

## Summary description of the territory

### BOUNDARIES AND LOCATION

The 143.1-km<sup>2</sup> proposed biodiversity reserve is located in the municipality of Senneterre, roughly 90 km southeast of Lebel-sur-Quévillon.

### PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

The territory displays physical evidence of deglaciation that began roughly 10 000 years ago. It takes the form of an undulating plain with till mounds and hollows filled with peat bogs. However, glaciofluvial sand and gravel fluting dissects the plain, evidence of the sub-glacial rivers that flowed to the southwest. Eskers frequently accompany the glaciofluvial complexes.

### BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT

At the confluence of the balsam fir-white birch and black spruce-moss stand bioclimatic domains, the protected area displays physical features such as landforms, surface deposits, drainage, climate, and so on, that foster, above all, the presence of black spruce-moss stands or black spruce-heath stands, black spruce-sphagnum moss stands and, on till mounds, balsam fir-black spruce stands. In point of fact, black spruce stands predominate in the territory although in light of the fire regime, jack pine stands occupy some areas. The northern portion has been subject to logging. Forest stands in the rest of the territory are generally middle-aged (40 to 80 years old).

### SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT

In the past, the Attikamek and Cree First Nations, in particular, have used the Rivière Saint-Cyr, which crosses the protected area, as a travel route. The territory, located in the Abitibi beaver reserve, is now mainly occupied and used by the clientele of two outfitting operations with exclusive rights that operate, in particular, on Lac Saint-Cyr, Lac Cherrier and Lac Mesplet.

### CONTRIBUTION OF THE PROTECTED AREA

The reserve protects a representative sampling of the glaciofluvial undulating and outwash plains over which are scattered peat bogs, stemming from the Quaternary Period. From the standpoint of forests, the reserve protects ecosystems that are representative of balsam fir-black spruce stands and various black spruce stands commonly found at this latitude.

### PROPOSAL FOR A PERMANENT BIODIVERSITY RESERVE

The proposed place name for the granting of permanent status is the Réserve de biodiversité Saint-Cyr.

## Major permitted and prohibited activities<sup>1</sup>

### PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

Pursuant to the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act*, the main activities prohibited in a territory with the status of a biodiversity reserve are:

- Forest development within the meaning of section 3 of the *Forest Act* (R.S.Q., c. F 4.1);
- Mining, gas or oil exploration and development;
- Exploitation of hydropower and any commercial or industrial energy production
- Any other activity prohibited by the conservation plan or by a regulatory.

### PERMITTED ACTIVITIES<sup>1 2</sup>

- Trapping camps, basic shelters and cabins and their incidental structures allowed by the lease;
- Harvesting wood to build an outdoor campfire;
- The maintenance or rebuilding of infrastructures;
- Trapping, hunting and fishing;
- Free access to the territory;
- The harvesting of small fruits or plant species for domestic use;
- Stays lasting 90 days or less (camping);
- Any recreative, touristic or ecotouristic activities;
- Domestic animals.

### ACTIVITIES SUBJECT TO AUTHORIZATION<sup>1 2 3</sup>

- The erection, installation or construction of new buildings;
- The construction of new infrastructure and new recreational or educational trails;
- Soil development work;
- Wood harvesting for domestic purposes.

### For more information:

[http://www.mddefp.gouv.qc.ca/biodiversite/aires\\_protegees/consultation/abitibi-temis/index.htm](http://www.mddefp.gouv.qc.ca/biodiversite/aires_protegees/consultation/abitibi-temis/index.htm)

[http://www.mddefp.gouv.qc.ca/biodiversite/reserves-bio/st-cyr/PSC\\_Cyr.pdf](http://www.mddefp.gouv.qc.ca/biodiversite/reserves-bio/st-cyr/PSC_Cyr.pdf)

<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act*, any other form of permit or authorization pursuant to another statute or regulation is compulsory.

