



STRATEGIC  
**Plan**  
2023-2028



Comité consultatif pour l'environnement de la Baie James  
James Bay Advisory Committee on the Environment  
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● Whapmagoostui

● Chisasibi

● Wemindji

● Eastmain

● Waskaganish

● Nemaska

● Mistissini

● Ouje-Bougoumou

● Waswanipi



# Territory

Section 22 of the James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement (JBNQA) establishes an environmental and social protection regime aimed at reducing the negative impacts of development affecting the Territory or having repercussions on the environment, wildlife, and Cree rights and interests. The processes established under Section 22 are intended, among other things, to protect the rights and guarantees provided for in the hunting, fishing and trapping regime of Section 24 of the JBNQA. Thus, environmental and social laws and regulations, as well as the environmental and social impact assessment and review process, must allow for development that is consistent and compatible with these objectives.

Section 22 of the JBNQA covers over 400,000 km<sup>2</sup> that has been fashioned by a unique socio-political and economic context. Since the signing of the JBNQA in 1975, the Territory has undergone considerable biophysical and social changes. It is subject to various pressures due to the expansion of human occupation and the development of its natural resources. The development of the Territory's natural resources is subject to industrial and governmental interests.

Environmental and social issues go hand in hand, as does the need to ensure public and Indigenous participation. It is recognized that the institutions and mechanisms of the JBNQA help to ensure Cree participation in decision-making and the protection of the Territory and of Cree rights.

# The JBACE

The James Bay Advisory Committee on the Environment (JBACE) is composed of **12 members** appointed by the Cree Nation Government, the Government of Quebec and the Government of Canada in equal measure. Thanks to their **collegial** and **collaborative** work, the members of the JBACE cover a large number of files on various issues.

# Mission

Official and privileged forum established by Section 22 of the James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement (JBNQA), the JBACE studies and oversees the implementation of the environmental and social protection regime in the James Bay Territory. The JBACE analyzes issues that may affect the environment or the communities of the Territory, advises governments on the development of policies, laws and regulations, and facilitates dialogue between stakeholders. This ensures the protection of Cree rights and the environment on which they depend, in accordance with the guiding principles of Section 22 of the JBNQA.

The activities, recommendations and advices of the JBACE are steered by the guiding principles of Section 22 of the JBNQA:

- The protection of the hunting, fishing and trapping rights of Native people in the Territory, and their other rights on Category I lands, with respect to developmental activity affecting the Territory;
- The environmental and social protection regime with respect to minimizing the impacts on Native people by developmental activity affecting the Territory;
- The protection of Native people, societies, communities, economies, with respect to developmental activity affecting the Territory;
- The protection of wildlife resources, physical and biotic environment, and ecological systems in the Territory with respect to developmental activity affecting the Territory;
- The rights and guarantees of the Native people within Category II established by and in accordance with Section 24 until such land is developed;
- The involvement of the Cree people in the application of this regime;
- The rights and interests of non-Native people, whatever they may be;
- The right to develop by persons acting lawfully in the Territory;
- The minimizing of the negative environmental and social impacts of development on Native people and on Native communities by reasonable means with special reference to those measures proposed or recommended by the impact assessment and review procedure.

# Vision

The JBACE is the reference for questions regarding the environmental and social protection regime in the Territory of application of **Section 22** of the **JBNQA** when developing laws, regulations and policies.

# Strategic Plan 2023-2028

The Strategic Plan aims to better target the committee's efforts and to guide and structure its actions. These actions will be part of the continuity of the JBACE's work, as much in the context of the application of the environmental and social protection regime of Section 22 as in the upstream work with the strategic partners of the James Bay Territory.

The intervention areas and objectives of the plan do not reflect all of the committee's activities. In fact, the JBACE is subject to the demands of the authorities that request its services within the framework of its mandate. These represent the major part of the committee's activities and are not always predictable. This strategic plan takes this reality into account in order to ensure its implementation.

# Summary Table

## Areas of intervention

### 1 Environmental and social protection regime of Section 22 of the JBNQA

The objective of this area of intervention is to evaluate the environmental and social protection regime of Section 22 in order to assess the relevance of making recommendations to improve it.

