.

15. Despite the preceding provisions, an authorization is not required for a member of a Native community for an intervention within the biodiversity reserve where that intervention is part of the exercise of rights covered by section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 (Schedule B of the Canada Act, chapter 11 in the 1982 volume of the Acts of the Parliament of the United Kingdom) and those rights are credibly asserted or established.

16. Despite the preceding provisions, the following activities and interventions carried out by Hydro-Québec (hereinafter the “Société”) or by any other person for Hydro-Québec do not require the prior authorization of the Minister under this Regulation:

(1) any activity or intervention required within the biodiversity reserve to complete a project for which express authorization had previously been given by the Government and the Minister, or only by the latter, in accordance with the requirements of the Environment Quality Act (chapter Q-2), if the activity or intervention is carried out in compliance with the authorizations issued;

(2) any activity or intervention necessary for the preparation and presentation of a pre-project report for a project requiring an authorization under the Environment Quality Act;

(3) any activity or intervention relating to a project requiring the prior authorization of the Minister under the Environment Quality Act if the activity or intervention is in response to a request for a clarification or for additional information made by the Minister to the Société and it is carried out in accordance with the request.

The Société informs the Minister of the various activities or interventions referred to in this section it proposes to carry out before the work is begun within the reserve.

For the purposes of this section, the activities and interventions of the Société include but are not restricted to pre-project studies, analysis work or field research, work required to study and monitor the impact of electric power transmission and distribution line corridors and rights of way, geological or geophysical surveys and survey lines, and the opening and maintenance of roads required for the purposes of access, construction or traffic incidental to the work.

DIVISION V FINAL

17. This Regulation comes into force on the fifteenth day following the date of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.

SCHEDULE

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION

RÉSERVE DE BIODIVERSITÉ AKUMUNAN (s. 1)

[Translation of the technical description filed in French only at the office of the Surveyor-General of Québec of the Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles.]

FOREWORD

In this technical description, it is understood that:

When the perimeter described follows a watercourse or lakeshore, it does so, unless otherwise indicated, along the outer edge of the bank or shore, in other words along the high-water mark of the hydrographic entity concerned.

In general, the beds of all watercourses, rivers and lakes are included in the territory. Only those that are excluded are mentioned in this technical description.

When a coordinate is accompanied by the sign “±”, it is approximate and given as a general location only. The hydrographic or topographic feature, or any other limit described, takes priority.

When the perimeter described follows the right-of-way of the Micoua-Saguenay section of the Duvernay-Micoua power transmission line, it corresponds to the land placed at the disposal of Hydro-Québec under reference no. 85-T (Right #699908).

When the perimeter described follows the limit of the right-of-way of a road, it corresponds to the land occupied by the road and its improvements (shoulder, bank, ditches, channels and bridges).

A territory of irregular shape situated in the regional county municipalities of Fjord-du-Saguenay and Haute-Côte-Nord, in the registration divisions of Chicoutimi and Saguenay, in the unorganized territories of Mont-Valin and Lac-au-Brochet, and in the townships of Pijart, Liégeois, Bassin-de-la-Rivière-Portneuf, Bassin-de-la-Rivière-des-Escoumins, Bassin-de-la-Rivière-Betsiamites and Bassin-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite (Sacré Cœur). The perimeter of the territory may be described as follows, namely:

Starting from a point situated at the intersection of the southern shore of Lac de la Croix with the western bank of an unnamed stream, being point 1;

Point 1 5 405 186 m North, 329 254 m East ±

Thence, in an easterly direction, along the southern shore of Lac de la Croix, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to its intersection with the northeastern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 2;

Point 2 5 404 787 m North, 330 962 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the northeastern bank of several streams and the northeastern shore of an unnamed lake and Lac des Boîtes, to point 3;

Point 3 5 404 253 m North, 331 685 m East ±

Thence, in an easterly direction, along a straight line until it meets the north bank of an intermittent stream, being point 4;

Point 4 5 404 289 m North, 332 059 m East ±

Thence, in an easterly direction, along the north bank of the said intermittent stream and of several unnamed streams and the north shore of several unnamed lakes, to point 5;

Point 5 5 404 462 m North, 335 298 m East ±

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along a straight line until it meets the southern shore of Lac de la Tête, being point 6;

Point 6 5 404 679 m North, 335 594 m East ±

Thence, in an easterly direction, along the southern shore of the said lake and an unnamed lake and the south shore of several unnamed streams, all excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to the intersection with the north shore of Lac du Piège, being point 7;

Point 7 5 404 337 m North, 337 366 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the northern and eastern shore of the said lake, to its intersection with the eastern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 8;

Point 8 5 403 881 m North, 337 650 m East ±

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line until it meets the north bank of an intermittent stream, being point 9;

Point 9 5 403 659 m North, 338 369 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the northeastern bank of the said intermittent stream, the northeastern shore of Lac Étroit and the northeastern bank of an unnamed stream, to the intersection with a line parallel to and 60 metres from the southwestern shore of Lac Marche Serrée, being point 10;

Point 10 5 402 955 m North, 340 326 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the said parallel line, to its intersection with the dividing line between the regional county municipalities Le Fjord-du-Saguenay and La Haute-Côte-Nord, being point 11;

Point 11 5 402 195 m North, 340 889 m East ±

Thence, in a southerly direction, along the said regional county municipality dividing line, to point 12;

Point 12 5 399 192 m North, 340 907 m East ±

Thence, in a westerly direction, along a straight line to point 13;

Point 13 5 399 184 m North, 339 229 m East

Thence, in a southerly direction, along a straight line to point 14;

Point 14 5 396 883 m North, 339 274 m East

Thence, in a southeasterly direction, along a straight line to point 15;

Point 15 5 395 377 m North, 340 229 m East

Thence, in a southerly direction, along a straight line, to its intersection with the northern boundary of the township of Pijart, being point 16;

Point 16 5 394 335 m North, 340 250 m East ±

Thence, in an easterly direction, along the northern boundary of the said township, to its intersection with the dividing line between the regional county municipalities Le Fjord-du-Saguenay and La Haute-Côte-Nord, being point 17;

Point 17 5 394 146 m North, 340 935 m East ±

Thence, in a southerly direction, along the said regional county municipality dividing line, to its intersection with the southwestern limit of the right of way of an unnamed road, being point 18;

Point 18 5 393 708 m North, 340 937 m East ±

Thence, in an easterly direction, along the southwestern and then southeastern limit of the said right of way, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to its intersection with the northwestern limit of the right of way of the Duvernay-Micoua power transmission line, being point 19;

Point 19 5 393 584 m North, 341 339 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the northwestern limit of the right of way of the said power transmission line, to its intersection with the northern limit of the right of way of an unnamed road, being point 20;

Point 20 5 385 049 m North, 338 771 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the northern and then western limit of the said right of way, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to its intersection with the eastern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 21;

Point 21 5 383 160 m North, 337 422 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the northeastern bank of the said stream and its extension, to the intersection with the eastern bank of another unnamed stream, being point 22;

Point 22 5 383 069 m North, 337 473 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along the eastern bank of the said stream and the eastern shore of an unnamed lake, to the intersection with the northwestern limit of the right of way of the Duvernay-Micoua power transmission line, being point 23;

Point 23 5 381 574 m North, 337 335 m East ±

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along the northwestern limit of the right of way of the said power transmission line, to its intersection with the northern limit of the right of way of an unnamed road, being point 24;

Point 24 5 381 375 m North, 337 230 m East ±

Thence, in a generally westerly direction, along the northern limit of the said right of way, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to its intersection with the northeastern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 25;

Point 25 5 381 333 m North, 337 047 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the northeastern bank of the said intermittent stream, to point 26;

Point 26 5 381 411 m North, 336 881 m East ±

Thence, in a northwesterly direction, along a straight line until it meets the northwest bank of an unnamed stream, being point 27;

Point 27 5 381 619 m North, 336 465 m East ±

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the northwest bank of the said stream, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to its intersection with the northeastern bank of Rivière Sainte-Marguerite Nord-Est, being point 28;

Point 28 5 381 364 m North, 336 206 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the northeastern bank of Rivière Sainte-Marguerite Nord-Est and Eaux mortes à Lavoie, both excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to the intersection with the western bank of Ruisseau Liégeois, being point 29;

Point 29 5 393 024 m North, 322 515 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northerly direction, along the western bank of the said stream Liégeois, to its intersection with the southern shore of Lac Liégeois, being point 30;

Point 30 5 396 659 m North, 323 130 m East ±

Thence, in an easterly direction, along the southern and eastern shore of the said lake and then the south bank of several unnamed streams and the south shore of an unnamed lake, Lac Roger and Lac Magella, all excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to point 31;

Point 31 5 397 659 m North, 326 694 m East ±

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along a straight line until it meets the southern limit of the right of way of an unnamed road, being point 32;

Point 32 5 397 752 m North, 326 803 m East ±

Thence, in an easterly direction, along the southern limit of the said right of way, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to point 33;

Point 33 5 397 785 m North, 327 590 m East ±

Thence, in a northwesterly direction, along a straight line until it meets the northern limit of the right of way of another unnamed road, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, being point 34;

Point 34 5 398 337 m North, 327 346 m East ±

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along a straight line until it meets the intersection of the western bank of an unnamed stream with the northern limit of the right of way of an unnamed road, being point 35;

Point 35 5 398 494 m North, 327 565 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the western bank of the said stream, and then the southwestern shore of Lac de l'Avion, to the intersection with the northeastern bank of another unnamed stream, being point 36;

Point 36 5 399 025 m North, 327 180 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northerly direction, along the eastern bank of several unnamed streams and the eastern shore of Lac des Pies and Lac Mercier, all excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to the intersection with the southern limit of the right of way of an unnamed road, being point 37;

Point 37 5 401 270 m North, 326 857 m East ±

Thence, in an easterly direction, along the southern limit of the said right of way, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to its intersection with the extension of the eastern right of way of another unnamed road, being point 38;

Point 38 5 401 500 m North, 328 037 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northerly direction, along the said extension and then the eastern limit of the right of way of an unnamed road, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to its intersection with the southern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 39;

Point 39 5 401 851 m North, 327 959 m East ±

Thence, in an easterly direction, along the southern bank of the said stream, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to its intersection with the southeastern limit of the right of way of an unnamed road, being point 40;

Point 40 5 402 000 m North, 328 646 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the southeastern limit of the said right of way, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to its intersection with the eastern bank of an intermittent stream, being point 41;

Point 41 5 402 351 m North, 328 825 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the eastern and southern bank of the said intermittent stream, and then the southern shore of Lac Daniel and the southern bank of an unnamed stream, all excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to the intersection with the extension of the eastern bank of another intermittent stream, being point 42;

Point 42 5 402 814 m North, 329 460 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northerly direction, along the said extension, and then the eastern bank of the intermittent stream, excluded from the biodiversity reserve, to point 43;

Point 43 5 403 118 m North, 329 434 m East ±

Thence, in a northerly direction, along a straight line until it meets the western bank of another intermittent stream, being point 44;

Point 44 5 403 273 m North, 329 421 m East ±

Thence, in a generally northerly direction, along the western bank of an intermittent stream, the western bank of several streams and the western shore of an unnamed lake, to starting point 1.

Having an area of 284.7 square kilometres.

Notes:

—The boundary of the territory shown on the plan accompanying the technical description was determined using the digital files in the Adresses Québec geobase kept by the Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles du Québec as of 25 January 2018, the geobase of Québec's hydrographic network (géobase du réseau hydrographique du Québec, or GRHQ) kept by the Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles du Québec as of 25 January 2018, the Québec administrative boundary system (système de découpage administratif du Québec, or SDA) at a scale of 1:20 000, the digital compilation of surveys produced by the Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles du Québec at a scale of 1:20 000, and an excerpt of land with special legal status from the register of land in the domain of the State as of 24 January 2018.

—The coordinates and areas mentioned in this technical description were determined graphically using the same data as the data used to determine the boundary of the territory. They are expressed in metres with reference to the Québec plane coordinate system (QPCS), Modified Transverse Mercator projection (MTM), Time Zone 7 (central meridian 70°30'), North American Datum 1983 (NAD83).

—Measurements are expressed in International System units.

—The boundary of the territory is based on the actual layout of the elements described in this document and must be legally interpreted on that basis. It was defined by the Direction des aires protégées of the Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques.

—The territory of the biodiversity reserve, as described in this technical description, contains only lands in the domain of the State. Any land that that proves to be not part of the domain of the State is excluded from the biodiversity reserve.

—The territory is shown on a plan drawn at a scale of 1:30 000.

—In accordance with the instructions of the Direction des aires protégées of the Ministère de l'Environnement and the Lutte contre les changements climatiques, the information contained in the source documents provided by the mandator, from which this technical description was prepared, has been accepted as fact.

The whole as shown on the plan prepared by the undersigned on 29 January 2019 and filed with the office of the Surveyor-General of Québec at the Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles under document number 538321.

Prepared at Québec on 29 January 2019, under number 1 of my minutes.

Digitally signed by:

GUILLAUME BERNARD,
Land surveyor

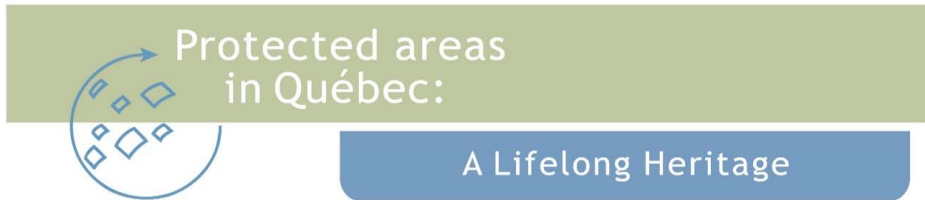
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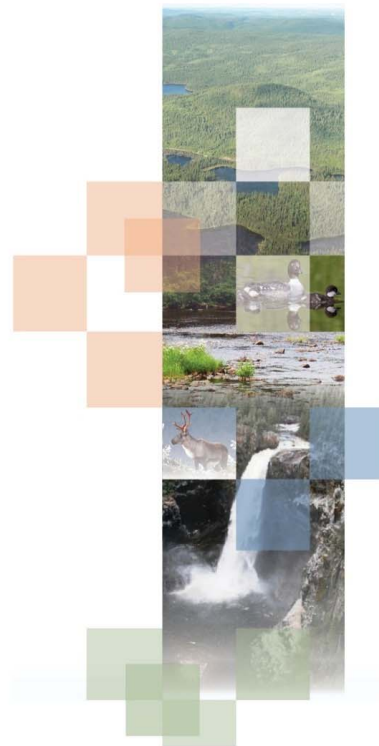
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SCHEDULE II
CONSERVATION PLAN FOR THE RÉSERVE DE BIODIVERSITÉ AKUMUNAN



Réserve de
biodiversité
Akumunan



CONSERVATION PLAN

Québec 

Cover page photos: Barrow's goldeneye: L. Master; woodland caribou: Société des établissements de Plein air du Québec; waterfall on Rivière Pilote: Première Nation des Innus d'Essipit; other: M.-A. Bouchard, Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques.

Reference to cite:

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Introduction

By Order in Council No. 636-2005 of June 23, 2005, pursuant to section 27 of the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act* (chapter C-61.01), the government authorized the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks to create Réserve de biodiversité projetée Akumunan, and approved the boundaries and the conservation plan proposed for it. The creation of this provisional protected area by the ministerial order of July 27, 2005 (2005, G.O. 2, 4072) came into force on September 7, 2005 for a duration of four years. This provisional protection status was extended twice, first until September 7, 2013 by order of the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks on July 17, 2009 (2009, G.O. 2, 2233), and then until September 7, 2021 by order of the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment, Wildlife and Parks on March 13, 2013 (2013, G.O. 2, 769).

On January 26, 2012 the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks (MDDEP) mandated the Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement (BAPE) to hold public consultations on ten proposed protected areas in the Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean region, one of them being Réserve de biodiversité projetée Akumunan. This mandate was given to the BAPE in accordance with section 39 of the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act*, which provides for a public consultation process before permanent protection status is recommended to the Gouvernement du Québec for a territory reserved for the creation of a new protected area. The BAPE's mandate began on February 13, 2012 and concluded on July 20 of the same year. The consultation was held in March and April 2012 in Saguenay and Saint-Félicien. The BAPE's

inquiry and public hearing report (No. 287) was submitted to the Minister on July 20, 2012 (BAPE, 2012). In its report, the commission recommended giving permanent protection status to Réserve de biodiversité projetée Akumunan, with the proposed enlargements.

During the public hearings, enlargements were proposed to the northwestern part of the proposed reserve. The BAPE concluded that they should be considered in the light of efforts by the government to increase the total protected area of Québec to 12% by 2015 in the developed forest. Accordingly, the enlargement proposal was studied by the Table régionale de l'analyse de carence en aires protégées (TRACA – regional table on gaps in protected areas), set up by the Conférence régionale des élus du Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean (CRÉ02), which worked from June 2011 to February 2014. Composed of multiple stakeholders, including forestry companies, the TRACA unanimously approved the enlargement proposal (about 40 km²), and the CRÉ02 held a public consultation to obtain comments on the matter. All comments received were favourable to the addition of this sector. At the same time, a few small areas were withdrawn from the project, notably sections overlying the outfitter Domaine du lac des Cœurs Inc.

The present conservation plan is a short version of the detailed conservation and development plan, entitled *Plan détaillé de conservation et de mise en valeur de la Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan* (Conseil de la Première Nation des Innus Essipit and Gouvernement du Québec, 2015). Both documents will help to guide the management of Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan. The detailed plan is available (in French only) on the website of the MELCC.

1 The territory of Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan

1.1 Official toponym

Akumunan means “haven” in Innu-aimun, the language of the Innu. This choice of toponym choice expresses the wish that Akumunan participate in protecting the woodland caribou (Atik, in Innu-aimun) by offering it the best habitat conditions. At one time, Innu society was based on the caribou, which offered everything the Innu needed to live, from food to clothing, from materials to hunting tools. It is the archetypal element of subsistence, providing nomads with essential supplies for life in the bush. The territory covered by the biodiversity reserve is also a haven, relatively intact or at least less disturbed than surrounding areas that are heavily marked by human activities.

1.2 Boundaries and location

The boundaries and location of the reserve are shown on the map comprising Appendix 1. Covering an area of 284.7 km², the reserve lies between 48° 34' and 48° 46' north latitude and between 70° 00' and 70° 15' west longitude. It is located about 53 km north/northwest of Tadoussac and 70 km northeast of Saguenay. The reserve is part of the unorganized territory of Mont-Valin, in the Fjord-du-Saguenay MRC (Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean), with a tiny portion to the east that is in the unorganized territory of Lac-au-Brochet, in Haute-Côte-Nord MRC (Côte-Nord).

Wherever possible, the boundaries of the reserve were defined on the basis of natural or anthropic

elements that are easily identified on the ground, such as watercourses, lakes, forest roads and the edges of bogs. For sections along the banks of a water body (e.g. Rivière Sainte-Marguerite Nord-Est), the real boundary is the natural high-water mark. Where the boundary corresponds to a forest road or a hydroelectric line, the right of way of the road or line is excluded from the protected area (e.g. line 7004 in the east). The legal boundaries of the reserve are defined in the technical description and the survey map prepared by land surveyor Guillaume Bernard with the following minutes 1 (January 29, 2019) and filed in the surveying archives of the Surveyor General of Québec (Greffé de l'arpenteur général du Québec), Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles under document number 538321.

1.3 Ecological portrait

1.3.1 Physical environment

The biodiversity reserve is in the southern portion of Central Laurentian natural province (Li, T. and J.-P. Ducruc, 1999¹), in Grenville geological province. The latter corresponds to the roots of a chain of mountains formed nearly a billion years ago, during the Grenville orogeny.

Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan is in the heart of the Monts-Valin natural region, at the eastern edge of the mountain massif from it takes its name. The Monts-Valin massif, with summits of nearly 1000 metres, constitutes the southwestern portion of this natural region.

¹ http://www.mddelcc.gouv.qc.ca/biodiversite/cadre-ecologique/rapports/Provinces_Internet_16-12-2014.pdf

Elevations in Akumunan range from 380 m, in the lower parts of the Sainte-Marguerite Nord-Est valley, to 850 m on a few summits to the north. The dominant relief is a plateau, the top of which is a bit hummocky, while the sides are steep in places. The plateau is generally covered with a thin layer of till² (25 to 100 cm), with bare rock in places, especially on steep slopes. The largest depressions run along fault lines (e.g. the Rivière Pilote valley), and contain sand and gravel deposits of fluvio-glacial or even proglacial origin. Here and there a few scattered organic formations (bogs) occupy hollows (less than 1% of the territory).

The western part of the reserve rests on a foundation of orthopyroxene granitoids, while the eastern part is underlain by charnockitic gneisses (Avramtchev, 1985). However, this difference should not be reflected in the soils to any meaningful degree, since their source rock was mixed together before being deposited by the glaciers, and all the rocks are acidic.

The reserve protects parts of three watersheds: in the west, that of Rivière Sainte-Marguerite (8.7%); in the east, that of Rivière des Escoumins (10.4%); and in the north, a small slice of the watershed of Rivière Portneuf (0.6%). Note however that the reserve protects 87.3% of the Pilote sub-watershed (Rivière Bras-Pilote), which covers 124.7 km².

Modest bodies of water occupy nearly 7% of the territory. Many of them are headwater lakes. The principal lakes are Lac Brûlé (16 129 ha), Lac des Sapins (12 075 ha), Lac La Loutre (8386 ha), Lac de l'Avion (6356 ha), Lac Pilote (6190 ha), and

Lac à Lessard (3703 ha). Many are elongated and lie in a northwest/southeast direction, following the orientation of faults (e.g. lakes Pilote, de l'Avion, Brûlé).

According to Gerardin and McKenney (2001), the territory of the reserve is subject to a cold subarctic continental climate, subhumid with a medium growing season in the northern part, while the south is characterized by a humid subarctic climate with a medium growing season.

Though the differences are slight between the south and north of Akumunan, it is interesting to note that the north receives more precipitation (both snow and rain), but the growing season in the south is two weeks longer. These differences are not due to latitude, but to elevation. The elevation at the southeast sampling point is about 600 m, compared to 750 m at the northern sampling point. However, the maximum elevation range is 470 m (380 m at the lowest point, 850 m at the highest).

1.3.2 Biological environment

Productive forest environments dominate the landscape, with forests covering 92.2% of the area of the reserve (Table 1).

The forest cover is dominated by closed forests of balsam fir accompanied by black spruce, with a significant proportion (nearly 33% of the reserve) consisting of old-growth forest (> 90 years). More open coniferous forests³ cover nearly 11% of Akumunan. Mixed forests of shade-intolerant hardwoods (such as paper birch and aspen) accompanied by conifers, or the

² Moraine material left by glaciers.

³ Forests of density class D (25 to 40% coverage at ground level).

opposite, coniferous forests with shade-intolerant hardwoods, together cover 37% of Akumunan. An area burned in 1995, covering 4% of the reserve, is slowly regenerating, while sections that were recently logged (from the early 2000s to 2013), covering nearly 5% of the reserve, are also regenerating. Spruce budworm outbreaks are the most serious disturbance that Akumunan has undergone, particularly the great outbreak of the early 1980s. Nearly 12 000 hectares were affected by this insect. Severely affected stands are mostly in the south and in the Rivière du Bras-Pilote valley.

Table 1: Forest summary of the territory of Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan (MFFP, SIEF, 4th 10-year survey)

Type of cover		Area (ha)	Proportion (%)
Forest	Deciduous	911.8	3.2
	Mixed	9840.1	34.6
	Coniferous	12 327.9	43.3
	Regeneration	3180.3	11.1
Other	Alder stands	116.6	0.4
	Wet barrens	174.2	0.6
	Dry barrens	51.9	0.2
	Water	1857.7	6.5
	Island	5.4	0.0
	Flooded	7.0	0.0
	Other	3.0	0.0
Total		28 477.6	100.0%

Forestry operations represent the second most serious disturbance undergone by the territory over the last 50 years. Since 1968, 25% of the total area of the reserve has been transformed by logging or silvicultural work (stand regeneration and improvement).

Reflecting the region's cold, humid climatic conditions, the poor soils and the history of natural disturbances (fires, spruce budworm outbreaks, windthrows), along with human disturbances (logging), the present-day forests of the reserve are a mosaic of the evolutionary stages of balsam fir/white birch forest, with elements of black spruce.

Since logging has only affected a quarter of the territory, large areas are intact and there are numerous old coniferous stands of which three *biological refuges* (09751R141, 09751R137 et 09751R142) have been protected under the Sustainable Forest Development Act (chapter A-18.1). These three biological refuges contribute, since 2008, to preserve old forests. However, half of the intact areas previously mentioned were affected by the great spruce budworm outbreak of the 1980s, which drastically reduced coniferous numbers to the benefit of white birch and trembling aspen. The result is that there are now a great many mixed and young stands in the territory. Based on topographic zones, forest density and age classes, one can distinguish five distinct forest vegetation units (Conseil de la Première Nation des Innus Essipit and Gouvernement du Québec, 2015).

In 2008 the MELCC conducted a summary plant survey in the territory of Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan. The following species were observed: lowbush blueberry (*Vaccinium angustifolium*), velvet-leaf blueberry (*Vaccinium myrtilloides*), wild salsaparilla (*Aralia nudicaulis*), creeping snowberry (*Chiogenes hispidula*), bluebead lily (*Clintonia borealis*), threelobed goldthread (*Coptis groenlandica*), black spruce (*Picea mariana*), skunk currant (*Ribes*

glandulosum), prickly currant (*Ribes lacustre*), sheep laurel (*Kalmia angustifolia*), twinflower (*Linnaea borealis*), Canada mayflower (*Maianthemum canadense*), mountain woodsorrel (*Oxalis montana*), creeping buttercup (*Ranunculus reptans*), Labrador tea (*Rhododendron groenlandicum*), balsam fir (*Abies balsamea*) and northern starflower (*Trientalis borealis*).

No systematic wildlife survey has been done for the territory of the reserve. However, one can draw an approximate portrait based on a report by the Commission régionale sur les ressources naturelles et le territoire du Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean, entitled “Portrait de la ressource faune du Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean” (CRRNT-02, 2011).

That portrait is incomplete however, since it mostly concerns species of interest for hunting and fishing. From that point of view, the biodiversity reserve is home to large mammals like moose (*Alces americanus*), black bear (*Ursus americanus*) and the forest ecotype of woodland caribou (*Rangifer tarandus caribou*). The mid-sized mammals include snowshoe hare (*Lepus americanus*), porcupine (*Erethizon dorsatum*), American marten (*Martes americana*), American beaver (*Castor canadensis*), red fox (*Vulpes vulpes*), Canada lynx (*Lynx canadensis*), muskrat (*Ondatra zibethicus*), American mink (*Neovison vison*), striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*) and raccoon (*Procyon lotor*). The small mammals include: red squirrel (*Tamiasciurus hudsonicus*), chipmunk (*Tamias striatus*), deer mouse (*Peromyscus maniculatus*) and a few species of bat (order Chiroptera).

Turning to avian wildlife, the territory is frequented by a number of common species, including ruffed grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*), spruce grouse (*Falci pennis canadensis*), American woodcock (*Scolopax minor*), common snipe (*Gallinago gallinago*), American crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), gray jay (*Perisoreus canadensis*), redwing blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) and Barrow's goldeneye (*Bucephala islandica*). Warblers should also be present (family Parulidae), along with raptors such as red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*). Some of the cliffs and escarpments could well provide a habitat for peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*). Great horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*) and barred owl (*Strix varia*) could also be present. Observed nearby, Bicknell's thrush (a vulnerable species) may frequent balsam fir stands at higher elevations (over 600 metres) in the reserve.

Several species of amphibian are also found in Akumunan, including American toad (*Anaxyrus americanus*) and common garter snake (*Thamnophis sirtalis*).

The lakes and rivers are exclusively home to allopatric (geographically isolated) brook trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*).

1.3.3 Ecological representativeness

Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan will enrich the representation of the characteristic ecosystems of the Monts-Valin natural region in Québec's protected areas network. Together with Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes, Réserve aquatique de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite and Parc national des Monts-Valin, Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan completes the representation of the characteristic

ecosystems of the highlands (elevations > 600 m) in the southwest part of the natural region, which basically correspond to the Lac-Tremblay low hills physiographic complex (level 3 in the ecological reference framework of Québec). While some of the protected areas mentioned above also protect low-altitude ecosystems (< 500 m), the biodiversity reserves of Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes and Akumunan are on the uplands of the massif (basically between 500 and 800 m). These two protected areas are highly representative of the types of physical environments and surface deposits characteristic of the Lac-Tremblay low hills physiographic complex.

With regard to biology, the present-day forests of the biodiversity reserve and the areas around it differ considerably, in structure and composition, from the natural forest landscapes (Grondin *et al.* 2010). The latter authors recommend that the stands of balsam fir/white birch and fir/black spruce (mixed Eastern forest) be the focus of forest restoration efforts, to gradually bring their structure and composition closer to those of natural landscapes. The cessation of logging will contribute to that end by letting the young forests (fir and spruce stands) to age.

Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan is in the Eastern bioclimatic subdomain, whose climate, wetter than its counterpart to the west, results in a longer forest fire cycle. For this reason it normally contains more old-growth forests. The current presence of a high proportion of such forests (which will increase over time) heightens the reserve's ecological value, since the surrounding forests are considerably younger due to the impact of logging.

In this respect, the biodiversity reserve forms a conservation nucleus of over 100 km², in which the biodiversity components expressed across the landscape (types of physical environments and assemblages of associated species) will continue evolving with greater ecological integrity (see sidebar).

ECOLOGICAL INTEGRITY

The condition of a protected area that is considered characteristic of its natural region and likely to persist, including abiotic [non-living] components and the composition and abundance of native species and biological communities, rates of change and supporting processes.

Adapted from the definition in the Canada National Parks Act (S.C. 2000, c. 32).

CONSERVATION NUCLEUS

An area where the protection of biodiversity, ecological integrity, the natural environment and other similar values take precedence over usage values.

Brassard *et al.*, 2010.

Having a conservation nucleus of good size will ensure the long-term effectiveness of the reserve in protecting ecosystem functionality, while reducing its vulnerability to natural disturbances and changes in the surrounding landscape.

1.4 Land occupation and uses

Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan lies entirely within the Nitassinan of the Innu Essipit First Nation, as demarcated in Schedule 4.1 of the Agreement-in-Principle of General Nature between the First Nations of Mamuitun and Nutashkuan and the Government of Québec and the Government of Canada (signed in March 2004).

In 1927, anthropologist Frank G. Speck mapped the hunting grounds of the Montagnais of Lac Saint-Jean and the St. Lawrence River (Speck, 1927). Historical information about the presence of Essipiunnuat ancestors in the territory of the

reserve was found in the Grande Recherche du Conseil Attikamekw-Montagnais (Laforest, 1983) and in studies of that research for the Innu Essipit First Nation (Parcoret, 2009). For the Nitassinan of Essipiunnuat (Innus from Essipit), six traditional hunting grounds were identified and mapped to indicate the Innu families occupying them. These territories had Innu toponyms and corresponded to the principal watersheds of the rivers of Essipit Nitassinan. Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan straddles two of these hunting grounds. One is the hunting ground of Rivière Sainte-Marguerite, *pépolsemiskâ*, which also includes Rivière Sainte-Marguerite Nord-Est. The other is the hunting ground of Rivière des Escoumins, *ecibiucibu*, meaning “shell river”, which represents about 80% of Akumunan.

The reserve is at the head of two main watersheds that, according to oral sources, were used and occupied by the Essipiunnuat in the 19th and 20th centuries: the watersheds of Rivière Sainte-Marguerite and Rivière des Escoumins. The Denis, Nicolas, Duberger, Jacques and Moreau families occupied the Sainte-Marguerite territory, i.e. the southwest part of the reserve. Another branch of the Moreau family and the Dominique and Ross families occupied the Escoumins territory, i.e. the north and east parts of the reserve.

Due to its geographic and hydrographic location, the Akumunan territory was shared by these Innu families in a manner that reflected the natural barriers constituted by watersheds. To reach their trapping ground in the Sainte-Marguerite Nord-Est watershed, Essipiunnuat families had to pass through the Rivière des Escoumins watershed. At the same time, families that trapped in the Rivière Portneuf area had to portage from Lac des

Cœurs to Lac de la Croix, going through Lac Girard and Lac aux Renards, in the northern part of the reserve.

Today, various points of entry offer access to Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan. However, the network of roads that enter or are within the reserve is of very uneven quality. The area is still used and occupied by members of the Innu Essipit First Nation (IEFN). There are four main camps belonging to Essipiunnuat, where they practise traditional activities (Innu Aitun) including hunting, fishing, trapping, gathering, and any other activity with a connection to the Innu culture of the IEFN. These traditional activities, like those practised throughout the Nitassinan, are monitored in terms of occupation and use (Innu Aitun monitoring).

The reserve is mostly in hunting zone 28 (87%), with the rest being in hunting zone 18, which is basically the part of Nordique ZEC that is within the boundaries of the protected area (13%).

Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan overlaps two controlled harvesting zones (ZECs):

- Hunting and fishing: Nordique ZEC (38 km² = 13.7%)
- Salmon fishing: Rivière Sainte-Marguerite ZEC (1.4 km² = 10.3%)

The reserve also overlaps a sector used by an outfitter without exclusive rights that has a right of occupation for its accommodations under the *Act respecting the lands in the domain of the State*:

- Outfitter without exclusive rights: Pourvoirie du Lac Pierre

A total of 29 land rights have been granted within the perimeter of the reserve. They consist of

resort leases (cottage lots) and leases for temporary forest shelters (hunting camps):

- Eighteen resort leases
- Eleven leases for temporary forest shelters, six of which belong to IEFN members⁴

Besides the above-mentioned land rights, there are six sites for trapping camps, one of which belongs to an IEFN member. The territory of the reserve overlaps six leased trapping grounds, four of them being leased to IEFN members under an agreement signed in 1989 with the Ministère du Loisir, de la Chasse et de la Pêche. The main present-day uses and rightful occupations on the territory of the reserve are shown on the map comprising Appendix 2.

In summary, the territory of Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan is chiefly used for vacationing, hunting, fishing and trapping. The level of use can be considered light, since the cottages are concentrated around lakes that are accessible by road, and there are none at all in most of the reserve.

2 Conservation and management issues

2.1 Introduction

Generally, a biodiversity reserve is dedicated to protection of the natural environment, nature discovery and recreation. For this reason, activities that could have a significant impact on ecosystems and biodiversity, particularly of an industrial nature, are prohibited. Less harmful activities, such as those involving recreation,

wildlife, ecotourism or education, are permitted in this type of protected area. However, the management framework to which they are subject is conditioned by conservation issues specific to each biodiversity reserve. The conservation and other issues to be taken into account for Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan, and the orientations and objectives to which they give rise, are set out in the sections that follow.

2.2 Protection of biodiversity

Restoration of forest ecosystems

For this conservation issue, the corresponding objective is: *Promote the gradual restoration of the characteristic ecosystems of the Monts-Valin natural region.* The absence of industrial activities will allow the average age of forest stands to gradually increase. Ultimately, old stands of balsam fir (with black spruce and white birch) should cover most of the land. Old-growth forests are rare ecosystems. Their considerable presence in the reserve will serve to protect birds, insects, mushrooms, mosses and lichens that prefer such forests, which are rich in dead trees, woody debris and other important elements (Desponts and coll., 2002, 2004). The second objective is therefore: *Avoid any development that could reduce the age of the forest cover.*

Protection of threatened or vulnerable species

Pursuing the previous objective will help preserve and improve the conditions needed for the survival of woodland caribou. Despite its small size, Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan is one of the solutions set out in the *Plan d'aménagement*

⁴ As part of a process for managing Aboriginal occupations currently being deployed by the Innu Essipit First Nation, these six leases from the MERN will eventually be transferred to become Innu Aitun leases from the IEFN.

de l'habitat du caribou forestier (management plan for woodland caribou habitat), specifically for the Lac des Cœurs herd, as the initial central core. The potential contribution of the protected area to maintaining the species in the surrounding (developed) forest will have to be evaluated over the coming years.

Another species to protect is the Barrow's goldeneye, considered an arboreal duck because it usually nests in natural cavities in trees (Savard and Robert, 1997). Large trees that could offer nesting cavities are generally rare in the north, and current practices in forestry favor the production of healthy trees (without cavities). Special attention should therefore be given to the reserve's intact forests and small headwater lakes, which these ducks seem to prefer. Accordingly, the next objective is: *Adapt the management of the reserve to protect threatened or vulnerable species for which it provides a habitat.*

Protection of lacustrine ecosystems and near-shore environments

With its high proportion of headwater lakes, the hydrographic network of the reserve has excellent ecological integrity and water quality. Accordingly, maintaining the integrity of aquatic, wetland and near-shore environments is another conservation issue for the reserve. The corresponding objective is: *Avoid any new development that could degrade the quality of aquatic, wetland or near-shore environments.*

2.3 Development activities

Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan is relatively remote, yet is readily accessible by forest roads that also serve in winter for snowmobilers. The

territory offers numerous attractions for recreation (hunting, fishing, vacationing) and for the traditional activities of the Essipit Innu. Further development of the reserve's potential to meet the needs of its users is justified, particularly in terms of maintaining the traditional activities of the Essipit Innu, continuing operations by the ZECs and the outfitter, maintaining a quality environment for the cottagers, and providing opportunities for the public to be in contact with nature and Innu culture.

Practised in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations, these activities by users of the territory are compatible with the status of biodiversity reserve, and can continue to be practised normally.

