

January 29, 2021

Mr. Hervé Deschênes
Chair
Cree-Québec Forestry Board
11th Floor, Suite 1180
2875, Boulevard Laurier, Édifice Le Delta 1
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 the opinion issued by the Cree-Québec Forestry Board on December 16, 2020, concerning the Mixedwood Stand Management Strategy (the Strategy) prepared for the area covered by the adapted forest regime in the *Paix des braves*.

We welcome your favourable recommendation with respect to the Strategy and have read the comments contained in your opinion. The Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs (MFFP) will take them into account when finalizing the Strategy before publication, and during the ongoing process of preparing the Wildlife Habitat Management Directives.

In the opinion, you mention the need to clarify the silvicultural scenarios in traplines where mixedwood stands are naturally less common. To follow up on the comments received, the MFFP has carried out a full review of the document. Clarifications have been made for these specific cases, and at several other places in the document.

Your letter also contained two opportunities for improvement with respect to work on the Wildlife Habitat Management Directives that are currently under preparation. The joint committee responsible for this task, composed of representatives from the MFFP and the Cree Nation Government, will consider the suggestions for improvement and will follow up on them.

Please also be assured that the findings from the various monitoring initiatives, including that for the Strategy, will ultimately be used to provide more precise information on the needs of wildlife species, and to assess habitat quality.

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In closing, following your favourable opinion and the letter of support for the Strategy received from the Cree Nation Government, we are delighted to announce that the Mixedwood Stand Management Strategy will be posted on the MFFP's website in the coming days. The final version will be available for consultation on the following website:

<https://mffp.gouv.qc.ca/les-forets/amenagement-durable-forets/planification-forestiere/plans-damenagement-forestier-integre/nord-du-quebec/>

Yours sincerely,

Mario Gosselin,
Deputy Minister.

c. c. Anick Lavoie, General Manager, North-West Sector, MFFP
Lucie Ste-Croix, Associate Deputy Minister, Regional Operations, MFFP
Abel Bosum, Grand Chief, Grand Council of the Crees
Alain Sénéchal, Associate Deputy Minister, Forests, MFFP