

FOLLOW-UP REPORT OF THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE OPERATIONAL INTEGRATED FOREST MANAGEMENT PLANS (PAFIO)

Management Units: 026-61, 026-62, 026-63, 026-64, 026-65, 026-66, 085-51, 086-52, 086-63, 086-64, 086-65, 086-66, 087-51, 087-62, 087-63 and 087-64

Public consultation held from January 22rd to February 15th, 2024
June 18, 2024

MINISTÈRE DES RESSOURCES NATURELLES ET DES FORÊTS



Note to Readers

The use of the masculine gender in this report has been retained for confidentiality purposes.

Acknowledgements

The Direction de la gestion des forêts du Nord-du-Québec wishes to thank the forest users who participated in this public consultation. We greatly appreciate your collaboration, which contributes to harmonious coexistence in the forest. We also wish to thank the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government for its collaboration in writing the consultation report.

Produced by

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List of abbreviations and acronyms

BFEC	Bureau du Forestier en chef
BGA	Timber supply guarantee holder (in French, Bénéficiaire de garanties d'approvisionnement)
BMMB	Bureau de mise en marché des bois
COS	Compartment of spatial organization (in French, Compartiment d'organisation spatiale)
CR	Regeneration cut (in French, Coupes de régénération)
CRV	Variable retention cuts (in French, Coupes à rétention variable)
HCVF	High conservation value forest
EIJBRG:	Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government
MRC (in English, RCM)	Regional county municipality (in French, Municipalité régionale de comté)
MRNF	Ministère des Ressources naturelles et des Forêts
PAFIO	Operational Integrated Forest Management Plan (in French, Plan d'aménagement forestier intégré opérationnel)
PAFIT	Tactical Integrated Forest Management Plan (in French, Plan d'aménagement forestier intégré tactique)
RSDF	<i>Regulation respecting the sustainable development of forests in the domain of the State.</i>
SFMS	Sustainable Forest Management Strategy
TLGIRT	Local Integrated Resource Management Planning Panel (in French, Table locale de gestion intégrée des ressources et du territoire)
MU (in French, UA)	Management Unit (in French, Unité d'aménagement)

To learn the various **forestry concepts** and **vocabulary frequently used** by the personnel of the Ministère des Ressources naturelles et des Forêts, consult the forestry glossary available on the Ministère website at the following address: <https://glossaire-forestier.mffp.gouv.qc.ca/>.

CONTEXT

LEGAL FRAMEWORK

Under the *Sustainable Forest Development Act*, the Ministère des Ressources naturelles et des Forêts (The Ministère) is responsible for producing the Operational and Tactical Integrated Forest Management Plans.

This Act requires that integrated forest development plans must be the object of a public consultation held by the body responsible for the composition and operation of the local integrated land and resource management panel (TLGIRT) or, if applicable, by the regional county municipality (RCM) to which that responsibility was entrusted under section 55.1.

The *Manuel de consultation publique sur les plans d'aménagement forestier intégré et les plans d'aménagement spéciaux* (Public consultation manual on integrated forest development plans and special development plans) indicates that following receipt of the consultation report prepared by the body responsible, the Ministère prepares a follow-up report on the public consultation. This one integrates the summary of the comments present in the consultation report produced by the body responsible and the follow-ups it intends to give them.

The Ministère has mandated the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government (EIJBRG) as the body responsible for the deployment of the TLGIRT, to support it in organizing public consultations.

OBJECTIVES OF THE CONSULTATION

The public consultation on the forest development plans has the following objectives:

