

FOLLOW-UP REPORT
ON COMMENTS MADE DURING THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION HELD
FROM MAY 19 TO JULY 3, 2015
Presentation to 2013-2018 TIFMP

Direction générale de secteur nord-ouest

Produced on 3 July 2015

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This report was prepared and produced by:

Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs
Direction générale du Nord-du-Québec
1121, boulevard Industriel, C. P. 159
Lebel-sur-Quévillon (Québec) J0Y 1X0
Telephone: 819 755-4838
Fax: 819 755-3541
Email: Nord-du-Quebec@mffp.gouv.qc.ca

Dissemination

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1. Background

The Sustainable Forest Development Act (CQLR c A-18.1), which was adopted in March 2010, brings major changes to the roles and responsibilities as regards forest planning. The law, among other things, gives the Minister of Forests, Wildlife and Parks (MFFP) the full responsibility of elaborating integrated forest management plans (PAFI) as well as special management plans (PAS).

This law provides that plans must be submitted to public consultation, and that any modification to these plans and their implementation must also be submitted to public consultation.

PAS and modifications thereto are not subject to public consultation if the Minister considers that there is an urgent need for their application, in particular if such plans are considered necessary to avoid any deterioration or loss of timber (section 61 of the law).

At the same time, the Minister of Forest, Wildlife and Parks conducts separate consultations with the Aboriginal communities on PAFI and PAS, for these consultations must undergo a specific process.

2. Public consultation objectives

Public consultation aims at the following objectives:

- Fostering a much deeper understanding by the population of public forest management practices in Quebec, and more precisely of forest management planning.
- Responding to the population's desire to be informed and listened, and have their interests, values and needs taken into consideration in decisions relating to forest management.
- Giving the people the opportunity to express themselves on proposed forest management plans and, where feasible, incorporating interests, values and needs that have been expressed into the said plans.
- Reconciling the diversified interests of the many forest resources and land users.
- Harmonizing forest management with the population's values and needs.
- Giving the Minister all the tools necessary to take the most enlightened decisions according to the circumstances.

3. Principles guiding the conduct of public consultation

Public consultations on integrated forest management plans are guided by the following principles:

- Transparency and objectivity.
- Receptive environment where the population can express comments.
- Ease of access to information, and quality of the publicity surrounding the consultation activity intended for the population.
- Direct and personalized contact with target groups and individuals in order to clearly understand their interests, values and needs, and give them consideration in the plans.

4. Management units concerned by this public consultation

- 2013-2018 TIFMP: 026-61, 026-62, 026-63, 026-64, 026-65, 026-66, 085-51, 085-62, 086-52, 086-63, 086-64, 086-65, 086-66, 087-51, 087-62, 087-63 and 087-64

5. Conduct of the consultation process

The round of public consultation regarding the tactical integrated forest management plans (TIFMP) 2013-2018 took place from May 19 to July 3, 2015.

Individual letters announcing the public consultation were forwarded to the representatives of Aboriginal communities concerned by the consultation.

A public notice was published in local and regional newspapers inviting the population to take part in the consultation. A press release was also drafted and released on the news wire. Invitations were also sent to target individuals who had shown interest in being informed of such a consultation as well as to local and regional organizations and associations.

The following lists the written media in which the attached public notice (Appendix 1) was published prior to the consultation.

Written Media
La Sentinelle
Le Citoyen Abitibi-Est
Le Citoyen Abitibi-Ouest

6. Factual data on the public consultation

Region: Nord-du-Québec

Consultation period	19 May to 3 July, 2015
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Information meetings				
Date	19 May 2015	21 May 2015	19 May 2015	20 May and 3 June 2015
Place	Lebel-sur-Quévillon	Beaucanton	Matagami	Chibougamau
Number of participants	4	0	1	1 and 0

Number of persons who have consulted the plans at the offices of the Direction générale de secteur nord-ouest:	0
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Number of persons or organizations who voiced comments		
Persons	Organization	Total
1	3	4