#### Objectives

##### 1.1 Evaluate the legislative framework of the environmental and social protection regime

#### Indicators and targets

##### Indicator 1

Percentage of preparatory work completed

##### Targets

2023-2024: 100%

2024-2025: n. a.

2025-2026: n. a.

2026-2027: n. a.

2027-2028: n. a.

##### Indicator 2

Percentage of the legislative and policy evaluated

##### Targets

2023-2024: n. a.

2024-2025: 25%

2025-2026: 50%

2026-2027: 75%

2027-2028: 100%

##### 1.2 Evaluate the transparency of the environmental and social impact assessment and review process

##### Indicator 1

Percentage of preparatory work completed

##### Targets

2023-2024: 25%

2024-2025: 75%

2025-2026: 100%

2026-2027: n. a.

2027-2028: n. a.

##### Indicator 2

Percentage of the diagnosis on the transparency of the process completed

##### Targets

2023-2024: n. a.

2024-2025: n. a.

2025-2026: n. a.

2026-2027: 50%

2027-2028: 100%



# Strategic Plan 2023-2028

## Objectives

### 1.3 Evaluate the follow-up and monitoring of authorized projects

## Indicators and targets

#### Indicator 1

Percentage of preparatory work completed

#### Targets

2023-2024: n. a.  
2024-2025: 50%  
2025-2026: 100%  
2026-2027: n. a.  
2027-2028: n. a.

#### Indicator 2

Percentage of the analysis of the follow-up and monitoring completed

#### Targets

2023-2024: n. a.  
2024-2025: n. a.  
2025-2026: n. a.  
2026-2027: 50%  
2027-2028: 100%

### 1.4 Provide recommendations for the consideration of cumulative effects in the environmental and social impact assessment and review process

#### Indicator 1

Number of actions for which the implementation is completed

#### Targets

2023-2024: 1  
2024-2025: 1  
2025-2026: 1  
2026-2027: 1  
2027-2028: n. a.

#### Indicator 2

Number of actions for which recommendations are provided

#### Targets

2023-2024: n. a.  
2024-2025: n. a.  
2025-2026: n. a.  
2026-2027: n. a.  
2027-2028: 4

# Summary Table – Strategic Plan 2023-2028 (continued)

## Areas of intervention

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### 2 Partnerships and communications

The objective of this area of intervention is to strategically position the JBACE to produce relevant and impactful comments and recommendations in a timely manner.

#### Objectives

**2.1 Strengthen the JBACE's network with the community and the Territory**

#### Indicators and targets

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##### Indicator

Number of meetings with strategic partners

##### Targets

2023-2024: at least 4  
2024-2025: at least 4  
2025-2026: at least 4  
2026-2027: at least 4  
2027-2028: at least 4

**2.2 Improve the visibility and communications of the JBACE**

##### Indicator 1

Development of the communication plan

##### Targets

2023-2024: 100%  
2024-2025: n. a.  
2025-2026: n. a.  
2026-2027: n. a.  
2027-2028: n. a.