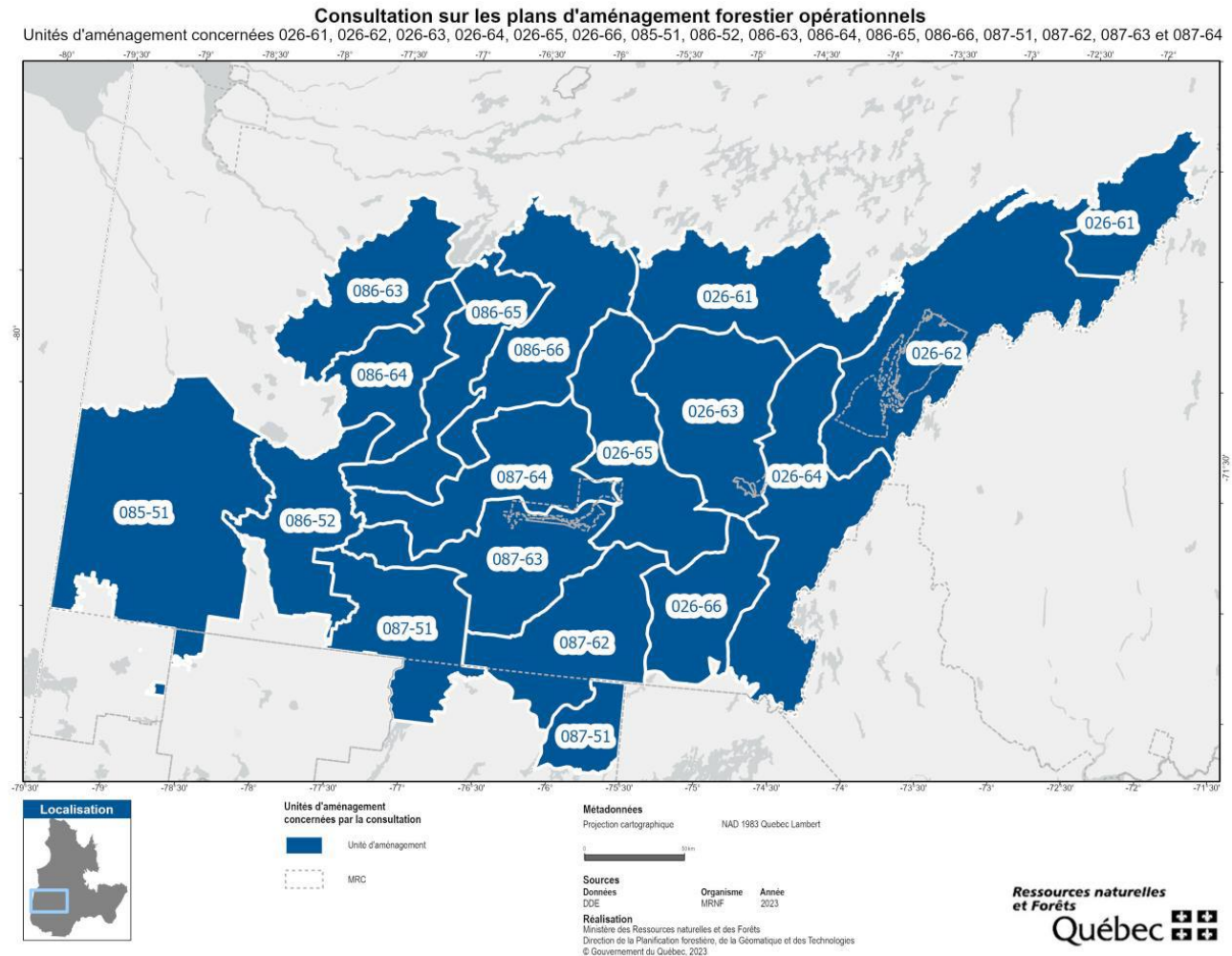
- Respond to the population's wish to be informed and listened to, and see their interests, values and needs to account for them in the decisions relating to forest management;
- Favour a better understanding by the population of management of the Québec public forest and, more specifically, of planning of forest management;
- Enable the population to express themselves regarding the proposed forest management plans and integrate, when possible, the interests, values and needs expressed;
- Reconcile the diversified interests of the many users of forest resources and land;
- Harmonize forest management with the population's values and needs;
- Enable the Minister to make the best possible decisions, in view of the circumstances.

Source: *Manuel de consultation publique sur les plans d'aménagement forestier intégré et les plans d'aménagement spéciaux*, 2021.

PERIOD AND MANAGEMENT UNITS CONCERNED

From January 22 to February 15, 2024, the Government invited the public to express its views on the Operational Integrated Forest Management Plans (PAFIO) of Management Units (MU) 026-61, 026-62, 026-63, 026-64, 026-65, 026-66, 085-51, 086-52, 086-63, 086-64, 086-65, 086-66, 087-51, 087-62, 087-63 and 087-64.

The public was informed of the holding of the consultation through the distribution of the public notice presented in the appendix.



Map 1 - Management Units Covered by the Consultation

INFORMATION MADE ACCESSIBLE

During the consultation period, the Ministère produced and posted online an interactive map which enabled the consultation of the detailed forest management plans. This map was posted on the Ministère's website on the regional forest plans and consultations page: [Plans forestiers régionaux et consultations | Gouvernement du Québec \(quebec.ca\)](https://www.quebec.ca/plans-forestiers-regionaux-et-consultations). Users could position on the map a point identifying the site concerned by their comment and submit it with an integrated form.

Those wishing to obtain further information on PAFIOs could contact the Ministère's teams during office hours.

Once the public consultation is over, those who wish to review the elements that were the subject of this consultation can find them on the map of previous consultations available at the following link: [click here](#).

REPORT ON PARTICIPATION

In the context of this public consultation, 11 persons sent comments by means of the electronic form. A total of 21 comments were received, including 12 expressed by an organization, an association or a business.

Table 1 - Number of Persons who Participated in the Public Consultation

Breakdown of comments received				
Management Unit	Number of respondents		Total comments	
	Personal	On behalf an organization	Number	%
10	0	1	1	5
026-64	1	0	1	5
026-65	0	1	1	5
085-51	6	3	9	43
086-52	1	2	3	14
087-51	1	2	3	14
087-63	0	3	3	14
All MUs	9	12	21	100

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS AND FOLLOW-UP THE MINISTÈRE INTENDS TO PROVIDE

Given their number, and with the goal of simplifying follow-up, the Ministère has chosen, in this report, the comments received in the form of table. This way of doing things makes it easier to find information and highlights all the main concerns raised by the people who took part in the public consultation. This also facilitates a review of the Ministère responses and an overview of the follow-up that will be done.

The following table summarizes the comments received and summarizes the analysis carried out by the Ministère.

