4. The Government must, not later than at the end of the two-year period following the coming into force of this Regulation, study the advisability of reducing the maximum time limit of 15 months provided for in section 16.1 for the environmental assessment and review of certain projects of an industrial nature.

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

9575

Gouvernement du Québec

O.C. 102-96, 24 January 1996

An Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife
(R.S.Q., c. C-61.1)

Wildlife habitats
— Amendment

Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting wildlife habitats

WHEREAS under paragraph 2 of section 128.18 of the Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife (R.S.Q., c. C-61.1), the Government may, by regulation, designate activities which, while they may alter a biological, chemical or physical component of a wildlife habitat, do not require any authorization and, as the case may be, prescribe the applicable standards or conditions of management, which may vary according to the kind of activity, the class or location of the wildlife habitat, the season, the physical features or according to whether the habitat is located on public or private land;

WHEREAS in accordance with sections 10 and 11 of the Regulations Act (R.S.Q., c. R-18.1), the draft regulation to amend the Regulation respecting wildlife habitats was published in Part 2 of the *Gazette officielle du Québec* of 12 July 1995 with a notice that it could be made by the Government upon the expiry of 60 days following that publication;

WHEREAS no comments were sent to the Minister;

WHEREAS it is expedient to make the Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting wildlife habitats, attached to this Order in Council;

IT IS ORDERED, therefore, upon the recommendation of the Minister of the Environment and Wildlife:

THAT the Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting wildlife habitats, attached to this Order in Council, be made.

MICHEL CARPENTIER,
Clerk of the Conseil exécutif

Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting wildlife habitats

An Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife
(R.S.Q., c. C-61.1, s. 128.1 and s. 128.18, par. 2)

1. The Regulation respecting wildlife habitats, made by Order in Council 905-93 dated 22 June 1993, is amended by revoking paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of section 48.

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

9574

Draft Minister's Order

Forest Act
(R.S.Q., c. F-4.1)

Value of silvicultural treatments

Notice is hereby given that Minister's Order of the Minister of Natural Resources respecting the value of silvicultural treatments, the text of which appears below, may be made by the Minister, with or without amendment, upon the expiry of 25 days following this publication.

Any person having comments to make on this matter is asked to send them in writing, before the expiry of the 25-day period, to Mr. Jacques Robitaille, Associate Deputy Minister for Forests, Ministère des Ressources naturelles, 880, chemin Sainte-Foy, 10e étage, Québec (Québec), G1S 4X4.

FRANÇOIS GENDRON,
Minister of Natural Resources

Minister's Order of the Minister of Natural Resources respecting the value of silvicultural treatments

Forest Act
(R.S.Q., c. F-4.1, ss. 73.1 and 73.3)

1. The silvicultural treatments described in Schedule I shall be admitted as payment of the dues prescribed by the Minister responsible for the application of the Forest Act for the 1996-1997 fiscal year.

2. The values of such silvicultural treatments are those established in Schedule II.

3. This Minister's Order of the Minister of Natural Resources replaces the Regulation respecting the value of silvicultural treatments made by Minister's Order 94-286 of the Minister of Natural Resources dated 2 March 1995 and published in Part 2 of the *Gazette officielle du Québec* of 15 March 1995.

4. This Minister's Order of the Minister of Natural Resources comes into force on 1 April 1996.

SCHEDULE I
(s. 1)

SILVICULTURAL TREATMENTS ADMITTED FOR THE 1996-1997 FISCAL YEAR

DIVISION I
ALL FOREST AREAS

1. Site preparation: site preparation comprises any of the following 5 operations:

(1) scarifying: loosening the soil to promote natural or artificial regeneration of desired species of trees;

(2) clearing: windrowing or piling non-commercial ligneous matter to facilitate the planting of seedlings or the passage of a scarifier;

(3) winter shear-blading: clearing frozen ground with a shear-blade-equipped tractor in order to eliminate all vegetation and remove excessively thick organic matter;

(4) ploughing and harrowing: loosening the soil by means of a plough and a harrow to promote the planting of tolerant hardwoods or hybrid poplars;

(5) prescribed burning: intentional burning of forest fuels left in a forest management area after the felling of commercial timber carried out in weather conditions that enable fire to spread freely within the selected area.

