

QUÉBEC STRATEGY FOR PROTECTED AREAS



**Proposed  
Rivière-  
Dumoine  
aquatic  
reserve**

**Conservation plan**



April 2008



## 1. Protection status and toponym

The description of a protection status for the following territory is Proposed Aquatic Reserve, status ruled under the Natural Heritage Conservation Act (R.S.Q., c. C-61.01).

The permanent protection status envisaged for the reserve is "aquatic reserve", status under the Natural Heritage Conservation Act.

The provisional toponym is: Proposed Rivière-Dumoine aquatic reserve. The official toponym will be determined when the territory is given permanent protection status. The Algonquins called this river *Cakawitopikak Sipi* and *Ekonakwasi Sipi*, which mean respectively "alder river", due to the numerous alders found along both banks, and "river of desire". A map by Nicolas Bellin, from 1755, names it Acounagousin. Lotter, in 1762, and Carver, in 1776, used the same name for it and attributed Caouinagamic lake as its source. The present name may come from the trading post built toward the end of the French Regime at the mouth of the river.

## 2. Plan and description

### 2.1. Geographical location, boundaries and dimensions

The boundaries and location of the proposed Rivière-Dumoine aquatic reserve appear in the map attached in appendix 1.

The proposed Rivière-Dumoine aquatic reserve borders the administrative regions of Abitibi-Témiscamingue and Outaouais, between 46°12' and 47°25' north latitude and 77°37' and 78°02' west longitude. With a length of about 140 km, the southern part is about 10 km to the west of Rapides-des-Joachims, while the cities of Témiscaming and Belleterre are respectively 85 km and 60 km to the west of the reserve. The Algonquin communities of Kitcisakik, Lac-Rapide, Kebaowek, Hunter's Point and Winneway are at distances varying from 60 km to 80 km from the reserve. The proposed aquatic reserve covers an area of 1445.0 km<sup>2</sup>. The portion in Abitibi-Témiscamingue lies primarily in the unorganized territory of Lacs-du-Témiscamingue, in the MRC of Témiscamingue. However, the northern portion is in the unorganized territory of Dozois reservoir, in the MRC of La Vallée-de-l'Or. The part in the Outaouais region is almost wholly in the unorganized territory of Lac-Nilgaut, in the MRC of Pontiac. A small portion to the south-east forms part of the municipality of Rapide-des-Joachims in the same MRC. The southern boundary of the territory coincides with the line which marks the 153.92-metre point above sea level.

## 2.2. Ecological overview

The proposed Rivière-Dumoine aquatic reserve is located in the southern Laurentian natural province. With its large area and elongated form, it touches on several elements of the ecological reference framework. It is spread across two natural regions, the La Vérendrye hillocks (northern part) and the Dumoine plateau (most of the territory). The northern part belongs primarily to the physiographic unit of the Lac Bruce knolls, with small portions in the physiographic unit of the Lac Cawatose rolling plain. The southern portion of the reserve touches on three physiographic units: from north to south, the physiographic units of the Lac Desjardins knolls, the Lac Memekin low hills and the Lac Esber low hills.

The reserve is intended to protect the Dumoine river, along with its valley and immediate watershed. Running through a steep-sided glacial valley, it is one of the last major unharnessed rivers. Separating the Pontiac and the Témiscamingue, and some 140 km long, the river takes its source in Machin lake to the north of Antiquois lake, flows south into Dumoine lake and empties into Holden lake, a widening of the Outaouais river, a dozen kilometres to the west of Rapides-des-Joachims. The territory is essentially a valley, becoming more and more steep-sided as one approaches the mouth of the Dumoine at the Outaouais. The Dumoine river flows through a major fracture in a large till plateau where the bumpy topography consists of an assemblage of irregular knolls. The bottom of the valley presents numerous sandy deposits of fluvioglacial origin. The landscape varies in altitude from 160 to 460 m with an average of around 350 m. The Dumoine river is considered one of the most beautiful in Canada.

The bedrock consists of three types of rock: granitic and tonalitic gneiss in the north, magmatite in the south, and here and there paragneiss. The territory lies in the Grenville geological province.

The proposed reserve is characterized by a mild, subhumid, subpolar climate with a long growing season. The southern half is in the maple-yellow birch bioclimatic domain, while the northern half is in the balsam fir-white birch domain. With its great size and elongated north-south orientation, the territory includes a significant gradient of common ecosystems, with the exception of the sandy deposits of fluvioglacial origin in the Dumoine lake sector. It also includes a significant gradient of forest environments.

