

Announcement concerning conservation measures and consultations on regional projects for the Charlevoix boreal caribou population and the Gaspésie mountain caribou population



The at-risk state of the Charlevoix boreal caribou and Gaspésie mountain caribou populations, as well as the importance of natural resource and energy development issues and recreational tourism potential in these two regions, have prompted the Gouvernement du Québec to take action on several fronts. It is in this context that the government is announcing measures to protect and conserve the caribou habitat, and to monitor and manage the caribou populations.

Two regional projects are being submitted for consultation to all stakeholders before the approach that will promote the sustainability of the caribou populations targeted is adopted. The projects aim to increase the predictability of economic activity in the targeted regions. They take into account the special relationship between the First Nations and the caribou and its habitat. The consultations focus on the location, surface area and boundaries of the targeted territories, as well as the intended regulatory and legal amendments proposed to improve their designation and control activities in these habitats. Until the regulations come into force, it is important to maintain the main features that make them suitable for the conservation of the caribou.

Taking action to protect and conserve the caribou habitat

- Continuing to protect forest massifs as a result of forest development plans in the caribou habitat.
- Continuing to apply interim measures in the caribou habitat, particularly in targeted territories (Gaspésie and Charlevoix), and the moratorium on logging in Val-d'Or.
- Announcing the intention to set aside a territory in order to expand the Caribou-Forestiers-de-Manouane-Manicouagan Proposed Biodiversity Reserve (approximately 4,826 km²) and the application of temporary administrative measures¹. See map 1 on reverse.
- Announcing the application of temporary administrative measures within the Vallières-de-Saint-Réal protected area project (approximately 96 km²). See map 3 on reverse. Given the mining rights in the territory, the area targeted by the temporary suspension of mining rights and designation on the map is approximately 43 km².
- Launching two regional projects for the Charlevoix boreal caribou population and the Gaspésie mountain caribou population. These projects will make it possible to take into account the needs of caribou in the targeted territories and provide greater predictability for land users.
- Adding an information notice in GESTIM for mining right applicants to inform them, when they are in the area of application of interim measures, of the development of the caribou habitat and the fact that these territories may be subject to changes in measures for the conservation of caribou.

\$59.5 million for conservation measures

for boreal and mountain caribou and their habitat

- \$33 million for monitoring and management measures for caribou populations.
- \$26.5 million for caribou habitat restoration measures.

In 2024-2025

- \$7 million to carry out caribou habitat restoration activities and encourage the return of forest stands dominated by conifers.
- \$7.5 million to continue population monitoring and management measures.

Ensuring monitoring and management of the caribou populations

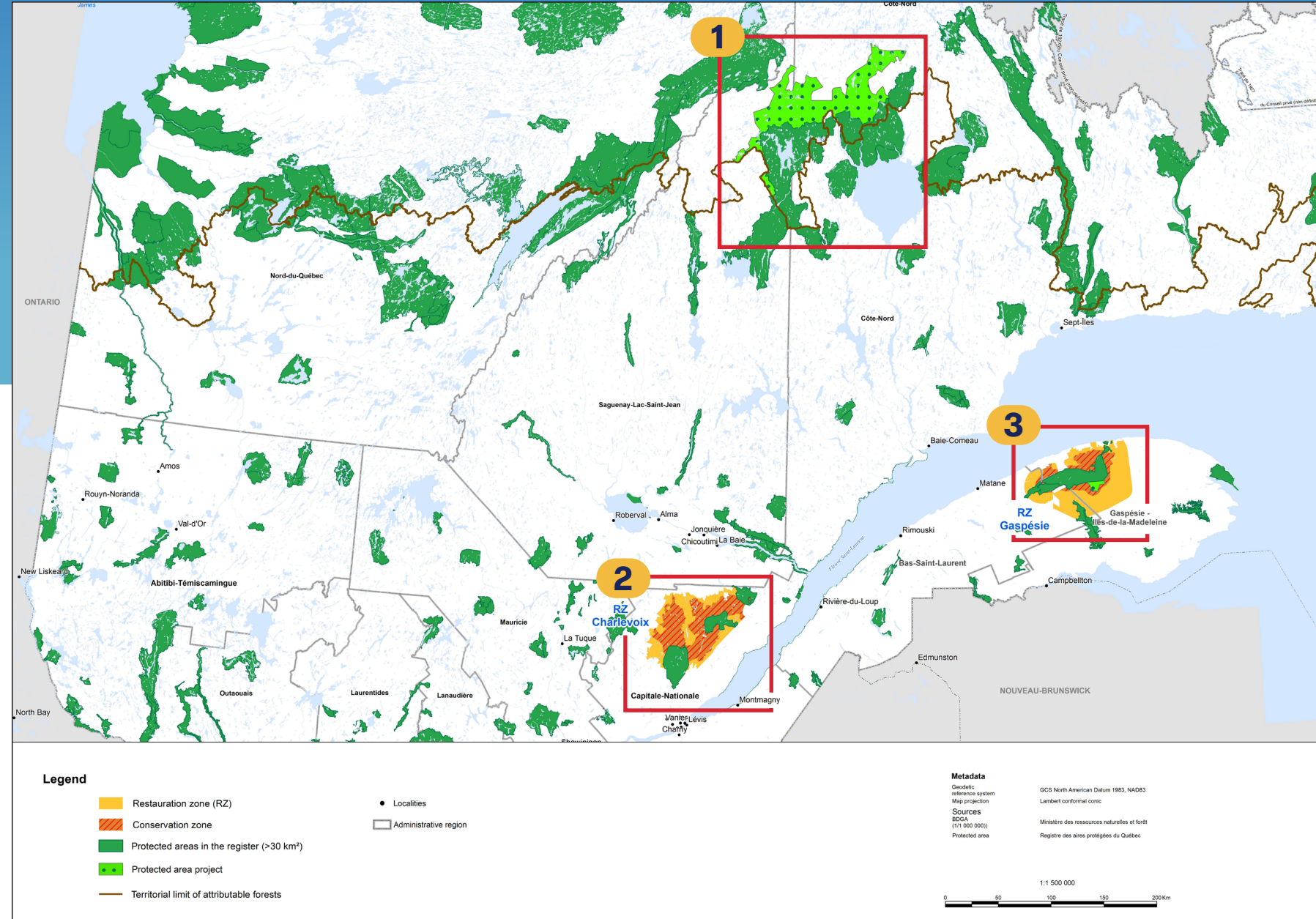
- Consolidating monitoring of all boreal and Gaspésie mountain caribou populations.
- Continuing to apply exceptional management measures for the most at-risk caribou populations, such as those in Val-d'Or, Charlevoix and Gaspésie.