Table 2 - Summary of Comments and Follow-up the Ministère Intends to Provide

Theme	Category of participants	Comment Summary	MRNF follow-up	MU
Infrastructure (roads, bridges)	Vacationer	Over the past two years, cutting rights have been granted around the Beaucours, and some roads have become completely impassable during and after the work, particularly the roads leading directly to our camps and the mouths of these roads. The vacationer asked that the roads not be destroyed and that they be accessible and safe for travelling. The same comment applies to the Nelson, Arty, and Ventadour areas.	Although this concern is of an operational nature and falls within the responsibility of the timber supply guarantee holder (BGA), we take due note of it. In addition, the <i>Regulation respecting the sustainable management of forests in the domain of the State (RADF)</i> stipulates that any person authorized to carry out forest management activities who, in the course of their activities, damages or renders unusable a road must immediately carry out the repairs required to make the road passable. The road must be passable for all types of vehicles likely to use the class of road to which it belongs. If an infraction is suspected, it must be reported to the management unit so that appropriate follow-up can be carried out. We will inform the designated BGA of your comment as soon as the harvest is scheduled in the annual plan and we will get back to you with their answer.	026-64
Infrastructure (roads, bridges)	Other	The participant requested that these roads be summer roads to facilitate access for future maintenance of the high-voltage line near them. Also, if possible, make penetrations (5 m wide to the high-voltage line) in a few places and make sure to cut all the trees at the edge of the high-voltage line on all the cutover areas of this large sector. The request also applies to the cutting area to the northeast towards Lac de la Sentinelle Solitaire.	Although this concern is operational in nature and is left to the BGA and the field to determine the operating season, we will inform the designated BGA to verify the possibility in this area and we will get back to you with their answer. However, we are unable to plan access areas. You can apply for a permit for other purposes when these blocks are selected in the annual planning to carry out access work.	026-65

Theme	Category of participants	Comment Summary	MRNF follow-up	MU
Retention and scarifying	Hunter, fisherman	The hunter indicated that it would be very important to allow more retention or to start leaving snags and find a more efficient way to leave large hardwoods in the cutting areas. He asked that Rexforêt respect this retention and the protocol for dealing with scarification.	One of the sustainable forest management targets of Tactical Integrated Forest Management Plan (PAFIT) 2023-2028 for the management unit is to treat at least 40% of regeneration cut (CR) areas with variable retention cuts (CRV). The biological legacies of these harvesting patterns are intended to ensure that the internal structure of managed forests resembles that of the natural forest by maintaining attributes of complexity and are not subject to non-commercial silvicultural treatments.	085-51
Infrastructure (roads, bridges) Type of road	Vacationer	The vacationer requested that the roads be winter roads in the area of these two rough shelter and trapping leases	The concerns about the use of the roads and the timing of the work are of an operational nature. The request has therefore been forwarded to the relevant BGAs who will ensure the necessary follow-up with the participant.	085-51
Infrastructure (roads, bridges)	Vacationer	The vacationer requested that they be winter roads and that they be as far away from their cottage and lake as possible. If there is access to the area by gravel roads, he asked that they stop several kilometres from his cottage. Additionally, he requested that the 4 km snowmobile trail be exempted from this access, as he would love to avoid easy access to his cottage.	Comments for this sector have already been made during a public consultation in 2019. The Ministry has since contacted the citizen; a meeting will be organized when harvesting of the sector is planned.	085-51

Theme	Category of participants	Comment Summary	MRNF follow-up	MU
Work area	Hunter, fisherman	The hunter sees a progressive regional deterioration of the landscape and its wildlife. For him, the ecosystem-based approach is inappropriate, given the proximity of the houses.	Ecosystem-based forest management is the ecological component of sustainable management that underpins Quebec's forestry regime. The aim of this type of management is to ensure that the main ecological attributes and functions of natural forests are maintained, with a view to promoting ecosystem health and biodiversity. The closer the condition of managed forests is maintained to that of natural forests, the greater the likelihood that species of fauna and flora will find habitat conditions to which they are adapted. In addition, although diverse uses represent a challenge for the various forestry stakeholders, our efforts are aimed at developing the full potential of a territory so that all citizens can benefit. The Ministry develops tools and implements solutions to help reconcile the various interests, needs and values on the territory.	085-51
Infrastructure (roads, bridges)	Municipal customers	The comment is about the condition of the dirt road that the participant uses to get to their home. The dirt road gradually sinks below the water level where the point is located. He requested that a follow-up be done if logging trips are planned.	The road in question is a municipal road under the responsibility of the locality of Valcanton. Any concerns raised by the citizen should therefore be addressed to the municipality.	085-51
Location of work (trails)	Vacationer	The vacationer group deplores the addition of new cutting blocks in their sector, which has been hard hit by the harvesting of the special management plan.	Harvesting operations in this sector are planned in accordance with the principles of ecosystem-based management, which aims to maintain the main ecological attributes and functions of natural forests in order to promote ecosystem health and biodiversity.	085-51

Theme	Category of participants	Comment Summary	MRNF follow-up	MU
Location of work	Trapper	The owner of the exclusive lease asked the government to suspend any harvest of this area spared by fire, considering that this patch of mature forests is the only one several kilometres away. It's a very good harvest area for American marten. The owner requested a five-year exemption from its 5/15 annual quota from the Department, which was granted to it since its land is more than 80% burned. As a result, he would like to see wildlife regenerate quickly enough, and to do so, he asks that the area be left alone from any disruption.	The final planning of harvesting sites allows for a certain amount of residual forest to meet, among other things, the needs of wildlife. In this way, planners ensure that stands are left in place to meet ecosystem management targets and maintain quality wildlife habitats. In addition, the adjacent residual forest block is mostly composed of unburned stands, many of which are mature. It is also important to note that this mosaic of green and fire-affected standing stands represents a habitat that is favourable for several wildlife species, as described in the following scientific article: A. Nappi, P. Drapeau et J.-P.L. Savard. 2004. « Salvage logging after wildfire in the boreal forest: Is it becoming a hot issue for wildlife? » <i>The Forestry Chronicle</i> . 80(1): 67-74. https://doi.org/10.5558/tfc80067-1	085-51
Work area	Hunter, fisherman	Considering that these last mature cutting blocks, adjacent to the residual forest block, are burned at more than 90%, the height of the burned residual forest is currently more than 7 metres. However, in the short term, these forests will fall and no longer provide the proper ecosystem for the wildlife in this area. The hunter asked the government to suspend the harvesting of the cutting areas that were spared by the forest fires.	The final planning of harvesting sites allows for a certain amount of residual forest to meet, among other things, the needs of wildlife. In this way, planners ensure that stands are left in place to meet ecosystem management targets and maintain quality wildlife habitats. In addition, the adjacent residual forest block is mostly composed of unburned stands, many of which are mature. It is also important to note that this mosaic of green and fire-affected standing stands represents a habitat that is favourable for several wildlife species, as described in the following scientific article: A. Nappi, P. Drapeau et J.-P.L. Savard. 2004. « Salvage logging after wildfire in the boreal forest: Is it becoming a hot issue for wildlife? » <i>The Forestry Chronicle</i> . 80(1): 67-74. https://doi.org/10.5558/tfc80067-1	085-51
Location of work		Several potential intervention areas have not been publicly consulted and are not part of the special plan for Fire No. 281.	The Ministry contacted the applicant to send him the public consultation documentation for those sectors that were consulted.	

Theme	Category of participants	Comment Summary	MRNF follow-up	MU
Work period		If there are new cutting blocks in this area, the participant asks for the suspension of harvesting, transportation and infrastructure during bear hunting from May 15 to June 30 and moose hunting from September 7 to October 22.	The concerns about the use of the roads and the timing of the work are of an operational nature. The request has therefore been forwarded to the relevant BGA who will ensure the necessary follow-up with the participant.	
Location of work	Trapper	The trapper asked the Department to be transparent and to demonstrate the accuracy of the claims that the cutting blocks, in dark grey on the map, have already been consulted. He requested that the public notices and all related documentation be obtained by email.	The Ministry contacted the trapper to send him the requested documentation.	085-51
Infrastructure (roads, bridges)	Recreational tourism	The implementation of the planned road involves crossing the snowmobile trail and possibly some transportation. The Club asks to be informed as soon as possible of the planned construction period, to ensure that the necessary measures are taken to maintain the quality of the trail so that it remains safe and passable.	The concerns about the use of the roads and the timing of the work are of an operational nature. The request has therefore been forwarded to the relevant BGA who will ensure the necessary follow-up with the participant.	085-51

Theme	Category of participants	Comment Summary	MRNF follow-up	MU
Infrastructure (roads, bridges)	Beneficiary of supply guarantee a	COS 101 site (MU 085-51). The area to be harvested, and the associated road construction, is covered by the protected area study zone ZE-F057, which is proposed as an extension to the Chicobi sector protected area reserve. According to the forestry certification in effect on the territory (FSC National Forest Management Standard), planned harvesting in this zone constitutes an issue with regard to the following indicator: forestry operations, including harvesting, silviculture and road construction, are not undertaken by the organization in territories designated for conservation, unless an independent expert has confirmed that they are appropriate to achieve the objectives associated with restoring or maintaining natural conditions.	There are no regulations currently in force prohibiting harvesting and the planned roads in this study area.	085-51
Infrastructure (roads, bridges)	Beneficiary of supply guarantee a	Site COS 63 (MU 085-51). According to the forestry certification in force on the territory (FSC national forest management standard), the planned harvesting in this zone constitutes an issue.	There are no regulations currently in force prohibiting harvesting and the planned roads in this study area.	085-51

Theme	Category of participants	Comment Summary	MRNF follow-up	MU
Infrastructure (roads, bridges)	Beneficiary of supply guarantee a	Site COS 27 (MU 085-51). The area planned for harvesting (and road construction) is covered by the high conservation value (HCV) zone known as "Île Splendide". This zone has been identified by Chantier Chibougamau - Scierie La Sarre under <i>Principle 9 of the FSC Standard</i> . This zone has been the subject of a consultation process by interested parties, and one aboriginal community considers it to be a territory of interest. We must therefore ensure compliance with the measures and intervention procedures identified to maintain the high conservation value (HCV). These measures are: "Winter harvesting and winter roads only, ecosystem management, maintaining connectivity".	Ecosystem-based management procedures were followed during harvest planning. Harmonization measures for forestry operations were also taken into account and communicated to BGA who will ensure the necessary follow-up with the participant.	085-51
Infrastructure (roads, bridges)	Beneficiary of supply guarantee a	Site COS 74 - Aldas lake road (MU 085-51). In this sector, the Villebois Val-Paradis, Beaucanton TLGIRT has identified zones of interest in order to respect visual framing. In accordance with Principle 4 of the forestry certification in force on the territory, we recommend that you ensure that the interests of the communities present are taken into account. The modality to be followed for interventions planned within a radius of 500 m to 3 km of the point of interest is as follows: "Less than 33% of eligible visible harvesting areas (stand less than 3 m)". In order to facilitate the process of verifying forest certification issues and other verifications for our internal needs, we ask the DGfO of Region 10 to provide the BSGs with a global shapefile with all the areas of intervention and roads planned during the consultation, as available on the consultation website.	The Ministry has taken this issue, raised by the Table locale de gestion intégrée des ressources et du territoire (TLGIRT), into account, and respected the terms and conditions when planning the intervention sectors. This global file is made available to the BGA through the digital exchange process put in place and is also updated regularly. Several files with the various harvesting sectors under consultation have also been sent to the BSGs to facilitate road planning.	085-51

Theme	Category of participants	Comment Summary	MRNF follow-up	MU
Infrastructure (roads, bridges)	Recreational tourism	The apparent absence of snowmobile trail outlines on the map makes consultation difficult.	Information on snowmobile trails is not available, but we are aware of their importance. Work is currently underway at the MRNF to agree on the most appropriate data layer to include in the interactive map content.	UG 106
Type of silvicultural treatment (cutting, thinning, etc.) Regeneration cutting	Consultant	This territory lies at the junction of immense wooded peatlands and ombrotrophic bogs. It constitutes an immense carbon reservoir. Each opening accelerates the release of methane. The consultant requested that the cutting be made with protection of the small market stems. In addition, a 400 m band should be excluded around the Carthwright to preserve potential archaeological sites. He asked for a discussion with a departmental representative to get more details.	The area covered by the comment is part of a sales contract between the BGA and the Bureau de mise en marché des bois (BMMB) dating back to 2021. Harmonization of the sector was carried out following public consultation and the aboriginal community of Pikogan prior to the sale. While the MRNF acknowledges the comment, it is important to specify that it is not possible to modify a contract once the sector has been harmonized and put up for sale via the BMMB.	086-52
Infrastructure (roads, bridges), Location of work	Recreational tourism	The planned road works cross the snowmobile trail, and several work sites are located on its edge (km 97, km 202, Douay, Desmazures, and others). These could affect the quality of the snowmobile trail. The club asked to be briefed on the timing and schedule of the work so that it could discuss the necessary measures for trail protection and user safety. The map consultation should offer the possibility of a background map of aerial photos. This would help to better locate and evaluate the roads concerned.	The MRNF will contact representatives of the Matagami snowmobile club to set up a meeting before the start of the season. This meeting will bring together MRNF stakeholders, BGA and club managers to ensure cohesion during the implementation of forestry work. However, we have made the BGA aware of the delicate nature of the sector to ensure that best practices are put forward. The information you are looking for is located in the context data, in the "other reference map data" section. Then select "aerial orthophotographs".	086-52
Location of work	Recreational tourism	The work site and other work sites in the same sector are located on the trail and could affect the quality of the snowmobile trail. The club would like to be informed of the timing and schedule of the work so that we can discuss measures to protect the trail and ensure user safety.	The MRNF will contact representatives of the Matagami snowmobile club to set up a meeting before the start of the season. This meeting will bring together MRNF stakeholders, BGA and club managers to ensure cohesion during the implementation of forestry work.	086-65

Theme	Category of participants	Comment Summary	MRNF follow-up	MU
Location of work	Beneficiary of supply guarantee a	Chantiers Bruneau are located in the 500-1,000 m HCVF protection corridor of the Bell River. Potential areas of intervention are in the less fragmented landscape of HCVF St-Cyr. Modalities 5% disturbance, 50% old-growth forests. Winter roads only.	Planning in the 500-1,000 m corridor of the Bell River High Conservation Value Forests (HCVF) respects the modality that calls for maintaining a forest area of stands 7 m or more in height above harvest. Planning in the St-Cyr HCVF's minimally fragmented landscape respects the modalities of 5% disturbance, 50% old forest. Planning for winter roads will be adjusted accordingly.	087-51
Infrastructure (roads, bridges)	Recreational tourism	Bridge repairs could have an impact on the snowmobile club's trails. The clubs would like to be informed of the work to be done on the bridges. They would like to be consulted before the project is designed, and they ask that the plans for the work include the space needed for snowmobilers to cross the waterway safely. Roads under construction and repair. Road using the trail. Logging site. The work planned on the roads at many different locations in these sectors could affect the quality of the trail and the safe circulation of snowmobilers. The Club asks to be kept informed of the schedule and timing of the work, so that it can determine operational measures to preserve the trails and ensure safe cohabitation if necessary.	An update will be made to include stakeholders in the distribution list to receive operation schedules. The concerns about the use of the roads and the timing of the work are of an operational nature. The request has been forwarded to the appropriate BSG who will ensure the necessary follow-up with the organization. In addition, a meeting is held each fall between the Lebel-sur-Quévillon snowmobile club, the BGA and the Ministry to ensure that harvesting activities are harmonized with access to snowmobile trails.	087-51