The mixed forest of the territory offers a wide diversity of stands of varied species. The steeper slopes of the valley are covered by stands of white pine, which are more common in the southern part of the reserve. The tops of the knolls are covered by stands of maple sugar and white birch. On various sites one finds intolerant deciduous species (white birch and trembling aspen). In the flatter and more northern parts of the reserve, particularly near Dumoine lake, there are stands of black spruce. Certain areas where conditions are difficult, for example the complex of pronounced knolls near Joncas and Orignal lakes, have been colonized by Eastern white cedar. There is a higher proportion of mature forests in the southern half of the reserve. In general the hillier and less accessible areas with tolerant deciduous species have been preserved.

The reserve includes the entire primary watershed of the Dumoine river (the watershed as a whole comprises 4400 km<sup>2</sup>), which empties into the Outaouais. It includes Dumoine lake, which is particularly large in area (76 km<sup>2</sup>).

The proposed aquatic reserve includes the ancient forest of Rivière-Poussière, recognized as an exceptional forest ecosystem.

In terms of fauna, species in this territory include eagles, buzzards, hawks, great blue herons, kingfishers, loons, beaver, otter, muskrat, mink, black bear, deer, moose and wolves. There are two *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* (bald eagle) habitats which is designated as vulnerable. There are also two fish spawning area, one for the walleye and one for the lake charr.

### **2.3. Occupation and uses of the land**

The territory includes 65 vacation leases and 22 shelter leases. The latter are almost all located south of Dumoine lake and west of Laforge lake. In the area around Dumoine lake the Lac des Dix Milles outfitting operation holds three leases for establishments related to its activities. An inn, Auberge du lac Joncas, holds a commercial right on the banks of Joncas lake. There are also three sites operated by the Société de Protection des Forêts contre le Feu. In the southern part of the reserve several hiking trails cross the territory, some of which were developed by the Dumoine ZEC. In a few places a snowmobile trail enters the proposed aquatic reserve.

The Dumoine river is famed among paddlers as an intermediate canoe-kayak route (rated 5 stars by the Fédération québécoise de canoé-kayak). There are camp sites all along the route, and in the months of July and August a good many paddlers pass through. The river offers around a dozen white-water rapids, at least five chutes, 25 R1, 20 R2, 10 R3, 5 R4, 1 R5 and 1 R6, and eleven portages to bypass the more dangerous rapids. Almost all of the rapids come in the 70 last kilometres. The spectacular Grande Chute plunges down a drop of nearly 40 metres. Still to be found are a few vestiges of the great log slide that was used until 1895. At the end of the route the impressive Aigles cliffs are nearly 170 metres high.

The proposed aquatic reserve touches on fur-bearing animal management units 01, 07 and 13. It also touches on hunting zones 12 and 13. The northern third of the territory is in the Grand-Lac-Victoria beaver reserve, in which the Algonquins have special rights regarding fur-bearing animals. The rest touches twelve trapping grounds and one trapping camp is located in the reserve. The proposed biodiversity reserve is superimposed over numerous structured wildlife territories. The northern part lies in the La Vérendrye wildlife reserve and touches on a small part of the Kipawa ZEC. At Dumoine lake, the reserve touches on two outfitting operations with exclusive rights, Kipawa and Lac Dix Milles. The Kipawa outfitting has established four chalets and two camps. More to the south, the part to the west of the

Dumoine river is in the Dumoine ZEC, while the part to the east of the river is in the Rapide-des-Joachims ZEC. Lastly, the Triple R outfitter with exclusive rights touches on part of the reserve.

An undeveloped network of unpaved roads crosses the proposed aquatic reserve.

Rich in history, the Dumoine river numbers 91 discovered sites that have archaeological potential. All are included in the territory of the reserve.

### **3. Activities framework**

#### *§1. — Introduction*

Activities carried on within the proposed reserve are governed mainly by the provisions of the Natural Heritage Conservation Act.

This Division prohibits activities in addition to those prohibited under the Act and provides the framework for the various activities permitted so as to better protect the natural environment in keeping with the conservation principles and other management objectives established for the proposed reserves. Accordingly, certain activities require the prior authorization of the Minister and compliance with the conditions determined by the Minister. The permitted and prohibited activities considered for the period that follows the granting of a permanent status by the government are the same with the necessary adjustments to take into account the enforcement of article 46 and 47 of the act.

