

SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK 2026-2027



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

Through the programme d'aménagement durable des forêts (PADF), the ministère des Ressources naturelles et des Forêts (MRNF) delegates integrated forest resource management responsibilities to all North Shore regional county municipalities (RCM's).

The agreement comprises several components, enabling delegated MRCs to set their own regional priorities for targeted action. These may involve sustainable management of residual forest areas under delegated management agreements, work on multi-use roads or support for activities related to sustainable forest management.

PROJECT SELECTION CRITERIA AND PERCENTAGE

- A) Relevance of activity (20%) :
 - a. Sustainability of the application with the relevant component and program criteria ;
 - b. Alignment with the orientations, priorities and strategies of the Ministry and its delegates.

- B) Quality of activity (50%) :
 - a. Clarity and relevance ;
 - b. Realistic schedule ;
 - c. Credible financial package and financial capacity of the applicant to carry out the activity ;
 - d. Applicant's expertise ;
 - e. Quality of partners, if any.

- C) Potential spin-offs (30%) :
 - a. Lasting impact on sustainable forest management;
 - b. Potential local and regional benefits ;
 - c. Economic impact.

To determine the recommendation of an activity, the selection committee assigns a pass mark, which must be equal to or greater than 75% for each of the three criteria.

COMPONENT C – WORKS ON MULTI-USE ROADS

Eligible applicants :

- An MRC ;
- A local municipality ;
- A native community ;
- A non-profit organization ;
- Organizations that are signatories to a management delegation agreement in effect on the territory targeted by the work.

Eligible activities under this component must be carried out on multi-use roads corresponding to classes 1,2,3,4 and 5, as defined in Schedule 4 of the Règlement sur l'aménagement durable des forêts du domaine de l'État (Chapter A-18.1, r.0.01) (RADF) and correspond to one of the following categories :

- 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 part of the structure in order to maintain its load-bearing capacity ;
- Maintenance work on a multi-use road for safety purposes, such as grading, cleaning and digging ditches, replacing drainage pipes and clearing brush from rights-of-way ;
- Maintenance work on a bridge or culvert located on a multi-use road ;
- Work to remove external sediments likely to affect the condition of a road infrastructure in a forest environment ;
- Restoring the site where the road was carried out ;
- Closure work on multi-use roads.

Eligible expenses are :

- Plans and profiles of multi-use roads ;
- Bridge plans and specifications ;
- Right-of-way clearing ;
- Clearing of all non-merchantable standing timber ;
- Wiping within the right-of-way only ;
- Shaping, including cuttings, fills, drainage work and construction of multi-use roads ;
- Borrow pits, natural and crushed gravel, including the creation of borrow pits, crushing and hauling of gravel to complete the shaping of a multi-use road ;
- Drilling and blasting ;
- Culvert scrap disposal costs ;
- Demolition and scrap disposal costs for bridges ;
- Bridges and culverts ;
- Discharge ditches, which include all digging, detour and improvement work on watercourses or ditches other than longitudinal road ditches ;
- Signage ;
- Project supervision and management costs : costs incurred for supervision and management ;
- Professional fees : expenses incurred for professional work (planning, plans and estimates, watershed calculations, accounting audits, etc.);
- Machinery rental.

Calculating the subsidy amount :

The subsidy granted by the Ministry corresponds to a maximum of 75% of eligible expenses.

When the eligible beneficiary is a not-for-profit organization, the beneficiary's minimum contribution can be made in the form of a volunteer contribution up to the equivalent of the required minimum contribution of 25%.

COMPONENT D – SUPPORT FOR ACTIVITIES DESIGNED TO PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF FOREST RESOURCES

Eligible applicants :

- An MRC ;
- A local municipality ;
- A native community ;
- A non-profit organization ;
- Organizations that are signatories to a management delegation agreement in effect on the territory affected by the activity ;
- Regional private forest development agencies ;
- Educational institutions recognized by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education.

Eligible activities :

- Activities aimed at raising awareness, promoting and enhancing;
 - Workforce and forestry trades;
 - The various products derived from wood resources;
 - The importance of developing forest resources and the products they produce;
 - The impact of the forest environment on climate change, ecosystems and biodiversity;
- Activities aimed at monitoring forest management work on residual forest lands and private lands belonging to forest owners recognized under section 130 of the LADTF and carried out under previous versions of the program;
- Activities aimed at developing a regional strategic approach and carrying out structuring activities;
- Activities aimed at implementing an integrated collaborative forest planning approach.

Eligible expenses under this component are :

- Advertising, promotion and publication costs associated with activities;
- Purchase of equipment and supplies;
- Rental of rooms or equipment for meetings;
- Fees paid to experts;
- Costs incurred to monitor forest management work on residual forest areas under the delegated management agreements and on private land belonging to forest owners recognized under section 130 of the LADTF, carried out under previous versions of the program;
- Fees paid to professionals assigned to the implementation of an integrated collaborative forest planning approach;
- Cost of producing, preparing, editing or translating documents.

Calculating the subsidy amount:

The subsidy granted by the Ministry corresponds to a maximum of 75% of eligible expenses.

When the eligible beneficiary is a not-for-profit organization, the beneficiary's minimum contribution can be made in the form of a volunteer contribution up to the equivalent of the required minimum contribution of 25%.

SUBMITTING A REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

Documents required for application :

- Application form available on the MRC's website;
- A document signed and approved by a professional order that may be required by law or regulation;
- Project location plan.

The application form and supporting documents must be sent to :

MRC du Golfe-du-Saint-Laurent
Jackie Gallibois, Economic development Coordinator
PADF

Courriel : jackie.gallibois@mrcgsl.ca

www.mrcgsl.ca