The MELCC and the IEFN want all concerned stakeholders to be involved in preparing an action plan to carry out these conservation objectives, in particular the protection of certain sensitive or fragile natural environments, the recovery of old forests and the protection of threatened or vulnerable species. To encourage participation by all stakeholders who use the territory, the following objectives have been set: (1) *Establish participative and collaborative management.* (2) *Inform all users as to the conservation and management objectives being pursued in the protected area.*

2.4 Knowledge acquisition and environmental monitoring

Existing information about the ecosystems of Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan (section 1.3) is fragmentary. Knowledge acquisition, besides being crucial to the achievement of objectives specific to natural heritage protection, will make it possible to monitor the natural environment. The

knowledge acquired could also be used in developing activities for nature discovery, education and public awareness. It will facilitate the analysis of development projects, and ensure that management partners have a common understanding of the issues.

Ecological knowledge, especially about the support capacity of natural environments, and about the impact of recreational and tourist activities on ecosystems, must also be developed. The corresponding objective is: *Promote knowledge building, in particular by conducting targeted surveys and monitoring biodiversity.*

The IEFN and the MELCC will target certain needs related to knowledge building on biodiversity. With the help of regional partners, the MELCC aims to establish an inventory of the plant and animal species found in the reserve. The subjects of surveys and research to prioritize will be determined later, and will concern both existing and expected ecological problems.

2.5 Conservation and management objectives

Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan is a “protected area” as defined in the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act*, and appears in the *Registre des aires protégées du Québec* constituted under the Act. Thus, it was primarily created to ensure the protection and maintenance of the area’s biological diversity, with the associated natural and cultural resources. In addition, protecting this territory enhances the representativeness of the national and regional protected areas network, since it holds numerous ecological components of interest that are representative of the

characteristic ecosystems of the Monts-Valin natural region. For the government, the protection of these components and ecosystems, described in section 1.3, is a major objective. Note that this protection will allow the pursuit of traditional activities by members of the IEFN who frequent the land, as well as the recreotourism activities currently practised there.

Taking into account the issues set out in section 2 and the geographical sectors of interest corresponding to the elements described in section 1 (see Appendix 3), the conservation and management objectives specific to Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan are as follows:

- *Avoid any development that could reduce the age of the forest cover.*
- *Adapt the management of the reserve to protect threatened or vulnerable species for which it provides a habitat.*
- *Avoid any new development that could degrade the quality of aquatic, wetland or near-shore environments.*
- *Protect the Innu heritage and promote the practice of Innu Aitun.*
- *Establish participative and collaborative management.*
- *Inform all users as to the conservation and management objectives being pursued in the protected area.*
- *Promote knowledge building, in particular by conducting targeted surveys and monitoring biodiversity.*

Additional objectives, complementary to those listed above, may be found in the *Plan détaillé de conservation et de mise en valeur de la Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan* (Conseil de la

Première Nation des Innus Essipit et Gouvernement du Québec, 2015).

To achieve those objectives, the conservation and management of Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan will be guided by an activity framework whose several dimensions are set out in sections 4, 5 and 6 of this plan.

3 Zoning

Taking into account the ecosystems, occupation and use of the territory, as well as the present condition of the natural environment and the protection and management objectives, the biodiversity reserve has been subdivided into three zones. While all enjoy the same degree of legal protection and have the same activity framework, their protection measures and development possibilities reflect their respective features.

The three zones are presented in the map comprising Appendix 4. The MELCC will consider this zoning in managing the reserve and when evaluating applications for authorization concerning activities or developments.

The three zones are:

- I. (West) Plateau of small lakes
- II. (Centre) Lac Pilote and Rivière Pilote
- III. (East) Large lakes and Rivière de la Sainte-Marguerite Nord-Est

Zone I: Plateau of small lakes

This zone is distinguished by an abundance of small and mid-sized lakes, large areas of old-growth forest, medium usage by woodland caribou, and just three resort leases. With its varied forest cover, Zone I can be subdivided into two subzones (Conseil de la Première Nation des

Innus Essipit and Gouvernement du Québec, 2015). It is a conservation zone, allowing minimal intervention, except for habitat restoration, scientific research, monitoring and control, and outfitter activities.

Zone II: Lac Pilote and Rivière Pilote

This zone is characterized by the presence of medium-sized lakes and Rivière du Bras-Pilote, but it has fewer lakes than Zone I. It has a high level of naturalness, despite the presence of a network of secondary roads, a well-used central artery for ATV travel, and a few resort leases. Zone II should only be used with care, limiting interventions to a strip along either side of the central artery, the width of which will be decided later.

Zone III: Large lakes and Rivière de la Sainte-Marguerite Nord-Est

Despite containing some old-growth forests, this zone has been heavily modified, both by forestry and the spruce budworm outbreak, resulting in the dominance of second-growth forests. The level of use and occupation is quite high, notably by the holders of land rights (60%), especially to the north of Lac Brûlé. Added to this are the northwest part of Nordique ZEC and the left bank of Saumon ZEC along Rivière Sainte-Marguerite Nord-Est. Zone III is where infrastructures and/or facilities for ecotourism activities could be deployed. Particular attention should be paid to backcountry camping activities around Bras-Pilote falls.

4 Activity framework applicable to Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan

The activity framework applicable to Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan follows from the provisions of the *Natural Heritage Conservation*

Act and the Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan.

4.1 Activity framework established by the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act*

Activities carried out within the biodiversity reserve are primarily governed by the provisions of the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act*.

Under the Act, the principal activities prohibited in a territory with the status of biodiversity reserve are the following:

- mining and gas or oil extraction or exploration;
- forest management within the meaning of section 4 of the *Sustainable Forest Development Act* (chapter A-18.1);
- the development of hydraulic resources and any production of energy on a commercial or industrial basis.

Though fundamental to protecting the territory and its ecosystems, the above prohibitions do not cover all of the standards considered desirable to ensure the proper management of the reserve and the conservation of its natural environment. The *Natural Heritage Conservation Act* allows the Regulation to detail the legal framework applicable on the territory of a biodiversity reserve.

4.2 Activity framework established by the Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan

Accordingly, the provisions set out in Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan present additional prohibitions beyond those already stipulated in the Act. Their

purpose is to set conditions for the performance of certain permitted activities, thus ensuring better protection of the natural environment in accordance with the principles of conservation and other management objectives for the biodiversity reserve. Certain activities are therefore subject to prior authorization by the Minister.

The measures contained in Regulation specifically concern new interventions. They do not affect activities that are already being practised or facilities that are already present, so many existing uses are therefore preserved.

However, for activities subject to authorization, the provisions set out in Regulation do not identify which activities could be refused authorization, being considered incompatible with the vocation of the biodiversity reserve. Basic information about the compatibility or incompatibility of each type of activity is provided in the document *Activity Framework for Biodiversity Reserves and Aquatic Reserves*, which is available on the website of the MELCC at:

http://www.mddelcc.gouv.qc.ca/biodiversite/aires_protegees/regime-activites/regime-activite-reserve-bio-aqua-en.pdf.

For certain activities, Regulation also includes exemptions to the requirement for prior authorization.

5 Activities governed by other laws

Certain activities that could potentially be practised in the biodiversity reserve are also governed by other applicable legislative and regulatory provisions, and some require a permit or authorization or the payment of certain fees. Certain activities could be prohibited or limited

under other laws or regulations applicable on the territory of the reserve.

Within the biodiversity reserve, a particular legal framework may govern permitted activities under the following categories:

- **Protection of the environment:** measures set out in particular by the *Environment Quality Act* (chapter Q-2) and its regulations.
- **Archeological research and discoveries:** measures set out in particular by the *Cultural Heritage Act* (chapter P-9.002).
- **Exploitation and conservation of wildlife resources:** measures stipulated by the *Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife* (chapter C-61.1) and its regulations, including provisions relating to threatened or vulnerable wildlife species, outfitters and beaver reserves; and measures in the applicable federal laws and regulations, including the legislation and regulations on fisheries.
- **Plant species designated as threatened or vulnerable:** measures prohibiting the harvesting of such species under the *Act respecting threatened or vulnerable species* (chapter E-12.01).
- **Access and property rights related to the domain of the State:** measures set out in particular by the *Act respecting the lands in the domain of the State* (chapter T-8.1) and the *Watercourses Act* (chapter R-13).
- **Issuance and oversight of forest development permits** (harvesting of firewood for domestic purposes, wildlife development, recreational development), **delivery of authorizations** (forest roads),

and **protection of biological refuges:** measures stipulated by the *Sustainable Forest Development Act* (chapter A-18.1).

- **Travel:** measures stipulated by the *Act respecting the lands in the domain of the State* and by the regulations on motor vehicle travel in fragile environments, under the *Environment Quality Act*, by the *Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife* (chapter C-61.1) when in a ZEC, and by its regulations, including regulations adopted by delegated management bodies.
- **Construction and development standards:** regulatory measures adopted by local and regional municipal authorities in accordance with the applicable laws.

6 Management

6.1 Responsibilities of the Minister of the Environment and the Fight against Climate Change

The Minister of the Environment and the Fight against Climate Change is responsible for the management of Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan. Among other things, the Minister sees to the application of the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act* (chapter C-61.01) and the Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan. In its management, the MELCC enjoys the collaboration and participation of other government representatives that have specific responsibilities in or adjacent to the territory.

The process leading to the creation of Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan is the fruit of ongoing collaboration between the MELCC and the Innu Essipit First Nation. Accordingly, the Minister

plans to establish a partnership with the Band Council of the Innu Essipit for the management of Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan, under terms and conditions to be defined in an agreement.

The principal local and regional stakeholders concerned by the biodiversity reserve will be invited to participate in management activities.

6.2 Monitoring

As mentioned in section 2, measures will be taken toward monitoring the status of the natural environment, in collaboration with the various stakeholders. Botanical and wildlife surveys may also be conducted.

6.3 Participation of stakeholders

To fulfill its management responsibilities pertaining to the biodiversity reserve, the MELCC intends to focus on partnership with IEFN, and will seek collaboration and participation of the principal actors concerned by the territory, including the MRC of Fjord-du-Saguenay, Nordique ZEC, De la rivière Sainte-Marguerite ZEC, the Lac Pierre outfitter, the holders of land rights and the regional units of other government departments that have responsibilities in the biodiversity reserve.

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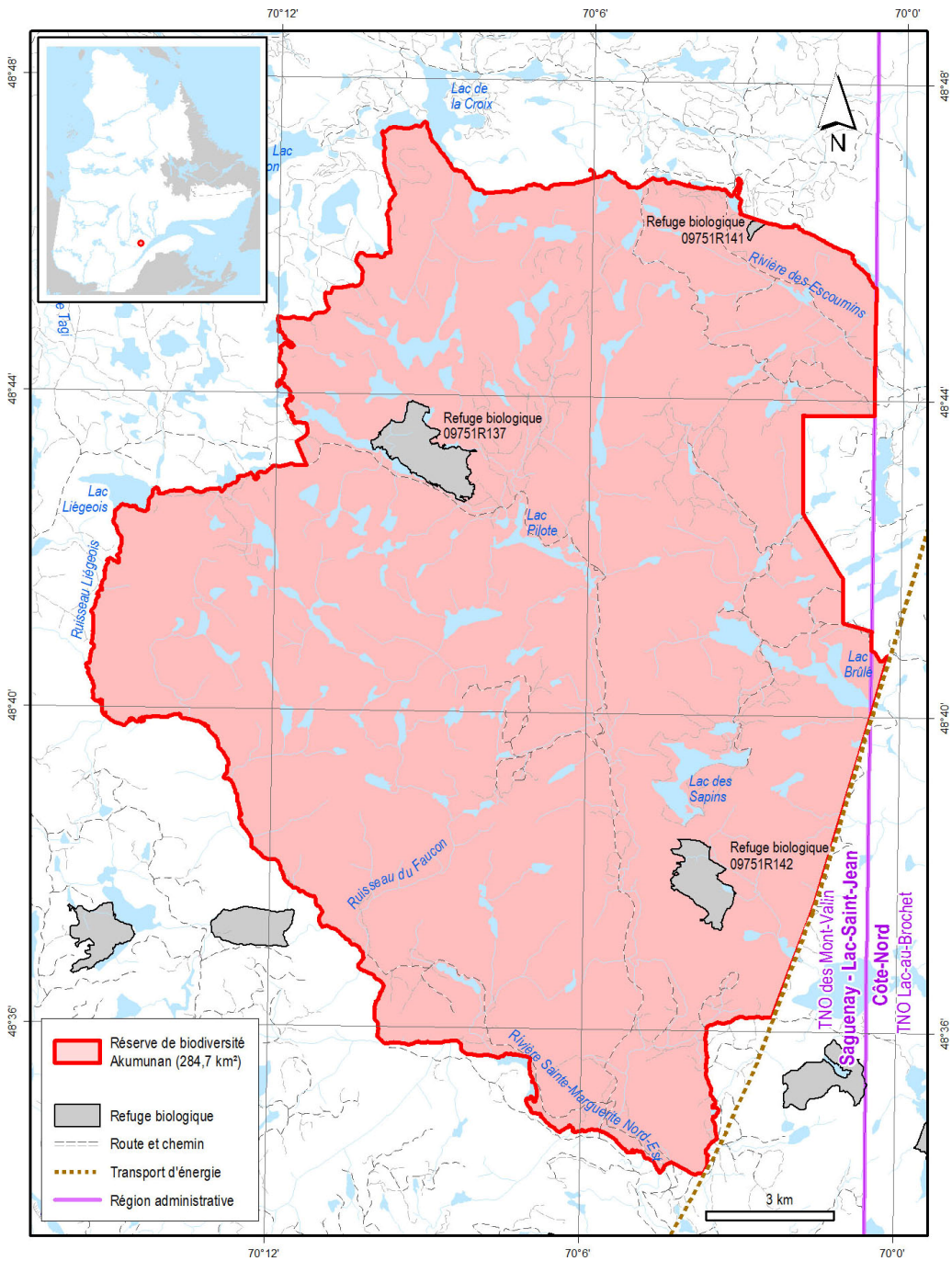
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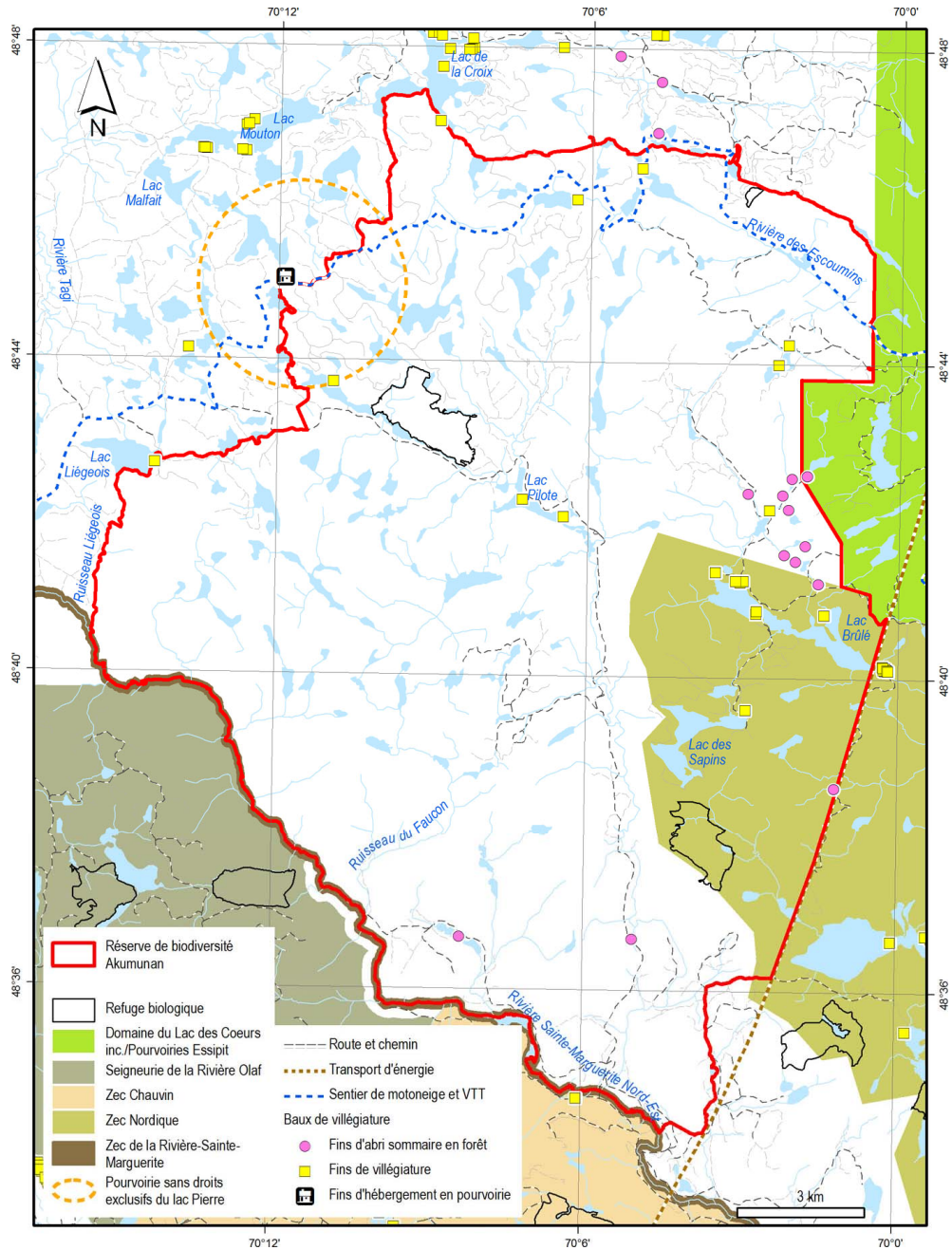
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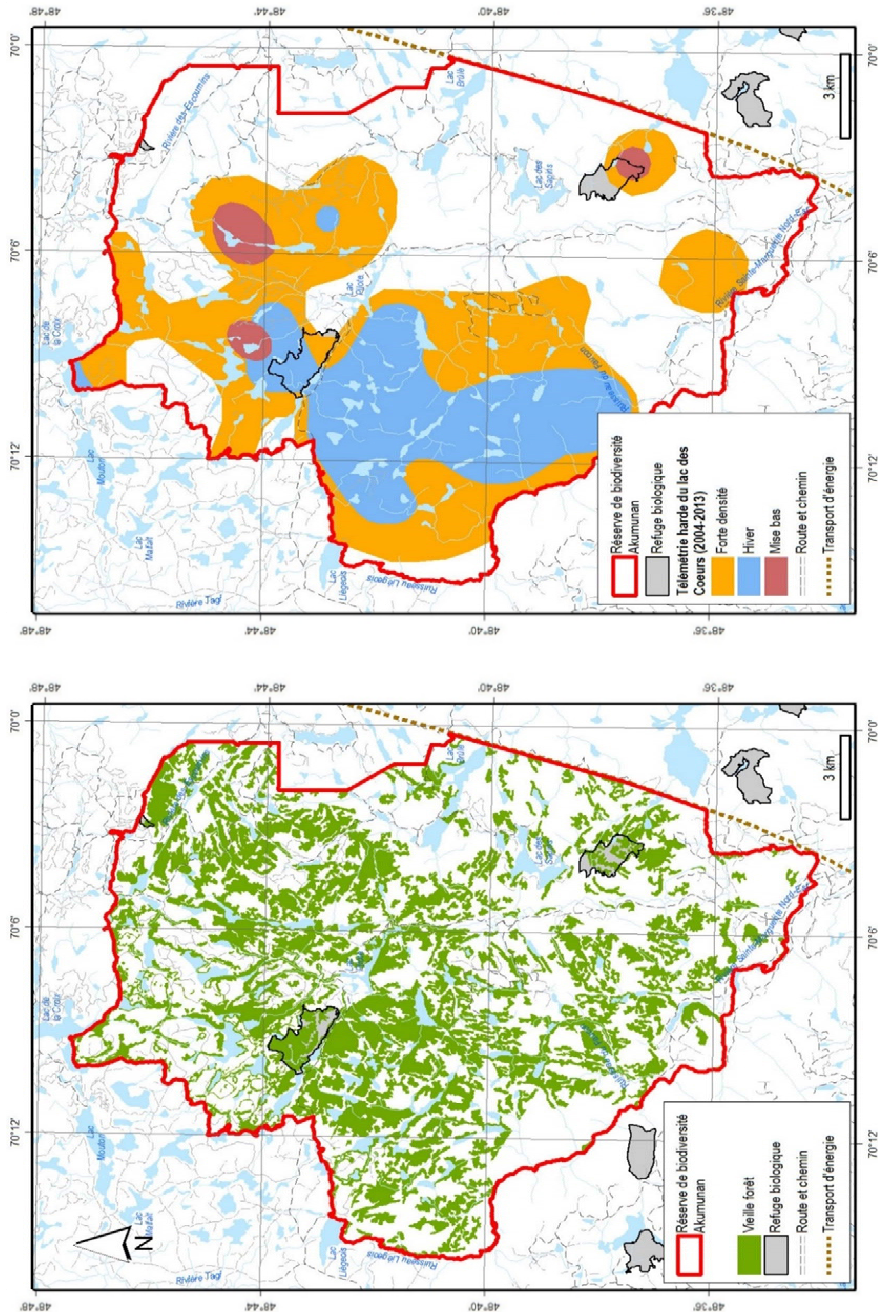
Appendix 1 — Boundaries and location



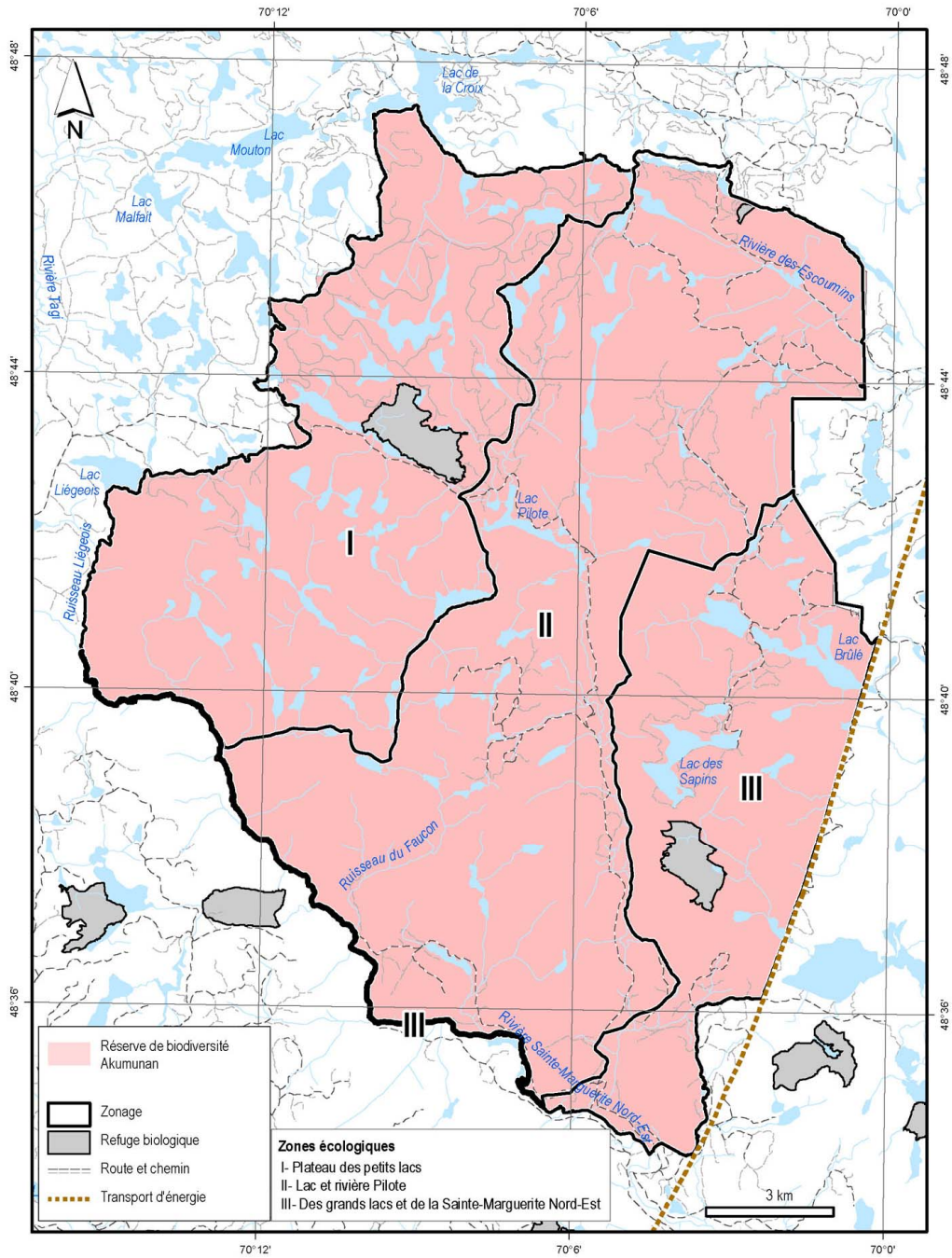
Appendix 2 — Land occupation and uses



Appendix 3 — Location of sectors of interest



Appendix 4 – Zoning



Gouvernement du Québec

O.C. 438-2020, 8 April 2020

Natural Heritage Conservation Act
(chapter C-61.01)

Permanent status of the Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes, the Regulation respecting that reserve and its conservation plan

WHEREAS, under the first paragraph of section 43 of the Natural Heritage Conservation Act (chapter C-61.01), the Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change may recommend to the Government that all or part of land set aside under section 27 of the Act be assigned a permanent protection status as biodiversity reserve;

WHEREAS, under the second paragraph of section 43 of the Act, the Minister is to submit at the same time to the Government for its approval the conservation plan for the land;

WHEREAS, by Order in Council 81-2007 dated 6 February 2007, the Government authorized the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks to assign the status of proposed biodiversity reserve to the territory of the Réserve de biodiversité projetée du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes and approved the plan of that area and the conservation plan proposed for the area;

WHEREAS, by Minister's Order dated 20 February 2007 (2007, *G.O.* 2, 1192), the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks assigned in particular temporary protection status to the territory of the Réserve de biodiversité projetée du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes, for a term of four years commencing on 7 March 2007;

WHEREAS, by Order in Council 136-2008 dated 20 February 2008, the Government approved the amendments to the conservation plan of that reserve;

WHEREAS the setting aside of the territory was extended for four years under the Order of the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks dated 17 February 2011 (2011, *G.O.* 2, 631), and eight years under the Order of the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change dated 10 February 2015 (2015, *G.O.* 2, 178);

WHEREAS, in accordance with the first paragraph of section 39 of the Natural Heritage Conservation Act, the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks entrusted the mandate to hold a public consultation on the Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes to the Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement and its inquiry and public hearing report was made public on 20 November 2012;

WHEREAS the report concludes, among other things, that permanent protection status may be assigned to the territory of the Réserve de biodiversité projetée du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes;

WHEREAS the limits of the Réserve de biodiversité projetée du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes are the same as those set in the plan attached to Order in Council 81-2007 dated 6 February 2007;

WHEREAS the plan of the Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes, its conservation plan and the technical description of the limits have been prepared;

WHEREAS the land included in the territory forms part of the domain of the State and is not part of a reserved area or an agricultural zone established under the Act respecting the preservation of agricultural land and agricultural activities (chapter P-41.1);

WHEREAS, in accordance with the first paragraph of section 151 of the Act respecting land use planning and development (chapter A-19.1), the Minister of Sustainable Development, the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change notified an opinion describing the planned intervention to the council of Municipalité régionale de comté du Fjord-du-Saguenay;

WHEREAS, in accordance with the first paragraph of section 152 of that Act, the council of Municipalité régionale de comté du Fjord-du-Saguenay, by resolution No. C-16-364 dated 23 November 2016, confirmed that the project for the establishment of the Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes complies with the objectives of the revised land use planning and development plan and the provisions of the complementary document;

WHEREAS the Commission de toponymie sent to the Minister its approval of the name "Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes" to designate that permanent biodiversity reserve;

WHEREAS, under subparagraph *f* of paragraph 1 of section 46 of the Natural Heritage Conservation Act, in an aquatic reserve and a biodiversity reserve, any activity which the Government may prohibit by regulation is prohibited;

WHEREAS, under subparagraph *g* of paragraph 1 of section 46 of the Act, in an aquatic reserve and a biodiversity reserve, subject to measures in the conservation plan authorizing the activities and specifying the conditions on which they may be carried on, any allocation of a right to occupy land for vacation resort purposes, earthwork, backfilling or construction work and commercial activities are prohibited;

WHEREAS, under paragraph 2 of section 46 of the Act, all other activities are permitted, in addition to those prohibited by paragraph 1 of that section, subject to the applicable conditions;

WHEREAS, in accordance with sections 10 and 11 of the Regulations Act (chapter R-18.1), the draft Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes was published in Part 2 of the *Gazette officielle du Québec* of 15 May 2019 with a notice that it could be made by the Government on the expiry of 45 days following that publication;

WHEREAS it is expedient to make the Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes with amendments, in particular to include the technical description of the territory and to make technical adjustments;

WHEREAS, under paragraph 3 of section 44 of the Natural Heritage Conservation Act, the establishment of a biodiversity reserve and a change in its limits, or its abolishment, is effected by order of the Government, on a proposal by the Minister, subject to the publication of a notice of the decision of the Government to establish a biodiversity reserve in the *Gazette officielle du Québec* with the plan of the area and the conservation plan;

WHEREAS the publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec* of this Order in Council, of the Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes and of its conservation plan constitutes the notice required by that paragraph, including the documents that must accompany it;

WHEREAS, under section 45 of the Natural Heritage Conservation Act, permanent protection status for land, conservation plans and applicable agreements, and amendments or revocations take effect on the date of publication of the order in the *Gazette officielle du Québec* or on any later date specified in the order;

IT IS ORDERED, therefore, on the recommendation of the Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change:

THAT permanent biodiversity reserve status be assigned to the territory described in the Regulation attached to Schedule I to this Order in Council, under the name “Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes”;

THAT the Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes, attached to Schedule I to this Order in Council, be made;

THAT the conservation plan applicable to the Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes, attached to Schedule II to this Order in Council, be approved;

THAT permanent status of the Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes and its conservation plan take effect on the fifteenth day following the date of their publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.

YVES OUELLET,
Clerk of the Conseil exécutif

SCHEDULE I

Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes

Natural Heritage Conservation Act
(chapter C-61.01, s. 43 and s. 46, par. 1, subpars. *e, f* and *g*, and par. 2)

1. The Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes is established in the territory described in the Schedule.

2. For the purposes of this Regulation,

(1) the words or terms “high-water mark”, “littoral zone”, “floodplain”, “lakeshore” and “riverbank” have the meaning given to them in the Protection Policy for Lakeshores, Riverbanks, Littoral Zones and Floodplains (chapter Q-2, r. 35);

(2) the term “wetlands and bodies of water” has the meaning given to it in section 46.0.2 of the Environment Quality Act (chapter Q-2);

(3) the term “forest development activity” has the meaning given to it in the Sustainable Forest Development Act (chapter A-18.1).

DIVISION I PROTECTION OF RESOURCES AND THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

3. Subject to the prohibition in the second paragraph, no person may introduce any individuals of a native or non-native species of fauna into the biodiversity reserve, including by stocking, unless the person has been authorized by the Minister.

No person may stock a lake or watercourse for aquaculture, commercial fishing or any other commercial purpose.

Except with the authorization of the Minister, no person may introduce non-native species of flora into the biodiversity reserve.

4. No person may use fertilizers in the biodiversity reserve. Compost for domestic purposes is however permitted if it is used at least 20 metres from a lake or watercourse, measured from the high-water mark.

5. No person may remove from the biodiversity reserve species of flora, small fruits or any other non-timber forest product by mechanical means.

6. No person may in the biodiversity reserve, unless the person has been authorized by the Minister,

(1) intervene in a wetland area, in particular a marsh, swamp or peat bog;

(2) modify the natural drainage or water regime, including by creating or developing lakes and watercourses;

(3) dig, fill, obstruct or divert a lake or watercourse;

(4) install or construct any structure, infrastructure or new works in the littoral zone, on the banks or shores or the floodplains of a lake or watercourse; no authorization is however required for minor works — quay or platform, boat shelter — installed for private purposes and may be free of charge under section 2 of the Regulation respecting the water property in the domain of the State (chapter R-13, r. 1);

(5) carry on an activity other than those referred to in paragraphs 1 to 4 likely to directly and substantially affect the biochemical characteristics or quality of wetlands and bodies of water in the biodiversity reserve, including by discharging or dumping residual materials or contaminants into the wetlands or bodies of water;

(6) carry out soil development work or an activity likely to degrade the soil or a geological formation, or to damage the vegetation cover, in particular by stripping, the digging of trenches or excavation work, including any burial, earthwork, removal or displacement of surface materials or vegetation cover, for any purpose;

(7) install or construct a structure, infrastructure or new works;

(8) reconstruct or demolish a structure, infrastructure or works;

(9) use a pesticide; no authorization is required for the use of personal insect repellent;

(10) carry on educational or research-related activities if the activities are likely to directly or significantly damage or disturb the natural environment, in particular because of the nature or size of the samples taken or the invasive character of the method or process used; or

(11) hold a sports event, tournament, rally or any other similar event where

(a) fauna or flora species are taken or are likely to be taken; or

(b) motor vehicles or craft are used.

7. Despite paragraphs 6, 7 and 8 of section 6, if the requirements provided for in the second paragraph are met, no authorization is required to carry out the following work:

(1) the maintenance, repair or improvement of any structure, infrastructure or works, including a camp, a cabin, a road or a trail, including an ancillary facility such as a lookout or stairs;

(2) the construction or installation

(a) of a dependency or a facility ancillary to a trapping camp, a rough shelter, a shelter or a cabin, including a shed, a water withdrawal facility or a system for the discharge and disposal of waste water, grey water and toilet effluents; or

(b) of a trapping camp, a rough shelter, a shelter or a cabin if, on the date of coming into force of this Regulation, such a building was permitted under the right of use or occupancy granted, but had not yet been carried out; or

(3) the demolition or reconstruction of a trapping camp, a rough shelter, a shelter or a cabin, including a dependency or a facility ancillary to such a structure, including a shed, a water withdrawal facility or a system for the discharge and disposal of waste water, grey water and toilet effluents.

The carrying out of the work referred to in the first paragraph must comply with the following requirements:

(1) the work involves a structure, infrastructure or works whose presence is permitted within the biodiversity reserve;

(2) the work is carried out within the area of land or right of way subject to the right to use or occupy the land in the biodiversity reserve, whether the right results from a lease, a servitude or other form of title, permit or authorization;

(3) the nature of the work or elements installed by the work will not operate to increase the area of land that may remain deforested beyond the limits permitted under the provisions applicable to the sale, lease and granting of immovable rights under the Act respecting the lands in the domain of the State (chapter T-8.1) and, if applicable, the limits set under an authorization issued in connection with that structure, works or infrastructure;

(4) the work is carried out in accordance with the prescriptions of any permit or authorization issued for the work or in connection with the structure, infrastructure or works involved, and in compliance with the laws and regulations that apply;

(5) in the case of forest roads, the work must not operate to alter or exceed the existing right of way, widen the roadway or convert the road to a higher class.

For the purposes of this section, repair and upgrading work includes work to replace or install works or facilities to comply with the requirements of an environmental regulation.

8. No person may bury, incinerate, abandon or dispose of residual materials or snow, except if they are disposed of in waste disposal containers, facilities or sites determined by the Minister or, in other cases, with the authorization of the Minister.

Despite the first paragraph, a controlled zone does not need an authorization to use a disposal facility or site, in compliance with the Environment Quality Act (chapter Q-2) and its regulations, if the controlled zone was already using the facility or site on the date of coming into force of this Regulation.

DIVISION II

RULES OF CONDUCT FOR USERS

9. No person may enter, carry on an activity or operate a vehicle in a given sector of the biodiversity reserve if the signage installed by the Minister restricts access, traffic or certain activities in the sector in order to protect the public from a danger or to avoid placing the fauna, flora or other components of the natural environment at risk, unless the person has been authorized by the Minister.

10. No person may destroy, remove, move or damage any poster, sign, notice or other type of signage posted by the Minister within the biodiversity reserve.

DIVISION III

ACTIVITIES REQUIRING AN AUTHORIZATION

11. No person may, for a period of more than 90 days in the same year, occupy or use the same site of the biodiversity reserve, unless the person has been authorized by the Minister.

For the purposes of the first paragraph,

(1) the occupation or use of a site includes

(a) staying or settling in the biodiversity reserve, for instance for vacation purposes;

(b) setting up a camp or a shelter; and

(c) installing, burying or abandoning any property in the reserve, including equipment, a device or a vehicle; and

(2) the expression “same site” includes any other site within a radius of 1 kilometre from the site.

Despite the first paragraph, an authorization is not required if a person,

(1) on the date of coming into force of this Regulation, was a party to a lease or had already obtained another form of right or another authorization allowing the person to legally occupy the land under the Act respecting the lands in the domain of the State (chapter T-8.1) or, if applicable, the Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife (chapter C-61.1), and whose right to occupy the land is renewed or extended on the same conditions, subject to possible changes in fees; or

(2) in accordance with the law, has entitlement under a sublease, an assignment of a lease or a transfer of a right or authorization referred to in subparagraph 1, and whose right to occupy the land is renewed or extended on the same conditions, subject to possible changes in fees.

12. No person may carry on forest management activities to meet domestic needs or for the purpose of maintaining biodiversity, unless the person has been authorized by the Minister.