As provided in the Natural Heritage Conservation Act, the main activities prohibited in an area to which status as a proposed biodiversity or aquatic reserve has been assigned are

- mining, and gas or petroleum development;
- forest management within the meaning of section 3 of the Forest Act (R.S.Q., c. F-4.1); and
- the development of hydraulic resources and any production of energy on a commercial or industrial basis.

#### *§2. — Prohibitions, prior authorizations and other conditions governing activities in the proposed reserve*

##### *§2.1. Protection of resources and the natural environment*

**3.1.** Subject to the prohibition in the second paragraph, no person may establish in the proposed reserve any specimens or individuals of a native or non-native species of fauna, including by stocking, unless the person has been authorized by the Minister and complies with the conditions the Minister determines.

No person may stock a watercourse or body of water for aquaculture, commercial fishing or any other commercial purpose.

No person may establish in the proposed reserve a non-native species of flora, unless the person has been authorized by the Minister and complies with the conditions the Minister determines.

Before issuing an authorization under this section, the Minister is to take into consideration, in addition to the characteristics and the number of species involved, the risk of biodiversity imbalance, the importance of conserving the various ecosystems, the needs of the species in the ecosystems, the needs of rehabilitating degraded environments or habitats within the proposed reserve, and the interest in reintroducing certain species that have disappeared.

**3.2.** No person may use fertilizer or fertilizing material in the proposed reserve. Compost for domestic purposes is permitted if used at least 20 metres from a watercourse or body of water measured from the high-water mark.

The high-water mark means the high-water mark defined in the Protection Policy for Lakeshores, Riverbanks, Littoral Zones and Floodplains, adopted by Order in Council 468-2005 dated 18 May 2005.

**3.3.** No person may, unless the person has been authorized by the Minister and carries on the activity in compliance with the conditions the Minister determines,

- (1) intervene in a wetland area, including a marsh, swamp or bog;
- (2) modify the reserve's natural drainage or water regime, including by creating or developing watercourses or bodies of water;
- (3) dig, fill, obstruct or divert a watercourse or body of water;
- (4) install or erect any structure, infrastructure or new works in or on the bed, banks, shores or floodplain of a watercourse or body of water, although no authorization is required for minor works such as a wharf, platform or boathouse erected for private purposes and free of charge under section 2 of the Regulation respecting the water property in the domain of the State made by Order in Council 81-2003 dated 29 January 2003;
- (5) carry on any activity other than those referred to in the preceding subparagraphs that is likely to degrade the bed, banks or shores of a body of water or watercourse or directly and substantially affect the quality of the biochemical characteristics of aquatic or riparian environments or wetland areas in the proposed reserve, including by discharging or dumping waste or pollutants into those areas;
- (6) carry out soil development work, including any burial, earthwork, removal or displacement of surface materials or vegetation cover, for any purpose including recreational and tourism purposes such as trail development;
- (7) install or erect any structure, infrastructure or new works;

- (8) reconstruct or demolish an existing structure, infrastructure or works,
- (9) carry on an activity that is likely to severely degrade the soil or a geological formation or damage the vegetation cover, such as stripping, the digging of trenches or excavation work;
- (10) use a pesticide, although no authorization is required for the use of personal insect repellent;
- (11) carry on educational or research-related activities if the activities are likely to significantly damage or disturb the natural environment, in particular because of the nature or size of the samples taken or the invasive character of the method or process used; or
- (12) hold a sports event, tournament, rally or similar event if more than 15 persons are likely to participate in the activity and have access to the proposed reserve at the same time; no authorization may be issued by the Minister if the activity involves motor vehicle traffic, unless it has been shown to the Minister that it is impossible to organize the activity elsewhere or that bypassing the proposed reserve is highly unfeasible.

The conditions determined by the Minister for the authorization may pertain to the location of the authorized activity, the methods used, the areas that may be cleared or deforested, the types of material that may be used including on-site materials, and the presence of ancillary works or facilities. The conditions may also include a requirement to ensure periodic follow-up or to report to the Minister, in particular as regards the results obtained from the research to which subparagraph 11 of the first paragraph refers.

**3.4.** Despite subparagraphs 6, 7, 8 and 9 of the first paragraph of section 3.3, no authorization is required to carry out work referred to in subparagraph 1 of this section when the requirements of subparagraph 2 are met.