7. Main comments received

Comments	Management Units	Modification requests	Follow-up by the MFFP
<p>A citizen Concern: location of timber operations</p>	<p>026-61</p>		<p>The TIFMP provides no detail on where timber operations are to be carried out. These elements of information are provided in the Operational IFMP.</p>
<p>SEPAQ Location of wetlands of interest (WI)</p> <p>Wants to be consulted on areas of increased timber production (AITP) in the two wildlife reserves concerned</p>	<p>026-61, 026-62, 026-63, 026-64, 026-65 & 086-66</p> <p>026-61, 026-62, 026-63, 026-64, 026-65 & 086-66</p>	<p>Would like to know if a round of consultation is scheduled to take place to identify WI.</p> <p>Once the information on WI is complete, it would be appropriate to share it with the stakeholders concerned and include a map in the next TIFMP.</p>	<p>There is no plan for a round of consultation, but a search for relevant information will be conducted. If SEPAQ has information that can be used to identify valuable wetlands, we will collect that information and evaluate the possibility to incorporate it in our planning.</p> <p>When we resume work on AITP within the framework of the local integrated land and resource management panel (LILRMP), we will gather the concerns.</p>

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<p>SEPAQ</p> <p>Without local integrated land and resource management panels (LILRMP), the local issues and objectives are not very representative of the needs and issues of concern of the various land users such as controlled wildlife territories, vacationers and MRC. The notions of landscape and water habitat protection are of great importance to SEPAQ.</p> <p>Legends providing information on the alteration level, on the maps appended to the TIFMP.</p> <p>Strategy adopted on partial cuts and variable retention harvesting</p>	<p>026-61, 026-62, 026-63, 026-64, 026-65 & 086-66</p> <p>026-61, 026-62, 026-63, 026-64, 026-65 & 086-66</p> <p>026-61, 026-62, 026-63, 026-64, 026-65 & 086-66</p>	<p>Asks if there exists a mechanism whereby the stakeholders concerned can communicate their issues and express their concerns so as to make sure they are taken into consideration and introduced in the TIFMP.</p> <p>Asks to use the legend found on the maps of the TIFMP developed for other regions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Green – Low alteration level - Yellow – Average alteration level - Red – High alteration level <p>Write in the TIFMP that partial cuts and variable retention harvesting are suitable for issues that face various land users, including landscape and habitat protection. When identifying a location for partial cuts and variable retention harvesting, encourage the choice of sensitive areas or sites of interest.</p>	<p>We take note of the interest that SEPAQ takes in issues relating to landscapes and water habitats. These elements of information will be taken into consideration when issues are identified with the LILRMP.</p> <p>The MFFP will review the legend on the TIFMP maps and make the necessary adjustment.</p> <p>These are interesting solutions. These issues could be discussed at LILRMP meetings to determine which of them can be maintained and incorporated in a future version of the TIFMP.</p>

Comments	Management Units	Modification requests	Follow-up by the MFFP
<p>Tembec</p> <p>The certification mentioned in the introduction is overestimated. The introduction should include a brief outline of the main sections of the TIFMP.</p> <p>It is hard to follow the tables and figures in the document.</p> <p>Nothing is said about the MFFP-CIFQ Agreement in the TIFMP.</p> <p>Because resources are described generically, it is hard to differentiate resources specific to a given management unit from those characterizing the Nord-du-Québec region.</p> <p>In Section 2 – <u>Forest Management History</u>, nothing is said about the new governance.</p>	<p>085-51, 085-62, 087-51 & 087-63</p>	<p>Briefly outline the main sections of the TIFMP in the introduction.</p> <p>Number the tables and figures in the document.</p> <p>Mention the MFFP-CIFQ Agreement in Section 1.3 <u>MFFP Policy on Certification</u>, for this agreement plays a key role in determining roles and responsibilities relating to forest management.</p> <p>Describe the resources in such a way as to differentiate resources specific to a management unit from those characterizing the Nord-du-Québec region.</p>	<p>The introduction will be changed to reflect the comments.</p> <p>The MFFP will review the tables and figures in the TIFMP and make the necessary adjustments.</p> <p>The MFFP will review the TIFMP and make the necessary adjustments.</p> <p>The MFFP will review the description of the resources provided in the TIFMP and make the necessary adjustments.</p> <p>The MFFP will go over Section 2 of the TIFMP and make the necessary adjustments.</p>

