

Follow-Up Report 2021 Public Consultations PAFIO – Outaouais Region

June 2021

MINISTÈRE DES FORÊTS, DE LA FAUNE ET DES PARCS

Acknowledgements

We thank the Pontiac regional county municipality (RCM) for its involvement in organizing the public consultations

Production

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This document is available online only, at:

mffp.gouv.qc.ca/rapports-consultations-plans-damenagement-forestier-integre/

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1. Background

The *Sustainable Forest Development Act* (CQLR, c. A-18.1), adopted in March 2010, entrusts the Minister of Forests, Wildlife and Parks with full responsibility for preparing integrated forest development plans and special development plans. It also stipulates that these plans must be submitted for public consultation.

Accordingly, the Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs (MFFP) asked the Pontiac RCM to organize a public consultation from January 6 to 30, 2021. The consultation focused on the forest operations zones shown on the integrated operational forest development plans (known by their French acronym PAFIO) for development units 071-51, 071-52, 072-51, 073-51, 073-52 and 074-51, targeted for non-commercial silvicultural work.

The operational plan presents forest operations zones in which non-commercial work such as planting, land preparation and pre-commercial thinning may be carried out, and shows the locations of infrastructures to be built or improved in the coming years.

During the public consultation, the population was asked to submit questions, express concerns and make comments on the following elements of the operational plan among others:

- The potential forest operations zones
- The area of the worksites
- The type of treatment administered

1.1 Communications

The population was informed about the public consultation in a variety of ways.

Table 1. Announcement of the public consultation

<i>Methods</i>	<i>Information provided</i>
E-mail sent to the representatives on the Outaouais integrated regional land and resource management panel (the Panel) and their replacements (33)	Announcement of the public consultation and provision of the proposed database for the public consultation (shapefiles)
E-mail sent via the Cyberimpact to the Outaouais municipalities and RCMs, to people who had said they wished to be informed about public consultations, and to the Panel representatives and their replacements (552)	Announcement of the public consultation and link to consult the interactive map and make comments using the georeferenced form
Notice published on the Panel’s website	Link to the operational plan map for 2018-2023

Panel's Facebook page	Announcement of the public consultation and link to consult the interactive map
Public notice	<p>A public notice appeared in the Outaouais regional media:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Le Droit (web and paper)</i> • <i>Info de la Basse Lièvre</i> • <i>Journal les 2 Vallées</i> • <i>Info de la Vallée</i> • <i>The Equity (French and English)</i> • <i>Petite-Nation</i> • <i>Journal Pontiac – French</i> • <i>Journal Pontiac – English</i> • <i>Le bulletin d'Aylmer (web)</i> • <i>Info Petite Nation (web)</i>
Message on the MFFP's Facebook page; MFFP press release	Announcement of the public consultation and link to consult the interactive map and make comments
Virtual information sessions	<p>January 13, 2021: Session #1 January 21, 2021: Session #2</p> <p>The first part of the session focused on how to take part in the public consultation, and the second part explained how concerns are addressed and included in the plan</p>

The MFFP's offices were closed to the public because of the pandemic. Anyone wishing to obtain additional information on the plans was asked to leave their questions and concerns in the voicemail box of an employee, along with their name and contact information. Calls were returned within two working days.

1.2 Interactive map

The MFFP produced an interactive map and published it online so that it would be easier for the public to consult the operational plan. Among other things, the map could be used to locate potential forest operations zones. Users were able to increase the level of detail by decreasing the viewing scale. More user-friendly than a static map, it was produced by combining all the maps into a single tool and adding a significant volume of information on potential forestry work. For members of the public, it greatly simplified the task of searching for information and submitting comments.

For additional information on forest plans, please visit the MFFP's website at:
mffp.gouv.qc.ca/rapports-consultations-plans-damenagement-forestier-integre/

2. Objectives of the Public Consultations

The aims of the public consultations on forest development plans are to:

- help the population to understand how Québec's public forests are managed, and more specifically, how forest development is planned
- give the population an opportunity to express its opinion of the proposed plans and, as far as possible, to incorporate the interests, values and needs expressed
- reconcile the interests of the many users of forest resources and forest land
- harmonize forest development with the values and needs of the population
- allow the MFFP to make the best possible decisions in fulfilling its responsibilities