- (1) The work involves
  - (a) work to maintain, repair or upgrade an existing structure, infrastructure or works such as a camp, cottage, road or trail, including ancillary facilities such as lookouts or stairs;
  - (b) the construction or erection of
    - i. an appurtenance or ancillary facility of a trapping camp, rough shelter, shelter or cottage such as a shed, well, water intake or sanitary facilities; or
    - ii. a trapping camp, rough shelter, shelter or cottage if such a building was permitted under the right to use or occupy the land but had not been constructed or installed on the effective date of the status as a proposed reserve; or
  - (c) the demolition or reconstruction of a trapping camp, rough shelter, shelter or cottage, including an appurtenance or ancillary facility such as a shed, well, water intake or sanitary facilities.
- (2) The work is carried out in compliance with the following requirements:

(a) the work involves a structure, infrastructure or works permitted within the proposed reserve;

(b) the work is carried out within the area of land or right-of-way subject to the right to use or occupy the land in the proposed reserve, whether the right results from a lease, servitude or other form of title, permit or authorization;

(c) the nature of the work or elements erected by the work will not operate to increase the area of land that may remain deforested beyond the limits permitted under the provisions applicable to the sale, lease and granting of immovable rights under the Act respecting the lands in the domain of the State (R.S.Q., c. T-8.1) and, if applicable, the limits allowed under an authorization for the structure, works or infrastructure; and

(d) the work is carried out in compliance with the conditions of a permit or authorization issued for the work or in connection with the structure, infrastructure or works involved, and in accordance with the laws and regulations that apply.

For the purposes of this section, repair and upgrading work includes work to replace or erect works or facilities to comply with the requirements of an environmental regulation.

**3.5.** No person may bury, abandon or dispose of waste, snow or other residual materials elsewhere than in waste disposal containers, facilities or sites determined by the Minister or in another place with the authorization of the Minister and in compliance with the conditions the Minister determines.

Despite the first paragraph, an outfitting operation does not require an authorization to use a disposal facility or site in compliance with the Environment Quality Act and its regulations if the outfitting operation was already using the facility or site on the effective date of the protection status as a proposed reserve.

#### *§2.2. Rules of conduct for users*

**3.6.** Every person staying, carrying on an activity or travelling in the proposed reserve is required to maintain the premises in a satisfactory state and before leaving, return the premises to their natural state to the extent possible.

**3.7.** Every person who makes a campfire must

(1) first clear an area around the fire site sufficient to prevent the fire from spreading by removing all branches, scrub, dry leaves and other combustible material;

(2) ensure that the fire is at all times under the immediate supervision of a person on the premises; and

(3) ensure that the fire is completely extinguished before leaving the premises.

**3.8.** In the proposed reserve, no person may

- (1) cause any excessive noise;
- (2) behave in a manner that unduly disturbs other persons or interferes with their enjoyment of the proposed reserve; or
- (3) harass wildlife.

For the purposes of subparagraphs 1 and 2 of the first paragraph, behaviour that significantly disturbs other persons and constitutes unusual or abnormal conditions for the carrying on of an activity or for the permitted use of property, a device or an instrument within the proposed reserve is considered excessive or undue.

**3.9.** No person may enter, carry on an activity or travel in a vehicle in a given sector of the proposed reserve if the signage erected by the Minister restricts access, traffic or certain activities in order to protect the public from a danger or to avoid placing the fauna, flora or other components of the natural environment at risk, unless the person has been authorized by the Minister and complies with the conditions the Minister determines.

**3.10.** No person may destroy, remove, move or damage any poster, sign, notice or other types of signage posted by the Minister within the proposed reserve.

*§2.3. Activities requiring an authorization*

**3.11.** No person may occupy or use the same site in the proposed reserve for a period of more than 90 days in the same year, unless the person has been authorized by the Minister and complies with the conditions the Minister determines.

- (1) For the purposes of the first paragraph,
  - (a) the occupation or use of a site includes
    - i. staying or settling in the proposed reserve, including for vacation purposes;
    - ii. installing a camp or shelter in the proposed reserve; and
    - iii. installing, burying or leaving property in the proposed reserve, including equipment, any device or a vehicle;
  - (b) "same site" means any other site within a radius of 1 kilometre from the site.

