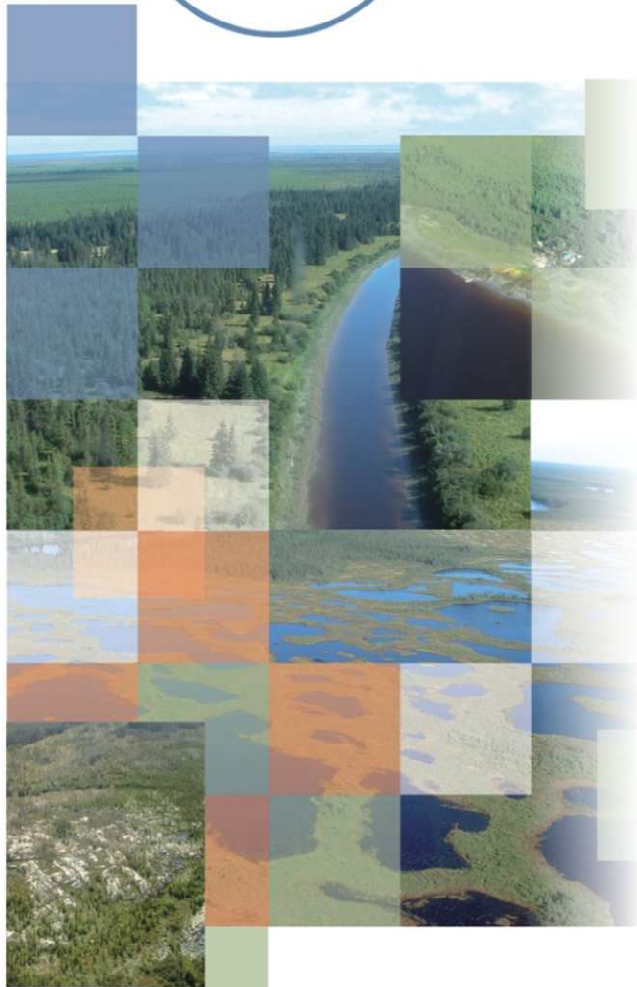


# Québec's Register of Protected Areas



## Marine Protected Areas

### To be or not to be

#### Reporting considerations

Marine Protected Areas Conference  
Canadian Council on Ecological Areas

Jacques Perron

Ottawa, November, 5, 2009

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## Québec's Register of Protected Areas

### Québec's targets for protected areas coverage

**2000 – Québec's Strategy on Protected Areas  
representative network covering 8% by 2005**

**2002 – First Strategic Action Plan**

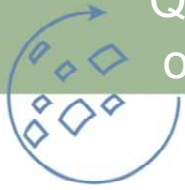
**2005 – Second Strategic Action Plan**

**2008-2009 – Québec reaches 8.12% (135,326 km<sup>2</sup>)**

**Québec Premier commits to protect 12% by 2015**

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## Québec's Register of Protected Areas

### Québec's biomes targeted



**Marine** (153,562 km<sup>2</sup> in Québec Province) **and coastal**

**Inland water** (201,753 km<sup>2</sup> in Québec Province)

**Forests**

**Mountains**

**Islands**

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## Québec's Register of Protected Areas

### Québec's target tools

#### 2002 - NATURAL HERITAGE CONSERVATION ACT (NHCA)

Safeguarding the character, diversity and integrity of Québec's natural heritage

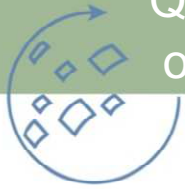
Facilitate the establishment of a network of protected areas representative of Québec's biodiversity

#### Definition of protected area (under section 2)

« a **geographically defined** expanse of land or water established under a **legal and administrative** framework designed specifically to ensure the **protection and maintenance** of biological diversity and of related natural and cultural resources »

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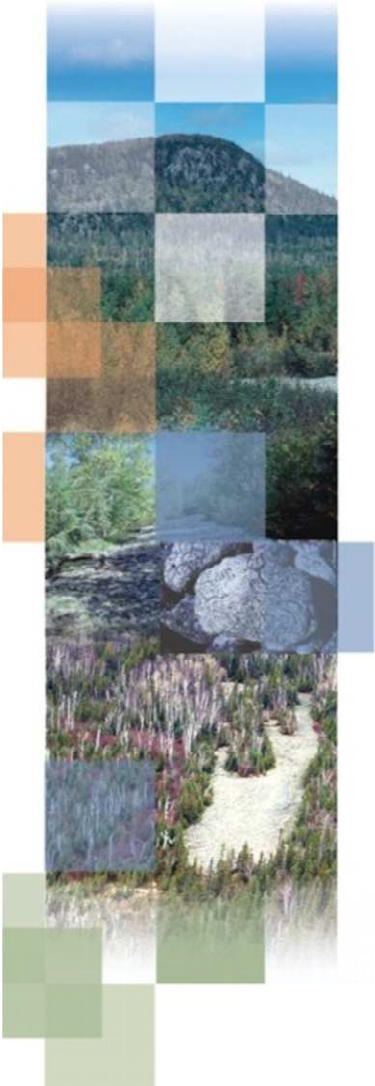


## Québec's Register of Protected Areas

### Québec's target tools

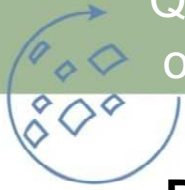
#### Register of protected areas (under section 5)