Scope and limitations of the public consultations

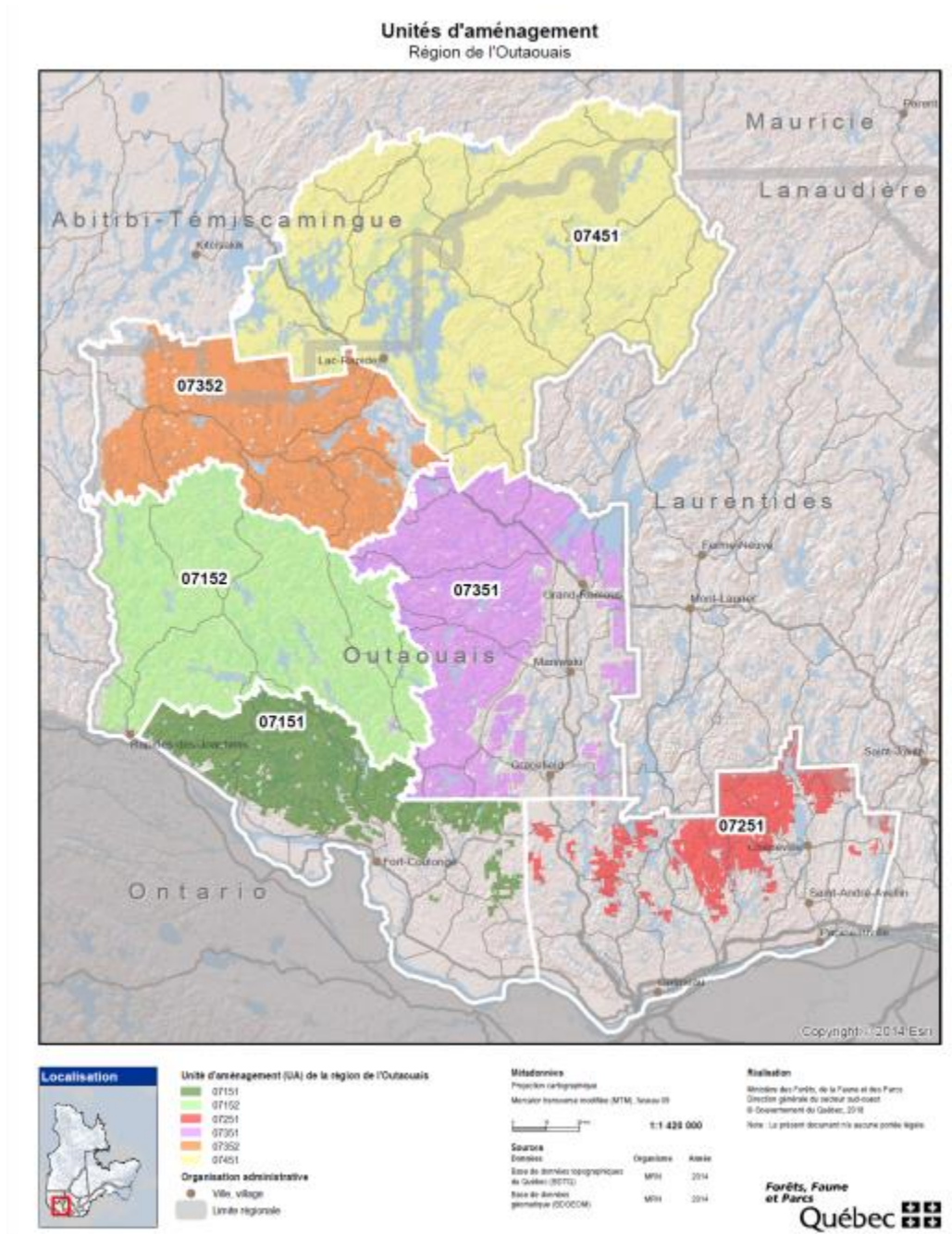
The public consultations provide an opportunity to take into account the interests and concerns of people with an interest in the sustainable development and management of forests in the domain of the State.

They are not intended as a forum to question public land uses that have been proposed or approved by the Government, or the forestry rights granted by the MFFP, nor do they address the vision, orientations or objectives for sustainable forest management, as established in the Sustainable Forest Management Strategy.

3. Development Units Included in the Public Consultation

The Outaouais region (07) is composed of six development units (DUs), namely DUs 071-51, 071-52, 072-51, 073-51, 073-52 and 074-51. These units cover the administrative regions of Outaouais and Abitibi-Témiscamingue –the La Vallée-de-l’Or RCM portion. This particular consultation focused on non-commercial silvicultural work planned for all the region’s development units.

Development units in the Outaouais region



4. Comments Received

4.1 Number of organizations and individuals submitting comments

During the consultations on the 2018-2023 operational plan (PAFIO), comments were made on behalf of organizations and by individuals in their personal capacity. **Table 2** presents the type and number of participants.

Table 2. Number of organizations and individuals submitting comments

<i>Public consultation on the 2021 operational plan</i>		
Development units	Number of organizations	Number of individuals (who took part in a personal capacity)
071-51, 071-52, 072-51, 073-51, 073-52 and 074-51	8	5

4.2 Comments made and concerns expressed

Table 3 presents the main comments received and concerns expressed, by topic, during the consultation, along with a summary of the MFFP's follow-up in each case. This format was chosen to provide an overview of the participants' concerns, and to allow readers to find information more quickly. Some of the concerns were broken down and each part was moved into its respective category, to simplify the report and make it easier to understand.