- (2) Despite the first paragraph, no authorization is required if a person,
  - (a) on the effective date of the protection status as a proposed reserve, was a party to a lease or had already obtained another form of right or authorization allowing the person to legally occupy the land under the Act respecting the lands in the domain of the State or, if applicable, the Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife (R.S.Q., c. C-61.1), and whose right to occupy the land is renewed or extended on the same conditions, subject to possible changes in fees;

(b) in accordance with the applicable provisions of law, has entitlement under a sublease, an assignment of a lease or a transfer of a right or authorization referred to in paragraph a, and whose right to occupy the land is renewed or extended on the same conditions, subject to possible changes in fees; or

(c) elects to acquire land the person legally occupies on the effective date of the protection status as a proposed reserve, pursuant to the Act respecting the lands in the domain of the State.

**3.12. (1)** No person may carry on forest management activities to meet domestic needs or for the purpose of maintaining biodiversity, unless the person has been authorized by the Minister and carries on the activities in compliance with the conditions the Minister determines.

The conditions determined by the Minister for the authorization may pertain, among other things, to species of trees or shrubs, the size of the stems that may be cut, the quantities authorized and the places where the activities may be carried on.

(2) Despite subsection 1, the authorization of the Minister is not required if a person staying or residing in the proposed reserve collects wood to make a campfire.

An authorization is also not required if a person collects firewood to meet domestic needs in the following cases and on the following conditions:

(a) the wood is collected to supply a trapping camp or a rough shelter permitted within the proposed reserve if

i. the wood is collected by a person in compliance with the conditions set out in the permit for the harvest of firewood for domestic purposes issued by the Minister of Natural Resources and Wildlife under the Forest Act;

ii. the quantity of wood collected does not exceed 7 apparent cubic metres per year;

(b) in all other cases if

i. the wood is collected within a sector designated by the Minister of Natural Resources and Wildlife as a sector for which a permit for the harvest of firewood for domestic purposes under the Forest Act may be issued, and for which, on the effective date of the protection status as a proposed reserve, a designation as such had already been made by the Minister;

ii. the wood is collected by a person who, on the effective date of the protection status as a proposed reserve or in any of the three preceding years, held a permit for the harvest of firewood for domestic purposes allowing the person to harvest firewood within the proposed reserve;

iii. the wood is collected by a person in compliance with the conditions set out in the permit for the harvest of firewood for domestic purposes issued by the Minister of Natural Resources and Wildlife under the Forest Act.

(3) Despite subsection 1, an authorization to carry on a forest management activity is not required if a person authorized by lease to occupy land within the proposed reserve in accordance with this conservation plan carries on the forest management activity for the purpose of

(a) clearing the permitted areas, maintaining them or creating visual openings, or any other similar removal work permitted under the provisions governing the sale, lease and granting of immovable rights under the Act respecting the lands in the domain of the State, including work for access roads, stairs and other trails permitted under those provisions; or

(b) clearing the necessary area for the installation, connection, maintenance, repair, reconstruction or upgrading of facilities, lines or mains for water, sewer, electric power or telecommunications services.

If the work referred to in paragraph *b* of subsection 3 is carried on for or under the responsibility of an enterprise providing any of those services, the work requires the prior authorization of the Minister, other than in the case of the exemptions in sections 3.13 and 3.15.

(4) Despite subsection 1, an authorization to carry on a forest management activity to maintain a sugar bush and harvest maple products for domestic needs is not required if

(a) the activity is carried on by a person who, on the effective date of the protection status as a proposed reserve or in any of the three preceding years, held a sugar bush management permit issued by the Minister of Natural Resources and Wildlife under the Forest Act allowing the person to carry on within the proposed reserve the activities associated with operating a sugar bush;

(b) the activity is carried on within a zone for which the permit obtained allowed the carrying on of sugar bush operations on the effective date of the protection status as a proposed reserve or in any of the three preceding years; or

(c) the activity is carried on by a person in compliance with the conditions set out in the sugar bush management permit issued by the Minister of Natural Resources and Wildlife under the Forest Act.

#### *§ 2.4. Authorization exemptions*

**3.13.** Despite the preceding provisions, an authorization is not required for an activity or other form of intervention within the proposed reserve if urgent action is necessary to prevent harm to the health or safety of persons, or to repair or prevent damage caused by a real or apprehended disaster. The person concerned must, however, immediately inform the Minister of the activity or intervention that has taken place.

**3.14.** The members of a Native community who, for food, ritual or social purposes, carry on an intervention or an activity within the proposed reserve are exempted from obtaining an authorization.