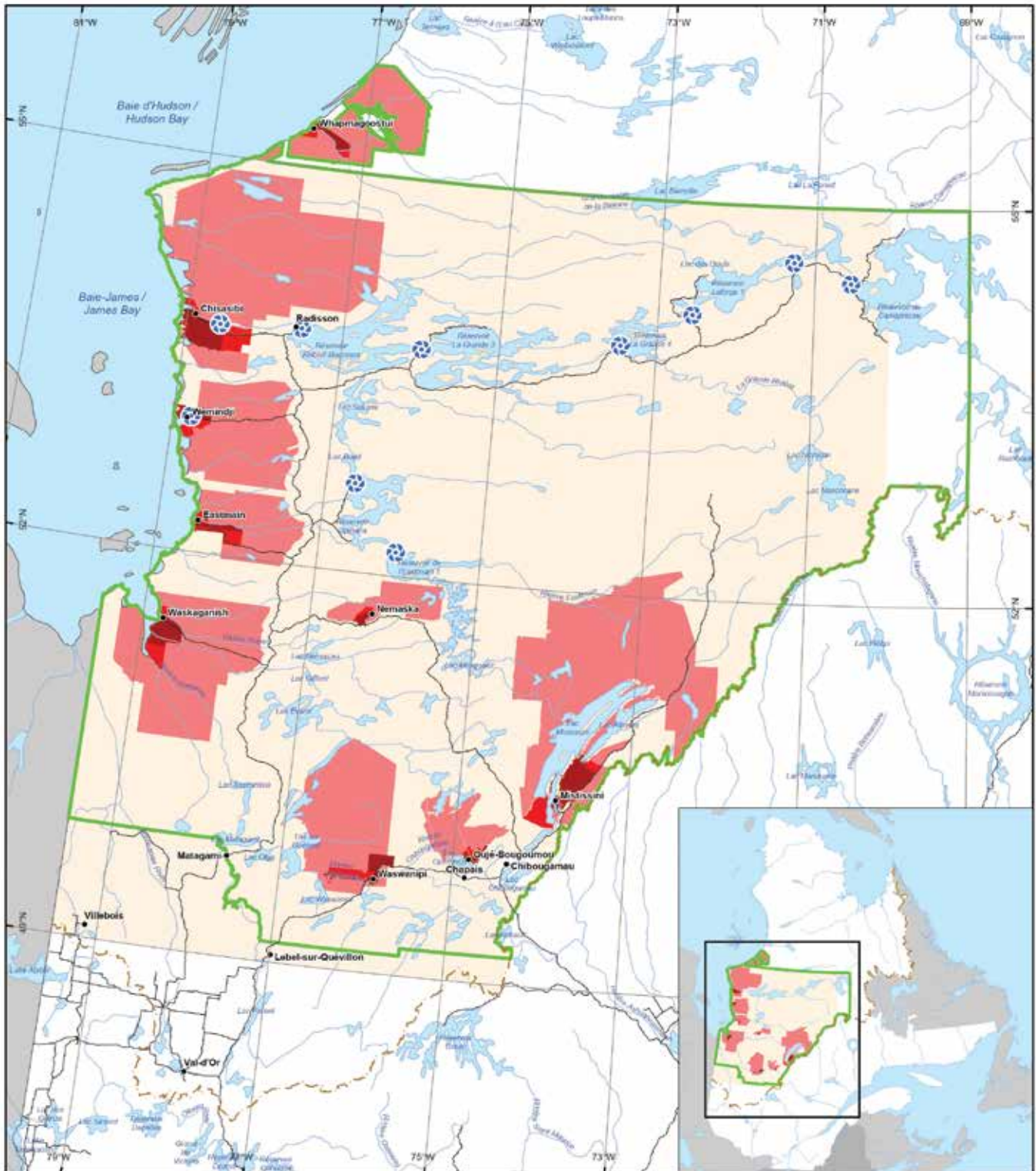
##### Indicator 2


Percentage of the communication plan implemented

##### Targets


2023-2024: n. a.  
2024-2025: 25%  
2025-2026: 50%  
2026-2027: 75%  
2027-2028: 100%

# Map of the Territory Covered by the Environmental and Social Protection Regime (Section 22)



 Centrale hydroélectrique / Hydroelectric power station


— Convention de la Baie James et du Nord québécois / James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement and North-eastern Quebec Agreement


 Territoire d'application du régime de protection de l'environnement et du milieu social / Territory covered by the environmental and social protection regime <sup>1</sup>

 Gouvernement régional d'Eeyou Istchee Baie-James / Eeyou Istchee James Bay Regional Government <sup>2</sup>

Terres de catégorie / Categories of lands

 IA Cri / Cree

 IB Cri / Cree

 II Cri / Cree

<sup>1</sup> La limite sud du territoire d'application tel que définie sur la carte n'est pas reconnue par les cris. / The Crees do not recognize the southern limit of the regime.

<sup>2</sup> Le territoire du Gouvernement régional d'Eeyou Istchee Baie-James exclut les municipalités de Chapais, Chibougamau, Label-sur-Quévillon et Matagami. / The territory covered by the regional Government excludes the municipalities of Chapais, Chibougamau, Label-sur-Quévillon and Matagami.

Note: Cette carte n'a aucune portée légale et ne doit pas être utilisée pour définir des limites officielles. / This map is for consulting purposes only and should not be used for defining official boundaries. Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic, NAD83 Sources: NRCan CanVec 5M & 15M, MERN SDA 20K Credits: Environment and Remedial Works Department, CNG Date: 2020-08-05



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