Theme	Category of participants	Comment Summary	MRNF follow-up	MU
Infrastructure (roads, bridges) / Logging sites and timber transport		Harvesting and road work may affect the integrity of the snowmobile trail. The Club asks to be informed as soon as possible of the timing and schedule of operations. He requested a meeting to discuss operational measures that will maintain the trail's quality and ensure safe co-existence with logging operations and transportation if necessary.	An update will be made to include stakeholders in the distribution list to receive operation schedules. The concerns about the use of the roads and the timing of the work are of an operational nature. The request has been forwarded to the appropriate BSG who will ensure the necessary follow-up with the organization. In addition, a meeting is held each fall between the Lebel-sur-Quévillon snowmobile club, the BGA and the Ministry to ensure that harvesting activities are harmonized with access to snowmobile trails.	087-51
Period of work/Type of treatment		The club is concerned about the proximity and impact of the cut on trail quality and user safety. They would like to be able to discuss and establish operational measures to reduce impacts. They would like to be informed of the period and schedule of operations as soon as possible.	An update will be made to include stakeholders in the distribution list to receive operation schedules.	087-51
Infrastructure (roads, bridges)		Roads are planned for implementation and improvement. They overlap, use, join and cross the snowmobile trail in many places in these areas. The Club is concerned about the impact this work will have on the integrity of the trails and their safe use during operations. They ask to be informed as soon as possible of the work periods and schedules. They ask to be consulted so that operational measures can be adopted to maintain trail quality and user safety.	An update will be made to include stakeholders in the distribution list to receive operation schedules. The concerns about the use of the roads and the timing of the work are of an operational nature. The request has been forwarded to the appropriate BSG who will ensure the necessary follow-up with the organization. In addition, a meeting is held each fall between the Lebel-sur-Quévillon snowmobile club, the BGA and the Ministry to ensure that harvesting activities are harmonized with access to snowmobile trails.	087-51

Theme	Category of participants	Comment Summary	MRNF follow-up	MU
Work period		The club requested a discussion on possible operational measures to reduce the impacts of forest work on the trail.	The concerns about the use of the roads and the timing of the work are of an operational nature. The request has been forwarded to the appropriate BSG who will ensure the necessary follow-up with the organization. In addition, a meeting is held each fall between the Lebel-sur-Quévillon snowmobile club, the BGA and the Ministry to ensure that harvesting activities are harmonized with access to snowmobile trails.	087-51
Location of work		The work site is located on the snowmobile trail. The Club is concerned that the work could affect the quality of the trail. They would like to be informed as soon as possible of the timing and schedule of operations. They would like to be able to agree on operational measures to protect the trail.	An update will be made to include stakeholders in the distribution list to receive operation schedules. The concerns about the use of the roads and the timing of the work are of an operational nature. The request has been forwarded to the appropriate BSG who will ensure the necessary follow-up with the organization. In addition, a meeting is held each fall between the Lebel-sur-Quévillon snowmobile club, the BGA and the Ministry to ensure that harvesting activities are harmonized with access to snowmobile trails.	087-51
Location of work	Recreational tourism	Harvesting and road work may affect the quality of the snowmobile trail. The club requested to be informed of the work period and schedule as soon as possible so that it could discuss the applicable measures for trail protection and user safety.	An update will be made to include stakeholders in the distribution list to receive operation schedules. The concerns about the use of the roads and the timing of the work are of an operational nature. The request has been forwarded to the appropriate BGA who will ensure the necessary follow-up with the organization. In addition, a meeting is held each fall between the Lebel-sur-Quévillon snowmobile club, the BGA and the Ministry to ensure that harvesting activities are harmonized with access to snowmobile trails.	087-51

Theme	Category of participants	Comment Summary	MRNF follow-up	MU
Location of work		The work is located on and near the snowmobile trail and could affect the quality of the snowmobile trail. The Club would like to be informed as soon as possible of the timing and schedule of the work, so that we can discuss measures to protect the trail and ensure user safety.	An update will be made to include stakeholders in the distribution list to receive operation schedules. The concerns about the use of the roads and the timing of the work are of an operational nature. The request has been forwarded to the appropriate BSG who will ensure the necessary follow-up with the organization. In addition, a meeting is held each fall between the Lebel-sur-Quévillon snowmobile club, the BGA and the Ministry to ensure that harvesting activities are harmonized with access to snowmobile trails.	087-51
Infrastructure (roads, bridges)		Bridges are used as water crossings for snowmobilers. Rehabilitation or reconstruction work should be designed and built with the safe circulation of snowmobilers in mind.	An e-mail has been sent to the Ministère des Transports et de la Mobilité durable to pass on the comment, and when major work is carried out, it will take into account the safe circulation of snowmobilers. The work currently scheduled is related to the replacement of the bridge running surface planks and the replacement of the wheel chases.	087-51
Infrastructure (roads, bridges)	Other	To facilitate access for future maintenance of the high-voltage line close to these roads, the participant asks for summer roads in this sector. In addition, he asked that all trees bordering the high-voltage line be cut back on all cutting beds in this large sector.	The concerns about the use of the roads and the timing of the work are of an operational nature. The request has therefore been forwarded to the relevant BSGs who will ensure the necessary follow-up with the organization. No forestry operations are planned in this sector by the BGA for the 2024-2025 season.	087-62
Location of work, work period	Recreational tourism	Worksites are posted and located near the snowmobile trail. This work on the roads may impact the quality of the trail. The club would like to discuss and agree on operational measures that will ensure the quality of the trail and the safety of snowmobilers. In addition, the club requested to be informed of the work schedule and timing.	An update will be made to include stakeholders in the distribution list to receive operation schedules. The concerns about the use of the roads and the timing of the work are of an operational nature. The request has been forwarded to the appropriate BSG who will ensure the necessary follow-up with the organization. In addition, a meeting is held each fall between the Lebel-sur-Quévillon snowmobile club, BGA and the Ministry to ensure that harvesting activities are harmonized with access to snowmobile trails.	087-63