Despite the first paragraph, persons staying or residing within the biodiversity reserve and who collect wood required to make a campfire are not required to obtain the authorization of the Minister.

No such authorization is required if a person collects firewood to meet domestic needs to supply a trapping camp or a rough shelter permitted within the biodiversity reserve in the following cases and on the following conditions:

(1) the wood is collected by a person in compliance with the conditions set out in the permit for the harvest of firewood for domestic purposes issued under the Sustainable Forest Development Act (chapter A-18.1);

(2) the quantity of wood collected does not exceed 7 apparent cubic metres per year.

In addition, no authorization to carry on a forest management activity is required if a person authorized by lease to occupy land within the biodiversity reserve in accordance with this Regulation carries on the activity for the purpose of

(1) clearing, maintaining or creating visual openings, and any other similar removal work permitted under the provisions governing the sale, lease and granting of immovable rights under the Act respecting the lands in the domain of the State (chapter T-8.1), including for access roads, stairs or other trails permitted under those provisions; or

(2) clearing the necessary area for the installation, connection, maintenance, repair, reconstruction or upgrading of facilities, lines or mains for water, sewer, electric power or telecommunications services.

If the work referred to in subparagraph 2 of the fourth paragraph is carried on for or under the responsibility of an enterprise providing any of those services, the work requires the prior authorization of the Minister, other than in the case of the exemptions provided for in sections 14 and 16.

13. No person may carry on commercial activities in the biodiversity reserve, except with the authorization of the Minister.

Despite the first paragraph, no authorization is required

(1) if the activity does not involve the taking of fauna or flora resources, or the use of a motor vehicle; or

(2) to carry on commercial activities which, on the date of coming into force of this Regulation, were the subject of a right to use the land for such a purpose, whether the right results from a lease or other form of title, permit or authorization, within the limits of the right.

DIVISION IV **AUTHORIZATION EXEMPTIONS**

14. Despite the preceding provisions, an authorization is not required for an activity or other form of intervention within the biodiversity reserve if urgent action is necessary to prevent harm to the health or safety of persons, or to repair or prevent damage caused by a real or apprehended catastrophe. The person concerned must, however, immediately inform the Minister of the activity or intervention that has taken place.

15. Despite the preceding provisions, an authorization is not required for a member of a Native community for an intervention within the biodiversity reserve where that intervention is part of the exercise of rights covered by section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 (Schedule B of the Canada Act, chapter 11 in the 1982 volume of the Acts of the Parliament of the United Kingdom) and those rights are credibly asserted or established.

16. Despite the preceding provisions, the following activities and interventions carried out by Hydro-Québec (hereinafter the “Société”) or by any other person for Hydro-Québec do not require the prior authorization of the Minister under this Regulation:

(1) any activity or intervention required within the biodiversity reserve to complete a project for which express authorization had previously been given by the Government and the Minister, or only by the latter, in accordance with the requirements of the Environment Quality Act (chapter Q-2), if the activity or intervention is carried out in compliance with the authorizations issued;

(2) any activity or intervention necessary for the preparation and presentation of a pre-project report for a project requiring an authorization under the Environment Quality Act;

(3) any activity or intervention relating to a project requiring the prior authorization of the Minister under the Environment Quality Act if the activity or intervention is in response to a request for a clarification or for additional information made by the Minister to the Société and it is carried out in accordance with the request.

The Société informs the Minister of the various activities or interventions referred to in this section it proposes to carry out before the work is begun within the reserve.

For the purposes of this section, the activities and interventions of the Société include but are not restricted to pre-project studies, analysis work or field research, work required to study and monitor the impact of electric power transmission and distribution line corridors and rights of way, geological or geophysical surveys and survey lines, and the opening and maintenance of roads required for the purposes of access, construction or traffic incidental to the work.

DIVISION V FINAL

17. This Regulation comes into force on the fifteenth day following the date of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.

SCHEDULE

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION

RÉSERVE DE BIODIVERSITÉ DU PLATEAU-DU-LAC-DES-HUIT-CHUTES (s. 1)

[Translation of the technical description filed in French only at the office of the Surveyor-General of Québec of the Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles.]

A territory of irregular shape situated in the township of Chastelain, in the watersheds of Rivière Shipshaw and Rivière Betsiamites, in the unorganized territory of Mont-Valin, in the administrative region of Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean, and in the registration division of Chicoutimi. The perimeter of the territory may be described as follows:

PARCEL A

Starting from a point situated at the intersection of the southeastern shore of Lac Desmeules with a line parallel to and at a distance of 20 metres from the southwestern right of way of an unnamed road, being point 1 (5 424 518 m North, 278 578 m East);

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along a line parallel to and at a distance of 20 metres southwest of the centre line of an unnamed road, to the northern limit of a surface mineral substance extraction site at point 2 (5 423 050 m North, 279 701 m East);

Thence, in a westerly and southerly direction, around the said site, in such a way as to exclude it from the biodiversity reserve, to points:

3 (5 423 060 m North, 279 589 m East);

4 (5 422 948 m North, 279 563 m East);

Thence, in an easterly direction, to the intersection with a line parallel to and at a distance of 20 metres north-west of the centre line of an unnamed road, being point 5 (5 422 940 m North, 279 644 m East);

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along a line parallel to and at a distance of 20 metres southwest of the centre line of an unnamed road, to the northern limit of a surface mineral substance extraction site at point 6 (5 419 060 m North, 282 208 m East);

Thence, in a southwesterly and southerly direction, around the said site, in such a way as to exclude it from the biodiversity reserve, to points:

7 (5 419 048 m North, 282 174 m East);

8 (5 418 830 m North, 282 213 m East);

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, to the intersection with a line parallel to and at a distance of 20 metres southwest of the centre line of an unnamed road, being point 9 (5 418 966 m North, 282 364 m East);

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along a line parallel to and at a distance of 20 metres southwest of the centre line of an unnamed road, to the western limit of a surface mineral substance extraction site at point 10 (5 418 194 m North, 283 163 m East);

Thence, in a southerly and easterly direction, around the said site, in such a way as to exclude it from the biodiversity reserve, to points:

11 (5 418 115 m North, 283 167 m East);

12 (5 418 110 m North, 283 256 m East);

Thence, in a northerly direction, to the intersection with a line parallel to and at a distance of 20 metres south of the centre line of an unnamed road, being point 13 (5 418 217 m North, 283 257 m East);

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along a line parallel to and at a distance of 20 metres south of the centre line of an unnamed road, to the intersection with the southwestern right of way of an unnamed road, being point 14 (5 418 207 m North, 283 464 m East);

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the southwestern right of way of an unnamed road, to point 15 (5 418 128 m North, 283 569 m East);

Thence, in a southerly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 180°27'52" over a distance of approximately 36 metres, to point 16 (5 418 092 m North, 283 569 m East);

Thence, in an easterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 89°54'21" over a distance of approximately 63 metres, to the intersection with the western shore of Lac Léger, being point 17 (5 418 092 m North, 283 632 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the northwestern shore of Lac Léger, to the intersection with a line parallel to and at a distance of 20 metres south of the centre line of an unnamed road, being point 18 (5 418 277 m North, 283 738 m East);

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along a line parallel to and at a distance of 20 metres south of the centre line of an unnamed road, to the intersection with the eastern shore of Lac Léger, being point 19 (5 418 285 m North, 283 761 m East);

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the northeastern shore of Lac Léger, to the intersection with the southwestern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 20 (5 417 166 m North, 284 552 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the southwestern bank of an unnamed stream and the southeastern bank of another unnamed stream in such a way as to exclude the said streams from the biodiversity reserve, to the intersection with a line parallel to and at a distance of 20 metres southwest of the centre line of an unnamed road, being point 21 (5 417 195 m North, 284 609 m East);

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along a line parallel to and at a distance of 20 metres southwest of the centre line of an unnamed road, to the intersection with the western shore of an unnamed lake, being point 22 (5 417 011 m North, 284 935 m East);

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along the northern shore of an unnamed lake, to the intersection with a line parallel to and at a distance of 20 metres south of the centre line of an unnamed road, being point 23 (5 417 005 m North, 284 991 m East);

Thence, in a generally southerly direction, along a line parallel to and at a distance of 20 metres southeast, southwest and west of the centre line of several unnamed roads, in such a way as to pass west of Lac de la Chique, north and west of Lac de la Tente, east of Lac Mercier and northwest and north of Lac Pierre, to the intersection with the southwestern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 24 (5 412 599 m North, 285 406 m East);

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the southwestern bank of several unnamed streams and the southwestern shore of an unnamed lake and Lac Julia, to point 25 (5 413 054 m North, 284 650 m East);

Thence, in a northwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 296°33'54" over a distance of approximately 65 metres, to the intersection with the eastern shore of Lac Mandan, being point 26 (5 413 083 m North, 284 592 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the southeastern shore of Lac Mandan, Lac du Cuisinier, Lac Dobe and several unnamed lakes, the southeastern bank of several unnamed streams, and the southern bank of an intermittent watercourse, to point 27 (5 411 211 m North, 279 714 m East);

Thence, in a westerly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 254°41'36" over a distance of approximately 98 metres, to point 28 (5 411 185 m North, 279 619 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the southern bank of an intermittent watercourse, the southeastern shore of Lac Derosier, the southeastern bank of several unnamed streams and the southeastern shore of an unnamed lake, to the intersection with the northeastern shore of Lac des Huit Chutes, being point 29 (5 410 718 m North, 278 918 m East);

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the southwestern shore of Lac des Huit Chutes, to the intersection with the northwestern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 30 (5 413 667 m North, 275 375 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the northwestern bank of several unnamed streams, the northwestern shore of an unnamed lake and Lac du Jaseur, and the northwestern bank of an intermittent watercourse, to point 31 (5 414 761 m North, 276 017 m East);

Thence, in an easterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 85°01'48" over a distance of approximately 162 metres, to the intersection with the western shore of Lac du Grappin, being point 32 (5 414 775 m North, 276 178 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the western shore of Lac du Grappin, the western bank of an unnamed stream, the western shore of Lac à Jack, the northeastern shore of Lac à Jack and the northeastern bank of an unnamed stream and Rivière des Huit-Chutes, to point 33 (5 415 095 m North, 276 725 m East);

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 47°21'33" over a distance of approximately 430 metres, to point 34 (5 415 386 m North, 277 041 m East);

Thence, in a northerly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 19°12'16" over a distance of approximately 188 metres, to the intersection with the southern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 35 (5 415 564 m North, 277 103 m East);

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the southwestern shore of several unnamed lakes, the southwestern bank of several unnamed streams, the southwestern shore of Lac de la Gueule, Lac Levasseur and Lac à Jos, the southwestern bank of Ruisseau Harvey and the southwestern shore of Premier Lac, to the intersection with the northwestern bank of an unnamed stream, being point 36 (5 419 011 m North, 275 434 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the northwestern bank of several unnamed streams and the northwestern shore of Lac Arseneault, Lac Katshessimun and Lac de l'Irlandais, to point 37 (5 420 483 m North, 276 524 m East);

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 29°52'34" over a distance of approximately 271 metres, to the intersection with the northwestern bank of an intermittent watercourse, being point 38 (5 420 718 m North, 276 659 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the northwestern bank of an intermittent watercourse and the northwestern shore of Lac Hornibrook, to point 39 (5 421 218 m North, 277 161 m East);

Thence, in a westerly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 276°20'25" over a distance of approximately 36 metres, to the intersection with a road unsuitable for vehicular traffic, being point 40 (5 421 222 m North, 277 125 m East);

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the northeastern right of way of an unnamed road, in such a way as to exclude the said road from the biodiversity reserve, to point 41 (5 421 497 m North, 277 034 m East);

Thence, in a northwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 306°31'42" over a distance of approximately 34 metres, to the intersection with the southeastern shore of Lac Sainte-Croix, being point 42 (5 421 517 m North, 277 007 m East);

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the southwestern, western and northern shore of Lac Sainte-Croix, to point 43 (5 421 888 m North, 276 825 m East);

Thence, in an easterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 77°00'05" over a distance of approximately 13 metres, to the intersection with the northwestern shore of an unnamed lake, being point 44 (5 421 891 m North, 276 838 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the northwestern shore of several unnamed lakes and the northwestern bank of several unnamed streams, the northwestern shore of Lac de la Petite Hache and the southeastern shore of Lac Desmeules, in such a way as to exclude the said lake from the biodiversity reserve, to the intersection with a line parallel to and at a distance of 20 metres southwest of the centre line of an unnamed road, being starting point 1.

Having a area of 90.13 square kilometres.

PARCEL B

Starting from a point situated at the intersection of the northern bank of an intermittent watercourse and the northwestern shore of Lac du Revolver, being point 45 (5 422 540 m North, 283 677 m East);

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the northeastern shore of Lac du Revolver, the southeastern bank of an unnamed stream and the southeastern shore of Lac de la Discorde, to point 46 (5 420 185 m North, 284 548 m East);

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 226°10'04" over a distance of approximately 96 metres, to point 47 (5 420 118 m North, 284 479 m East);

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 202°58'38" over a distance of approximately 86 metres, to the intersection with the northeastern shore of Lac Boiteux, being point 48 (5 420 039 m North, 284 445 m East);

Thence, in a generally southwesterly direction, along the southeastern shore of Lac Boiteux and Lac du Magasinier, to the intersection with a line parallel to and at a distance of 20 metres northwest of the centre line of an unnamed road, being point 49 (5 418 323 m North, 283 747 m East);

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along a line parallel to and at a distance of 20 metres northwest and east of the centre line of an unnamed road, to point 50 (5 418 996 m North, 282 398 m East);

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 47°59'38" over a distance of approximately 16 metres, to the intersection with the western bank of an unnamed stream, being point 51 (5 419 007 m North, 282 409 m East);

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the southwestern bank of an unnamed stream and Rivière à la Hache, to point 52 (5 419 090 m North, 282 287 m East);

Thence, in a southwesterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 249°29'00" over a distance of approximately 38 metres, to the intersection with a line parallel to and at a distance of 20 metres northeast of the centre line of an unnamed road, being point 53 (5 419 076 m North, 282 252 m East);

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along a line parallel to and at a distance of 20 metres northeast of the centre line of several unnamed roads, to the intersection with the southwestern bank of Rivière à la Hache, being point 54 (5 420 128 m North, 281 828 m East);

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the southwestern bank of Rivière à la Hache, to the intersection with a line parallel to and at a distance of 20 metres northeast of the centre line of an unnamed road, being point 55 (5 420 707 m North, 281 486 m East);

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along a line parallel to and at a distance of 20 metres northeast of the centre line of an unnamed road, to the intersection with the southern shore of Lac Sec, being point 56 (5 420 945 m North, 281 027 m East);

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along the southwestern shore of Lac Sec, to the intersection with a line parallel to and at a distance of 20 metres northeast of the centre line of an unnamed road, being point 57 (5 421 004 m North, 280 945 m East);

Thence, in a generally northwesterly direction, along a line parallel to and at a distance of 20 metres northeast of the centre line of several unnamed roads, to the intersection with the southwestern shore of Lac Laban, being point 58 (5 421 334 m North, 280 565 m East);

Thence, in a generally northeasterly direction, along the northwestern shore of Lac Laban and the northwestern bank of an unnamed stream and an intermittent watercourse, to point 59 (5 422 911 m North, 281 620 m East);

Thence, in an easterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 69°06'33" over a distance of approximately 140 metres, to the intersection with the western shore of Deuxième Lac Price, being point 60 (5 422 961 m North, 281 751 m East);

Thence, in a generally southeasterly direction, along the northwestern and eastern of Deuxième Lac Price and the northern bank of several unnamed streams, the northern shore of Lac de la Paye and Lac du Compte, and the northern bank of an intermittent watercourse, to point 61 (5 422 434 m North, 283 370 m East);

Thence, in a northeasterly direction, along a straight line on a bearing of 64°18'41" over a distance of approximately 88 metres, to the intersection with the northern bank of an intermittent watercourse, being point 62 (5 422 472 m North, 283 449 m East);

Thence, in a generally easterly direction, along the northern bank of an intermittent watercourse, to the intersection with the northwestern shore of Lac du Revolver, being starting point 45.

Having an area of 12.58 square kilometres.

The biodiversity reserve as a whole having an area of 102.71 square kilometres.

Notes:

— The boundary of the biodiversity reserve shown on the plan accompanying the technical description was determined using the digital files in the Québec topographic database (base de données topographique du Québec, or BDTQ) at a scale of 1:20 000 kept by Québec's Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles (MERN) and the mining rights management system (système de gestion des droits miniers, or Gestim) kept by the MERN as of 8 September 2017.

— In general, the beds of all watercourses, rivers and lakes are included in the biodiversity reserve. Only those that are excluded are mentioned in this technical description.

— A limit defined by a lakeshore, riverbank or stream-bank runs along the high-water mark.

— The coordinates and areas mentioned in this technical description are approximate. They were determined graphically using the same data as the data used to determine the boundary of the biodiversity reserve. They are expressed in metres with reference to the Québec plane coordinate system (QPCS), Modified Transverse Mercator projection (MTM), Time Zone 7 (central meridian 70°30'), North American Datum 1983 (NAD83).

— Measurements are expressed in International System units.

— The boundary of the biodiversity reserve is based on the actual layout of the elements described in this document and must be legally interpreted on that basis. It was defined by the Direction des aires protégées of Québec's Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques.

— The territory of the biodiversity reserve, as described in this technical description, contains only lands in the domain of the State. Any land that that proves to be not part of the domain of the State is excluded from the biodiversity reserve.

— The territory is shown on a plan drawn at a scale of 1:20 000.

— In accordance with the instructions of the Direction des aires protégées of Québec's Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, the information contained in the source documents provided by the mandator, from which this technical description was prepared, has been accepted as fact.

The whole as shown on the plan prepared by the undersigned on 15 February 2018 and filed with the office of the Surveyor-General of Québec at the Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles under document number 536701.

Prepared at Québec by Pierre Hains, land surveyor, on 15 February 2018, under number 11 514 of his minutes.

Digitally signed by:

PIERRE HAINS,
Land surveyor

Ministère du Développement durable,
de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre
les changements climatiques

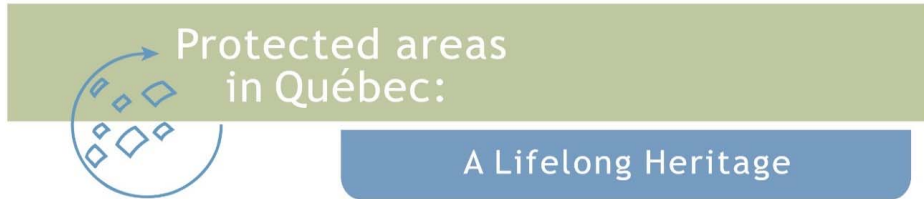
Direction des aires protégées

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SCHEDULE II
CONSERVATION PLAN FOR THE RÉSERVE DE BIODIVERSITÉ
DU PLATEAU-DU-LAC-DES-HUIT-CHUTES



Réserve de biodiversité
du Plateau-du-Lac-
des-Huit-Chutes



CONSERVATION PLAN

Cover page photos: Marc-André Bouchard, Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques.