2. Planting: the setting in the soil of cuttings, sets, bare-root seedlings or container seedlings in order to produce ligneous matter.

3. Natural regeneration reinforcement planting: the planting of seedlings in an area where natural regeneration is insufficient so as to obtain a number of evenly distributed trees of the principal species in that area.

4. Release treatment: the controlling of competing vegetation by spraying herbicides registered for forestry such as glyphosate, or by mechanical means such as circular saws, chain saws or shears, in order to promote the natural or artificial regeneration of desired species.

5. Precommercial thinning: the felling of trees that impede the growth of selected trees in a young stand by equalizing the spacing between them.

6. Commercial thinning: the felling or harvesting of trees in an even-aged stand that has not yet reached cutting age in such a way as to accelerate the diameter growth of the remaining trees and to improve the quality of the stand.

7. Drainage: the digging of ditches in order to lower soil humidity by draining away surface run-off and seepage in order to improve tree growth and to promote natural and artificial regeneration.

DIVISION II
FOREST AREAS INTENDED MAINLY FOR THE PRODUCTION OF SOFTWOODS

8. Pine seeding: the aerial or ground seeding of jack pine seed or the seeding of jack pine or white pine in funnels.

DIVISION III
FOREST AREAS INTENDED MAINLY FOR THE PRODUCTION OF TOLERANT HARDWOODS, WHITE PINE, RED PINE, CEDAR AND MIXED STANDS WITH TOLERANT HARDWOODS

9. Selection cutting: the periodic felling or harvesting of trees selected individually or in small groups in an uneven-aged high forest that takes into account all the species and diameter classes of trees in a stand, as well as the strength and quality of those trees. A balanced selection structure must be obtained or maintained in the stand by ensuring the necessary cultivation of growing trees and by favouring seed establishment.

10. Improvement cutting: the felling or harvesting of trees in a degraded uneven-aged high forest whose diameter is equal to or greater than the diameter determined for each species, while maintaining the percentage of the basal area of Quality 1 trees after treatment.

DIVISION IV
FOREST AREAS INTENDED MAINLY FOR THE PRODUCTION OF TOLERANT HARDWOODS, WHITE PINE, RED PINE AND MIXED STANDS WITH TOLERANT HARDWOODS

11. Preselection cutting: the felling or harvesting of trees selected individually or in small groups in an uneven-aged high forest that takes into account all the species and diameter classes of trees in a stand, as well as the strength and quality of those trees. A structure conducive to selection must be obtained in the stand by ensuring the necessary cultivation of growing trees and by favouring seed establishment.

12. Enrichment planting: the introduction or increase in the number of white pine, red oak, American ash or yellow birch in a stand.

DIVISION V
FOREST AREAS INTENDED MAINLY FOR THE PRODUCTION OF SOFTWOODS, TOLERANT HARDWOODS, WHITE PINE, RED PINE AND MIXED STANDS

13. Progressive seed cutting: the felling or harvesting of trees at the time of the first of a series of successive regeneration cuts in an even-aged stand that has reached cutting age, thus permitting the opening of the forest cover and the elimination of overtopped trees, and promoting natural regeneration from seeds produced by dominant and codominant trees left as seed bearers.

14. Strip cutting with regeneration and soil protection: felling or harvesting in a stand, in strips no more than 60 metres wide and leaving an uncut strip at least equal in width to the width of the strip harvested. In the strips, all trees of commercial species whose diameter has reached 10 centimetres or more at 1.30 metres above the highest ground level are harvested. Cutting must allow the harvesting of not less than 75 % of the basal area or the reduction of the forest cover to less than 25 %. Felling or hauling roads must be spaced and every precaution must be taken to avoid damaging advance regeneration and to protect the soil.

