

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.
SPACE RESERVED FOR THE DIGITAL SIGNATURE OF THE CERTIFICATE OF FILING ISSUED BY THE SURVEYOR- GENERAL OF QUÉBEC
Only the Surveyor-General of Québec is authorized to issue certified copies of this
Certified copy issued on
..... For the Surveyor-General of Québec

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:

Gouvernement du Québec. 2019. Conservation Plan, Réserve aquatique de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite. Québec, Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, Direction des aires protégées. 22 pages.

CONTENTS

Introduction

- 1 The territory of Réserve aquatique de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite
 - 1.1 Official toponym
 - 1.2 Boundaries and location
 - 1.3 Ecological portrait
 - 1.3.1 Physical environment
 - 1.3.2 Biological environment
 - 1.3.3 Ecological representativeness
 - 1.3.4 Outstanding ecological elements
 - 1.4 Land occupation and uses
- 2 Conservation and management issues
 - 2.1 Introduction
 - 2.2 Protection of biodiversity
 - 2.3 Development activities
 - 2.4 Knowledge acquisition and environmental monitoring
 - 2.5 Conservation and management objectives
- 3 Zoning
- 4 Activity framework applicable to Réserve aquatique de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite
 - 4.1 Activity framework established by the Natural Heritage Conservation Act
 - 4.2 Activity framework established by the Regulation respecting the Réserve aquatique de la Vallée de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite
- 5 Activities governed by other laws
- 6 Management
 - 6.1 Responsibilities of the Minister of the Environment and the Fight against Climate Change
 - 6.2 Monitoring
 - 6.3 Participation of stakeholders

Bibliographical references

- Appendix 1 — Boundaries and location
- Appendix 2 — Distribution of forests by age class
- Appendix 3 — Elements of ecological interest
- Appendix 4 — Occupation and uses

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 virginensis*, *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):

---ooo0ooo---

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).

---ooo0ooo---

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

Bibliographical references

Agence de développement du Saguenay fjord, 2005. Plan stratégique de développement et d'aménagement touristique de la région du Fjord-du-Saguenay.

Association de la Rivière Sainte-Marguerite inc., 2005. Plan de développement d'activités récréatives – Rivière Sainte-Marguerite (version préliminaire), 45 pages.

Chabot, A., 2008. Suivi télémétrique des caribous forestiers du Nitassinan de la Première Nation innue d'Essipit. Rapport du Groupe-Conseil AGIR inc. présenté au Conseil de la Première Nation innue d'Essipit. 47 pages et deux annexes.

Équipe de rétablissement du caribou forestier du Québec, 2013. Plan de rétablissement du caribou forestier (Rangifer tarandus caribou) au Québec — 2013-2023. Produit pour le compte du ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement, de la Faune et des Parcs du Québec, Faune Québec, 110 pages.

Faubert, J. 2012. Aperçu de la flore bryologique de la vallée de la rivière Sainte-Marguerite – Rapport d'herborisation. Flora Quebeca pour le ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et des Parcs, 17 pages.

Filion, J. et P. Raymond, 1999. Escalade de glace – Vallée de la Sainte-Marguerite – Sacré-Coeur à Sainte-Rose-du-Nord. 8 pages + 2 cartes.

Gerardin, V. et D. McKenney, 2001. Une classification du Québec à partir de modèles de distribution spatiale de données climatiques mensuelles : vers une définition des bioclimats du Québec, ministère de l'Environnement du Québec, Service de la cartographie écologique no 60, 2001, 40 p. [En ligne: <http://www.mddelcc.gouv.qc.ca/changements/classification/model-clima.pdf>]

Lapointe, M., J. Cayouette et C. Grenier, 2012. Caractérisation de la flore de la réserve aquatique projetée de la Vallée-de-la-Rivière-Sainte-Marguerite du 25 au 27 juillet 2011. Flora Quebeca pour le ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et des Parcs, 31 pages.

Lavoie-Painchaud, J. M., 2008. Aux origines de l'histoire saguenéenne : La rivière Sainte-Marguerite. Saguenayensia, volume 50, numéro 2, pages 17 à 23.

Li, T. et J.-P. Ducruc, 1999. Les provinces naturelles. Niveau I du cadre écologique de référence du Québec, ministère de l'Environnement, 20 p.

Ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune, 2005. Plan régional du développement du territoire public – volet récréotouristique. ISBN : 2-550-43412-9. Code de diffusion 2005-200 cd. 197 pages.

Ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune, 2012. Plan d'affectation du territoire public : Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean. Direction des affaires régionales du Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean. 820 pages + cartes. [En ligne : https://mern.gouv.qc.ca/publications/territoire/plannification/cartes_saguenay/saguenay-patp.pdf]

Robitaille, A. et J.-P. Saucier, 1998. Paysages régionaux du Québec méridional. Les publications du Québec. Québec. 213 pages.