Comments	Management Units	Modification requests	Follow-up by the MFFP
<p>Tembec</p> <p>Reference is made to Fortress Paper and its corporate commitment to reopen Domtar’s former mill in Lebel-sur-Quévillon to produce rayon pulp.</p> <p>There is no map of mines and sound projects in Section 4.2.2 <u>Current Use of the Area</u>.</p> <p>One sentence refers to holders of timber harvest permits to supply wood processing plants with rights on the area. This wording suggests that we refer here to a FMU in particular.</p> <p>In Section 4.2.2 <u>Current Use of the Land</u>, the sub-section on Aboriginal use of the land provides no indication of the land used by the Aboriginal groups.</p>	<p>085-51, 085-62, 087-51 & 087-63</p>	<p>If this information is no longer relevant; it is suggested to remove it or rectify it.</p> <p>In order to have a clear idea of the footprint of the mining industry on the area, the company asks for a map illustrating the mines and sound projects, and an indication of when the map was last updated.</p> <p>Mention that the holders of timber harvest permits to supply a wood processing plant do operate in the Nord-du-Québec region.</p> <p>Provide more information on the land. Do we refer here to the management unit or to the Nord-du-Québec region?</p>	<p>The MFFP will go over this element of information in all the TIFMP and make the necessary adjustments.</p> <p>An e-link will be provided in the TIFMP to the MERN <i>Reports on Mineral Activities in Quebec</i>. The reports list active mining projects and include information on mining exploration and exploitation activities; the information is updated on a yearly basis.</p> <p>The wording will be changed so as to avoid any ambiguities.</p> <p>The MFFP will review this section of the TIFMP and make the necessary adjustments.</p>

Comments	Management Units	Modification requests	Follow-up by the MFFP
<p>Tembec</p> <p>In Section 4.2.2 <u>Current Use of the Land</u>, the sub-section on Aboriginal use of the land should provide updated information on the status of the signing of Program for aboriginal participation in integrated forest management and forest resource development (APP) agreements and participation in LILRMP.</p> <p>Asks if the Algonquin communities will sit on the new LILRMP.</p> <p>The information provided at the end of the section on land use (page 31) does not belong there.</p> <p>In Section 4.2.3 <u>Area Under Study</u>, the list of sites and associated conditions could be appended to the document in a generic manner.</p> <p>In Section 4.2.3, the sentence explaining that <i>HCVF are established to manage this type of forests in order to preserve or reinforce high conservation values</i> is incomplete.</p>	<p>085-51, 085-62, 087-51 & 087-63</p>	<p>Mention that LILRMP were dissolved with the introduction of the new governance.</p> <p>Also, it should be mentioned that Pikogan participated in the CRRNT of Abitibi in 2014-2015 and the Council of the Atikamekv Nation participated in the CRRNT Mauricie until 2015.</p> <p>The 3-paragraph subsection could be retitled or form a separate section.</p> <p>A reference document, provincial in scope, could be developed and then complemented by local information.</p> <p>The following could be added at the end of the sentence: "...in compliance with the criteria set out in Principle 9 of the Boreal Standard."</p>	<p>The dissolution of the LILRMP and the introduction of the new governance are discussed in Section 5. Following the comments expressed during the public consultations, changes were also made to Section 1 to clearly explain this matter. This element, therefore, will not be dealt with in this section.</p> <p>The comment to mention the participation of Aboriginal communities in LILRMP or CRRNT was not maintained.</p> <p>The MFFP will review this section of the TIFMP and make the necessary adjustments.</p> <p>An e-link to the RNI will be incorporated. The text will be modified if it contains information specific to the FMU. A map of the protected areas will be added.</p> <p>Since the FSC is now reviewing the Boreal Standard, the request may no longer be pertinent once the new version is out. We prefer to maintain the text as is.</p>

Comments	Management Units	Modification requests	Follow-up by the MFFP
<p>Tembec</p> <p>The subsection dealing with elements of forest certification, in Section 4.2.3 <u>Area Under Study</u>, does not describe how exotic plantations are monitored.</p> <p>An item on the role played by indicators should be added in Section 5.1 <u>Issues and Objectives at Provincial Level</u>.</p> <p>In Section 5.1 <u>Issues and Objectives at Provincial Level</u>, there is no VOIT on riparian environments.</p> <p>The section on woodland caribou recovery should also include the recovery plan and the addendum on the Detour herd.</p> <p>A section on the challenge of meeting industrial needs could be added in Section 5.2 <u>Issues and Objectives at Regional Level</u>.</p> <p>In Section 5.2, it is as if the paragraph on the First Nations does not belong here.</p>	<p>085-51, 085-62, 087-51 & 087-63</p> <p>085-51, 085-62, 087-51 & 087-63</p> <p>085-51, 085-62, 087-51 & 087-63</p> <p>085-51 & 085-62</p> <p>085-51, 085-62, 087-51 & 087-63</p> <p>085-51, 085-62, 087-51 & 087-63</p>	<p>Describe how exotic plantations will be monitored (vitality, invasion).</p> <p>Specify that indicators are also useful to evaluate the performance of forest management.</p> <p>Add a VOIT on riparian environments.</p> <p>The document should mention that it is possible to consult the woodland caribou plan and Detour herd addendum at the MFFP office.</p> <p>Add a section on the challenge of meeting the needs of timber companies and mills operating in the area.</p> <p>Put the paragraph in the right place.</p>	<p>In the TIFMP developed for FMU with exotic plantations, we will add a sentence to clarify that monitoring procedures are the same for all types of plantations, exotic plantations included.</p> <p>The MFFP will review this section of the TIFMP and make the necessary adjustments in Section 5 rather than in Section 5.1.</p> <p>The 2013-2018 TIFMP is currently being developed; it is too soon to include a VOIT on the issue of riparian environments.</p> <p>A sentence will be incorporated to inform the reader that the woodland caribou plan and the addendum can be consulted at the MFFP office (Section 5).</p> <p>We do not consider it necessary to include this matter in the TIFMP, for it is implicit in the document.</p> <p>The MFFP will review this section of the TIFMP and make the necessary adjustments.</p>

Comments	Management Units	Modification requests	Follow-up by the MFFP
<p>Tembec</p> <p>Reference could be made to local issues raised by the former LILRMP in Section 5.3 <u>Issues and Objectives at Local Level</u>.</p> <p>In the portion of Section 5.3 <u>Issues and Objectives at Local Level</u> discussing Aboriginal matters, some concerns are taken into consideration in the harmonization of sectors although they have not resulted in the elaboration of a VOIT.</p> <p>Section 6.2 could also discuss the matters raised in indicator 6.3.16 of the FSC Boreal Standard (Access Management).</p> <p>The target of maintaining the proportions of mixed and hardwood stands does not make it possible to attain the objective of VOIT 1.101.100 (reduce the gap between managed forests and natural forests).</p> <p>In Section 6.3.3 <u>Chosen Strategy</u>, add a mention of the mills’ supply needs.</p>	<p>085-51, 085-62, 087-51 & 087-63</p> <p>085-51</p> <p>085-51, 085-62, 087-51 & 087-63</p> <p>085-51, 085-62, 087-51 & 087-63</p> <p>085-51, 085-62, 087-51 & 087-63</p>	<p>Mention that the former LILRMP raised local issues when the first version of the TIFMP was produced.</p> <p>Specify that the concerns will be taken into consideration when the areas are harmonized, even if they have not resulted in the elaboration of a VOIT.</p> <p>In Section 6.2, add the items of the indicator pertaining to access management and the roles and responsibilities associated with the establishment of infrastructures.</p> <p>Reducing the proportion should be considered given the overabundance of hardwood trees.</p> <p>Mention that the purpose of the management efforts is to meet the supply needs of the mills.</p>	<p>The MFFP and EIJBRG will discuss the concerns raised by the former LIRMP. The MFFP will adapt the TIFMP as appropriate.</p> <p>The MFFP will review this section of the TIFMP and make the necessary adjustments.</p> <p>The 2013-2018 TIFMP is currently being developed, but it is not advanced enough to include these items.</p> <p>The VOIT will be reworded to avoid any ambiguity.</p> <p>We do not consider it necessary to incorporate this element in the TIFMP, because it is implicit in the document.</p>

Comments	Management Units	Modification requests	Follow-up by the MFFP
<p>Tembec</p> <p>The document does not include a section on the results of the previous 5-year period. Wonders if the strategy supported in the past five years has been followed and if there is a lot of catching up to do.</p> <p>Make sure that the TIFMP and related documents cover all the items under criterion 7.1 of the FSC Standard.</p>	<p>085-51, 085-62, 087-51 & 087-63</p> <p>085-51, 085-62, 087-51 & 087-63</p>	<p>Add a section on the results of the previous 5-year period.</p> <p>Make a comprehensive list of documents relating to the plan and used for management purposes.</p>	<p>We will make our report on the results of the previous 5-year period available when completed.</p> <p>The MFFP will review this section of the TIFMP and make the necessary adjustments.</p>
<p>Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government (EIJBRG)</p> <p>Concern about the LILRMP.</p> <p>The EIJBRG wants to see the 5-year planning in order to better understand the TIFMP.</p>	<p>All FMU</p> <p>All FMU</p>	<p>The Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government wants the issues discussed at LILRMP meetings prior to January 2014 taken into consideration in the 2013-2018 TIFMP.</p> <p>The EIJBRG wants to see the planning maps.</p>	<p>The MFFP and EIJBRG will discuss the issues raised at the former LILRMP meetings. The EIJBRG will have to validate the issues supported during those meetings and communicate them to the MFFP; the MFFP will adapt the TIFMP as appropriate.</p> <p>The TIFMP does not include such maps; these are included in the IOFMP only.</p> <p>A request can be made to the MFFP to get a copy of the maps needed by the EIJBRG.</p>

