

TGIRT-EIJB Waskaganish FMU 085-62

Report from the
NINETEENTH MEETING

Held on July 7, 2021 remotely by Microsoft Teams



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

APPROVED ON: NOVEMBER 15, 2021

ATTENDING

Delegates:

Mrs.	Barbara Hester	-	Waskaganish Cree Environment Adm.
Mrs.	Marie-Ève Sigouin	-	Ryam
Mr.	Bert W. Moar	-	Community development
Mr.	François Demers	-	Wallbridge Mining Company Limited
Mr.	Ryan K. Erless	-	Sécurité Waskaganish
Mr.	Erness Moses	-	Ressources naturelles Waskaganish

Observers:

Mrs.	Johanne Morasse	-	EIJBRG, animator
Mrs.	Christine Morin	-	MFFP
Mr.	Mario Poirier	-	MFFP

Guests:

Mrs.	Élaine Cyr	-	MFFP
Mr.	Paul Maxime Otye Moto	-	MFFP

TGIRT-EIJB WASKAGANISH NINETEENTH MEETING

1. Call to order, introductions

The animator welcomes all participants and asks them to introduce themselves.

2. Reading and approval of the agenda

The animator reads the agenda. A delegate asks to add an information item on the FSC certification under Miscellaneous. Another delegate also asks to add an update on the Wallbridge project under Miscellaneous.

On a motion by François Demers duly seconded by Marie-Ève Sigouin, it is unanimously agreed to approve the agenda with the requested changes.

3. Comments, follow-up and approval of the minutes of the meeting held on November 5, 2020

As indicated in the invitation email to the nineteenth meeting of the Waskaganish TGIRT-EIJB, the members were asked to read the minutes before the meeting and to make their comments at the item follow-up and approval of the minutes of the previous meeting.

On a motion by Barbara Hester, duly seconded by François Demers, it is unanimously agreed to approve the minutes as proposed.

The RYAM representative provides a follow-up on the caribou project. In May 2020, Ryam submitted to the MFFP a document proposing protection measures for the caribou habitat. They are not waiting for the results of the analysis of this document. Ryam also wishes to present these proposals to the community of Waskaganish. The public safety representative of Waskaganish specifies that she is currently welcome to present her document in the community but, due to the COVID, some forms need to be filled before the visit of fully vaccinated people. A follow-up on this meeting will be presented by Ryam at the next panel meeting.

4. Correspondence

No correspondence.

5. Follow-up on the issues

The animator review the issues follow-up chart for the Waskaganish TGIRT-EIJB.

Issue "Conservation of wildlife habitats". The MFFP representative informs the members that a document titled "Directives sur les habitats fauniques" will soon be published in 2021-2022. At the next meeting, the MFFP will do a follow-up on the progress of this document and the consultation that it will be subject to before its approval. He adds that the strategy on mixed stands is also in response to this issue. Regarding the spawning bed protection, the MFFP will send to the panel a copy of the article from the RADF that considers this issue. The MFFP also uses the confidential data on spawning beds received from the tallymen during the forest planning. Regarding the caribou habitat, Ryam, the MFFP and several partners have been working since 2013 to integrate the maximum information possible on this population to produce a proposal that would serve as guide for the sound practices to protect this habitat. Regarding the bear dens, the MFFP will ask its specialist on the issue, Mr. Guillaume Szor, to know if there are real differences in the hibernation periods in the North in regards to section 56 of the RADF, a forested strip of at least 60 m wide must be maintained around a bear den during the period of November 15 to April 15. This strip can be harvested outside this period. During the previous meetings of the Waskaganish TGIRT-EIJB it was asked to amend the period of application of Section 56 of the RADF to be from November 1 to April 1,

in order to better reflect the reality on site according to the observations of the tallymen of FMU 85-62. The MFFP representative explains that this is rather complicated to make this change since this would involve a long process to amend the RADF. While the MFFP has not done a follow-up on this date modification request from the panel, this initiative will soon be started. The MFFP will also analyse the possibility of applying harmonisation measures that would allow asking the forestry companies to comply with a wooded strip as soon as a bear den is located on site.

Issue “Water quality and integrity of the aquatic habitats”. Since the person in charge of this file is absent, the follow-up on this issue will be discussed on his return at a future panel meeting.

