

Matagami TGIRT-EIJB FMU 86-52, 86-64 and 86-65

Report from the **EIGHTEENTH MEETING**

Held on December 1, 2020, by Microsoft Teams



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

APPROVED ON: JUNE 9, 2021

ATTENDING

Delegates:

Mrs. Lydia Pedneault (Eacom Matagami)
Mrs. Valérie Moses (Scierie Landrienne)
Mrs. Karine Lavoie (Matagami CFDC)
Mrs. Mira Godbout (Mine Matagami)
Mr. Réal Dubé (Town of Matagami)
Mr. Félix Guay (Norbord, from 8:30 AM)
Mr. François Denis (Produits forestiers Résolu)

Observers:

Mrs. Johanne Morasse (EIJBRG)
Mr. Mario Poirier (MFFP)
Mr. Dave Levasseur (MFFP, planner)
Mr. Martin Fillion (EIJBRG, animator)

Guests:

Mrs. Sonia Légaré (MFFP, until 9:00 AM)

MATAGAMI TGIRT-EIJB EIGHTEENTH 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.

On a motion by Mrs. Valérie Moses, duly seconded by Mr. François Denis, it is unanimously agreed to approve the agenda as presented.

3. Reading, follow-up and approval of the minutes of the meeting held on November 26, 2019

The animator reviews the minutes and pays a particular attention to the details and follow-up items.

On a motion by Mr. Réal Dubé, duly seconded by Mr. François Denis, it is unanimously agreed to approve the minutes as proposed.

4. Correspondence

A notice of mining exploration work was sent to the EIJB by the Orford Mining corporation on September 21, 2020. The map attached to the correspondence shows two areas covered by this work, i.e. the McClure East property and the Joutel South property. Both properties are located west of Route 109, near the junction of this road and Route 812.

5. Follow-up on the issues

a. Terms included in the RADF to ensure the maintenance of the water quality

The animator reminds that, one and a half year ago, the MFFP had committed to quickly get back to the TGIRT with a presentation on the terms included to ensure the maintenance of the water quality during forestry operations. The new MFFP observer apologizes that this presentation has yet to be made to the TGIRT and commits to completing this action as early as possible.

6. Information item on the Detour Regional Operational Group (GOR)

Mrs. Sonia Légaré introduces her presentation by stating that the GOR is specifically related to the Detour herd. She provides a few highlights. The members of this group include the First Nation of Abitibiwinni, the Cree Nation Government, RYAM, the Société pour la Nature et les Parcs and Probe Métal. Subcommittees, including one regarding the forestry certification in effect in the territory and a forum between Ontario and Quebec, contribute to the work of the GOR. The territory of the Detour VEP is delimited generally to the North by FMU 85-51, FMU 85-62 in its entirety and a small portion of FMU 86-52. The Detour VEP covers a portion of the Detour herd and a portion of the Nottaway herd. According to a scenario being studied, a category of space organisation compartments (COS) would receive a harvest delay of 150 years. Some other COS would also receive a delay of 70 years. The GOR has analysed some issues and formulated recommendations. The members agree to establish, among the priority issues, the necessity to maintain a quality habitat for the woodland caribou. The dynamics and discussions are excellent in the GOR. It is important to maintain stability

in the group in order to integrate the knowledge that can come from various sectors. Among other things, it is necessary to integrate the traditional native knowledge. A good cohesion of the group is listed as a first recommendation. The second recommendation is related to mining exploration. The area being studied is mostly covered by active mining titles. However, an active mining title does not always necessarily involve operations that can disrupt the movement of the caribou. Often, it is instead to walk in the territory to visually explore the mining potential. The third recommendation is to establish guidelines applicable to management operation. It is desired to develop a range of mitigation measures that would apply based on the context in place. For example, where a 150-year forest harvesting delay was applied, it would be wise to invest efforts to also restrict mining exploration operations. It is desired to eventually develop a sensitivity mapping and promote it to mining exploration stakeholders before their exploration operations. The third recommendation is to establish a close cooperation with Ontario and to officialise it. This would help better coordinate the knowledge acquisition and follow-up operations on both sides of the border. The fourth recommendation is to develop an access road management plan in cooperation with the first nations and the local partners in order to target the road closure opportunities. The fifth recommendation is related to the fourth one. It is to understand the dynamics of the winter road closure and how it affects the quality of the habitat. The final recommendation is to add production masses. We are currently at the issues analysis step. We would have liked to already have orientations but we are expecting some developments by January 2021. An observer asks for a follow-up on a question asked by a delegate a year earlier regarding a road between Fénélon and Matagami. The observer asks if the opening and use of the road could be compromised since the GOR anticipates protection masses in this area. The delegate who raised the issue states that the road path has been modified. In order to reach the Selbaie road, they will instead use an existing road that is accessible from Route 109, near mile 80, near the wide curve. Mrs. Légaré adds that the GOR did not discuss this project since it is vital for the future of Matagami. At the time of officialising the strategy, they will ensure that economically essential projects are not restricted.

