

Summary description of the territory

BOUNDARIES AND LOCATION

The proposed aquatic reserve has an area of 1 445 km². It adjoins the Abitibi-Témiscamingue and Outaouais administrative regions.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

The territory seeks to protect the Rivière Dumoine, one of the last major unharnessed rivers in southern Québec, its valley and immediate drainage basin. The source of the roughly 140-km long river is in Lac Machin north of Lac Antiquois. The river flows southward into Lac Dumoine then into the Ottawa River, a dozen kilometres west of Rapides-des-Joachims. The river generally follows a U-shaped valley that becomes increasingly steep as it advances toward the mouth.

BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT

The southern half of the reserve is part of the sugar maple-yellow birch climatic domain and the northern half is part of the balsam fir-yellow birch bioclimatic domain. Because of the territory's size and elongated shape along a north-south axis, it displays a significant array of forest ecosystems, ranging from yellow birch-fir-sugar maple stands to balsam fir-black spruce-white birch stands, balsam fir-red spruce stands, or balsam fir-cedar stands. A valley with occasionally steep sides favours white pine stands and certain sandy environments in the valley bottom can host red pine stands. On the eastern slope of the river valley, near the mouth, peaks are suited to sugar maple-northern red oak stands. Mature forests (80 years or older) are found on nearly two-thirds of the territory under forest cover whereas old-growth forests cover just over half of it.

SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT

Prior to the colonization of the Témiscamingue region, the territory, which is linked to the Ottawa River, a major travel route for the Aboriginal peoples, may have been extensively occupied as a seasonal camp and frequented, in particular, by the Anishnabeg. The territory has significant archaeological research potential. Some 90 sites have been located. Excavations were carried out in 2002 on one of them. The Rivière Dumoine and its environs are now the site of hunting and fishing. Moreover, the river is a renowned canoe-kayak course of average difficulty (rated 5 stars by the Fédération québécoise de canoé-kayak).

CONTRIBUTION OF THE PROTECTED AREA

The reserve is protecting a big river in southern Québec and its valley and a significant portion of its drainage basin. Its forests are diversified, extensive and mature.

PROPOSAL FOR A PERMANENT AQUATIC RESERVE

The proposed place name for the granting of permanent status is the Réserve aquatique de la Rivière-Dumoine.

Major permitted and prohibited activities¹

PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

Pursuant to the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act*, the main activities prohibited in a territory with the status of a aquatic 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^{1 2}

- 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^{1 2 3}

- 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/aquatique/dumoine/PSC_Dumoine.pdf

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

² The conservation plan can prohibited any activity if it impacts the biodiversity.

³ Authorization criterias apply.



Photo: M.-A. Bouchard MDDEFP



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Protected areas
in Québec:



A Lifelong Heritage



Réserve aquatique
projetée de la
Rivière-Dumoine



A majestic
river of rich
forests

Développement durable,
Environnement,
Faune et Parcs

Québec



Québec





La réserve aquatique projetée de la Rivière-Dumoine

Legend

Réserve aquatique projetée de la Rivière-Dumoine

Boundary (administrative region, MRC, municipality)

Wildlife reserve

Outfitter

Controlled harvesting zone

Other protected areas

Occupation

Shelter lease

Vacation lease

Outfitter camp

Outfitter camp

Fire tower

Mining right

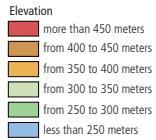
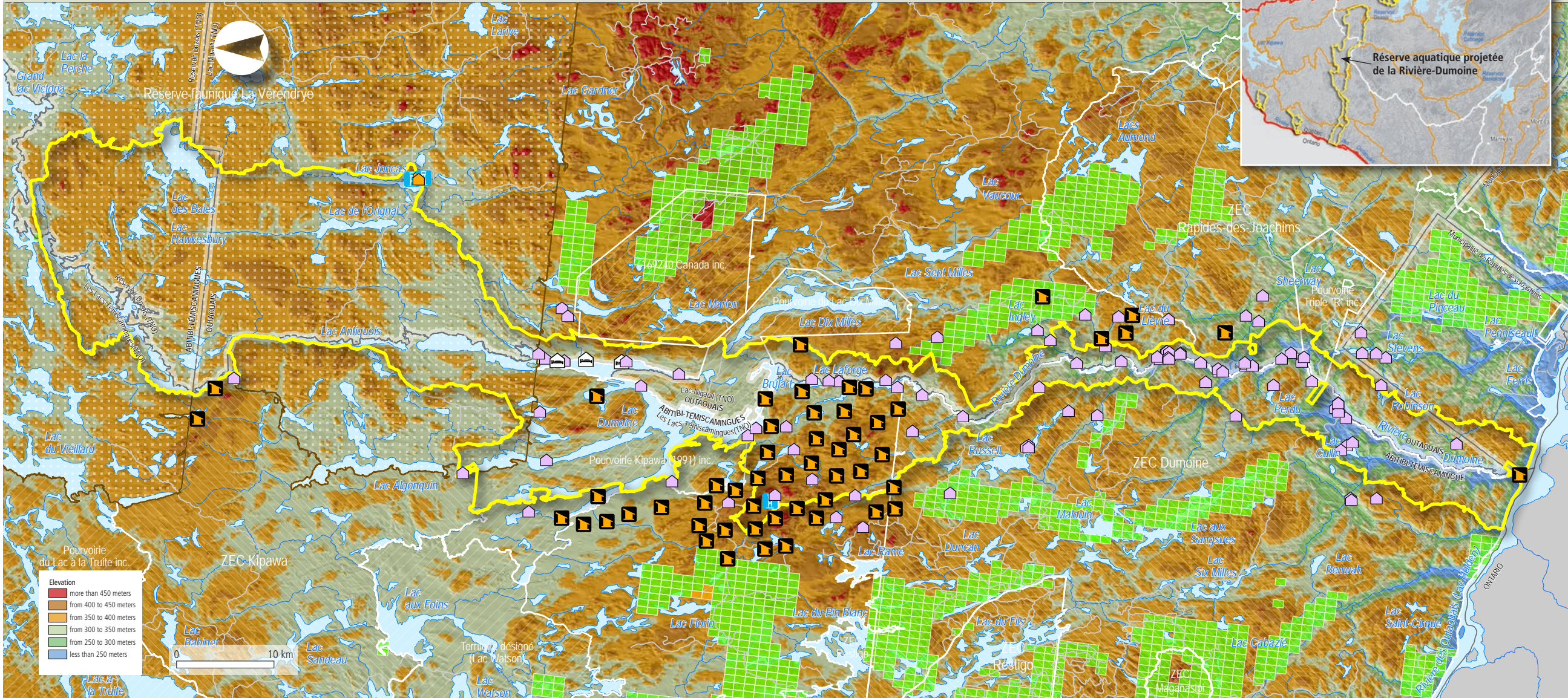
In demand

Active

Natural province

Natural region

Physiographic ensemble



0 10 km