**3.15.** Despite the preceding provisions, the following activities and interventions involving the transmission, distribution or production of electricity carried out by Hydro-Québec (Société) or by any

other person for Hydro-Québec do not require the prior authorization of the Minister under this conservation plan:

- (1) any activity or intervention required within the proposed reserve to complete a project for which express authorization had previously been given by the Government and the Minister, or only by the Minister, in accordance with the Environment Quality Act (R.S.Q., c. Q-2), if the activity or intervention is carried out in compliance with the authorizations issued;
- (2) any activity or intervention necessary for the preparation and presentation of a pre-project report for a project requiring an authorization under the Environment Quality Act;
- (3) any activity or intervention relating to a project requiring the prior authorization of the Minister under the Environment Quality Act if the activity or intervention is in response to a request for a clarification or for additional information made by the Minister to the Société, and the activity or intervention is carried out in conformity with the request; and
- (4) any activity or intervention by the Société, if the conditions for the carrying out of the activity or intervention have been determined in an agreement between the Minister and the Société and the activity or intervention is carried out in compliance with those conditions.

The Société is to keep the Minister informed of the various activities or interventions referred to in this section it proposes to carry out before the work is begun in the reserve.

For the purposes of this section, the activities and interventions of the Société include but are not restricted to pre-project studies, analysis work or field research, work required to study and ascertain the impact of electric power transmission and distribution line corridors and rights-of-way, geological or geophysical surveys and survey lines, and the opening and maintenance of roads required for the purpose of access, construction or equipment movement incidental to the work.

#### *§2.5. General provisions*

**3.16.** Every person who applies to the Minister for an individual authorization or an authorization for a group or a number of persons must provide all information or documents requested by the Minister for the examination of the application.

**3.17.** The Minister's authorization, which is general or for a group, may be communicated for the benefit of the persons concerned by any appropriate means including a posted notice or appropriate signage at the reception centre or any other location within the proposed reserve that is readily accessible to the public. The Minister may also provide a copy to any person concerned.

#### *§3. Activities governed by other statutes*

Certain activities likely to be carried on within the proposed reserve are also governed by other legislative and regulatory provisions, including provisions that require the issue of a permit or authorization

or the payment of fees. Certain activities may also be prohibited or limited by other Acts or regulations that are applicable within the proposed reserve.

A special legal framework may govern permitted activities within the proposed reserves in connection with the following matters:

- Environmental protection: measures set out in particular in the Environment Quality Act (R.S.Q., c. Q-2) and its regulations;
- Removal of species of flora designated as threatened or vulnerable: measures set out in the Act respecting threatened or vulnerable species (R.S.Q., c. E-12.01) prohibiting the removal of such species;
- Development and conservation of wildlife resources: measures set out in particular in the Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife (R.S.Q., c. C-61.1), including the provisions pertaining to outfitting operations and beaver reserves and the measures contained in applicable federal legislation, in particular the fishery regulations;
- Archaeological research: measures set out in particular in the Cultural Property Act (R.S.Q., c. B-4);
- Access and land rights related to the domain of the State: measures set out in particular in the Act respecting the lands in the domain of the State (R.S.Q., c. T-8.1) and in the Watercourses Act (R.S.Q., c. R-13);
- Operation of vehicles: measures set out in particular in the Act respecting the lands in the domain of the State (R.S.Q., c. T-8.1) and in the regulation respecting motor vehicle traffic in certain fragile environments made under the Environment Quality Act;
- Construction and development standards: regulatory measures adopted by regional and local municipal authorities under the Acts applicable to them.

#### **4. Responsibilities of the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks**

The conservation and management of the proposed Rivière-Dumoine aquatic reserve are the responsibility of the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks, who is therefore responsible for the monitoring and control of activities permitted there. In managing the reserve the Minister works with the collaboration and participation of other government representatives having specific responsibilities in or adjacent to the territory, such as the Minister of Natural Resources and Wildlife. In the exercise of their powers and functions the Ministers will take into consideration the protection sought for these natural environments and the protection status that has now been granted them. No additional conservation measure is, at this point, considered. Regarding zoning, the conservation objectives for the

period of temporary protection are the same for the entire area, the proposed reserve being only one conservation area.

Moreover, the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks commits herself, until such time as the status of permanent protection has been granted to this territory, to work with the aboriginal communities concerned, including the community of Wolf Lake, towards the management and development of this protected area and, where relevant, will enter into partnerships on certain specific activities.