15. Fertilization: the application of chemical or organic fertilizers to increase the production capacity of the soil.

DIVISION VI
SILVICULTURAL TREATMENTS FOR THE PROTECTION OF FOREST RESOURCES

16. Strip cutting with regeneration and soil protection: felling or harvesting in a stand, in strips no more than 60 metres wide and leaving an uncut strip at least equal in width to the width of the strip harvested. In the strips, all trees of commercial species whose diameter has reached 10 centimetres or more at 1.30 metres above the highest ground level are harvested. Cutting must allow the harvesting of not less than 75 % of the basal area or the reduction of the forest cover to less than 25 %. Felling or hauling roads must be spaced and every precaution must be taken to avoid damaging advance regeneration and to protect the soil.

17. Selection cutting: the periodic felling or harvesting of trees selected individually or in small groups in an uneven-aged high forest that takes into account all the species and diameter classes of trees in a stand, as well as the strength and quality of those trees. A balanced selection structure must be obtained or maintained in the stand by ensuring the necessary cultivation of growing trees and by favouring seed establishment.

18. Improvement cutting: the felling or harvesting of trees in a degraded uneven-aged high forest whose diameter is equal to or greater than the diameter determined for each species, while maintaining the percentage of the basal area of Quality 1 trees after treatment.

19. Preselection cutting: the felling or harvesting of trees selected individually or in small groups in an uneven-aged high forest that takes into account all the species and diameter classes of trees in a stand, as well as the strength and quality of those trees. A structure conducive to selection must be obtained in the stand by ensuring the necessary cultivation of growing trees and by favouring seed establishment.

SCHEDULE II
(s. 2)

VALUE OF SILVICULTURAL TREATMENTS ADMITTED AS PAYMENT OF DUES FOR THE 1996-1997 FISCAL YEAR

DIVISION I
ALL FOREST AREAS

1. Site preparation		
— Scarifying		
Anchor chains		$100/ha
Shark-fin barrels and chains		$280/ha
Hydraulic cone trenchers (Wadell type)		$225/ha
Hydraulic disk trenchers (TTS hydraulic and Donaren types)		$180/ha
Batch scarifier (Bracke), disk trencher (TTS type)		$130/ha
Batch scarifier mounder (Bracke mounder)		$175/ha
"V" blade batch scarifier (Bracke) or disk trencher		$355/ha
Cutter-type portable scarifier, forest mattock		$315/1 000 microsites
Forest harrows (Rome and Crabe types)		
Single pass		$205/ha
Double pass		$365/ha
Létourneau tree crusher		$225/ha
— Winter shear-blading with a shear-blade-equipped crawler tractor		$410/ha
— Clearing		
Rake-equipped crawler tractor		$400/ha
Rake-equipped skidder		$340/ha
Modified "V" blade models C and H		$170/ha
— Ploughing and harrowing		
Forest plough (Lazure type) + forest harrow (Rome and Crabe types)		$1 100/ha
— Prescribed burning		$375/ha

2. Planting		
— With site preparation		
Bare-root seedlings	Conventional size	$210/1 000 seedlings
	Large size	$245/1 000 seedlings
Container seedlings	67-50:	$165/1 000 seedlings
	45-110 or cuttings:	$175/1 000 seedlings
	25-200:	$230/1 000 seedlings
	45-340:	$315/1 000 seedlings
— Without site preparation		
Bare-root seedlings	Conventional size	$225/1 000 seedlings
	Large size	$260/1 000 seedlings
Container seedlings	67-50:	$180/1 000 seedlings
	45-110:	$190/1 000 seedlings
	25-200:	$245/1 000 seedlings
	45-340:	$330/1 000 seedlings

3. Natural regeneration reinforcement planting		
— With site preparation		
Bare-root seedlings	Conventional size	$225/1 000 seedlings
	Large size	$260/1 000 seedlings
Container seedlings	67-50:	$180/1 000 seedlings
	45-110:	$190/1 000 seedlings
	25-200:	$245/1 000 seedlings
	45-340:	$330/1 000 seedlings
— Without site preparation		
Bare-root seedlings	Conventional size	$240/1 000 seedlings
	Large size	$275/1 000 seedlings
Container seedlings	67-50:	$195/1 000 seedlings
	45-110:	$205/1 000 seedlings
	25-200:	$260/1 000 seedlings
	45-340:	$345/1 000 seedlings