It is important to note that comments on specific work sites were systematically forwarded to the MFFP officers responsible for forest planning, and to the person responsible for operational harmonization where applicable. **Table 4** presents comments on the consultation process and tools.

Table 3. Main comments made and concerns expressed – MFFP’s analysis and responses

Categories	Comments - Concerns (Summary)	Responses
<p>Infrastructures (roads, bridges), transportation (noise, safety), operational harmonization and road planning</p>	<p>Construction of a new logging road that extends from the Kazabazua river north and into an area surrounded by the official biodiversity reserve and the associated territoire d'intérêt (TI)"</p> <p>We share the opinion that the area should be left as is, without any forestry work.</p>	<p>In the case of a biodiversity reserve: Under section 3 of the RSDF, no forest development activity may be carried out in a biodiversity reserve, because it is a proposed or permanent Category I, II or III protected area of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), constituted in accordance with the <i>Natural Heritage Conservation Act</i> (chapter C-61.01) or the <i>Parks Act</i> (chapter P-9) and entered in the register of protected areas, unless the carrying out of the activity is authorized under one of those acts or pursuant to them. Every MFFP authorization is therefore conditional on and subsequent to authorization by the Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte aux Changements Climatiques (MELCC) under the Natural Heritage Conservation Act or the Environment Quality Act (impact assessments). Under section 2 of the RSDF, some development activities are excluded from the application of section 3: the repair, maintenance and closure of forest roads or the control of fires, insect epidemics and cryptogamic diseases.</p> <p>In the case of an area of interest: Areas of interest benefit from administrative protection, which mainly prohibits logging activities and, by extension, most forest development activities. Basically, areas of interest are managed in the same way as protected areas. However, since the protection is administrative and not legal in nature, activities for which infrastructures are required may be authorized. The MELCC is then informed. It is therefore possible to proceed if the MFFP deems the work essential to the exercise of a pre-existing right or for matters deemed priorities (e.g. the Rivière Coulonge bridge). This means that it is improbable but not impossible that a road may be built in an area of interest. It is important to remember that this happens very rarely, in exceptional circumstances. Lastly, the work must not, in any way, adversely affect the designation potential of the area of interest, meaning that a work site overflow into an area of interest would not be permitted.</p>
	<p>The travel routes are of high importance, as well as whether any maintenance will be done on the roads (eg. limbing, grading, plowing, sanding). These roads are used year round by private vehicles, and in the winter months by snow-machines as well.</p>	<p>Section 41 of the SFDA states that any person may use a multi-purpose road.</p> <p>The MFFP itself does not carry out road repairs or maintenance. Instead, it offers a number of programs and support measures to help users to do this type of work. Users that restore forest roads include but are not limited to forestry companies, structured wildlife area managers and snowmobile clubs, as mentioned in the comment.</p> <p>The “user pays” principle applies to the maintenance of multi-purpose roads in the public forest.</p>
	<p>When will it occur? How long is it estimated to last / go on?</p>	<p>The annual program of forest development work can be consulted on the interactive map posted on the website of the Outaouais integrated regional land and resource management panel (the Panel) at: https://trgirto.ca/fr/carte-interactive/. The map shows the sectors that have been authorized, in which work will very probably take place during the current year. You can also locate the route that will be used to transport the timber and the season in which the company plans to do the work.</p> <p>In addition, the supply guarantee holders file their weekly plans on the Panel's website, at www.trgirto.ca. They are required to post the start date of their forestry work one month in advance, at the site entrance.</p>

