

TGIRT-EIJB Mistissini FMU 26-61 and 26-62

Minutes of the **FOURTEENTH MEETING**

January 30, 2019 in the conference room No. 102 of the Business Centre,
168 Main Street, Mistissini



Gouvernement régional
d'Eeyou Istchee Baie-James
Eeyou Istchee James Bay
Regional Government

APPROVED ON: JUNE 12TH, 2019

Table de GIRT de Mistissini

Présences à la rencontre du 30 janvier 2019



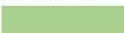

Délégués et substituts

| Groupe d'utilisateurs | Délégué | Présence | Substitut | Présence |
|--|------------------------------|----------|----------------|----------|
| Chef de la communauté et/ou maire et/ou président de localité | Thomas Neeposh | | | |
| BGA | Denis Chiasson | | | |
| | Jean-Pierre Boudreault | x | | |
| | Julie Laberge | x | | |
| PRAU | Miriam Audrey Lessard Légaré | | Justine Drolet | x |
| | Matthew Wapachee | | | |
| Gestionnaire de réserve faunique | Mireille Gravel | x | | |
| Pourvoirie | Conrad Mianscum | | | |
| Locataire à des fins agricoles | | | | |
| Maître de trappe/Titulaire de permis de piégeage/Associations locales de trappeurs | Willie J. Loon | | | |
| Environnement et Eau | Pamela MacLoed | | | |
| Entreprises sylvicoles | | | | |
| Travailleurs forestiers (usine) | Pierre Leblond | | | |
| Travailleurs forestiers (forêt) | Dion Michel | x | | |
| Groupe de travail conjoint | Matthew Longchap | x | | |
| Développement économique local | Alex Coonishish | | | |
| Produits forestiers non ligneux | Marie-Eve Gosselin | | | |
| Véhicule hors route | | | | |
| Villégiateurs | | | | |
| Industrie minière exploitation | Marlene Mackinnon | | | |
| Industrie minière exploration | Marlene Mackinnon | | | |
| Tourisme/récréation en forêt/culture | Conrad Mianscum | x | | |
| Chasseurs/pêcheurs/observateurs faunique | Richard Gunner | | | |
| Énergie/biomasse | | | | |
| Groupes jeunesse | Samantha Awashish | | | |
| Groupes de femmes | Amy Linton | | | |
| Groupes aînés | William Mianscum | | | |

Observateurs, invités

| Organisme | Observateur, invité | Présence |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------|
| GREIBJ | Martin Fillion (animateur) | x |
| | Johanne Morasse | x |
| MFFP-Forêt | Serge Bergeron | x |
| MFFP-Faune | Julien second | |
| Gouvernement de la Nation Crie | Stéphane Ouellet | |
| Administration régionale Baie-James | | |
| MFFP-Planificateur | Philippe Leblanc | x |

Confirmation de présence ou d'absence

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Présence |  |
| Présence par téléphone |  |
| Absence |  |