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Introduction

By Order in Council No. 81-2007 of February 6, 2007, pursuant to section 27 of the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act* (chapter C-61.01), the government authorized the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks to create Réserve de biodiversité projetée du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes, and approved the boundaries and conservation plan proposed for it. The creation of this provisional protected area by the ministerial order of February 20, 2007 (2007, G.O. 2, 1192) came into force on March 7, 2007 for a duration of four years. This provisional protection status was extended twice, first until March 7, 2015 by order of the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks on February 17, 2011 (2011, G.O. 2, 631), and then until March 7, 2023 by order of the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and the Fight against Climate Change on February 10, 2015 (2015, G.O. 2, 178).

On January 26, 2012 the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks (MDDEP) mandated the Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement (BAPE) to hold public consultations on ten proposed protected areas in the Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean region, one of them being Réserve de biodiversité projetée du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes. This mandate was given to the BAPE in accordance with section 39 of the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act*, which provides for a public consultation process before permanent protection status is recommended to the Gouvernement du Québec for a territory reserved for the creation of a new protected area. The BAPE's mandate began on February 13, 2012 and concluded on July 20 of

the same year. The consultation was held in March and April 2012 in Saguenay and Saint-Félicien. The BAPE's inquiry and public hearing report (No. 287) was submitted to the Minister on July 20, 2012 (BAPE, 2012). In its report, the commission recommended giving permanent protection status to Réserve de biodiversité projetée du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes.

The boundaries of the permanent protected area are the same as those for the provisional version (Réserve de biodiversité projetée du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes).

1 The territory of Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes

1.1 Official toponym

The overall terrain and the name of the largest lake in the protected area determined the choice of toponym: *Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes*.

1.2 Boundaries and location

The boundaries and location of Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes are shown on the map comprising Appendix 1. Covering an area of 102.7 km², the reserve lies between 48° 50' and 48° 57' north latitude and between 70° 44' and 70° 54' west longitude, about 45 km north of the borough of Chicoutimi in the city of Saguenay, and 15 km north of the municipality of Saint-David-de-Falardeau. The reserve is located in the unorganized territory of Mont-Valin (MRC Le Fjord-du-Saguenay), in the administrative region of Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean.

Wherever possible, the boundaries of the reserve were defined on the basis of natural or anthropic elements that are easily identified on the ground, such as watercourses, lakes, forest roads and the edges of bogs. For sections along the banks of a water body (e.g. Lac des Huit Chutes in the south), the real boundary is the natural high-water mark. Where the boundary corresponds to a forest road, the right of way of the road is excluded from the protected area. The legal boundaries of the reserve are defined in the technical description and the survey map prepared by land surveyor Pierre Hains with the following minutes 11514 (February 15, 2018) and filed in the surveying archives of the Surveyor General of Québec (Greffes de l'arpenteur général du Québec), Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles under document number 536701.

1.3 Ecological portrait

1.3.1 Physical environment

The biodiversity reserve is in the southern part of Central Laurentian natural province (Li, T. and J.-P. Ducruc, 1999¹), in Grenville geological province. The latter corresponds to the roots of a mountain chain formed nearly a billion years ago, during the Grenville orogeny.

The sector where the reserve is located is on the western edge of the Monts-Valin natural region, which includes the southernmost of the three great massifs of the natural province. The Monts-Valin massif, whose summits approach 1000 metres, constitutes the southwestern

portion of the natural region that bears its name. The reserve itself is in the northwestern part of the massif, at the centre of a plateau whose summits are almost always over 700 m, though generally under 800 m. Within the biodiversity reserve, the elevation ranges from 630 to 830 m (average 741 m). The bedrock is mostly anorthosite and orthopyroxene granitoids. Undifferentiated till (a glacial deposit with no particular morphology) is the dominant surface deposit (77%) in the reserve. Fluvioglacial deposits (mainly ice-marginal, but also proglacial) are rare, as are organic deposits, and scattered across the territory. In the south there are also a few dead-ice moraines, near Lac du Manitou and Lac du Chef. Thin soils with rocky outcrops cover 1.5% of the area of the reserve. Almost 90% of the reserve's soils enjoy good to moderate drainage, with bogs being small to rare (< 1.5% of the reserve).

The waters of the western, southern and eastern margins of the Monts-Valin massif drain toward Rivière Saguenay (via the Shipshaw, Valin, Sainte-Marguerite and Sainte-Marguerite Nord-Est rivers), while those of the centre and north flow toward the St. Lawrence through the Côte-Nord region (via the Betsiamites, Portneuf and Des Escoumins rivers). Located in the western part of the Monts-Valin massif, the reserve has numerous bodies of water (over 300) accounting for 17.6% of its total area. The waters of the reserve mostly drain into Rivière Shipshaw (via Rivière à la Tête Blanche and Rivière des Huit Chutes), with only the southeastern portion

¹ http://www.mddelcc.gouv.qc.ca/biodiversite/cadre-ecologique/rapports/Provinces_Internet_16-12-2014.pdf

(with lakes Tuzo, Matuetin and Mercier) being in the Rivière Betsiamites watershed. The main water bodies of the reserve, apart from Lac des Huit Chutes, are lakes Dobe, Mandan, Pauvre, Léger, Nicole, Gagnon, Du Bois Sec, De la Petite Hache, De l'Irlandais, De l'Ouragan, Boiteux and Revolver. However, a multitude of dams control the drainage of the Shipshaw basin, three of them being inside the reserve (where they form lakes Ramier, Ricken and Mandan) with several others on the immediate periphery.

According to Gerardin and McKenney (2001), the territory of the reserve is subject to a cold subarctic continental climate, subhumid with a medium growing season. Average temperatures are on the order of -9.4 to -6.0 °C. The average annual precipitation ranges from 800 to 1359 mm, while the average growing season is 150 to 179 days.

1.3.2 Biological environment

The landscape is characterized by productive forest environments, with forests occupying 81.2% of the area of the reserve (Table 1). Due to the logging of recent decades, young and regenerating forests dominate the landscape, although old-growth forests (> 90 years) are relatively well represented (30% of the forest cover). Two species dominate the forest cover, which is almost entirely coniferous: balsam fir (59.3%) and black spruce (20.2%). Over a third of the territory has been logged in the last two decades.

Table 1: Forest summary of the territory of Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes (MFFP, SIEF, 4th 10-year survey)

Type of cover		Area (ha)	Proportion (%)
Forest	Deciduous	0	0
	Mixed	1050.1	10.2
	Coniferous	7151.7	69.6
	Regeneration	148.4	1.4
Other	Alder stands	2.6	0.0
	Wet barrens	91.0	0.9
	Water	1810.5	17.6
	Island	10.5	0.1
	Flooded	6.9	0.1
	Other	1.0	0.0
Total		10 272.8	100.0%

In 2008 the MELCC conducted a summary plant survey in the territory of the reserve. The following species were observed: *Gaultheria hispidula*, *Clintonia borealis*, *Coptis groenlandica*, *Picea mariana*, *Maïenthemum canadense*, *Larix laricina*, *Hypericum ellipticum*, *Oxalis montana*, *Rubus chamaemorus*, *Abies balsamea* and *Smilacina trifolia*.

With regard to wildlife, no survey specific to the reserve has been done, but the presence of three species that are vulnerable in Québec has been noted: Barrow's goldeneye, woodland caribou and Bicknell's thrush. Also, the reserve is part of the largest territory of allopatric (geographically isolated) brook trout in the region (MRNF, 2012), one of the two largest known in Québec. Given its high density of water bodies, the area has strong potential for the conservation and development of brook trout.

1.3.3 Ecological representativeness

Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes will enrich the representation of the characteristic ecosystems of the Monts-Valin natural region in Québec's protected areas network. Together with Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan, Réserve aquatique de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite and Parc national des Monts-Valin, Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes completes the representation of the characteristic ecosystems of the uplands (elevations > 600 m) of the southwest part of the natural region, which basically correspond to the Lac-Tremblay low hills physiographic complex (level 3 in the ecological reference framework of Québec). While some of the protected areas mentioned above also include low-elevation ecosystems (< 500 m), the biodiversity reserves of Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes and Akumunan are on the heights of the massif (basically between 500 and 800 m). These two protected areas are highly representative of the types of physical environments and surface deposits characteristic of the Lac-Tremblay low hills physiographic complex. On the other hand, in terms of hydrography, Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes stands out for its high proportion of wetlands, twice that of the natural region (17.6% versus 8.2%). This concentration of wetlands is characteristic of the western half of the natural region, where there are not only big lakes but a high density of them.

With regard to biology, the present-day forests of the biodiversity reserve and the areas around it differ considerably, in structure and composition, from the natural forest landscapes (Grondin *et al.*

2010). The latter authors recommend that the stands of balsam fir/white birch and fir/black spruce (mixed Eastern forest) be the focus of forest restoration efforts, to gradually bring their structure and composition closer to those of natural landscapes. The cessation of logging will contribute to that end by letting the young forests (fir and spruce stands) to age.

Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes is in the Eastern bioclimatic subdomain, whose climate, wetter than its counterpart to the west, results in a longer forest fire cycle. For this reason it normally contains more old-growth forests. The current presence of a high proportion of such forests (which will increase over time) heightens the reserve's ecological value, since the surrounding forests are considerably younger because of logging.

In this respect, the biodiversity reserve forms a conservation nucleus of over 100 km², in which the biodiversity components expressed across the landscape (types of physical environments and assemblages of associated species) will continue evolving with greater ecological integrity (see sidebar).

Having a conservation nucleus of good size will ensure the long-term effectiveness of the reserve in protecting ecosystem functionality, while reducing its vulnerability to natural disturbances and changes in the surrounding landscape.

1.4 Land occupation and uses

The principal occupations and uses of the territory of Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-

du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes are shown on the map comprising Appendix 2.

Though relatively remote, the reserve can be accessed via forest roads, which among other things are used in winter by snowmobilers. The reserve can be entered from the east by R0201 (branches at kilometres 25, 29 and 35), from the west by the main access road to Onatchiway ZEC, where branches at kilometres 3, 14 and 18 lead into the reserve. The branch at km 3 leads to Lac des Huit Chutes, and is also a snowmobile trail. The easiest access is at kilometre 35 of R0201, an unpaved passable road that crosses the reserve but is excluded from the protected area (40 m right of way), which is a snowmobile trail in winter. Also excluded from the reserve are the two surface material extraction sites along this road (SMS 22D15-50 and SMS 22D15-51). A dense and well-developed network of unpaved roads and non-passable forest roads covers nearly all the southern half of the reserve, as a result of logging done shortly before provisional protection status was granted.

Lying entirely inside Onatchiway ZEC, the biodiversity reserve overlaps seven trapping grounds (MRNF, 2012). It is part of fur-bearing animal management unit 53 and of hunting zone 28. In some sectors there is a fair amount of vacation development (45 resort leases), notably at the western end of Lac des Huit Chutes and around the lakes accessed by the forest road that crosses the reserve in the north (lakes Léger, Pauvre, Nicole, etc.). A lease enlargement has been granted on the perimeter of the reserve. There are three trapping camps on the territory, but no trails with land rights. Note that the reserve

ECOLOGICAL INTEGRITY

The condition of a protected area that is considered characteristic of its natural region and likely to persist, including abiotic [non-living] components and the composition and abundance of native species and biological communities, rates of change and supporting processes.

Adapted from the definition in the Canada National Parks Act (S.C. 2000, c. 32).

CONSERVATION NUCLEUS

An area where the protection of biodiversity, ecological integrity, the natural environment and other similar values take precedence over usage values.

Brassard et al., 2010.

is entirely within the Nitassinan of the Mashteuiatsh First Nation, as demarcated in Schedule 4.1 of the *Agreement-in-Principle of General Nature between the First Nations of Mamuitun and Nutashkuan and the Government of Québec and the Government of Canada*.

In summary, the territory of Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes is mostly used for vacationing, hunting, fishing and trapping, but the level of use can be considered relatively light, since the cottages are concentrated around lakes accessible by land and most of the reserve has no cottages at all.

1.4.1 Particular heritage elements

Historic trails and portages used by First Nations people have been identified by the Pekuakamiulnuatsh Takuhikan, notably between Lac des Huit-Chutes and Lac Dobe, and along Rivière à la Hache.

2 Conservation and management issues

2.1 Introduction

Generally, a biodiversity reserve is dedicated to protection of the natural environment, nature discovery and recreation. For this reason, activities that could have a significant impact on ecosystems and biodiversity, particularly of an industrial nature, are prohibited. Less harmful activities, such as those involving recreation, wildlife, ecotourism or education, are permitted in this type of protected area. However, the management framework to which they are subject is conditioned by conservation issues specific to each biodiversity reserve. The conservation and other issues to be taken into account for Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes, and the orientations and objectives to which they give rise, are set out in the sections that follow.

2.2 Protection of biodiversity

Restoration of forest ecosystems

For this conservation issue, the corresponding objective is: *Promote the gradual restoration of the characteristic ecosystems of the Monts-Valin natural region.* The absence of industrial activities will allow the average age of forest stands to gradually increase. Ultimately, old stands of balsam fir (with black spruce and white birch) should cover most of the reserve's land surface. The next objective is therefore: *Avoid any development that could reduce the age of the forest cover.*

Protection of lacustrine ecosystems and near-shore environments

Containing the headwaters of the Tête Blanche and Huit Chutes watersheds, the reserve's hydrographic network has excellent ecological integrity and water quality. Accordingly, maintaining the integrity of aquatic, wetland and near-shore environments is another conservation issue for the reserve. The corresponding objective is: *Avoid any new development that could degrade the quality of aquatic, wetland or near-shore environments.*

Protection of threatened or vulnerable species

Due to its small size and the number of cottages present, Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes is unlikely to make a significant contribution to the conservation of woodland caribou, which require a large home range and minimal human presence. However, since they still appear to frequent the area, the potential contribution of the protected area to maintaining the species in the surrounding (developed) forest will have to be evaluated over the coming years.

Another species to protect is the Barrow's goldeneye, considered an arboreal duck because it usually nests in natural cavities in trees (Savard and Robert, 1997). Large trees that could offer nesting cavities are generally rare in the north, and current practices in forestry favor the production of healthy trees (without cavities). Special attention should therefore be given to the reserve's intact forests and small headwater lakes, which these ducks seem to prefer. Lastly, to maintain the habitat of Bicknell's thrush,

infrastructure work (e.g. on roads) should be minimized in the environments favoured by this species, particularly stands of balsam fir at higher elevations. Accordingly, the next objective is: *Adapt the management of the reserve to protect threatened or vulnerable species for which it provides a habitat.*

2.3 Development activities

The territory of the reserve offers numerous attractions for recreation (hunting, fishing, vacationing). The reserve is also easy to access, especially from kilometre 35 on R0201. At present it is mostly used by hunters, fishers, trappers and those who have cottages there. The Onatchiway ZEC, a controlled hunting and fishing zone, is responsible for wildlife development, harvesting and conservation, and for facilitating access to the territory.

Practised in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations, these activities by users of the territory are compatible with the status of biodiversity reserve, and can continue to be practised normally.

The MELCC wants all concerned stakeholders to be involved in preparing an action plan to carry out these conservation objectives, in particular the protection of sensitive or fragile natural environments, the recovery of old-growth forests and the protection of threatened or vulnerable species. To encourage participation by all stakeholders, the following objectives have been set: (1) *Establish participative and collaborative management.* (2) *Inform all users as to the conservation and management objectives being pursued in the protected area.*

2.4 Knowledge acquisition and environmental monitoring

Existing information about the ecosystems of Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes (section 1.3) is fragmentary. Knowledge acquisition, besides being crucial to the achievement of objectives specific to natural heritage protection, will make it possible to monitor the natural environment. The knowledge acquired could also be used in developing activities for nature discovery, education and public awareness. It will facilitate the analysis of development projects, and ensure that management partners have a common understanding of the issues.

Ecological knowledge, especially about the support capacity of natural environments, and about the impact of recreational and tourist activities on ecosystems, must also be developed. The corresponding objective is: *Promote knowledge building, in particular by conducting targeted surveys and monitoring biodiversity.*

The MELCC will target certain needs related to knowledge building on biodiversity. With the help of regional partners, the MELCC aims to establish an inventory of the plant and animal species found in the reserve. The subjects of surveys and research to prioritize will be determined later, and will concern both existing and expected ecological problems.

2.5 Conservation and management objectives

Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes is a “protected area” as defined in the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act*, and appears

in the *Registre des aires protégées du Québec* constituted under the Act. Thus, it was primarily created to ensure the protection and maintenance of the area's biological diversity, with the associated natural and cultural resources. In addition, protecting this territory enhances the representativeness of the national and regional protected areas network, since it holds numerous ecological components of interest that are representative of the characteristic ecosystems of the Monts-Valin natural region. For the government, the protection of these components and ecosystems, described in section 1.3, is a major objective. Note that this protection will allow the pursuit of traditional activities by members of the Aboriginal communities who frequent the land, as well as the recreotourism activities currently practised there.

Taking into account the issues explained in sections 2.1 to 2.4, and the geographical sectors of interest corresponding to the elements described in section 1 (see Appendix 3), the conservation and management objectives specific to Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes are as follows:

- *Avoid any development that could reduce the age of the forest cover.*
- *Avoid any new development that could degrade the quality of aquatic, wetland or near-shore environments.*
- *Adapt the management of the reserve to protect threatened or vulnerable species for which it provides a habitat.*
- *Establish participative and collaborative management.*
- *Inform all users as to the conservation and management objectives being pursued in the protected area.*

- *Promote knowledge building, in particular by conducting targeted surveys and monitoring biodiversity.*

To achieve those objectives, the conservation and management of the reserve will be guided by an activity framework whose several dimensions are set out in sections 4, 5 and 6 of this plan.

3 Zoning

In light of its ecosystems, occupation and uses, the current condition of its natural environment, and its protection and management objectives, the reserve has been subdivided into two zones. While both enjoy the same degree of legal protection and have the same activity framework, their protection measures and development possibilities reflect their respective features.

The two zones are presented in the map comprising Appendix 4. The MELCC will consider this zoning in managing the reserve and when evaluating applications for authorization concerning activities or developments.

The two zones are:

Zone I: The Lac des Huit Chutes uplands

Zone II: The Lac Nicole mounds and hillocks

Zone I: The Lac des Huit Chutes uplands

Occupying the southern part of the reserve, Zone I is mostly suited to stands of balsam fir/white birch as its potential vegetation. Due to recent logging, at present the forest cover is almost totally in regeneration, except for a few areas of old-growth forest, such as the north slope of the chain of elongated lakes that form an arc at the zone's south end: Lac des Huit Chutes, Lac Dobe, Lac du Marmiton, Lac du Cuisinier and Lac

Mandan. Threatened or vulnerable species may frequent the zone, since one occurrence of Barrow's goldeneye has been noted and Bicknell's thrush has been seen nearby. Since Zone I is fairly inaccessible and little used (with just two resort leases), it will be managed to ensure a high level of protection.

Zone II: The Lac Nicole mounds and hillocks

Occupying the northern part of the reserve, Zone II is suited to stands of balsam fir/black spruce and balsam fir/white birch as its potential vegetation, along with a few black spruce stands. The logging of recent years has not affected the forest cover, which presents a more varied age structure and a good proportion of old-growth forests. The zone is cut in two by a class I forest road, making it very accessible and well used, with many resort leases. Zone II is suitable for recreation activities compatible with the reserve's conservation objectives.

4 Activity framework applicable to Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes

The activity framework applicable to Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes follows from the provisions of the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act* and the Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes.

4.1 Activity framework established by the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act*

Activities carried out within the biodiversity reserve are primarily governed by the provisions of the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act*.

Under the Act, the principal activities prohibited in a territory with the status of biodiversity reserve are the following:

- mining and gas or oil extraction or exploration;
- forest management within the meaning of section 4 of the *Sustainable Forest Development Act* (chapter A-18.1);
- the development of hydraulic resources and any production of energy on a commercial or industrial basis.

Though fundamental to protecting the territory and its ecosystems, the above prohibitions do not cover all of the standards considered desirable to ensure the proper management of the reserve and the conservation of its natural environment. The *Natural Heritage Conservation Act* allows the Regulation to detail the legal framework applicable on the territory of a biodiversity reserve.

4.2 Activity framework established by the Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes

Accordingly, the provisions set out in Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes present additional prohibitions beyond those already stipulated in the Act. Their purpose is to set conditions for the performance of certain permitted activities, thus ensuring better protection of the natural environment in accordance with the principles of conservation and other management objectives for the biodiversity reserve. Certain activities are therefore subject to prior authorization by the Minister.

The measures contained in Regulation specifically concern new interventions. They do not affect activities that are already being practised or facilities that are already present, so many existing uses are therefore preserved.

However, for activities subject to authorization, the provisions set out in Regulation do not identify which activities could be refused authorization, being considered incompatible with the vocation of the biodiversity reserve. Basic information about the compatibility or incompatibility of each type of activity is provided in the document *Activity Framework for Biodiversity Reserves and Aquatic Reserves*, which is available on the website of the MELCC at:

http://www.mdelcc.gouv.qc.ca/biodiversite/aires_protegees/regime-activites/regime-activite-reserve-bio-aqua-en.pdf.

For certain activities, Regulation also includes exemptions to the requirement for prior authorization.

5 Activities governed by other laws

Certain activities that could potentially be practised in the biodiversity reserve are also governed by other applicable legislative and regulatory provisions, and some require a permit or authorization or the payment of certain fees. Certain activities could be prohibited or limited under other laws or regulations applicable on the territory of the reserve.

Within the biodiversity reserve, a particular legal framework may govern permitted activities under the following categories:

- **Protection of the environment:** measures set out in particular by the *Environment Quality Act* (chapter Q-2) and its regulations.
- **Archeological research and discoveries:** measures set out in particular by the *Cultural Heritage Act* (chapter P-9.002).
- **Exploitation and conservation of wildlife resources:** measures stipulated by the *Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife* (chapter C-61.1) and its regulations, including provisions relating to threatened or vulnerable wildlife species, outfitters and beaver reserves; and measures in the applicable federal laws and regulations, including the legislation and regulations on fisheries.
- **Plant species designated as threatened or vulnerable:** measures prohibiting the harvesting of such species under the *Act respecting threatened or vulnerable species* (chapter E-12.01).
- **Access and property rights related to the domain of the State:** measures set out in particular by the *Act respecting the lands in the domain of the State* (chapter T-8.1) and the *Watercourses Act* (chapter R-13).
- **Issuance and oversight of forest development permits** (harvesting of firewood for domestic purposes, wildlife development, recreational development); and **delivery of authorizations** (forest roads): measures stipulated by the *Sustainable Forest Development Act* (chapter A-18.1).
- **Travel:** measures stipulated by the *Act respecting the lands in the domain of the*

State and by the regulations on motor vehicle travel in fragile environments, under the *Environment Quality Act*.

- **Construction and development standards:** regulatory measures adopted by local and regional municipal authorities in accordance with the applicable laws.

6 Management

6.1 Responsibilities of the Minister of the Environment and the Fight against Climate Change

The Minister of the Environment and the Fight against Climate Change is responsible for the management of Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes. Among other things, the Minister sees to the application of the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act* (chapter C-61.01) and the Regulation respecting the Réserve de biodiversité du Plateau-du-Lac-des-Huit-Chutes. In its management, the MELCC enjoys the collaboration and participation of other government representatives that have specific responsibilities in or adjacent to the territory. Since the territory is accessible and often frequented by humans, the MELCC intends to take a “participative” approach to management. The principal local and regional stakeholders concerned will be invited to participate in management activities. Depending on needs, their participation could take place through the creation of a management committee, a zoning plan, the development and implementation of an action plan, and follow-up on actions taken.

6.2 Monitoring

As mentioned in section 2, measures will be taken toward monitoring the status of the natural environment, in collaboration with the various stakeholders. Botanical and wildlife surveys may also be conducted.

6.3 Participation of stakeholders

To fulfill its management responsibilities, the MELCC will seek the collaboration and participation of the principal actors concerned by the territory, including the MRC of Fjord-du-Saguenay, the community of Mashteuiatsh, Onatchiway ZEC, the holders of land rights, and the regional units of other government departments that have responsibilities in the biodiversity reserve.

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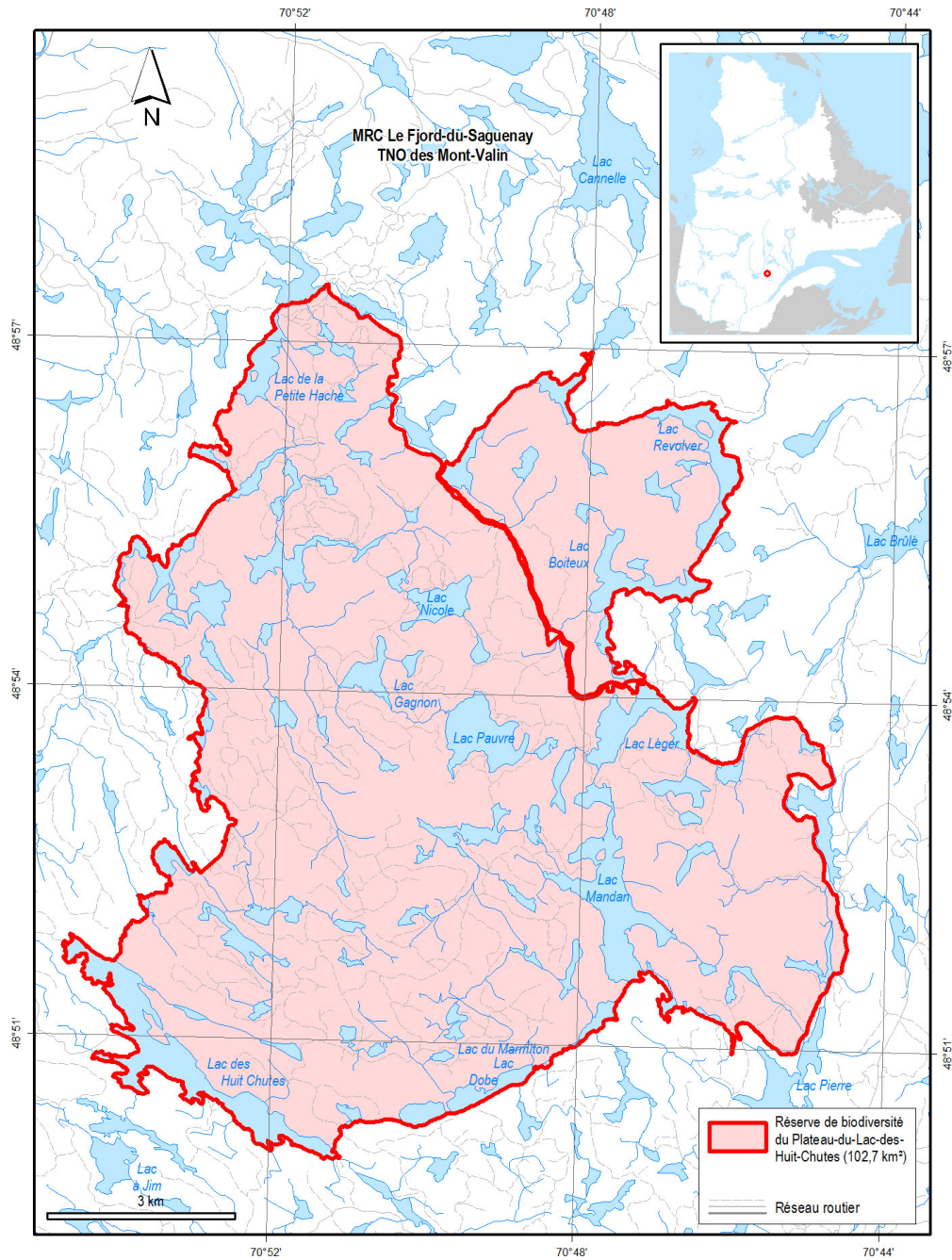
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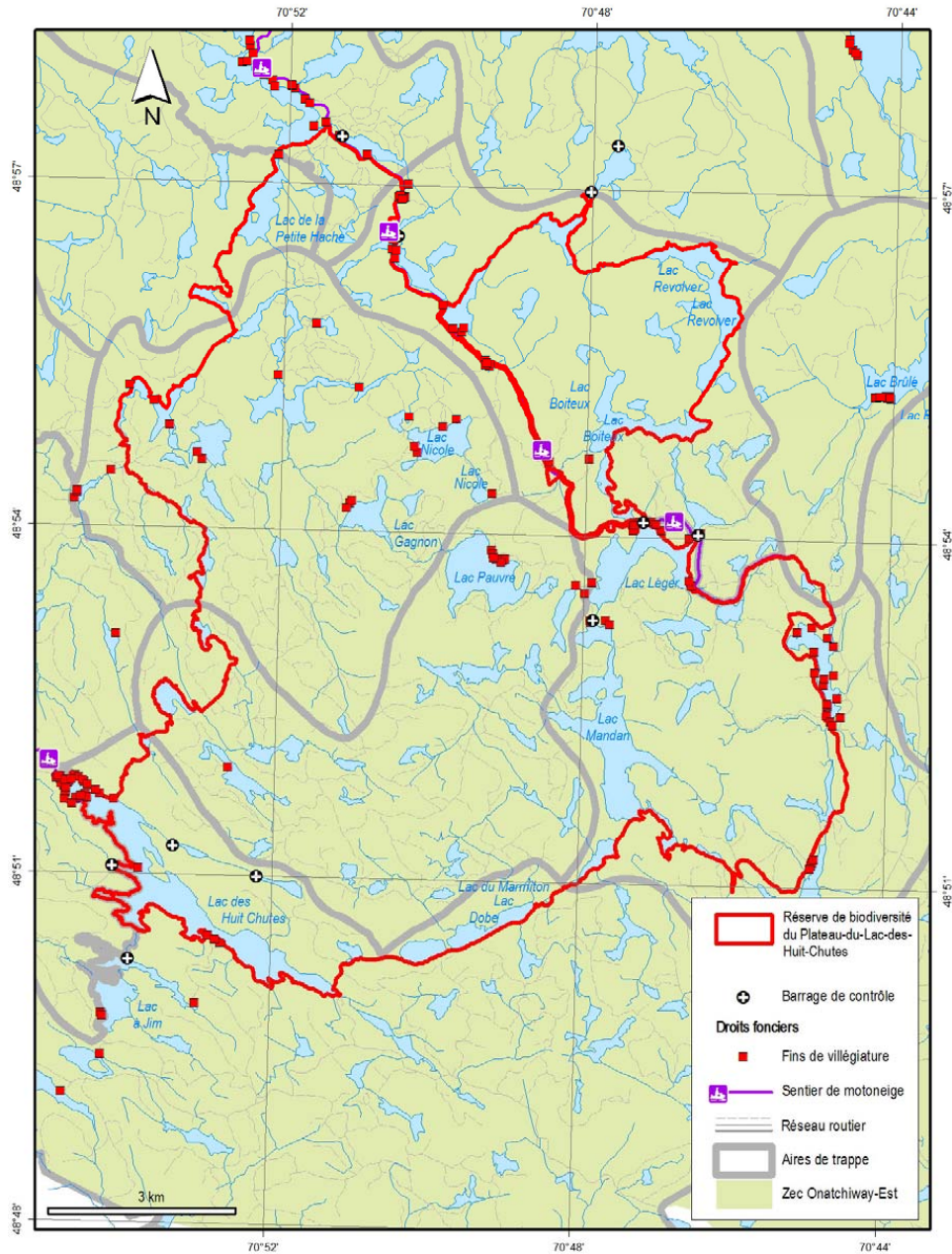
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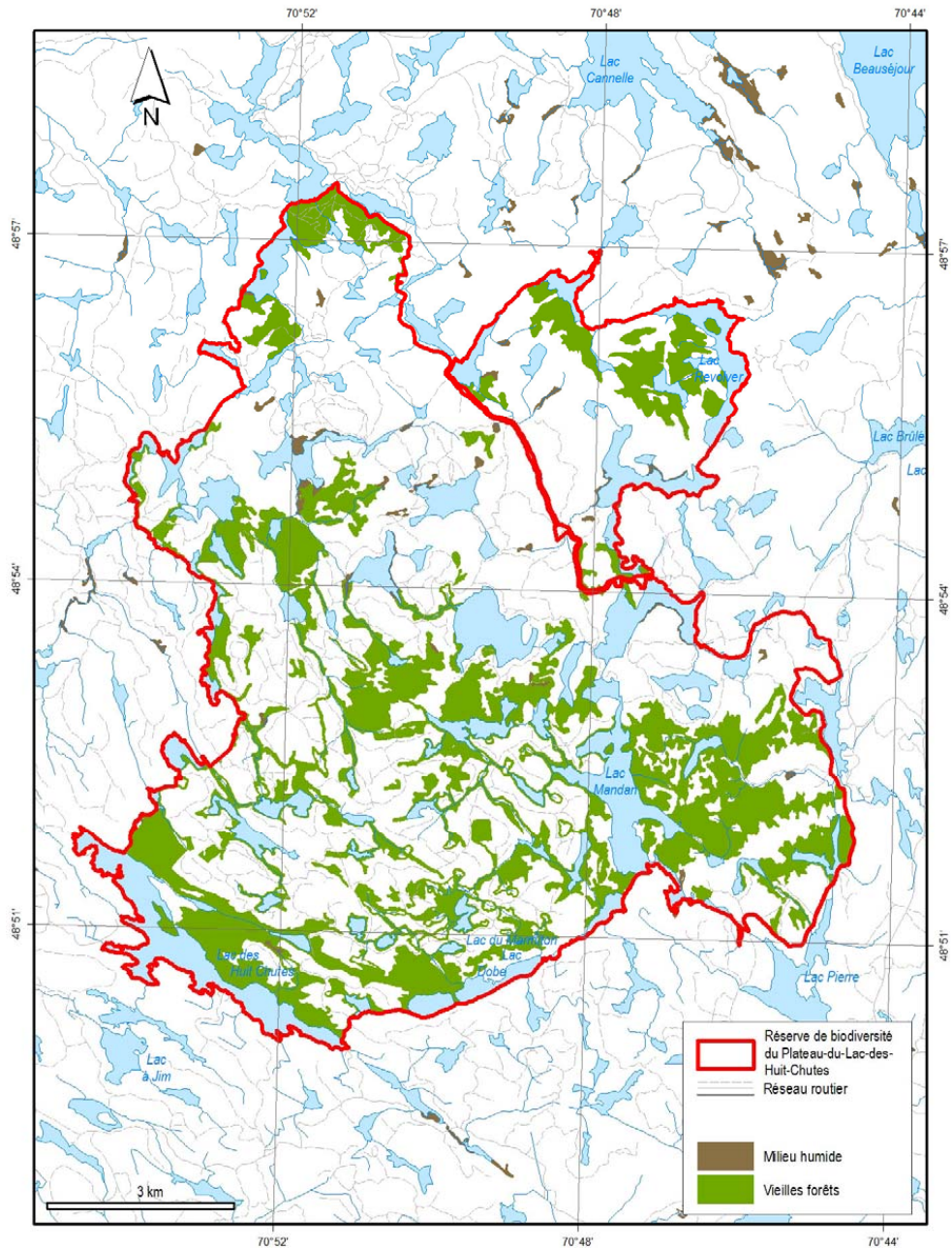
Appendix 1 — Boundaries and location



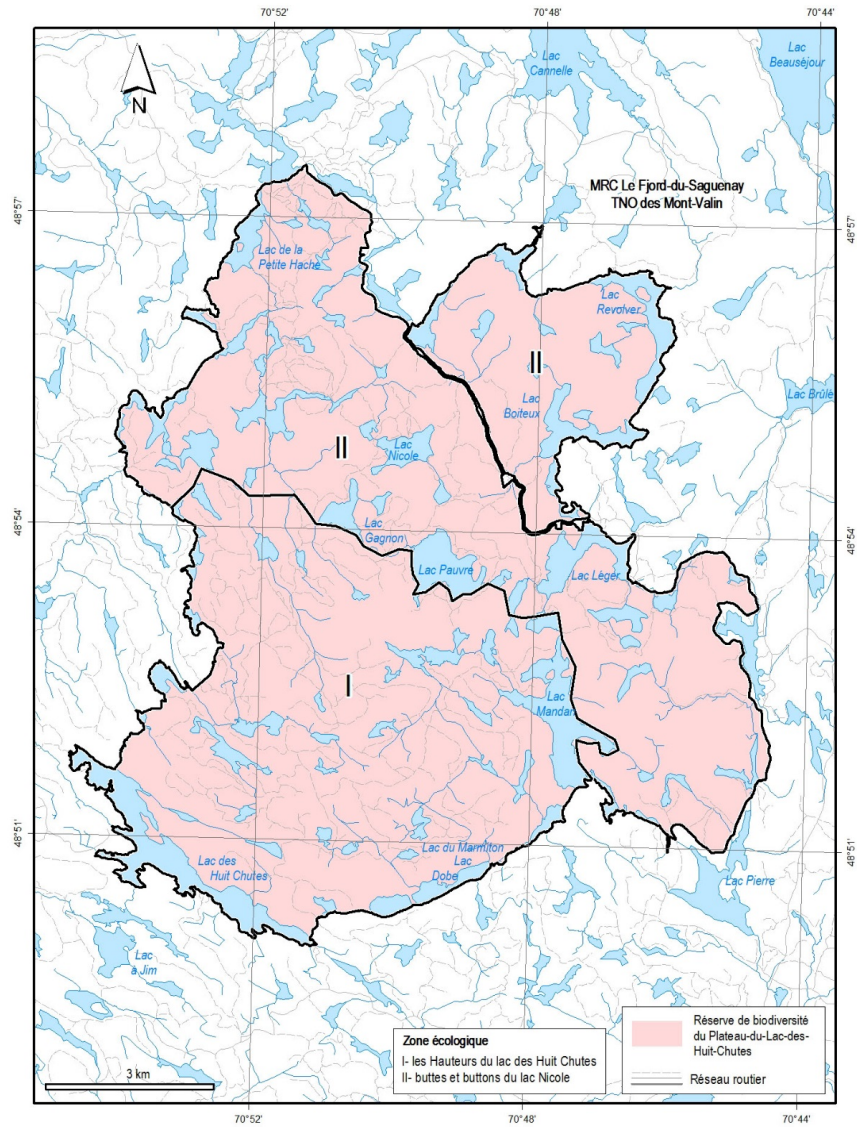
Appendix 2 — Occupation and uses



Appendix 3 — Location of sectors of interest



Appendix 4 — Zoning



Gouvernement du Québec

O.C. 470-2020, 22 April 2020

An Act respecting the distribution of financial products and services
(chapter D-9.2)

Fees and contributions payable —Amendment

Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting fees and contributions payable

WHEREAS paragraph 2 of section 203 of the Act respecting the distribution of financial products and services (chapter D-9.2) provides that the Autorité des marchés financiers may, for each sector, determine by regulation the fees payable by a representative for the issue and renewal of a certificate;

WHEREAS section 226 of the Act provides that the Autorité des marchés financiers determines, by regulation, the fees payable for any formality or other measure prescribed by this Act or the regulations, and the charges for the goods and services provided by the Autorité des marchés financiers;

WHEREAS the second paragraph of section 217 of the Act provides, in particular, that a regulation made by the Autorité des marchés financiers under paragraph 2 of section 203 and section 226 of the Act must be submitted to the Government for approval with or without amendment;

WHEREAS the Autorité des marchés financiers made the Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting fees and contributions payable by decision 2019-PDG-0059 dated 4 December 2019;

WHEREAS, in accordance with sections 10 and 11 of the Regulations Act (chapter R-18.1), the draft Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting fees and contributions payable was published in Part 2 of the *Gazette officielle du Québec* of 29 January 2020 with a notice that it could be submitted to the Government for approval on the expiry of 45 days following that publication;

WHEREAS the 45-day period has expired;

WHEREAS it is expedient to approve the Regulation with amendments;

IT IS ORDERED, therefore, on the recommendation of the Minister of Finance:

THAT the Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting fees and contributions payable, attached to this Order in Council, be approved.