Categories	Comments - Concerns (Summary)	Responses
	<p>I would like the Pontiac ZEC to be notified in advance of the non-commercial work that will take place during a given year. I would like the information to be sent in a single document detailing all the non-commercial work for the year, so that we can plan accordingly and communicate with our members.</p>	<p>Your concern has been forwarded to Rexforêt to ensure operational harmonization for non-commercial silvicultural work. Please note that there will not be a single schedule of work. Sites will be added during the season.</p>
	<p>We would like to know the route to be used and the number of trucks that will circulate on the roads in question.</p>	<p>For commercial silvicultural work, operational harmonization takes place a few weeks before the work begins. The forestry companies concerned, which are responsible for planning the roads, have been informed of your concerns so that they can be taken into account. You will be contacted by the guarantee holder responsible for operational harmonization in the sector concerned, when the sector is about to become operational. We suggest you ask the supply guarantee holder for clarification regarding the number of trucks that may travel on the roads in question.</p> <p>If your concern relates to a potential forest operations zone targeted for non-commercial silvicultural work, there will be no transportation of timber.</p> <p>The annual program of forest development work can be consulted on the interactive map posted on the website of the Outaouais integrated regional land and resource management panel (the Panel) at: https://trgirto.ca/fr/carte-interactive/. The map shows the sectors that have been authorized, where work will very probably take place during the current year. You can also locate the route that will be used to transport the timber and the season in which the company plans to do the work.</p> <p>In addition, supply guarantee holders file their weekly plans on the Panel's website, at www.trgirto.ca. They are also required to post the start date of their forestry work one month in advance, at the site entrance.</p>
	<p>We are a dog sledding company and we plan to use these trails in winter, starting in 2022.</p>	<p>The forestry companies are responsible for operational harmonization, and your concerns have been forwarded to them so that they can be taken into account.</p>
<p>Visual quality and landscape</p>	<p>The Lac en Cœur protected area in the Papineau RCM has been an unofficial protected area since 2012, even though all the steps in the protected area designation process have been completed. I would like to know why this protected area has not yet been officially recognized by the MFFP.</p>	<p>It is not the MFFP that grants legal recognition for biodiversity reserves. Biodiversity reserves are created under the <i>Natural Heritage Conservation Act</i>, which is administered by the MELCC. Once the MFFP has provided opinions on protected areas and a consensus has been obtained, the designation process falls entirely under the authority of the MELCC and is subject to decisions by the government.</p> <p>In the case of the proposed Lac-en-Cœur biodiversity reserve, as is the case for several other projects in the Outaouais region, the interministerial consensus stage has been completed. Until official legal designation is given, the MFFP has placed the areas under administrative protection.</p> <p>After land was set aside for the purpose of creating protected areas (a legal designation process known by its French acronym RTFAP) in December 2020, a review of the deficiencies in the network of protected areas was undertaken by several government departments, and is still ongoing. This exercise will guide future protection efforts in Québec. For proposed protected areas that did not receive RTFAP designation in 2020, no decision has yet been made as to their future. However, no forest management activities have been planned in these areas for the time being. Administrative protection will therefore remain in place until new government guidelines are issued. It should also be noted that the next steps will depend on the undertakings made by Canada and Québec at the next meeting of parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, in the fall of 2021.</p>