TGIRT-EIJB MISTISSINI FOURTEENTH MEETING

| Items | Results or discussion summary | Decisions |
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| 1. Call to order, introductions | The meeting begins at 12:15 pm. The participants introduce themselves. | |
| 2. Reading and approval of the agenda | <p>The animator reads the agenda.</p> <p>A delegate asks for the addition of one item (10 a): Follow-up of the technical committee on strategic lakes.</p> <p>A delegate asks for the addition of one item regarding issues (5 c): Opening of the access roads to harvest sectors in restricted areas.</p> | On a motion by Mrs. Julie Laberge, duly seconded by Mr. Dion Michel, it is unanimously agreed to approve the agenda as amended. |
| 3. Reading, follow-up and approval of the minutes of the meeting held on July 24, 2018 | <p>The animator reviews the minutes and pays particular attention to the decisions and follow-up items.</p> <p>On page 6, it is asked to delete the second paragraph (3rd in the French version) “The last need was raised by FaunENord. They wish to preserve... in another manner”.</p> <p>The members discuss the follow-up of the issues grid which was discussed at the last meeting and confirm the elements that were modified in the grid. A delegate asks to add a means regarding the schedule of future operations: “Broadcast the updated schedule as soon as an amendment is made”. This is added to the usual broadcast of the schedule which is done every two weeks.</p> <p>A delegate goes back to the last paragraph of item 5 regarding the difficulty of obtaining a supply of quality white birch even though the required volumes are very small. The delegate representing the beneficiary of a volume of white birch and the MFFP observer agree to localise together the stands and clusters that would be interesting to harvest and, outside a portion equivalent to 25% within which the hardwood must be maintained. While these volumes can be harvested outside this portion of 25% he asks that the tallymen be informed to avoid being faced with a finished situation when they are using their entire trap line. The delegates do not wish to make an issue of it but agree on a harmonisation measures that would be registered in the notes of this meeting. Thus, the MFFP planners will identify the white birch stands with the participation of</p> | <p>At item 5, the paragraph “The last need was raised by FaunENord. They wish to preserve ... in another manner” will be removed from the minutes.</p> <p>A means will be added to the issues grid regarding the schedule of operations.</p> <p>A harmonisation measure was agreed and will be followed by the stakeholders who plan and harvest volumes of white birch as part of a supply guarantee: The MFFP planners will identify the white birch stands with the participation of the beneficiary of this resource and inform the tallymen regarding the sectors where these volumes will be harvested.</p> <p>On a motion by Mr. Dion Michel, duly seconded by Mr. Jean-Pierre Boudreault, it is unanimously agreed to approve</p> |

| Items | Results or discussion summary | Decisions |
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| | the beneficiary of this resource and inform the tallymen of the areas where these volumes will be harvested. | the minutes as amended. |
| 4. Correspondence | | |
| 5. Issues that could evolve to a value, objective, indicator, target (VOIC) | <p>The animator introduces this item by mentioning that some issues of the TGIRT have reached a certain level of development and could be translated into a VOIC. He explains the difference between an issue and a VOIC but adds that they are two equivalent notions. A VOIC is the formulation of an issue that the MFFP can take into account in the PAFIs.</p> <p>Three issues have reached a level of development and have the potential of becoming a VOIC.</p> | |
| a. Visual landscape | <p>The issue of the visual landscape was put on ice last March in expectation to be brought up by the delegate of the wildlife reserve managers group. She mentions the latest developments regarding this issue and the actions taken at the Chapais-Chibougamau TGIRT regarding the North Road. This work regarding the North Road also concerns the Mistissini TGIRT since a large part of the road crosses the territory of the TGIRT. The delegates want to go further in the development of this issue but the animator ask to first confirm if it is well worded in the issues grid and can be reactivated (put the boxes in white). The delegates confirm. They ask to add the access roads in the need. The needs are well worded. The animator discusses the first step, which is to establish a mapping of the sensitive sites. He will produce a preliminary map and proposes to work it as a technical committee. The members discuss the potential taking into account of such an issue in the planning of forestry operations. A member reminds that, by definition, a VOIC must have the effect of influencing the forest planning. This is included in the PAFIT and includes a strategic element. For the MFFP, the 30-meter protection strips planned on both sites of the North Road would not be the subject of a VOIC since the affected harvest volumes are minimal and are not compiled in the allocations to the BGAs when they had the possibility of harvesting up to the roads such as the North Road according to the terms of the mosaic logging. However, the designation of sensitive sites and the establishment of specific terms</p> | <p>The delegates mention their sensitive sites to the animator by email. Mrs. Mireille Gravel will send a map of the sites deemed sensitive by Nibiischii. The animator will complete a preliminary mapping for the work of the technical committee. Afterward, a first meeting will be planned considering the availability of the members of the technical committee. The members of this committee will include Mrs. Mireille Gravel, Mr. Serge Bergeron, Mr. Conrad Mianscum, Mr. Matthew Longchap, Mr. Dion Michel and the animator. A Doodle survey will be sent to the members to know their availability.</p> |