Comments	Management Units	Modification requests	Follow-up by the MFFP
<p>Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government (EIJBRG)</p> <p>Make sure that the productivity level in areas prone to shrub invasion and paludification does not decline after felling operations.</p>	<p>All FMU</p>	<p>The VOIT on forest productivity issues should focus on the target of maintaining the level of forest productivity in the area.</p> <p>Elaborate a VOIT on paludification for FMU 085-62, 086-63, 086-66, 087-51, 087-63 & 087-64.</p>	<p>The MFFP share the concerns raised by the EIJBRG. As part of its timber production project, the MFFP has developed expertise and gathered information needed to elaborate solutions. These elements will prove important inputs and feed the discussions of the LILRMP members on this matter.</p> <p>Also the MFFP will perform silvicultural tests for improving the efforts in rehabilitating those sites and increasing their production level. The research projects are carried out in our region to optimize the use of our resources and the production level of the sites. The MFFP is engaged in a continuous reflection on how to rehabilitate these sectors to ensure the economic and operational feasibility of forestry activities.</p> <p>Work to change the target or elaborate a VOIT for some FMU is underway but not advanced enough for its introduction. The work on the 2018-2023 TIFMP will start this fall; this is a matter for discussion with the LILRMP.</p>

Comments	Management Units	Modification requests	Follow-up by the MFFP
<p>Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government (EIJBRG)</p> <p>Higher alteration level in the TUA located in the southern part of FMU 086-65.</p> <p>Concern on forestry operations monitoring.</p> <p>Annual report on forestry operations.</p> <p>Maps presented in duplicate.</p>	<p>086-65</p> <p>All FMU</p> <p>All FMU</p> <p>All FMU</p>	<p>Wants the level of alteration clarified, since the regional milieu submitted a project to create a proximity forest.</p> <p>The EIJBRG fears that surface areas could be left out; it asks for a summary list of the surface areas covered and a report of the results obtained in previous years.</p> <p>The EIJBRG would like to get a copy of those documents.</p> <p>Would like the maps presented in duplicate removed from the TIFMP.</p>	<p>The level of alteration in TUA 1 (FMU 086-65) has been increased to maintain a low level of alteration in TUA 2, in the northern portion of the FMU. These alteration targets will make it possible to distribute felling operations according to territorial issues by managing the impact of allowable cuts as effectively as possible.</p> <p>The MFFP, concerned with ensuring the quality of operations carried out in the area, uses a system to monitor the quality and quantity of forestry operations in the area. This monitoring system is regulated by the environmental management system of ISO 14001. Section 7 will be reworded to explain how forestry operations are monitored.</p> <p>Because technical and financial activity reports (RATF) are not part of TIFMP, the request to obtain these documents can be made to the MFFP.</p> <p>TIFMP will be reviewed and necessary adjustments made.</p>

Comments	Management Units	Modification requests	Follow-up by the MFFP
<p>Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government (EIJBRG)</p> <p>Concern about map legends (location error, reference to Municipalité de la Baie-James).</p> <p>Areas of increased timber production (AITP)</p> <p>Proximity forest</p>	<p>085-51, 086-52, 087-51, 087-62, 087-63 & 087-64</p> <p>All FMU</p> <p>086-65</p>	<p>Wants errors rectified.</p> <p>This information should be deleted from the TIFMP.</p>	<p>The MFFP will review this section of the TIFMP and make the necessary adjustments.</p> <p>AITP are projects to be carried in the future; the MFFP considers that it is important to mention them. However we have taken note of the FMU with a low productivity level and little possibility to establish AITP; these sections will be adjusted in the final version of the TIFMP. We refer here to FMU 085-62, 086-63, 086-66 & 026-61.</p> <p>Proximity forests are not part of the 2013-2018 TIFMP. They will be taken into consideration in the 2018-2023 TIFMP, depending on how the project progresses.</p>

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