Categories	Comments - Concerns (Summary)	Responses
	<p>We use these trails every year, from December to April, for our dogsledding activities.</p>	<p>In recent years, the Panel members have updated the methodology used at regional level to determine site sensitivity and visual impact mitigation methods for logging. Sites of interest are classified according to their sensitivity at landscape level.</p> <p>The MFFP applies additional protection to these sites, over and above that stipulated in the regulations. It has agreed to update the list of sensitive sites every year, before March 1, so that rules can be applied during the planning process. Rules applicable in visual frameworks.</p> <p>The stakeholders must therefore submit their sites and data to the Panel, so that the sensitivity level can be assessed using the regional method. To submit your sensitive sites, we invite you to contact your Panel representative. The list of Panel members can be found on the Panel's website at: www.trgirto.ca.</p>
	<p>I hunt in this area, and forestry workers on site in the fall of 2020 told us that certain sectors belonged to them and we did not have the right to hunt there. Is this true? If so, I heartily disagree. I would like to receive clarifications for this sector of the Lac du Plomb road.</p>	<p>As stipulated in the <i>Sustainable Forest Development Act</i>, forests in the domain of the State are under public ownership. During the regulatory hunting season, there is nothing to prevent people from hunting on public land even when commercial or non-commercial silvicultural work is being carried out.</p> <p>There is a biological refuge near the Lac du Plomb road, bordering the proposed Mont Ste-Marie biodiversity reserve. In accordance with the guidelines for managing biological refuges, "The designation of an area of forest as a biological refuge has no impact whatsoever on the rules governing wildlife harvesting (regulations governing hunting, fishing and trapping under the <i>Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife</i> [CQLR, chapter C-61.1]), nor does it limit the known treaty or agreement rights of Aboriginal people." As for the proposed biodiversity reserve, it forms part of hunting zone 10 west.</p>
	<p>The Kazabazua River flows to the east along the south part of this territory, then turning north to border its east side. The Reserve + TI covers just about 31 square km. It is very quiet, and not very easy to access. The hill in TI has very mature hardwood forest, with occasional large-diameter naturally-fallen stems. On the hill, I have identified the Spotted coral-root orchid. We visited the lower territory with proposed roads between the hill and the Kaz River during the drought in 2011. I returned in September of 2020 with MELCC biologists/Directors M-A Bouchard and C. Plasse to briefly survey this territory & verify its value in biodiversity protection.</p>	<p>As mentioned above, sensitive habitats of species that are or are likely to be designated as threatened or vulnerable (plant and wildlife species) are protected or are subject to special rules. However, for this information to be placed in the digital files used for planning and operations, the MFFP must officialize the report by gathering local probative data (photos, GPS points, etc.). The data can be gathered by any qualified, recognized professional (e.g. biologist, ecologist, botanist, forestry technician, etc.). Lastly, the identification report on the observations must be signed by a professional and submitted to the MFFP.</p>
	<p>The plain between the hill and the Kaz River has a fairly high water table, and quite a lot of it is wetland that is valuable for wildlife. To the left is a central marsh. During the summer of [2021], we will be returning to the hill and the surrounding territory with Floraquebeca, to survey much of the land that can be seen in the 2021 consultation map. A Google satellite image (with a 200m scale bar) gives a good idea of the TI "South Hill" (topped with a beaver pond), and the wetland/plain of low hills immediately south. Just one very narrow road crosses the plain from east to west.</p> <p>In 2017, the Association participated in an MFFP PAFIO consultation regarding commercial interventions on the public land that is not protected (some is deer yard). We expressed strong concern in a new road that would have to be built up to cross marshy land, and planned to go all the way to one forest stand. To reach that stand, a built road would have to cross an inundated area, as well as two creeks. We did not receive a response about our concerns, especially the built-up road that would require large culverts. To date, we have seen no road-building and no wood harvest there. That road is now on this present 2021 public consultation as "consultation antérieure".</p> <p>In the present public consultation, we can see that the stand that was proposed in 2017 is close to Lac Mark (known locally as Paddy's Lake). In the snip from the present consultation, on page one above, we can see that the area of forest surrounding Lac Mark is quite likely to become "interior forest" when the Mont O'Brien Biodiversity Reserve achieves its final delimitation. Foresters and conservationists know from many scientific studies that conserved interior forest is valuable for protecting some at-risk species of animals and plants. Forest interior will become even more important with increasing climate change effects. Therefore, we believe that the Ministry should remove that stand and the expected road from the 2018-2023 Operational Plans. A road that reaches so far, and across two small streams, should not be built, since it harms the interior quality of the whole pocket that is enclosed by the South Hill, Range Lake, and the very strong ridge that ends near Lac Simpson.</p>	<p>The plans presented and consultations carried out in 2017 predated the RSFD, and consequently took place before section 23 on shrub swamps came into force.</p> <p>Section 33 of the RSDF states that: "Harvesting is prohibited in the riparian shrub swamps whose ecological type is one of the following forests: silver maple, elm, ash forest; black ash, fir forest on hydric drainage; yellow birch, fir, sugar maple forest on hydric drainage; fir, yellow birch forest on hydric drainage; fir, red maple forest on hydric drainage; fir, white cedar forest on hydric drainage; fir, white cedar forest. Harvesting is allowed in riparian shrub swamps whose ecological type is one of those referred to in the first paragraph. However, the travel of logging machines during harvest may not result in the natural drainage of the soil being disturbed."</p> <p>In view of the foregoing, the road plan should be reviewed because it would not be possible to harvest stems and develop access roads as presented in the 2017 consultation.</p> <p>Although the white-tailed deer yard may be a IUCN Category VI protected area as a wildlife habitat, this designation is not incompatible with forestry work. On the contrary, properly planned, structured logging can improve habitat quality by fostering a range of landscapes and stands, and may foster the ecotones between the shelter stand and the food stand. There are provisions in the RSDF and the <i>Regulation respecting wildlife habitats</i> to limit logging, but not to prohibit it. In the case of the Ladysmith yard, the yard management plan is currently being prepared.</p> <p>If you have not been contacted with respect to the concerns expressed at the public consultation, it is because the site to which your concerns refer has not yet reached the prescription stage.</p>