YVES OUELLET,
Clerk of the Conseil exécutif

Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting fees and contributions payable

An Act respecting the distribution of financial products and services
(chapter D-9.2, ss. 203 and 226)

1. Section 1 of the Regulation respecting fees and contributions payable (chapter D-9.2, r. 9) is amended by inserting the following paragraph at the end:

“Where a representative is authorized to act in the sector of mortgage brokerage, he must pay an additional fee of \$250 for the issuance of his certificate and an additional annual fee of \$250 for its renewal.”

2. Section 6.3 of the Regulation is amended by replacing “the second paragraph of section 14” by “section 14 or 16.1”.

3. The Regulation is amended by inserting the following section after section 7.1:

“**7.2.** The fees for an administrative task performed by the Authority in connection with a formality or measure specified in the Act or any of its regulations where the fees for the task are not already specified in this Regulation are \$38 when the task pertains to a representative and \$52 when it pertains to a firm, an independent representative or an independent partnership.”

4. This Regulation is amended by inserting the following after section 22:

“DIVISION II.1 FEES PAYABLE FOR THE COMPULSORY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF MORTGAGE BROKERS

22.1. The fees for an application for recognition referred to in the Regulation respecting the compulsory professional development of mortgage brokers, approved by Ministerial Order 2020-01 (2020, *G.O.* 2, 832), including an application for recognition as a provider of professional development activities or an application for recognition of a training activity, are \$219.

22.2. The fees for any modification or renewal relating to a recognition contemplated in the Regulation respecting the compulsory professional development of mortgage brokers, approved by Ministerial Order 2020-01 (2020, *G.O.* 2, 832), are \$109.”

5. This Regulation comes into force on the fifteenth day following the date of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.

104386

Draft Regulations

Draft Regulation

Animal Health Protection Act
(chapter P-42)

Designation of a parasitic disease — Amendment

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with sections 10 and 11 of the Regulations Act (chapter R-18.1), that the Regulation to amend the Regulation to designate contagious or parasitic diseases, infectious agents and syndromes, appearing below, may be made by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on the expiry of 45 days following this publication.

The draft Regulation designates the varroa mite (*Varroa destructor*) resistant to acaricides as a parasitic disease for the purposes of section 9 of the Animal Health Protection Act (chapter P-42).

Study of the matter has shown no foreseeable global economic impact on enterprises.

Further information may be obtained by contacting Julie Ferland, Direction de la santé animale, Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation, 200, chemin Sainte-Foy, 11^e étage, Québec (Québec) G1R 4X6; telephone: 418 380-2100; fax: 418 380-2169.

Any person wishing to comment on the draft Regulation is requested to submit written comments within the 45-day period to Christine Barthe, Assistant Deputy Minister, Sous-ministériat à la santé animale et à l'inspection des aliments, 200, chemin Sainte-Foy, 12^e étage, Québec (Québec) G1R 4X6.

ANDRÉ LAMONTAGNE,
Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

Regulation to amend the Regulation to designate contagious or parasitic diseases, infectious agents and syndromes

Animal Health Protection Act
(chapter P-42, s. 3)

1. The Regulation to designate contagious or parasitic diseases, infectious agents and syndromes (chapter P-42, r. 4.2) is amended in section 7 by inserting the following after paragraph 3:

“(4) varroa mite (*Varroa destructor*) resistant to acaricides.”.

2. This Regulation comes into force on the fifteenth day following the date of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.

104385

Draft Regulation

Education Act
(chapter I-13.3)

Free instructional material and certain financial contributions that may be required — Amendment

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with sections 10 and 11 of the Regulations Act (chapter R-18.1), that the Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting free instructional material and certain financial contributions that may be required, appearing below, may be made by the Government on the expiry of 45 days following this publication.

The draft Regulation sets the standards for the financial contributions that may be required for the supervision of students who stay at school at lunch time.

The draft Regulation has no impact on enterprises, including small and medium-sized businesses.

Further information on the draft Regulation may be obtained by contacting Caroline Beauvais, Direction des encadrements pédagogiques et scolaires, Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur, 600, rue Fullum, 10^e étage, Montréal (Québec) H2K 4L1; telephone: 514 873-3979, extension 5206; email: Caroline.Beauvais@education.gouv.qc.ca.

Any person wishing to comment on the draft Regulation is requested to submit written comments within the 45-day period to the Minister of Education and Higher Education, 1035, rue De La Chevrotière, 16^e étage, Québec (Québec) G1R 5A5.

JEAN-FRANÇOIS ROBERGE,
Minister of Education and Higher Education

Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting free instructional material and certain financial contributions that may be required

Education Act
(chapter I-13.3, s. 457.2.1)

1. The Regulation respecting free instructional material and certain financial contributions that may be required (chapter I-13.3, r. 6.2) is amended in section 9 by replacing “or for material to which the right of free use does not apply” by “, for material to which the right of free use does not apply or for the supervision of students at lunch time”.

2. The following is added after section 11:

“**11.1.** The financial contribution required for the supervision of a child at the preschool and elementary school level at lunch time must be determined by taking into account the number of days during which the child stays at school for lunch. That number is established with the parents, according to the conditions set by the school board.

In addition to the actual cost of the service, the financial contribution may not exceed \$4.25 per day.

The amount provided for in the second paragraph is adjusted on 1 January of each year by a rate corresponding to the annual change in the overall average Québec consumer price index without alcoholic beverages and tobacco products for the 12-month period ending on 30 September of the preceding year. The result is rounded to the nearest multiple of \$0.05, or if it is equidistant from two such multiples, to the higher of the two. The Minister publishes the result of the adjustment in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.

11.2. No financial contribution may be required for the supervision of a secondary school student at lunch time when the student eats lunch throughout the school year outside the premises of the educational institution the student attends.”.

3. This Regulation comes into force on the fifteenth day following the date of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.

104390

Draft Regulation

Cities and Towns Act
(chapter C-19)

Municipal Code of Québec
(chapter C-27.1)

An Act respecting the Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal
(chapter C-37.01)

An Act respecting the Communauté métropolitaine de Québec
(chapter C-37.02)

An Act respecting public transit authorities
(chapter S-30.01)

Expenditure threshold for a contract that may be awarded only after a public call for tenders, the minimum time for the receipt of tenders and the expenditure ceiling allowing the territory from which tenders originate to be limited — Amendment

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with sections 10 and 11 of the Regulations Act (chapter R-18.1), that the Regulation to amend the Regulation ordering the expenditure threshold for a contract that may be awarded only after a public call for tenders, the minimum time for the receipt of tenders and the expenditure ceiling allowing the territory from which tenders originate to be limited, appearing below, may be made by the Minister on the expiry of 45 days following this publication.

The draft Regulation amends the expenditure threshold for a contract that may be awarded only after a public call for tenders and the expenditure ceiling allowing the territory from which tenders originate to be limited in order to harmonize them with the thresholds of public procurement liberalization agreements, which are reviewed every 2 years.

Further information on the draft Regulation may be obtained by contacting Chantal Dinel, 10, rue Pierre-Olivier-Chauveau, Aile Chauveau, 3^e étage, Québec (Québec) G1R 4J3; telephone: 418 691-2015, extension 3287; email: chantal.dinel@mamh.gouv.qc.ca.

Any person wishing to comment on the draft Regulation is requested to submit written comments within the 45-day period to Chantal Dinel using the same contact information.

ANDRÉE LAFOREST,
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Regulation to amend the Regulation ordering the expenditure threshold for a contract that may be awarded only after a public call for tenders, the minimum time for the receipt of tenders and the expenditure ceiling allowing the territory from which tenders originate to be limited

Cities and Towns Act
(chapter C-19, s. 573.3.3.1.1)

Municipal Code of Québec
(chapter C-27.1, s. 938.3.1.1)

An Act respecting the Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal
(chapter C-37.01, s. 118.1.0.1)

An Act respecting the Communauté métropolitaine de Québec
(chapter C-37.02, s. 111.1.0.1)

An Act respecting public transit authorities
(chapter S-30.01, s. 108.1.0.1)

1. The Regulation ordering the expenditure threshold for a contract that may be awarded only after a public call for tenders, the minimum time for the receipt of tenders and the expenditure ceiling allowing the territory from which tenders originate to be limited (chapter C-19, r. 5) is amended in section 1 by replacing “\$101,100” by “\$105,700”.

2. Section 2 is amended

(1) by replacing “\$365,700” in paragraph 2 of the first paragraph by “\$366,200”;

(2) by replacing “\$365,700” in paragraph 3 of the first paragraph by “\$366,200”;

(3) by replacing “\$365,700” in paragraph 4 of the first paragraph by “\$366,200”.

3. Section 3 is amended by replacing “\$365,700” by “\$366,200”.

4. Section 4 is amended:

(1) by replacing “\$252,700” in paragraph 1 of the first paragraph by “\$264,200”;

(2) by replacing “\$252,700” in paragraph 2 of the first paragraph by “\$264,200”.

5. This Regulation comes into force on the fifteenth day following the date of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.

104383

Draft regulation

Professional Code
(chapter C-26)

Criminologists — Professional activity that may be engaged in by a probation officer or correctional counsellor of the Ministère de la Sécurité publique

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with sections 10 and 11 of the Regulations Act (chapter R-18.1), that the Regulation respecting a professional activity that may be engaged in by a probation officer or correctional counsellor of the Ministère de la Sécurité publique, as adopted by the board of directors of the Ordre professionnel des criminologues du Québec, appearing below, may be examined by the Office des professions du Québec and then submitted to the government for approval, with or without amendment, on the expiry of 45 days from this publication.

The object of the draft regulation is to authorize certain probation officers and correctional counsellors, in the exercise of their functions and if they comply with the training requirement set out in the regulation, to engage in the reserved professional activity that involves assessing a person suffering from a mental or neuropsychological disorder attested by the diagnosis or evaluation of an authorized professional. Only probation officers and correctional counsellors who do not meet the conditions for the issue of a permit by a professional order whose members are authorized to engage in the reserved professional activity are concerned by this draft regulation.

The draft regulation has no impact on citizens and enterprises, including SMEs.

Further information may be obtained from Geneviève Lefebvre, executive director and secretary of the Ordre professionnel des criminologues du Québec; telephone: 514 437-6727, extension 224 or 1 844 437-6727; E-mail: gldefebvre@ordrecrim.ca.

Any person wishing to comment on the draft regulation is requested to submit written comments within the 45-day period to Roxanne Guévin, acting secretary of the Office des professions du Québec, 800, place D'Youville, 10^e étage, Québec (Québec) G1R 5Z3; E-mail: secretariat@opq.gouv.qc.ca. The comments will be forwarded by the Office to the Minister of Justice, and may also be forwarded to the Ordre professionnel des criminologues du Québec and to any interested persons and government departments and bodies.

ROXANNE GUÉVIN,
*Acting secretary of the
Office des professions du Québec*

Regulation respecting a professional activity that may be engaged in by a probation officer or correctional counsellor of the Ministère de la Sécurité publique

Professional Code
(chapter C-26, s. 94, 1st par., subpar. *h*)

DIVISION I AUTHORIZATION TO ENGAGE IN A PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

1. Probation officers or correctional counsellors within the meaning of the Act respecting the Québec correctional system (chapter S-40.1) employed on 30 April 2018 may, in the exercise of their functions and if they comply with the training requirement in Division II, assess the criminogenic factors and offending behaviour of a person suffering from a mental or neuropsychological disorder attested by the diagnosis or evaluation of an authorized professional.

The first paragraph does not apply to a person who meets the conditions for the issue of a permit by one of the following professional orders: Ordre des psychologues du Québec, Ordre professionnel des criminologues du Québec, Ordre des travailleurs sociaux et des thérapeutes conjugaux et familiaux du Québec, Ordre des conseillers et conseillères d'orientation du Québec, Ordre des psychoéducateurs et psychoéducatrices du Québec, Ordre des ergothérapeutes du Québec, Ordre des infirmières et

infirmiers du Québec, Ordre professionnel des sexologues du Québec, Ordre des orthophonistes et audiologistes du Québec and Collège des médecins du Québec.

2. Persons referred to in section 1 must, not later than 60 days after the coming into force of this Regulation, inform the Ordre professionnel des criminologues du Québec, in the manner determined by its board of directors, that they engage in the reserved professional activity referred to in that section.

When the employment of such a person ends and the person is no longer named on a valid qualifications list or in a bank of qualified persons for employment as a probation officer or correctional counsellor, the person must inform the Order not later than 15 days after the person's employment ends.

DIVISION II TRAINING REQUIREMENT

3. An authorized person must complete at least 6 hours of eligible training activities in each 2-year reference period.

The following activities may, when engaged in in connection with the activity referred to in the first paragraph of section 1, constitute eligible training activities:

(1) participation in courses, seminars, workshops, symposiums, conferences or congresses offered in particular by a professional order, university level educational institution or specialized institution;

(2) the preparation and revision of university courses, conferences, workshops or other training activities;

(3) supervision of the professional activity described in the first paragraph of section 1 received from a criminologist described who engages in that professional activity or a member of another professional order who engages in that professional activity;

(4) the drafting, or participation in the drafting, of a scientific document or document to disseminate knowledge.

4. An authorized person must send to the Order, not later than 45 days after the end of each reference period, the documents showing the hours of training completed along with the fee prescribed by the Order's board of directors.

5. An authorized person who is unable to comply with the training requirement may, for a given reference period, be exempted from training by the Order. The person must

request exemption from the Order and give reasons in support of the request along with any required supporting documents.

Before refusing a request for exemption, the Order must notify the person in writing, mentioning the person's right to present written observations within 15 days of receiving the notification. The Order must send its decision to the person not later than 60 days after the request for exemption is received, mentioning in particular the person's right to apply for a review of the decision in accordance with section 7.

6. The Order must send a written notice to an authorized person who fails to comply with the requirements of section 3 or section 4, setting out the requirements that the person has failed to meet and mentioning that the person has no more than 30 days from receipt of the notice to correct the failure.

A person who has not corrected the failure stated in the notice within 45 days from the date of the notice is no longer authorized to engage in the professional activity referred to in first paragraph of section 1.

The Order must inform a person referred to in the second paragraph of the person's right to apply for a review of the revocation of authorization, in accordance with section 7.

The revocation of authorization to engage in the professional activity referred to in the first paragraph of section 1 remains in effect until the person provides the Order with evidence that the person has met the requirements of section 3 and until the Order confirms that the person is once again authorized to engage in the professional activity.

7. A person subject to a negative decision under section 5 or a revocation of authorization under section 6 may apply for a review to the board of directors of the Order not later than 15 days from the date on which the person is notified of the decision.

The application for review must be in writing and sent to the secretary of the Order, and must briefly state the reasons on which it is based.

8. The secretary must inform the applicant in writing of the place and time of the meeting of the board of directors during which the person's application for review will be examined, at least 5 days before the date of the meeting.

An applicant who wishes to be heard at the meeting must inform the secretary at least 2 days before the scheduled date of the meeting; an applicant who wishes to present written observations must forward them to the secretary at any time prior to the scheduled date of the meeting.

9. The board of directors must render a written and substantiated decision not later than 60 days after receiving the application for review.

The decision by the board of directors is final. It is forwarded in writing to the applicant not later than 30 days after the date on which it is rendered.

DIVISION III TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

10. Notwithstanding section 3, the first reference period begins on the date of coming into force of this Regulation and ends on 31 March 2022.

11. This Regulation comes into force on the fifteenth day following the date of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.

104389

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Abbreviations: **A**: Abrogated, **N**: New, **M**: Modified

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Natural Heritage Conservation Act — Réserve aquatique de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite — Permanent status, Regulation respecting that reserve and its conservation plan (chapter C-61.01)	975	N
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Natural Heritage Conservation Act — Réserve de biodiversité des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache — Permanent status, Regulation respecting that reserve and its conservation plan (chapter C-61.01)	1024	N
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Réserve de biodiversité Akumunan — Permanent status, Regulation respecting that reserve and its conservation plan	1094	N
(Natural Heritage Conservation Act, chapter C-61.01)		
Réserve de biodiversité des Buttes-et-Buttons-du-Lac-Panache — Permanent status, Regulation respecting that reserve and its conservation plan	1024	N
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Réserve de biodiversité des Drumlins-du-Lac-Clérac — Permanent status, Regulation respecting that reserve and its conservation plan	1059	N
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