<sup>2</sup> The conservation plan can prohibited any activity if it impacts the biodiversity.

<sup>3</sup> Authorization criterias apply.



Photo: M.-A. Bouchard MDDEFP



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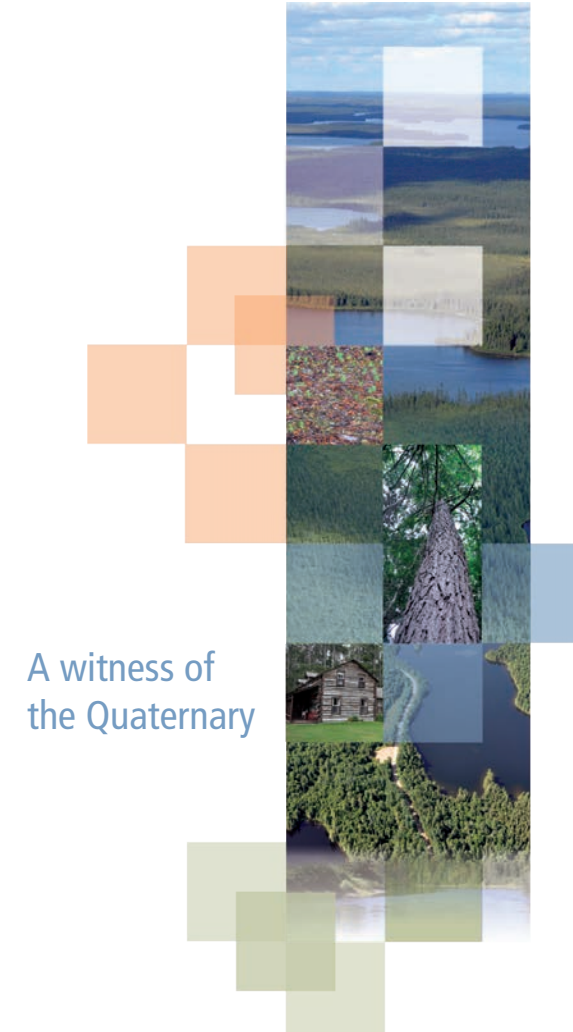
Protected areas  
in Québec:



A Lifelong Heritage



Réserve de  
biodiversité projetée  
du lac Saint-Cyr



A witness of  
the Quaternary

Développement durable,  
Environnement,  
Faune et Parcs

Québec



Québec

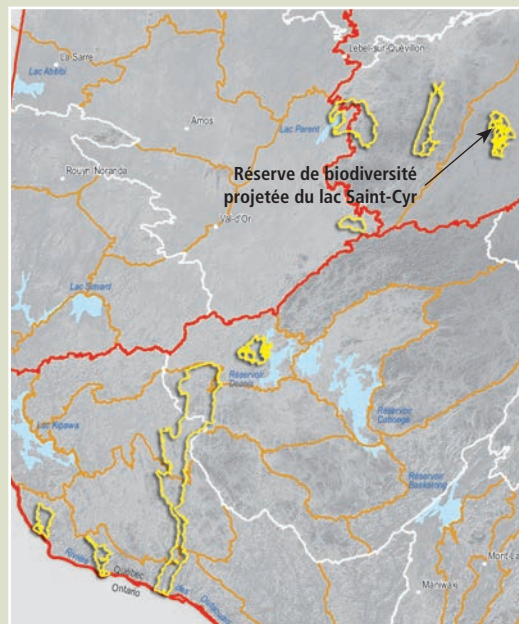




# La réserve de biodiversité projetée du lac Saint-Cyr

## Legend

- Réserve de biodiversité projetée du lac Saint-Cyr
- Boundary (administrative region, MRC, municipality)
- Pathway
- Hydroelectrical powerline
- Esker
- Biological refuge
- Outfitter
- Mining right**
- Active
- Occupation**
- Shelter lease
- Vacation lease



Natural province    Natural region    Physiographic ensemble