Categories	Comments - Concerns (Summary)	Responses
	<p>We have been present on a little trail that reaches Lac Mark with a local old woodsman (Roy Peck), to watch River Otters playing at its north end, at the same time as seeing a bald eagle flying south high above that lake. To shelter a precious interior forest, we ask that the stand and the section of proposed road be removed from the present PAFIO public consultation map & Plans. As well, it is easy to see that all of this area of half-marsh and little hills (about 300 ha) on the north side of the Kaz River (including the straight long ridge to the west) should not be roaded and logged, so that it can have a fair chance to eventually be considered for inclusion in the [Biodiversity] Reserve, instead of being damaged for use as untouched interior forest before such a consideration process can start.</p>	<p>The interior forest is already included in the proposed biodiversity reserve, as is the area of interest. The MELCC's regulations and projects do not include wooded strips or additional buffer zones. The only strips that must be included are those in ecological reserves, which is not the case. The forests in this location have not, as yet, been selected for another extension.</p>
<p>Wildlife habitats and quality of the experience in the forest, land protection</p>	<p>Truthfully, considering that the Outaouais Region is still very short of its 17% protected area goal, and considering that this quiet piece of public land, off the beaten track, has outstanding natural values, we believe that the only sensible thing to do now is to delay any plans for logging roads or wood harvest in this particular section of public land on the north side of the Kaz River, until after the BAPE hearing is held. The hearing will decide the final delimitation of the Biodiversity Reserve in a fair and secure way. Places like this deserve attention and a fair hearing from and for everyone concerned.</p>	<p>The protected area goal at the region's latitude was 12%, not 17%. The 17% was the average between the 20% goal for the Nord-du-Québec portion, the 12% goal for southern Québec and the increased percentage south of the St. Lawrence River. It was therefore never a question of achieving 17% throughout every administrative region.</p> <p>The Québec Government's decisions regarding the selected areas were announced in December 2020. Since then, administrative protection has remained in force, and will be maintained until further notice. Work done previously in connection with the protected areas will be taken into account by the MELCC and other Government authorities for any other future designation. Québec's goals will be decided, described and announced for COP-15¹ at the end of the summer.</p>
	<p>A lot of forest development work was carried out in the past (see "prior consultation" data) in the southern portion of the unit. Having said this, I am pleased to see that little or no forestry work is planned in the southern portion of unit 071-51 in the short term. The southern Outaouais region is particularly rich in special status plant and wildlife species, most of which are little or not at all compatible with forest development. From a standpoint of ecosystem conservation and resilience to climate change, the quantity of protected areas on public land in southern Outaouais should be increased.</p>	<p>The term <i>prior consultation</i> refers to consultations on all potential forest operations zones in the past.</p> <p>The zones presented for the purpose of this consultation are at the potential forest operations zone stage and account for much more than a year's worth of harvesting. A potential forest operations zone is an area where work may potentially be carried out between now and 2023. These sectors have not yet been analyzed in depth, in terms of constraints (e.g. the rules applicable to ensure that landscapes are taken into account). Some areas will therefore be withdrawn to take regional constraints into account and to optimize the logging sectors.</p> <p>Public consultations are held so that the population has an opportunity to influence forestry planning before the MFFP planners apply silvicultural prescriptions for the sites in question. The concerns expressed during the public consultations are part of a constructive integrated management process when they are shared with a view to influencing forest planning as opposed to judging it.</p> <p>To view the areas that will actually be developed in the coming year, we invite you to click on the following link: Interactive map of the current year's program (PRANA).</p> <p>It is also important to note that the "<i>prior consultation</i>" layer contains all the potential forest operations zones for which consultations have already been held in connection with commercial and non-commercial silvicultural work. It is therefore not simply a question of logging.</p>
	<p>Brief filed on the Lac Vert de Montpellier region.</p>	<p>This brief was filed for a prior public consultation, in 2017. These concerns were addressed in the public consultation follow-up report for that year and the individuals concerned were contacted, so that their concerns could be taken into account in the planning process.</p>
<p>Spatial distribution of cutting areas</p>	<p>Given that concerns regarding the distribution and size of the cutting areas relate to the spatial organization compartment (SOC) level, I am concerned about the concentration and extent (>100ha) of these potential forest operations zones. A disturbance of more than 100 ha, concentrated in one sector, fragments the area and damages functional connectivity for wildlife.</p>	<p>The SOC approach allows for the application of the ecosystem-based development principle under which the forest is developed with a view to reproducing natural disturbances (fire, spruce budworm, windfall) to reduce the difference between the forest as it currently exists and the pre-industrial forest. In concrete terms, this produces a greater concentration of cutting areas and residual forest compared to block cutting. Among other things, it reduces fragmentation of closed canopy forest habitats and prevents interior forest habitats from becoming scarce. It does not produce only single-block cuts, because the wooded strips along watercourses and around bodies of water and wetland areas continue to apply. These strips play a role in connectivity.</p> <p>The logging plans produce a multitude of fragments that can serve as stepping stones between large tracts of forest. The residual forest blocks left by SOC-based development are used by many wildlife</p>

¹ The Copenhagen Conference was the 15th conference of the parties to the United Nations Framework Agreement on Climate Change.