7. Preparation of the special plan (windfall)

The MFFP planner shows the location of a windfall that occurred in the fall. It is located in FMU 86-52, around km 165-170 of Route 109, on both sides of the road. The only change that the windfall imposes to the PAFIO is the recovery of the fallen wood and the areas subject to another windfall, over an area of about 350 hectares. These are ancient partial cuts completed in 1992. The windfall affected about half of the 350 hectares. The other half represents areas deemed at risk of windfalls. The recovery is scheduled for next summer. The planner expects to present an amended PAFIO for FMU 86-52 next summer.

8. Regional technical committee for the development of a road management plan

As a follow-up to the first meeting of the regional technical committee for the development of a road management plan, the animator mentions that the French report and the other working documents of the committee are available in the members section, in the general portion visible by all members of the TGIRTs. The animator shows and explains the use of the interactive map.

The first meeting of the technical committee was held on October 19. As part of this meeting the members started the establishment of a structure for the plan and the table of contents. A member also asked to be able to propose an accelerated road closure procedure when it can apply. The members took advantage of this meeting to discuss the eventual use of this plan. This would help establish a cost sharing structure for the maintenance costs of certain roads. Also, a member suggest to follow an agreement reached for the Selbaie Road that, for the last few years, is no longer the responsibility of the ministère des Transports of Quebec. It was also proposed that the EIJBURG establish a Facebook page to broadcast continuous information regarding the work performed on the roads or when events occur that make a road unusable for example. Finally, the members asked that Cree representatives could be on the committee so their concerns regarding the road network can be considered in advance. For a future meeting, they wish to already be able to integrate the values of the various users in a potential plan.

9. Presentation of the public consultation reports on the special plan regarding Burn 72, PAFIO and PAFIT

The MFFP observer discusses the comments received while the animator displays the burn location map. Only two comments were received. The first one was expressed by an anglers association regarding the time of completion of the work. Also, an outfitter asked that there would be no harvest, to which the MFFP cannot commit since they are on public lands and the wood present contributes to the calculation of the forest potential.

The observer continues with the reports on the public consultations held in March and August 2020. The March consultation was regarding all FMUs in the EIJB territory. Two comments were made regarding the FMUs that are part of the Matagami TGIRT territory and 8 other comments were made regarding the other FMUs in EIJB. They are mostly comments from residents.

The consultation held in August only covered the FMUs of the Chibougamau management unit. Only one comment was received during this consultation.

10. State of advancement of the amended 2018-2023 PAFIT

Compared to the PAFIO, the PAFIT do not raise localised concerns that can be located on site. One public consultation on the amended PAFIT was held in January 2020 regarding all FMUs in the EIJB territory. The comments received were mostly from organisations, including the EIJB RG. They were mostly background comments at the tactical level.

11. Amendment of the PAFIO

As a follow-up to the presentation made at item 7, the planner discusses the FMUs other than 86-52. He shows the new harvest areas on the PAFIO map of FMU 86-64, followed by those of FMU 86-65.

An observer asks if it is possible to see on the maps to whom the harvest areas are assigned, to the BMMB or to which BGA. The planner mentions that we only know this for some areas. The observer also asks if it is possible to know which bridges will be repaired. The planner replies no, not really. This depends on the roads that the companies will use to harvest their wood.

The amended PAFIO maps are available in the members section.

12. Proposed schedule of meetings for 2021

The animator proposes a schedule of TGIRT meetings for 2021. Three dates proposed are agreeable to the members. The three dates are February 11, June 9 and December 1, 2021. The three meetings will begin at 8:15 AM. This proposal is acceptable to all members present. A delegate still asks for one week or two to come back with new proposals if these dates are not appropriate.

13. Miscellaneous

14. Adjournment

The meeting is adjourned at 9:40 AM. The next meeting will be held on February 11, 2021 at 8:15 AM.

On a motion by Mrs. Valérie Moses, duly seconded by Mr. Félix Guay, it is unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting.

ACRONYMS

BGA:	Beneficiary of a supply guarantee
COS:	Spatial organisation compartment
EIJB:	Eeyou Istchee James Bay
TGIRT:	Integrated Land and Resources Management Panel
GOR:	Regional Operational Group
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
RADF:	Regulation on Sustainable forest management
FMU:	Forest Management Unit
VEP:	Vast proper area