| Items | Results or discussion summary | Decisions |
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| | <p>could have a visible impact on the forest allocations and this concerns the delegate of the BGA group. In addition, he would like to know the impact of such terms. This could not be done at this very preliminary step. The animator suggests proceeding one step at a time. First it is a matter of establishing a map of the sensitive sites and, after this step, we will have an idea of the areas affected in the allocatable forest. After the first step, the technical committee will do a follow-up at the TGIRT before starting the next step. The delegates therefore ask for the implementation of a technical committee to start the actions included in the grid.</p> | |
| <p>b. Water quality and integrity of aquatic habitats (return of the technical committee and recommendations)</p> | <p>The animator mentions a meeting of the technical committee on strategic lakes followed by a meeting of the technical committee on water quality during one evening at the end of January 2018 in the Chibougamau Town Hall. The animator and the MFFP observer do a quick recap of the discussions held during these two meetings and the actions taken as a follow-up. There remained a question to know if the quality of water and the strategic lakes are part of the same issue. A delegate explains that the tallymen are waiting for the conclusions of the committee on the strategic lakes to see which measures will be taken to protect the spawning beds. The MFFP observer mentions the agreement reached between the MFFP and the tallymen to ensure the protection of spawning beds. The members agree that, for the time being, the issue of water quality is worded too generally and will eventually need to be brought back to a more specific formulation.</p> <p>Mrs. Justine Drolet wishes to discuss the latest developments as part of this project and the steps to come. She is invited to do so at item 10 a.</p> | |
| <p>c. Opening of roads to access hard to reach harvest areas</p> | <p>This item was added to the agenda of this meeting and is discussed at the end of the meeting. An issue regarding the reopening of old roads was raised toward the end of the presentation by Mr. Sébastien Leduc. A delegate mentions that when reopening old roads for the harvest, young trees that are in the path of these roads are cut and often simply rolled or pushed on either side of the road. This manner of eliminating cut trees is considered unaesthetic,</p> | <p>The animator will propose a wording for the issue of obstruction of the roads for the next TGIRT meeting.</p> <p>A delegate proposes the following wording for the need: "Reducing the environmental impact associated with forest</p> |

| Items | Results or discussion summary | Decisions |
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| | <p>cumbersome and unsafe. The animator proposes to add it to the issues grid and asks how it could be worded. Finally he proposes to reflect on it. He will propose a wording in the issues grid by the next meeting.</p> | <p>management". This need refers several issues.</p> |
| <p>6. Wood production intensification areas (Virginie Cayer, MFFP)</p> | <p>This item is discussed right after item 3.</p> <p>Mrs. Virginie Cayer gives her presentation by telephone conference. A Power Point presentation is displayed on screed. She indicates the purpose and content of her presentation. She clarifies the objective.</p> <p>The classification of the silviculture response strategy or the AIPL designation is essentially based on three criteria, i.e. the productivity, the forest dynamics and the restrictions to management. The silviculture intensity can be expressed according to three gradients: intensive, basic and extensive. The presenter provides a brief explanation of each of the three gradients and their context of application. With the help of illustrations, she demonstrates the planned management scenarios for each of the three gradients. To understand the context of application of the AIPLs as part of the public forest management, it is necessary to refer to Section 36 of the Sustainable Forest Development Act which identifies the criteria for the designation of AIPLs and the national wood production strategy in which the AIPL are one of the proposed avenues. Mrs. Cayer explains where the AIPL are likely to be found, considering the dominant vegetation, the accessibility conditions and the current uses of the territory. The proximity of mills and labour, the condition of the road network and the silviculture investments made to this day are part of the criteria for the prioritisation of AIPLs. Following the AIPL designation, it is planned namely to do some reforestation with the help of improved plants and with a density of 2,000 plants/ha. It is also anticipated to do some pre-commercial clearing. More frequent follow-ups are planned to ensure that we reach the silviculture objectives. Maps were prepared so that the members of the TGIRT can see where the proposed AIPLs are located. Mrs. Cayer also expresses in which proportions are found the various gradients. The extensive gradient appears to be the</p> | |