Categories	Comments - Concerns (Summary)	Responses
		<p>species to travel to larger areas of intact forest (the stepping stone concept). A certain amount of residual forest blocks must be maintained in the SOC, and these blocks are distributed so as to foster connectivity for wildlife. At least 30% of mature forest is also maintained. The SOCs therefore provide the habitat mass needed for the survival of species that use these features.</p>
Others	<p>What do the oblique grey lines mean? Will logging take place in the target location near Lac Galarneau?</p>	<p>The dotted lines near Lac Galarneau refer to potential forest operations zones for which public consultations have already been held in the past, whether it be for commercial or non-commercial silvicultural work. You can consult the interactive map on the Panel's website to view operational sites in real time, along with the annual program of authorized forestry activities: The Panel's interactive map</p> <p>Please select the potential forest operation zone layer to view the sites for which consultations have already been held, and then search for "Lac Galarneau". This will produce a map similar to the one below, By moving your cursor over the potential operations zones, you will see the planned treatment family and the area to be treated, for each zone. Please refer to the key for additional information on the elements shown on the map.</p> <p>If you uncheck the potential operation zone layer, you will see the sites authorized in the annual program. If you then look at the site calendar on the Panel's website, you will find full information on current and past forestry operations at the sites identified.</p>

**Table 4. Main comments submitted on the processes and tools –
MFFP’s responses**

<i>Comments on the public consultation processes and the tools provided</i>	
<i>Commentaires</i>	<i>Réponses</i>
Please supply underpinning documents in English language, not just questionnaire and map use instructions.	The MFFP has no legal obligation to provide public consultation documents in English. We are currently working to improve the client experience for individuals who wish to submit comments in English during public consultations on integrated forest development plans.

Acronyms

MELCC	Ministère de l’environnement et de la lutte aux changements climatiques
MFFP	Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs
RSDF	Regulation respecting the sustainable development of forests in the domain of the State
SFDA	Sustainable Forest Development Act
DU	Development unit
MU	Management unit (of the Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs)

5. Conclusion

The purpose of this public consultation was to give the population an opportunity to express its opinions of the non-commercial silvicultural work proposed in connection with the forest development plans. Although most of the comments made and concerns expressed were not related to the non-commercial silvicultural work, they were nevertheless addressed and included in this report. The exercise was beneficial for the MFFP and for the RCMs and third parties concerned.

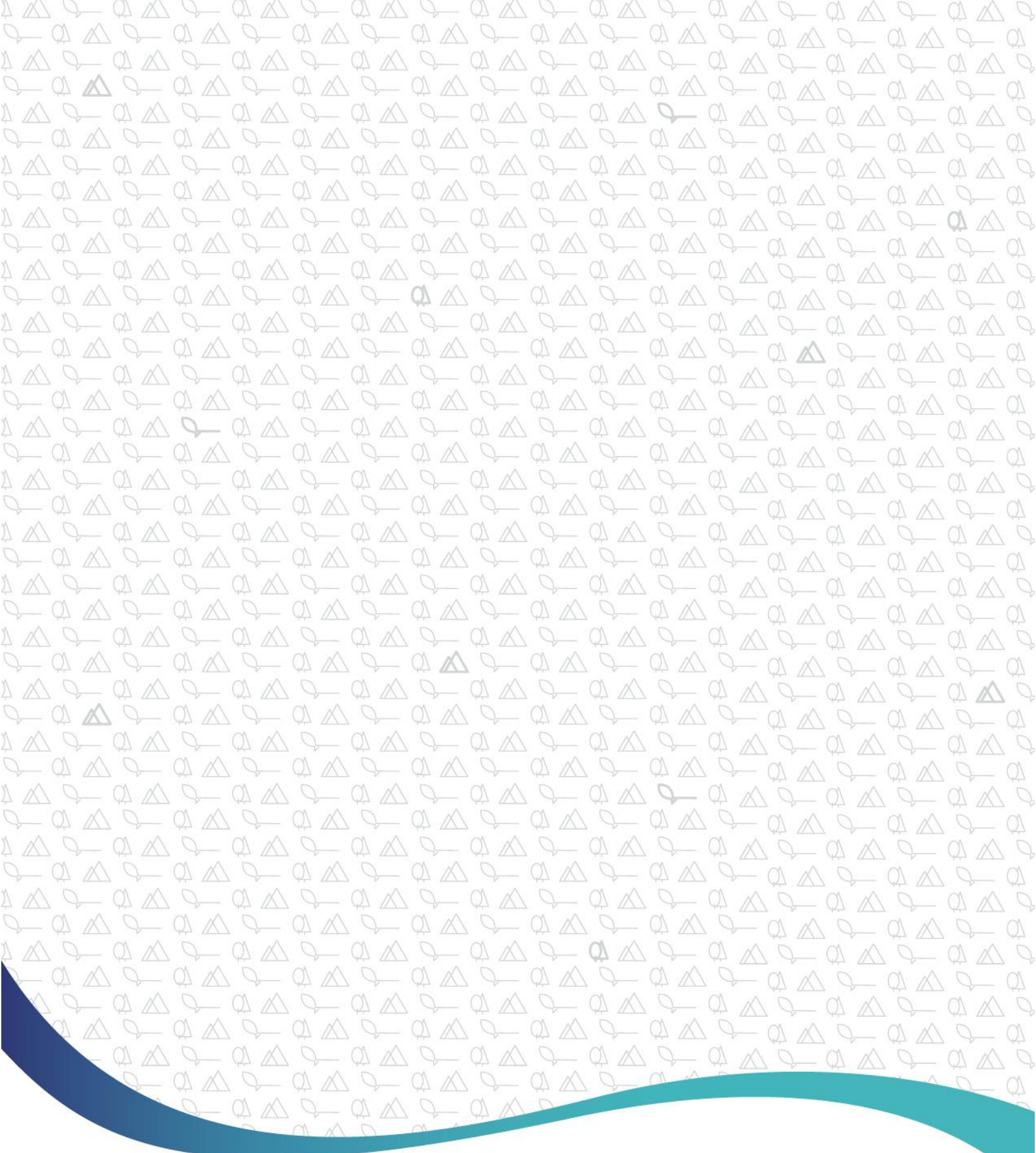
The members of the Outaouais integrated regional land and resource management panel will read this report and use it as a basis for proposing harmonization measures to the MFFP. The MFFP will assess the validity of the Panel's recommendations and will take into account the recommendations it retains when producing its final forestry plans, with due regard for the management strategy and legal framework.

