

Summary description of the territory

BOUNDARIES AND LOCATION

The 234.2-km² proposed biodiversity reserve is located in the municipality of Senneterre, roughly 55 km southeast of Lebel-sur-Quévillon.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

The territory feeds the Rivière Wetetnagami and Lac Wetetnagami and Lac Achepabanca. Its ecosystems are varied, ranging from low hills of till to till mounds, crossed by narrow glaciofluvial sand and gravel fluting to the clay plain along Lac Wetetnagami, which has an area of 20 km².

BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT

The territory is located in the black spruce-lichen stands, black spruce-moss stands, black spruce-sphagnum moss stands or black spruce-heath stands, and balsam fir-white birch stands or balsam fir-black spruce stands domain. However, forest fires and forest harvests have affected the ecological dynamics to foster the presence of mainly black spruce stands and jack pine stands. Today, most of the territory's forest stands are young, i.e. under 40 years old. Lac Wetetnagami and Lac Achepabanca are walleye, pike and lake trout lakes and host, moreover, a good variety of fish.

SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT

From a historical perspective, the territory has been frequented by members of the Attikamek, Algonquin and Cree Nations. It is now used, in particular, by the clientele of the two outfitting operations that occupy the territory, which is dedicated to hunting, fishing and trapping.

CONTRIBUTION OF THE PROTECTED AREA

The reserve is protecting a representative sampling of the vast territories shaped by glaciers, such as low hills, hummocks, hillocks and till mounds. Moreover, it is protecting two sizable lakes whose profile is typical of the northeastern Abitibi-Témiscamingue region. The various black spruce stand ecosystems are typical of the boreal forest at this latitude.

PROPOSAL FOR A PERMANENT BIODIVERSITY RESERVE

The proposed place name for the granting of permanent status is the Réserve de biodiversité Wetetnagami.

Major permitted and prohibited activities¹

PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

Pursuant to the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act*, the main activities prohibited in a territory with the status of a biodiversity reserve are:

- Forest development within the meaning of section 3 of the *Forest Act* (R.S.Q., c. F 4.1);
- Mining, gas or oil exploration and development;
- Exploitation of hydropower and any commercial or industrial energy production
- Any other activity prohibited by the conservation plan or by a regulatory.

PERMITTED ACTIVITIES^{1 2}

- Trapping camps, basic shelters and cabins and their incidental structures allowed by the lease;
- Harvesting wood to build an outdoor campfire;
- The maintenance or rebuilding of infrastructures;
- Trapping, hunting and fishing;
- Free access to the territory;
- The harvesting of small fruits or plant species for domestic use;
- Stays lasting 90 days or less (camping);
- Any recreative, touristic or ecotouristic activities;
- Domestic animals.

ACTIVITIES SUBJECT TO AUTHORIZATION^{1 2 3}

- The erection, installation or construction of new buildings;
- The construction of new infrastructure and new recreational or educational trails;
- Soil development work;
- Wood harvesting for domestic purposes.

For more information:

http://www.mddefp.gouv.qc.ca/biodiversite/aires_protegees/consultation/abitibi-temis/index.htm

http://www.mddefp.gouv.qc.ca/biodiversite/reserves-bio/wetetnagami/PSC_Wetetnagami.pdf

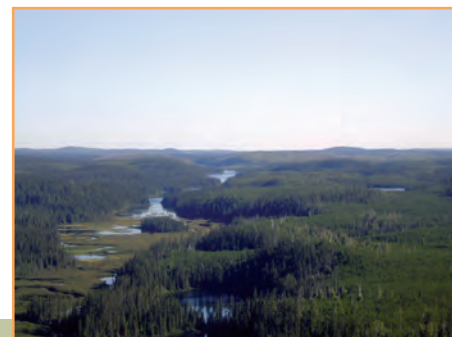


Photo: M.-A. Bouchard MDDEFP

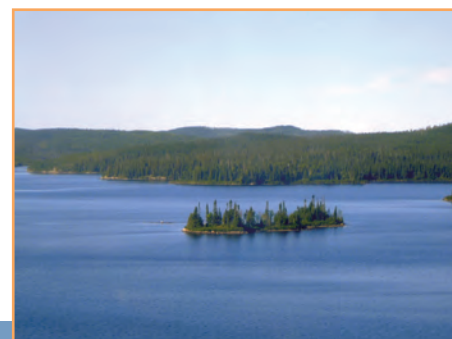


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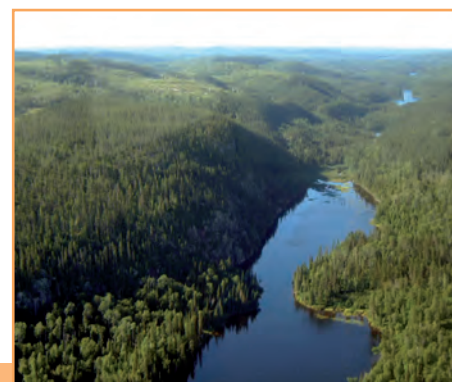


Photo: M.-A. Bouchard MDDEFP

Protected areas
in Québec:



A Lifelong Heritage



La réserve de biodiversité projetée du lac Wetetnagami



A representative
territory of
fishing and
hunting

¹ Pursuant to the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act*, any other form of permit or authorization pursuant to another statute or regulation is compulsory.

² The conservation plan can prohibit any activity if it impacts the biodiversity.

³ Authorization criterias apply.

Développement durable,
Environnement,
Faune et Parcs

Québec



Québec





La réserve de biodiversité projetée du lac Wetetnagami

Legend

Réserve de biodiversité projetée du lac Wetetnagami

Pathway

Esker

Mining right

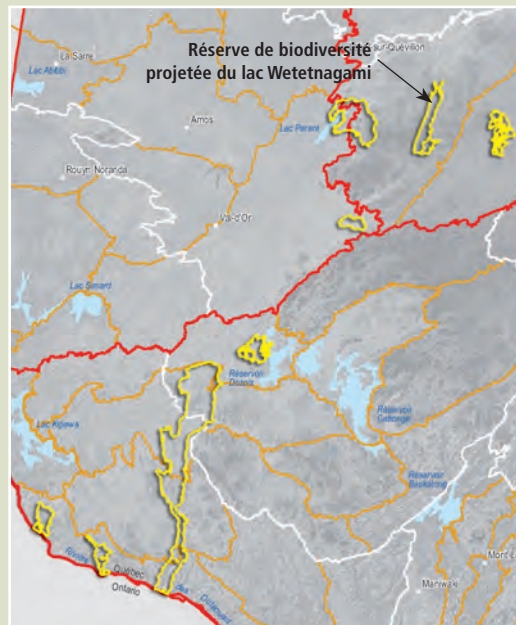
Active

Occupation

Shelter lease

Vacation lease

Outfitter camp



Natural province Natural region Physiographic ensemble