Issue “Access to the territory” The road technical committee would like to share with the members of all TGIRT-EIJB a document titled “*Hypothèse de financement du réseau des chemins multiusages à l’intention du travail de réflexion des CRRNT*”. This 56-page document (plus appendices) was tabled to the members for information purposes.

Issue “Cohesion of the territory division methods”. The MFFP representative will do a follow-up at the next meeting regarding the request to include the trap lines located south of FMU 85-62 in the territory of the Waskaganish TGIRT-EIJB.

Issue “Safety of users”. The MFFP will send the web link *SOS braconnage*.

6. Miscellaneous

With the agreement of the members, the Miscellaneous item is presented at the beginning of the meeting.

6.1 Update on the operations of Wallbridge Mining

A representative from Wallbridge informs the panel that all Wallbridge workers and contractors that wanted to be vaccinated against COVID could do it at the Matagami health centre. 63 of 70 workers are now fully vaccinated. The mining exploration work of 170,000 m of drilling with a budget of 75 M\$ will take place at the Fénélon, Martinière, Grasset and Détour Kirkland Lake sites. A permit application is in progress to use the existing residue sites to dispose of the future mining residues. A project to repair 55 km of the road linking the Fénélon site with the Town of Matagami is currently in progress using the existing forest road that is used among other for the maintenance of Hydro-Québec’s high voltage line (intersection 55 km south of Matagami on Route 109). These drilling projects will begin on July 18, 2021. A member asks if Wallbridge is currently looking for brush cutters for the clearing of these future drilling sites. There are already agreements between the communities of Waskaganish and Washasibi for the execution of this type of work. Consultation and communications with the CNG and local tallymen are continuing.0

6.2 Ryam FSC certification

A representative from the BGA group informs that RYAM will be undergoing the evaluation process regarding their FSC certification during the first two weeks of September 2021. She notifies the panel that it is possible that the FSC auditors contact members of the panel as part of this process.

7. Road management plan

This item was discussed at item 5 – Follow-up on the issues.

8. Presentation of the regional wood production strategy (MFFP)

A representative of the MFFP mentions that this strategy does not apply to FMU 85-62 since there is no harvest planned for the next few years.

9. Presentation of the mixed stand management strategy (MFFP)

A representative of the MFFP gives a presentation on the "Mixed stand management strategy". This strategy was developed by the MFFP in cooperation with the CNG. The document of this strategy is available on the MFFP website. The trap lines of FMU 85-62 (A4 and N8) have respectively less than 1.5% and between 1.5% and 3% of mixed stands. The trap line A4 will maintain its mixed stands while 50% of the reference threshold will be maintained in trap line N8. The tallymen will be consulted by the end of September 2021 to identify the most important mixed stands. A member asks how a mature mixed stand is defined. A mixed stand reaches maturity at 60 years of age.

10. Presentation on the paludified landscapes

A representative of the MFFP gives a presentation on the paludified landscapes. She indicates on a map showing the paludified territories that there is no forestry harvest planned in 2023-2028 north of the Turgeon River due to the absence of a solution to return these stands to production after logging. Thus, a very low percentage of FMU 85-62 will be available for harvest in 2023-2028. Research continues to find solutions such as the mixed planting of larch and spruce.

11. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on November 15 at 9:30 AM.

12. Adjournment

The meeting is adjourned at 12:00 PM.

On a motion by Francois Demers, duly seconded by Ryan Erless, it is unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting.

ACRONYMS

BGA:	Beneficiary of a supply guarantee
COMEV:	Evaluation committee (responsible for studying the preliminary information provided by the developer of a project located in the territory covered by the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement (JBNQA) and located south of the 55 th parallel)
CRV:	Variable retention logging
FHVC:	Forest with a high conservation value
GIRT:	Integrated Land and Resources Management
CNG:	Cree Nation Government
EIJBRG:	Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government
MFFP:	Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs
PAFIT:	Tactical Plan for Integrated Forest Management
PAFIO:	Operational Plan for Integrated Forest Management
PFNL:	Non-wood forest product
PRAN:	Annual scheduling
PRAU:	Harvest permit to supply a mill
SÉPAQ:	Société des établissements de plein-air du Québec
TGIRT:	Integrated Land and Resources Management Panel
VNR:	Non-harvested volumes
VO:	Value, objective
VOIC:	Value, objective, indicator, target