4. Release treatment	
— Mechanical	
Coniferous or boreal forest zone	$550/ha
Mixed and hardwood forest zones	$630/ha
— Herbicides	
Ground spraying	$340/ha
Aerial spraying	$205/ha

5. Precommercial thinning	
— Priority production of softwoods and mixed predominantly softwood stands	
4 000 to 6 999 t/ha	$355/ha
7 000 to 10 999 t/ha	$550/ha
11 000 to 14 999 t/ha	$695/ha
15 000 to 19 999 t/ha	$810/ha
20 000 and over t/ha	$910/ha
— Priority production of intolerant hardwoods and mixed predominantly intolerant hardwood stands	$795/ha
— Priority production of tolerant hardwoods and mixed predominantly tolerant hardwood stands	$760/ha
6. Commercial thinning	
— Softwoods	$500/ha
— Mixed with tolerant and intolerant hardwoods	$285/ha
— Tolerant and intolerant hardwoods	$ 70/ha
7. Drainage	
Cleared areas (without prior felling)	$1.45/m or m^3
Wooded areas (with prior felling)	$1.80/m or m^3

DIVISION II
FOREST AREAS INTENDED MAINLY FOR THE PRODUCTION OF SOFTWOODS

8. Pine seeding	
— Aerial seeding	$35/ha
— Ground seeding	$130/ha
— Funnels	$285/1 000 seeded microsites

DIVISION III
FOREST AREAS INTENDED MAINLY FOR THE PRODUCTION OF TOLERANT HARDWOODS, WHITE PINE, RED PINE, CEDAR AND MIXED STANDS WITH TOLERANT HARDWOODS

9. Selection cutting	
— Tolerant hardwoods	$ 70/ha
— Mixed with tolerant hardwoods	$ 70/ha
— Cedar	$215/ha
10. Improvement cutting	
— Tolerant hardwoods	$ 70/ha
— Mixed with tolerant hardwoods	$ 70/ha
— Cedar	$215/ha

DIVISION IV
FOREST AREAS INTENDED MAINLY FOR THE PRODUCTION OF TOLERANT HARDWOODS, WHITE PINE, RED PINE AND MIXED STANDS WITH TOLERANT HARDWOODS

11. Preselection cutting	
— Tolerant hardwoods	$ 70/ha
— Mixed with tolerant hardwoods	$ 70/ha
— Cedar	$215/ha
12. Enrichment and reinforcement planting of hardwoods and pine	$495/1 000 seedlings

DIVISION V
FOREST AREAS INTENDED MAINLY FOR THE PRODUCTION OF SOFTWOODS, TOLERANT HARDWOODS, WHITE PINE, RED PINE AND MIXED STANDS

13. Progressive seed cutting	
— Softwoods	$500/ha
— Mixed with tolerant and intolerant hardwoods	$ 70/ha
— Tolerant and intolerant hardwoods	$ 70/ha
14. Strip cutting with regeneration and soil protection (except in mixed stands)	$200/ha
15. Fertilization	
— Softwoods and mixed stands with tolerant hardwoods	$355/ha
— Tolerant hardwoods	$355/ha

DIVISION VI
SILVICULTURAL TREATMENTS FOR THE PROTECTION OF FOREST RESOURCES

16. Strip cutting with regeneration and soil protection	$200/ha
17. Selection cutting	
— Tolerant hardwoods	$ 70/ha
— Mixed with tolerant hardwoods	$ 70/ha
— Cedar	$215/ha
18. Improvement cutting	
— Tolerant hardwoods	$ 70/ha
— Mixed with tolerant hardwoods	$ 70/ha
— Cedar	$215/ha
19. Preselection cutting	
— Tolerant hardwoods	$ 70/ha
— Mixed with tolerant hardwoods	$ 70/ha
— Cedar	$215/ha

Note: The expression “tolerant hardwoods” includes white pine and red pine.

9599