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| | <p>most dominant, with a proportion between 35 and 50% of the managed area in the forest management unit. The intensive gradient occupies a proportion of 0.4% in FMU 026-61 and about 9% in FMU 026-62. The forest management unit 026-66 is the one where the intensive gradient occupies the largest portion of the managed territory. Forest management units 026-64, 026-62 and 026-66 are those where there are the most AIPLs. At this time, it is still a potential designation and the designation of an intensive gradient for an area does not mean that it will be treated as an AIPL. The validation on site remains to be done.</p> <p>A delegate raises a question regarding the harvest done in areas developed managed according to the extensive gradient. He asks if there is a high proportion of these areas that will be the subject of clearing work, stating that is question is related to the production objectives. The MFFP observer makes a few clarifications, including that the commercial clearings will not be done in the extensive gradient. The delegate from the BGA group also makes some clarifications regarding the management approaches implemented, namely regarding the biophysical reality. Mme Cayer clarifies where some of the proposed AIPLs are located in FMU 026-61. A map of the proposed AIPLs is displayed on screen. Mrs. Cayer provides a brief description.</p> <p>Mrs. Cayer invites the members of the TGIRT to consult the maps and mention their comments and concerns to the MFFP, especially if AIPLs have designated in locations where projects are planned or in progress, mainly in cases of incompatibility. The MFFP grants a month to the members to consult the maps and issue their comments and concerns, if any, from the moment when they have the maps of the proposed AIPLs. The members of the TGIRT are invited to send their questions and comments to the animator, if any, for the benefit of all members. A delegate asks who must consult the tallymen specifically on the proposed AIPLs.</p> | |
| 7. Follow-up of the 2018-2023 PAFIT modification (Serge | The MFFP observer recaps the results of the PAFIT consultation. There was a pre-consultation of the TGIRT that ended on November 30, 2018. Afterward, | |

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| Bergeron) | an additional timeframe was granted until the end of December. Only one comment was received from the Waskaganish TGIRT. In addition, comments were received from the Cree for the Category II lands. It is planned to initiate public consultations toward the end of the summer 2019. | |
| 8. Road closure and amendment of the PAFIO (Serge Bergeron) | Following the start of the consultations on the PAFIO, the MFFP received a request for the closure of a road in an area located slightly to the south of Sauniot and Cloespel lakes that are part of FMU 026-61. The purpose of this closure is to cut the interconnection between two trap lines. | |
| 9. Public consultations on the PAFIO (Serge Bergeron) | The public consultations on the PAFIO are taking place from January 28 to February 22, 2019. An information meeting will be held on January 30 at 7:00 PM at the Chibougamau Town Hall. Interested parties can come view the maps. They can also consult an online interactive map and make comments directly on this map. A delegate mentions that amendments were requested to the PAFIO by the tallymen following the consultation of the TGIRT. He asks if it is possible to obtain an updated map that includes these changes. The MFFP observer mentions that the maps submitted to the public consultations should integrate these latest changes. | |
| 10. Miscellaneous | | |
| a. Water quality and integrity of the aquatic habitats | The animator and MFFP observer do a brief review of the meeting of the technical committees on the water quality and the strategic lakes that were held on the same day at the end of January 2018. What came out of the technical committee on water quality is that the tallymen wanted to ensure a protection of the spawning beds but the MFFP did not necessarily know where they all were. There is now a direct consultation process between the MFFP and the tallymen on this issue. A question remains to know if there is a link between the two technical committees. Two delegates say that there is and add that the tallymen are waiting for the conclusions of this study to have a better idea of the water quality issue and the conditions of protection of the spawning beds. Mrs. Drolet provides a recap of the progress of the work as part of the project on strategic lakes. Initially, | |