Given the important role played by the integrated regional land and resource management panels in the forestry planning process, the MFFP invites individuals to contact their panel representatives if they wish to do so. The list of members can be found at www.trgirto.ca.

The *Direction de la gestion des forêts de l'Outaouais* thanks all its partners, everyone involved in preparing the operational plan (PAFIO), and everyone who took part in these public consultations.

Appendix 1. Members of the Outaouais Integrated Regional Land and Resource Management Panel

Name	Sector Group	Organization
Stephane Taillon	Timber	Louisiana-Pacific
Dominik Chartier	Timber	Resolute Forest Products
Christian Picard	Timber	Commonwealth Plywood
Charles St-Julien	Timber	Lauzon Ressources forestières
François Poirier	Wildlife	Territoire de pêche et de chasse Poirier
Abigaël Guénette	Wildlife	Regroupement des zecs de l'Outaouais
Frédéric Lussier	Wildlife	Sepaq - Réserve faunique La Vérendrye
Pierre Rollin	Wildlife	Fédération québécoise des chasseurs et pêcheurs de l'Outaouais
Étienne St-Onge	Other users with rights	Forestry worker
Jacques David	Other users with rights	Regroupement des locataires des terres publiques du Québec
Alain Lacoste	Other users with rights	Private citizen
Jacques Chaîné	Other users with rights	Fédération québécoise des clubs Quads
François Saumure	Other users with rights	Fédération des clubs de motoneigistes du Québec
Geneviève Le Blanc	Nature	Société pour la nature et les parcs Section Vallée de l'Outaouais
Gérard Desjardins	Nature	Club des ornithologues de l'Outaouais (COO)
Paula Armstrong	Nature	Pontiac Environmental Protection
Nathalie Magnan	Nature	Conseil régional de l'environnement et du développement durable de l'Outaouais
Jason Durand	Land	Pontiac RCM
Dominic Lauzon	Land	Vallée-de-la-Gatineau RCM
Vacant seat	Land	Collines-de-l'Outaouais RCM
Jean-François Larrivée	Land	Papineau RCM
Vacant seat	Land	Vallée-de-l'Or RCM
Vacant seat	First Nations	Kitcisakik Anicinapek
Vacant seat	First Nations	Algonquins of Barriere Lake
Vacant seat	First Nations	Anishnabe Nation of Lac Simon
Vacant seat	First Nations	Wolf Lake Community
Name (Replacements)	Sector Group	Organization
François Racine	Timber	Louisiana-Pacific
Jean-Sébastien Perron	Timber	Lauzon Ressources forestières
Jonathan Leblond	Wildlife	Fédération des pourvoyeurs du Québec
Michel Boucher	Wildlife	Association provinciale des trappeurs indépendants, Conseil Outaouais
Yannick Dufour	Wildlife	Société des établissements de plein air du Québec
Lucien Léveillé	Wildlife	Regroupement des zecs de l'Outaouais
Pierre Beaudoin	Other users with rights	Regroupement des locataires des terres publiques du Québec
Pierre Tremblay	Other users with rights	Fédération des clubs de motoneigistes du Québec
John McDonnell	Nature	Société pour la nature et les parcs
Deborah Powell	Nature	Club des ornithologues de l'Outaouais
Michael H. Walker	Nature	Pontiac Environmental Protection
Benoit Delage	Nature	Conseil régional de l'environnement et du développement durable de l'Outaouais



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