1. Administrative measures prevent activities that could damage the natural environments.

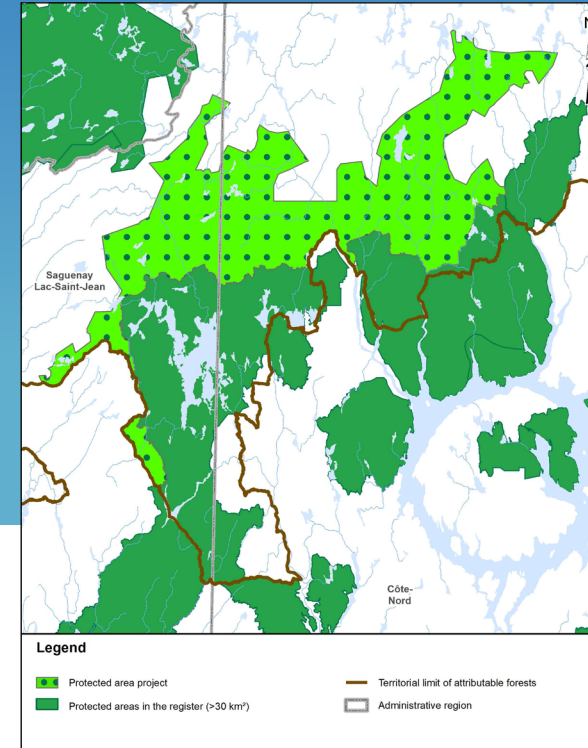
Taking action in the territory

The government is demonstrating its action by announcing its intention to set aside a territory for a protected area project and by immediately implementing administrative measures to prevent the degradation of natural environments within two protected area projects.

Conservation measures

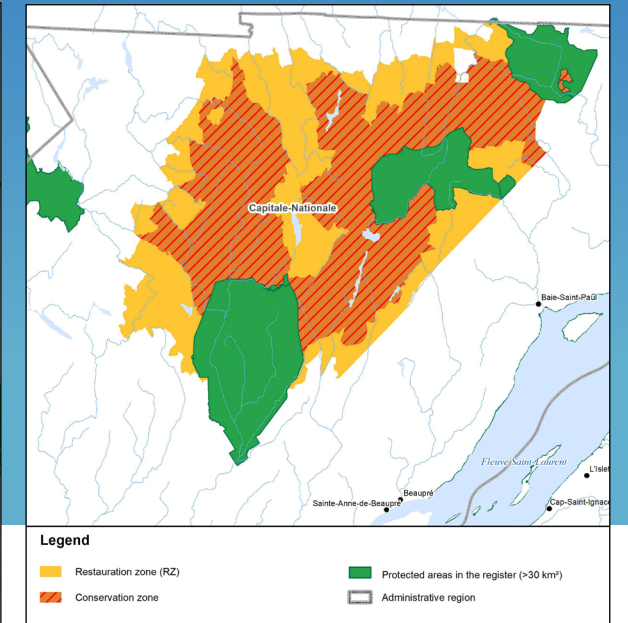


Regional projects and protected area projects



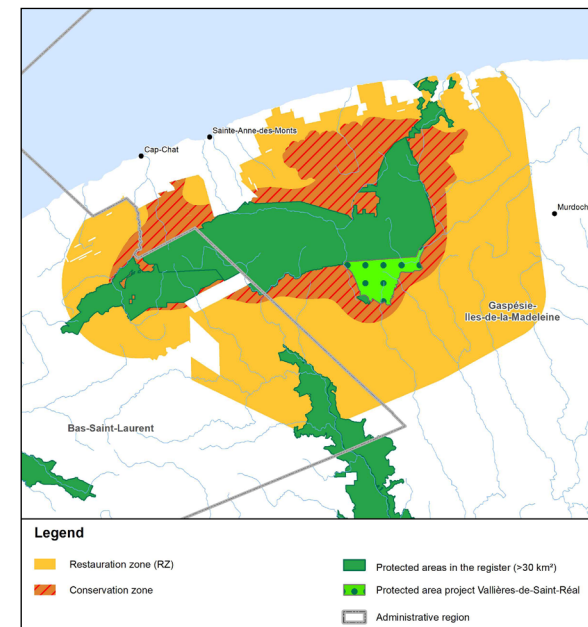
1 – Caribous-Forestiers-de-Manouane-Manicouagan protected area expansion project

- Surface area of the expansion project: approximately 4,826 km²



2 – Project for the Charlevoix boreal caribou population

- Surface area of the RZ: 5,019 km²



3 – Project for the Gaspésie mountain caribou population and Vallières-de-Saint-Réal protected area project

- Surface area of the RZ: 4,944 km²
- Surface area of the protected area project: approximately 96 km²