Theme	Category of participants	Comment Summary	MRNF follow-up	MU
Work period	Recreational tourism	In this area, the Trans-Québec 93 trail has been using the former railway for 25 years. There are no alternate corridors between Lac Relique and Desmaraisville. Winter work would make it impossible to operate a trail since snowmobile trail operations and maintenance run from December to April.	An update will be made to include stakeholders in the distribution list to receive operation schedules. The concerns about the use of the roads and the timing of the work are of an operational nature. The request has been forwarded to the appropriate BSG who will ensure the necessary follow-up with the organization. In addition, a meeting is held each fall between the Lebel-sur-Quévillon snowmobile club, the BGA and the Ministry to ensure that harvesting activities are harmonized with access to snowmobile trails.	087-63
Infrastructure (roads, bridges)	Recreational tourism	Work is planned on the road that touches the road and could affect the quality of the snowmobile trail. The Club would like to be informed of the timing and schedule of the work so that we can discuss measures to protect the trail and ensure user safety.	An update will be made to include stakeholders in the distribution list to receive operation schedules. The concerns about the use of the roads and the timing of the work are of an operational nature. The request has been forwarded to the appropriate BSG who will ensure the necessary follow-up with the organization. In addition, a meeting is held each fall between the Lebel-sur-Quévillon snowmobile club, the BGA and the Ministry to ensure that harvesting activities are harmonized with access to snowmobile trails.	087-63
Forest management, cutting sectors and road network	Recreational tourism	To agree on the future of the outfitter's territory, in particular to ensure sustainable forest management, in order to take into account the issues of predictability, adaptability and the future of outfitting businesses. In addition, agree on the long-term road network for each outfitter and the areas (cut-out, size, location, and intervention sequence). Once this sequence and these conditions have been established, it is necessary to participate in the detailed planning of the sites, which must be carried out at least one year in advance.	Our annual PAFIO public consultation, which begins at the end of January, is the ideal time for outfitters to voice their concerns, particularly with regard to access, the road network, work periods, surface areas, contours and planned treatments. Outfitter managers can also communicate directly with the relevant Ministry staff, and harmonizations developed during the PAFIO public consultation process are taken into account when forest planning is drawn up. Harmonization meetings have already been held between St-Cyr outfitters and the Quévillon management unit.	DGfO

Theme	Category of participants	Comment Summary	MRNF follow-up	MU
Forest yield		Ensure a sustained yield of habitat at the appropriate scale for the outfitter and promote the resilience of the forest environment of aquatic habitats in a context of climate change.		
Work period		It will be very important to agree on operation schedules in advance, and for outfitters to be informed promptly when work is scheduled. There are several critical periods on the territory, but adjustments can be made when planned in advance if good communication and the required framework are in place. (Examples: bear and moose hunting season, family vacations and temporary camps).		

Conclusion

The PAFIO are dynamic and present the locations with the necessary potential to carry out the various development work. To consult the various forest planning documents relating to Nord-du-Québec, visit the Ministère's website.

Public consultations on the PAFIO are organized each year with the goal of collecting comments from organizations and individuals during the validity period of the plans. These consultations generally are held in January.

To view information related to operational forest planning, consult the interactive map of the region on the Ministère's website or address one of the management units mentioned below.

Chibougamau Management Unit

624, 3^e Rue

Chibougamau (Québec) G8P 1P1

Telephone: 418-748-2647

Harricana-Nord Management Unit

1122, Route 111 Est

Amos (Québec) J9T 1N1

Telephone: 819-444-5238

Quévillon Management Unit

1121, boulevard Industriel, C. P. 159

Lebel-sur-Quévillon (Québec) J0Y 1X0

Telephone: 819-755-4838

Mont-Plamondon Management Unit

645, 1^{re} Rue Est

La Sarre (Québec) J9Z 3P3

Telephone: 819-339-7623

Appendices

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE HOLDING OF THE CONSULTATION

The following table presents all the different means used by the MRNF or by the responsible body, for distribution of the announcement of the public consultation.

