



## SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT PROGRAM MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK 2021-2024

**\*\*This English document is a courtesy translation only...in the event of discrepancy, the French version prevails. \*\***

La Municipalité régionale de comté du Golfe-du-Saint-Laurent (MRC) has been designated by the ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs (MFFP) to collaborate in the implementation of the Sustainable Forest Management Program (PADF).

The PADF envelope is essentially aimed at carrying out regional development projects for the development of timber and forest products, projects associated with multi-use roads on public land in the forest environment and supporting initiatives and the organization of various activities aimed at promoting forest management and the development of forest resources.

### STRUCTURING REGIONAL INITIATIVES

The objectives of the projects supported under the PADF is to optimize, with the participation of local stakeholders, the sustainable management of forest land in Quebec's regions. More specifically, the initiatives selected aim to:

- Carry out forest management work on residual forest lands under a management delegation agreement (Objective 4.2).
- Maintain and improve a safe network of multi-use roads for the various users of the territory (Objective 4.3).
- Accompany initiatives and support the organization of various activities aimed at promoting sustainable forest management and the development of forest resources as well as the implementation of regional forest strategies (Objective 4.4).

The contribution of the MRC du Golfe-du-Saint-Laurent, through the PADF can reach 75% of eligible costs.

### ADMISSIBLE ACTIVITIES

**Within the framework of specific objective 4.2, the eligible activity is the following:**

- Carrying out silvicultural forest management work on residual forest lands under a management delegation agreement according to the treatments identified in the annual grid of investment rates in private forests in force and in accordance with the Cahier de références techniques en forêt privée.

**Within the framework of specific objective 4.3, the eligible activities are the following:**

- Improvement and rehabilitation of multi-use roads, such as widening, alignment correction, slope softening, addition of safety devices (guardrails) and pavement resurfacing.
- The improvement and rehabilitation of bridges or culverts located on a multi-use road such as the replacement of the structure or a portion of the structure to maintain its load bearing capacity.
- Maintenance work on a multi-use road for safety purposes, such as ditching, replacement of drainage pipes and clearing of rights-of-way.
- Work performed to prevent the degradation of a multi-use road, bridge, or culvert.
- Work to remove external sediments that may affect the condition of a road infrastructure in a forest environment.
- The restoration of the site where the work was carried out.
- Multi-use road closure work.

### ADMISSIBLE ACTIVITES

**Within the framework of specific objective 4.4, the eligible activities are the following:**

- Activities to raise awareness, promote and enhance:
- the workforce and the trades in the forestry sector.
  - the various products derived from the wood resource.
  - the importance of developing the forest resource and the products derived from it.
  - the impact of the forest environment on climate change, ecosystems, and biodiversity.
  - Activities aimed at ensuring the follow-up of forest management work on residual forest lands and on private lands belonging to forest owners recognized under section 130 of the PADF carried out under the present program or its previous versions.
  - Activities aimed at developing a regional strategic approach and aimed at carrying out structuring projects.
  - Activities aimed at implementing an integrated collaborative forest planning process.

### ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

**The following expenses are eligible under specific objective 4.2:**

- All expenses associated with the realization of eligible activities provided for in objective 4.2 of the program and respecting the annual grid of investment rates in private forests in effect.

**The following expenses are eligible under specific objective 4.3:**

- Plans, profiles, and specifications.
- Right-of-way clearing.
- Shaping.
- Crushing.
- Bridges and culverts.
- Signage.
- Ditching.
- Drainage pipe replacement.
- Supervision and professional fees.
- Machinery rental.

**The following expenses are eligible under Specific Objective 4.4:**

- Advertising, promotion, and publication costs associated with the activities.
- Purchase of equipment and supplies.
- Rental costs of rooms or equipment for meetings.
- Fees paid to experts.
- Costs incurred to ensure the follow-up of forest management work on residual forest lands under a management delegation agreement and on private lands belonging to recognized forest owners under section 130 of the PADF carried out under the present program or its previous versions.
- Fees paid to professionals assigned to the implementation of an integrated collaborative forest planning process.
- The costs of producing, preparing, writing, or translating documents.

## INELIGIBLE EXPENSE

The following expenses are not eligible under the program:

- Overhead, operating or administrative costs.
- Taxes, such as the Goods and Services Tax (GST) and the Quebec Sales Tax (QST), for which the recipient is eligible for reimbursement.
- The operating deficit of an eligible organization, the repayment of loans or the replenishment of its working capital.
- All expenses that are not directly related to the specific objectives of the program.
- All expenses related to a recipient's application for forest certification standards (CSA, FSC, SFI) as part of certification activities.
- Construction, rehabilitation or maintenance of snowmobile trails, all-terrain vehicle trails and all trails dedicated to recreational purposes.
- The purchase of industrial machinery and equipment.
- The installation and operation of forestry camps.
- Transportation and lodging of forestry workers.

## SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE

The application form and related documents should be sent as follows:

MRC du Golfe-du-Saint-Laurent  
C/O Madame Jackie Gallibois  
Programme d'aménagement durable des forêts  
[info@mrcgsl.ca](mailto:info@mrcgsl.ca)  
Fax: 418-947-2628

The application must be completed using the financial assistance form provided for this purpose and must include, among other things:

- Title, description, objectives, and impacts of the project.
- Timetable for completion.
- Cost and financing specifying the contribution in goods and services.
- The promoter's capital outlay.
- Funding from other partners, if applicable.
- Copy of plans and specifications, preliminary studies, if applicable.

For all field work: identification of the professional responsible for approving the work.

## PROCESS USED FOR PROJECT SELECTION

Projects are evaluated by the MRC's permanent staff to validate their eligibility, based on the Program's criteria and the information provided by the applicant. A portrait of the projects is drawn up for the needs of the analysis committee.

The members of the analysis committee evaluate the projects according to an analysis grid based on

- the relevance of the project
- the expected benefits;
- the guarantee of realization;
- the quality of the application.

Following each member's analysis, the committee meets in a working session to agree on the recommendations that will be presented for approval.

- A letter will be sent to the promoters who applied.
- For successful promoters, an agreement containing the required documents and specifying the commitments of the parties will be drafted and sent to the proponent.
- Once all the required elements of the agreement are assembled and the agreement is signed by the parties, the project can begin.