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| | <p>the SÉPAQ had raised a concern regarding the maintenance of the quality of certain lakes for fishing, in relation with the forestry operations nearby. Afterward, Niibiischi took over and FaunENord developed a project to evaluate which activities are present in the territory and what is their impact on the quality of certain lakes deemed strategic, more specifically the impact of forestry operations. To this day, 10 lakes have been selected and the data regarding the pressure of forestry operations was collected near these lakes. This exercise is completed in cooperation with the communities of Mistissini and Oujé-Bougoumou. We are now at the step to determine the problems and how to manage them, and in particular the forestry operations. The report from the last meeting.</p> <p>Analyses have been completed regarding the impact of logging, based on the logging equivalency areas. Mrs. Drolet explains the foundation of this indicator and what it reveals. The analyses have revealed results below the acceptable threshold of 50% for the ten targeted lakes. The highest value observed is 16%. A delegate mentions that the notion of logging equivalency area does not only take into consideration the logging but also the fires. In fact, Renault Lake obtained a rather high result due to the fires. These analyses were completed at the watershed scale for each identified lake. During the latest meeting of the technical committee, it was asked to complete analyses regarding the logging equivalency areas in the other watersheds of the territory. This project will be completed on March 31. The analyses in progress should reveal other results in the mean time.</p> <p>The technical committee on strategic lakes will meet again by March 31 to review the latest results as part of the project and to submit recommendations to the TGIRT, if any. The two topics, i.e. the strategic lakes and water quality will be discussed at the next meeting of the technical committee.</p> | |
| <p>b. Follow-up of the technical committee on the access</p> | <p>This item is added to the agenda during the meeting and is discussed immediately after item 6. The animator grants 20 minutes to present this item.</p> <p>Mr. Leduc gives a presentation of this item in</p> | |

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| <p>management for the Category II lands (Sébastien Leduc)</p> | <p>replacement of Mrs. Sonia Légaré. A Power Point presentation is shown on screen. Mr. Leduc quickly checks the knowledge of the members in terms of distinction between the Category II and the Category III lands. He discusses the work completed on the TGIRT grouping the Category II lands and mentions some of the expectations expressed by the Cree members of this TGIRT.</p> <p>As part of the mandate regarding the management of the road network in the Category II lands, there is an issue of access to the territory like at the TGIRT of the Category III lands. Mr. Leduc clarifies the context where it is raised and developed at the TGIRT for the Category II lands. This issue is divided into two objectives which are to limit the expansion of the road network and reducing the redundancy of the accesses. Mr. Leduc mentions the mandate of the technical committee. Regarding the first objective, there is a concern to reduce the pressure on the environment and wildlife. However, there is a difficulty in limiting the expansion of the road network, considering the impacts related to the mosaic logging regime and the presence of numerous users of the territory. Nevertheless, the members of the technical committee have started verifying the expectations and needs of the tallymen in regards to the maintenance and closure of some roads.</p> <p>To this day, 4 trap lines have been selected as part of a pilot project to survey the needs and expectations of the tallymen. These trap lines are located on Category II lands and have been selected in order to represent the various Cree communities and a diversity of the context elements mentioned above. In order to prepare the meetings with the tallymen, the members of the committee established a map of the roads and asked the planners to indicate the operational impacts related to their closing if necessary.</p> <p>Mr. Leduc mentions the work completed to this day. At the end of the exercise, the members of the technical committee realised that the sample retained was very restricted. In addition, it appeared difficult for the land managers to select the targets for a short term closure due mainly to the orphan blocks. In</p> | |

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| | <p>addition, during the consultations with the tallymen, they expressed no request for the closure of forest roads. Against all expectations, they instead asked that some accesses be returned to use. Following these latest observations, the members of the committee mention the hypothesis that the results could be entirely different if the survey covered a larger number of tallymen and the Category III lands. The members of the committee issued some recommendations regarding the Category II lands but hope that these are repeated for the Category III lands. He demonstrates the process that could be undertaken on the Category III lands and asks for the opinion of the delegates, since it goes beyond the territory of the TGIRT of the Category II lands. At the end of the initiative, orientations could be undertaken to close some roads using different approaches, going from the partial and temporary closure to the complete and permanent closure with a return to production. Mr. Leduc wishes to reassure the members that, in all cases, before proceeding with a road closure, the affected TGIRT will be adequately consulted in respect with the rules and procedures in effect.</p> <p>Mr. Leduc discusses objective #2 as part of the mandate of the technical committee on the access to the territory. A delegate asks how the third consultation will proceed. Mr. Leduc replies that this consultation will continue like on the Category II lands with a sampling of the tallymen. The opinion of the members of the TGIRT is still requested to know if they are comfortable with this initiative, as undertaken on the Category II lands. The redundancy of the road network can be expressed notably by loops whose necessity can be doubted. There is also an analysis of other avenues including the use of former corridors instead of the construction of new roads. It would also be possible to avoid multiple entrances.</p> <p>Jointly with the initiative undertaken with the tallymen, Mr. Leduc mentions that the PAFIT should eventually include guidelines to limit the road network and reduce the redundancy of roads.</p> <p>A delegate asks if there are terms included when it is time to reopen roads that have been unused for a</p> | |

