

Resolution: Immediate implementation of the wildlife directives in the areas of special interest for the Cree

WHEREAS one of the first objectives of the Adapted Forestry regime is to take into consideration the Cree way of life as stipulated in section 3.1 of Chapter 3 Forestry - Agreement concerning a new relationship between le Gouvernement du Québec and the Cree of Québec;

WHEREAS specific management standards are to be applied to maintain or improve the habitat of very important wildlife species (moose, marten, beaver, hare, fish, caribou and partridge) in the areas of special interest for the Cree as agreed in Chapter 3—Forestry amendment no.6 JBNQA 3.10 Areas of special interest to the Cree;

WHEREAS these areas of special interest for the Cree were clearly identified in 2002 by the tallyman in all the traplines within the Chapter 3—Forestry application;

WHEREAS those areas of special interest are to benefit from specific protection to improve the level of harmonization between forest development activities and traditional activities including hunting, fishing and trapping as agreed in chapter 3—Forestry amendment No. 6 JBNQA 3.10 Areas of special interest to the Cree;

WHEREAS wildlife directives guiding the elaboration of development strategies that will take into account the protection and development of wildlife habitats remain to be implemented as agreed in chapter 3—Forestry article 59 of Schedule C-4 Agreement concerning a new relationship between le Gouvernement du Québec and the Crees of Québec and amendment No. 6 JBNQA Schedule C-3;

WHEREAS a wildlife draft directive on the protection and development of wildlife habitats was submitted to the Quebec government on March 29, 2005, for approval and was never implemented;

WHEREAS a wildlife directive joint committee was set in place in 2019 (following amendment No. 6) to elaborate again a new set of wildlife management directives. The Cree members of the joint committee have submitted interim measures to be implemented without delay in order to maintain and protect the wildlife habitat in the areas of special interest for the Cree;

WHEREAS interviews and numerous testimonies from the tallymen reveal that the extent of forestry activities (harvesting and road building) in the areas of special interest for the Cree (25%) is excessive. There remains a strong sentiment that the ecological integrity of these forest areas is not being preserved and that very important wildlife habitat for the Crees are being jeopardized;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the delegates of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government 48th/45th Annual General Assembly request that every effort be made to implement interim measures to maintain and improve moose habitat, including the moose habitat directives related to the protection of Winter habitats (moose yards), Protection of summer habitat, protection of unique habitats, riparian travels and access corridor, wildlife habitat and silvicultural treatments and seasonal schedule of harvesting operations, until such time as permanent wildlife directives have been established;

THAT the delegates of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government 48th/45th Annual General Assembly further request that the directives on the protection and development of Wildlife habitats on the territory foreseen under the Agreement concerning a new relationship between le Gouvernement du Québec and the Crees of Québec be finalized as soon as possible, subject to the appropriate consultations of communities and land users.

THAT the Cree Nation Government is hereby mandated to do all things necessary to effect to the foregoing and provide the appropriate reporting.

effect

Proposed by:

Seconded By: