

TRANSLATION

March 4, 2019

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Mr. Hervé Deschênes
Chair
Cree-Québec Forestry Board
Delta Building, 11th Floor, Room 1180
2875, Boulevard Laurier
Québec City (Québec) G1V 2M2

Dear Sir,

At the request of Pierre Dufour, Québec's Minister of Forests, Wildlife and Parks, we are following up on your letter of December 18, 2018, concerning the recommendations made by the Cree-Québec Forestry Board (CQFB) in connection with pre-consultations on the amended 2018-2023 integrated tactical forest management plans (tactical plans) for the management units in the Nord-du-Québec region that constitute the area covered by the adapted forest regime in the Paix des braves.

We welcome the comments made by the CQFB. The Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs (MFFP) will take them into account when finalizing its forest plans, and for subsequent amendments.

One of the things you mention is the inclusion, in the tactical plans, of the tactical strategic documents currently under development, including the wildlife habitat management directives and the mixed stand management strategy. These two documents are being prepared by the MFFP in collaboration with the Cree Nation Government, and work to complete them is ongoing in accordance with the work plan agreed upon by the two parties.

The directives and strategy will be implemented as soon as they are completed, and the tactical plans will be adjusted to reflect this. In addition, as provided for in the agreement, the CQFB will be asked beforehand to make comments and recommendations on these documents.

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The MFFP's representatives are working hard to complete the two documents as a priority, as quickly as possible. The proposed timeframe for the amended 2018-2023 tactical plans provides for public consultations to be held in 2019, and for the plans to come into force in 2020. However, subject to certain reservations, the MFFP is open to reconsidering this, depending on the progress of the work and the anticipated impacts. Where applicable, the CQFB will be informed of any change in the consultation timeframe.

Your letter also contains comments regarding the consideration of issues agreed upon and raised by the regional community. Efforts to develop indicators and targets for the values and objectives associated with these issues is continuing, among other things through the work being done on the wildlife habitat management directives. Once this document has been finalized, the MFFP should be able to develop and clarify proper indicators and targets for many of the issues identified by the Cree and James Bay stakeholders.

Regarding the issues raised by the Cree in particular, the MFFP will complete the information in the Cree section of the tactical plans in order to clarify the means that will be used to apply them in the tactical plans.

Please be assured that the recommendations and comments made by the Cree-Québec Forestry Board are taken into consideration in the MFFP's forest plans. We will also be interested to consider any other recommendations you may submit to us at a later date in connection with the 2018-2023 tactical plans for the area covered by the adapted forest regime.

Yours sincerely,

Line Drouin, Counsel,
Deputy Minister.

c. c. Abel Bosum, Grand Chief, Grand Council of the Crees
Pierre Ménard, Director General, Northwest Sector