Table 3 - Means Used to Announce the Public Consultation

Moderate	Target audience	Details	Number	Date
Email	Citizens wishing to be kept informed	List of citizens who expressed their interest in being informed about the public consultations	77 persons	January 22, 2024
Public notice	Readers of dailies and weeklies	All weeklies in the regional county municipalities affected by the MU.	Readers of the <i>Le Citoyen Abitibi-Est et Ouest</i> (44 447 copies)	January 17, 2024
			Readers of the <i>La Sentinelle</i> (2 500 copies)	January 16, 2024
			Readers of <i>The Nation</i> (7 500 copies)	January 12, 2024
Social media	Subscribers to the Ministère's Facebook page	Public page managed by the Ministère	1 post	January 22, 2024

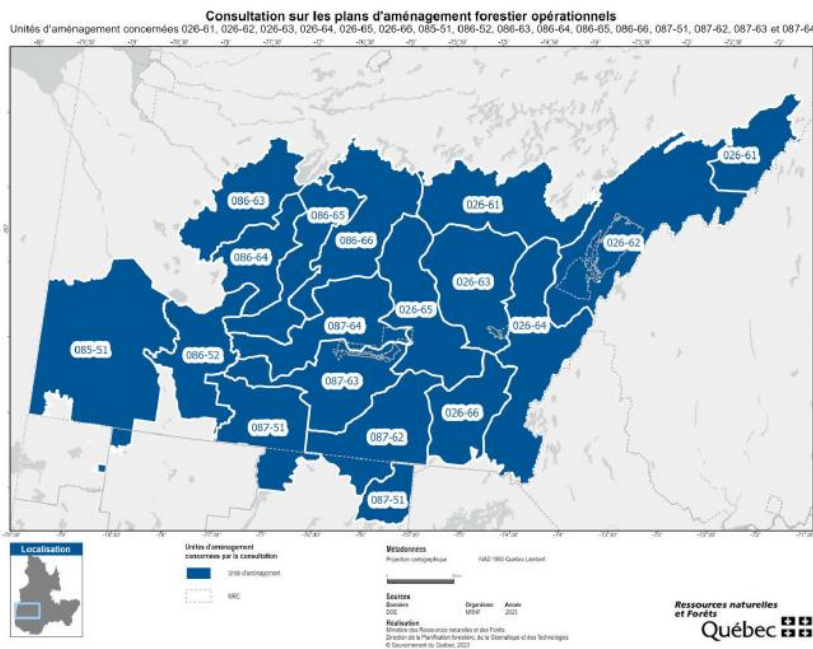
PUBLIC NOTICE AND INFORMATION ACTIVITY HELD

PUBLIC NOTICE

Ministère des Ressources naturelles et des Forêts

PUBLIC CONSULTATION – FOREST MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES IN THE NORD-DU-QUÉBEC REGION
From January 22 to February 15, 2024

The ministère des Ressources naturelles et des Forêts (MRNF) invites the public to participate in a public consultation on the 2023-2028 Integrated Forest Management Plans - Operational (PAFIOs) of the Nord-du-Québec region. Forestry work such as timber harvesting, land preparation, reforestation, thinning, construction and rehabilitation of multi-purpose roads are potentially planned in some areas of the public forest for management units 026-61, 026-62, 026-63, 026-64, 026-65, 026-66, 085-51, 086-52, 086-63, 086-64, 086-65, 086-66, 087-51, 087-62, 087-63 and 087-64.



To consult the plans and submit your comments: [Québec.ca/consultations-foret-nord-du-quebec](https://quebec.ca/consultations-foret-nord-du-quebec)



You have until February 15, 2024, at 11:59 pm, to provide your comments.

INFORMATION ACTIVITIES

Departmental experts will hold information sessions to specify the areas for potential intervention for public consultation, the way to provide online comments, and the follow-up that will be done regarding addressed concerns. A question-and-answer period with participants will conclude the activity.

Management units 026-61, 026-62, 026-63, 026-64, 026-65 and 026-66: Thursday, February 8, 2024, starting from 6:30 p.m. - Chibougamau: City Hall Council Room (650, 3e Rue)

Management unit 085-51: Thursday, January 25, 2024, starting from 6:30 p.m. - Beaucanton: Municipal Building Room A (2709, boulevard du Curé-McDuff)

Management units 086-52, 086-63, 086-64, 086-65 and 086-66 : Tuesday, February 6, 2024, starting from 6:30 p.m. - Matagami: EIJBRG Headquarters – Large room (2, rue des Rapides)

Management units 087-51, 087-62, 087-63 and 087-64 : Wednesday, February 7, 2024, starting from 6:30 p.m. - Lebel-sur-Quévillon: City Hall Room number 6 (500, place Quévillon)

For more information

Specialists are also available from Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. using the following contact information:

By email: nord-du-quebec.foret@mrnf.gouv.qc.ca

Unité de gestion de Chibougamau
624, 3e Rue
Chibougamau (Québec) G8P 1P1
Telephone: 418-748-2647

Unité de gestion de Quévillon
1121, boulevard Industriel, C. P. 159
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Unité de gestion de Mont-Plamondon
645, 1re Rue Est
La Sarre (Québec) J9Z 3P3
Telephone: 819-339-7623

Unité de gestion de l'Harricana-Nord
1122, route 111 Est
Amos (Québec) J9T 1N1
Telephone: 819-444-5238

Note: This consultation does not allow for the review of the use of public land, or the rights granted to it.