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| | <p>while and regeneration has set up. It has been observed that the cut trees are very often simply piled up or pushed to either side of the road path, which is very unaesthetic and disrupts the free circulation of wildlife and people who wish to cross such road or get out. He proposes shredding the cut trees. Mr. Leduc replies that it is an operational problem and that the resolution should be on a case per case basis. This should be brought back as part of a harmonisation exercise with the BGAs. Another delegate asks if the analyses by the MFFP regarding the reduction of the road network consider some of the trends of the last two years, namely the increase of winter roads compared to the permanent roads. Mr. Leduc mentions that the reduction of the network of permanent roads is a high importance issue province-wide and the government orientations regarding the road closure procedures adjust according to the latest trends, including the use of removable bridges.</p> <p>A delegate returns to the issue of vegetation debris cut in former roads. He details the problems caused, the representations made by the tallymen to him and proposes a possible solution. To him, it is an issue that affects both the Category II and Category III lands. The animator proposes to add it to the issues grid and asks how it should be worded. This reaches several issues, including the access to the territory, the esthetical quality of the landscapes and the safety of users.</p> <p>Mr. Leduc makes some final clarifications regarding the schedule regarding the initiative started by the technical committee of the TGIRT on the Category II lands. Regarding the road management, the EIJBRG observer asks for the responses made between 2013 and 2018 which will be part of a report in the 2018-2023 PAFIT. Mr. Leduc mentions that there will indeed be a report and provides clarifications to this effect, namely regarding the return to production and stand education work.</p> | |
| <p>c. Access roads management committee (Serge Bergeron)</p> | <p>Mr. Serge Bergeron starts his presentation by explaining the objective which is to develop a “values map” in order to produce an access road management plan. The ultimate underlying issue of this objective is the re-establishment of the woodland</p> | |

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| | <p>caribou habitat. At this time, it is a proposal made to the TGIRTs.</p> <p>A delegate observes on the second slide that the second reason evoked is a copy of the need related to the problem discussed at 5 c. Therefore, the need is to reduce the environmental impacts related to forest management.</p> <p>Mr. Bergeron continues his presentation. He explains how the MFFP intends to proceed. The territory is vast and the resources are limited. The MFFP does not have a budget to complete the actions planned as part of this initiative. By contacting the TGIRT, they are hoping to indirectly raise awareness with the forestry companies regarding the issue of the present of forest roads. Mr. Bergeron explains the process anticipated to develop a road management plan which is based on a 4-stage decision assistance tool. A delegate asks if other ministries are involved in the management of accesses. Yes, especially the ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles. Mr. Bergeron lists a series of values that could be met by a road management plan. A delegate asks about the purpose of this presentation. Mr. Bergeron mentions that, at this time, it is to gauge the interest of the TGIRT. The initial need is still part of the eventual implementation of a caribou plan.</p> | |
| 11. Adjournment | The meeting is adjourned at 3:50 PM. | On a motion by Mrs. Mireille Gravel, duly seconded by Mrs. Justine Drolet, it is unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting. |

ACRONYMS

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| AIPL | Wood production intensification area |
| BGA | Beneficiary of a supply guarantee |
| TGIRT | Integrated Land and Resources Management Panel |
| EIJBRG | Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government |
| MFFP | Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs |
| PAFIO | Operational plan for Integrated Forest Management |
| PAFIT | Tactical plan for Integrated Forest Management |
| SÉPAQ | Société des établissements de plein-air du Québec |
| FMU | Forest Management Unit |
| VHR | Off-road vehicle |
| VOIC | Value, objective, indicator, target |