« The Minister shall maintain a register of the various protected areas. The register shall contain information on the **surface area**, **location**, type or **types of protection status** of each area, the minister, government **body or person responsible** for the area and its **classification** according to the different categories recognized by the World Conservation Union (UICN) »



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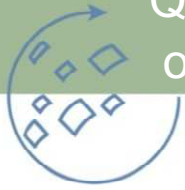
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## Register of Protected Areas

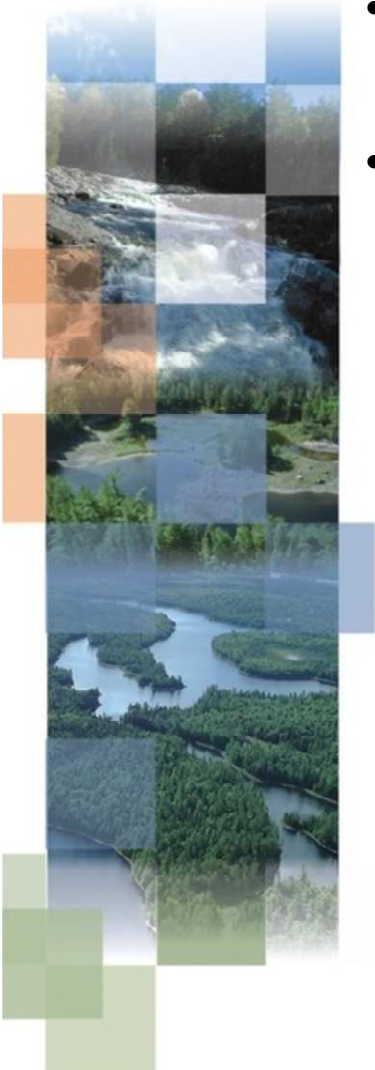
### Highlights

- A unique approach within Canada with legal obligation to hold a register of protected areas based on IUCN international criteria
- The database is the largest assembly of data on Québec's terrestrial and marine protected areas
- Represents a fundamental tool in tracking progress towards Québec's conservation target
- Incorporates spatial and attribute information from all levels of government and nongovernmental organisations
- A guiding tool to establish common foundations based on IUCN criteria and bringing cohesion to PA networks



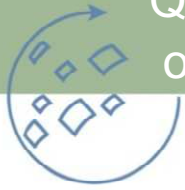
## Québec's Register of Protected Areas

- **Used as a monitoring and assessment tool under Canada's reports for measuring progress in biodiversity coverage and representation**
- **Tool for implementing the World Database on Protected Areas**



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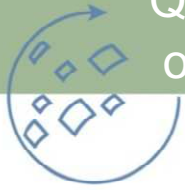


## Québec's Database on Protected Areas

### Main approaches for measurement

- **Statistical**, using tabular attribute data
  - area
  - establishment year
  - marine or terrestrial surface
- **Spatial**, using GIS based analyses of PA sites
  - **To avoid overlaps in counting PA surface**
  - using Set theory
  - using IUCN management category I before II (I – II – III – IV – VI – V)
  - using greater area before smaller area





## Québec's Register of Protected Areas

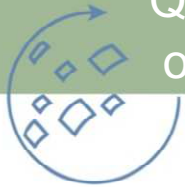
### Québec's Database on Protected Areas

#### Protected Area Statistics

- 2,387 PAs
- 30 PA designations
- 135,700 km<sup>2</sup> or 8.14% of Québec Province
  - 130,780 km<sup>2</sup> or 8.64 % of Québec land territory
  - 4,920 km<sup>2</sup> or 3.25% of Québec marine territory
- 90% of total area of Québec's PA network is managed by MDDEP
- 9.1% of Québec's Boreal Forest is protected

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## Québec's Register of Protected Areas

**<TO BE>**

### **Marine Protected Areas in Québec<sup>1</sup>**

**The Site must be located in a context where the marine environment definition applies**

- **no confusion with other biomes or ecosystems**
- **a clear delineation between freshwater and marine waters**
- **according to the St. Lawrence Centre (Environment Canada), Québec's marine environment begins with the St. Lawrence River's upper estuary, located east point of île d'Orléans, just downstream of Québec City**

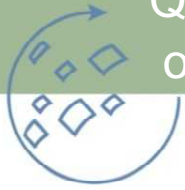
**Located partly or wholly within the marine environment**

**Site must meet NHCA (Québec's Public Land) or IUCN definition of PA**

(<sup>1</sup> in the context of IUCN guidelines for PA categories, special applications for MPA, guidelines is intended to help increase accuracy of status report and comparison between jurisdictions)

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## <NOT TO BE>

### Marine Protected Areas in Québec<sup>1</sup>

**Non-marine aquatic systems**

**Inland water sites**

•freshwater sites technically defined as :

« of, relating to, living in, or consisting of water that is not saline »

« Inland water considerations therefore need to be integrated into the management of *all* relevant protected areas, which themselves need to be managed with respect to their wider bioregional and catchment context »<sup>1</sup>

(1 in the context of IUCN guidelines for PA categories, special applications for Inland water protected areas, guidelines is intended to help increase accuracy of status report and comparison between jurisdictions)

# Québec's Register of Protected Areas



**Merci**  
**Thanks**  
**Nakormiq**  
**Meegwetch**

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