

2022-07-13

Implementing the Convention on Biological Diversity in Québec

Overview of 2011-2020 biodiversity actions
with examples of nature-based solutions



Fleuve Saint-Laurent

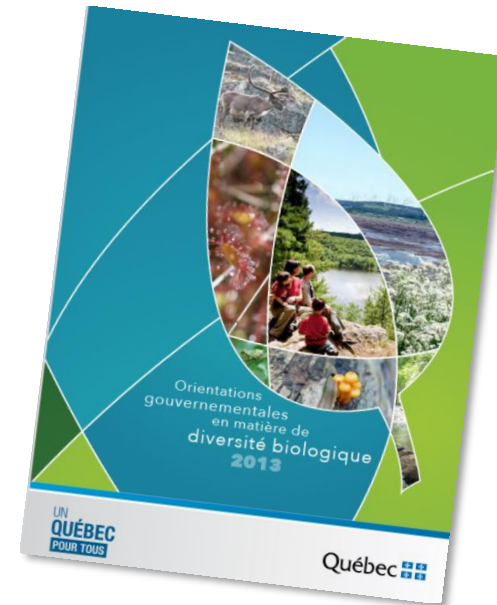
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Québec 

The Government of Québec is
bound to the Convention on
Biological Diversity since 1992

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- 1992: Québec declares itself bound to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), implementing it according to its powers, timelines and resources.
- 1996: Montreal (Québec) hosts the CBD Secretariat
- 1996 and 2004: Strategies and action plans for the implementation of the CBD in Québec covering the periods 1996-2002 and 2004-2007
- 2013: Government guidelines on biological diversity for the implementation of the 2011-2020 Aichi Targets in Québec



Biodiversity-related initiatives in Québec and contributions to the 2011–2020 Aichi Targets

- 24 government ministries and agencies reported implementing 370 actions between 2011 and 2020 that contributed to Aichi Targets
- Québec made significant progress in many areas, including
 - **Biodiversity conservation:** Québec reached 17% of protected areas in terrestrial and freshwater habitats and 10% in marine and coastal areas
 - **Acquisition and sharing of quality information** about biodiversity values, functions, status, trends
 - **Adoption of a sustainable management approach to forestry on public land** based on Québec's Sustainable Forest Management Strategy and its implementing regulation
 - Vast all-government mobilization around the **integrated management and use of water** with continuous actions and five-year reviews, and implementation of the “**avoid-minimize-compensate**” **mitigation sequence** to encourage project proponents to avoid losses of wetlands, aquatic habitats and wildlife habitats



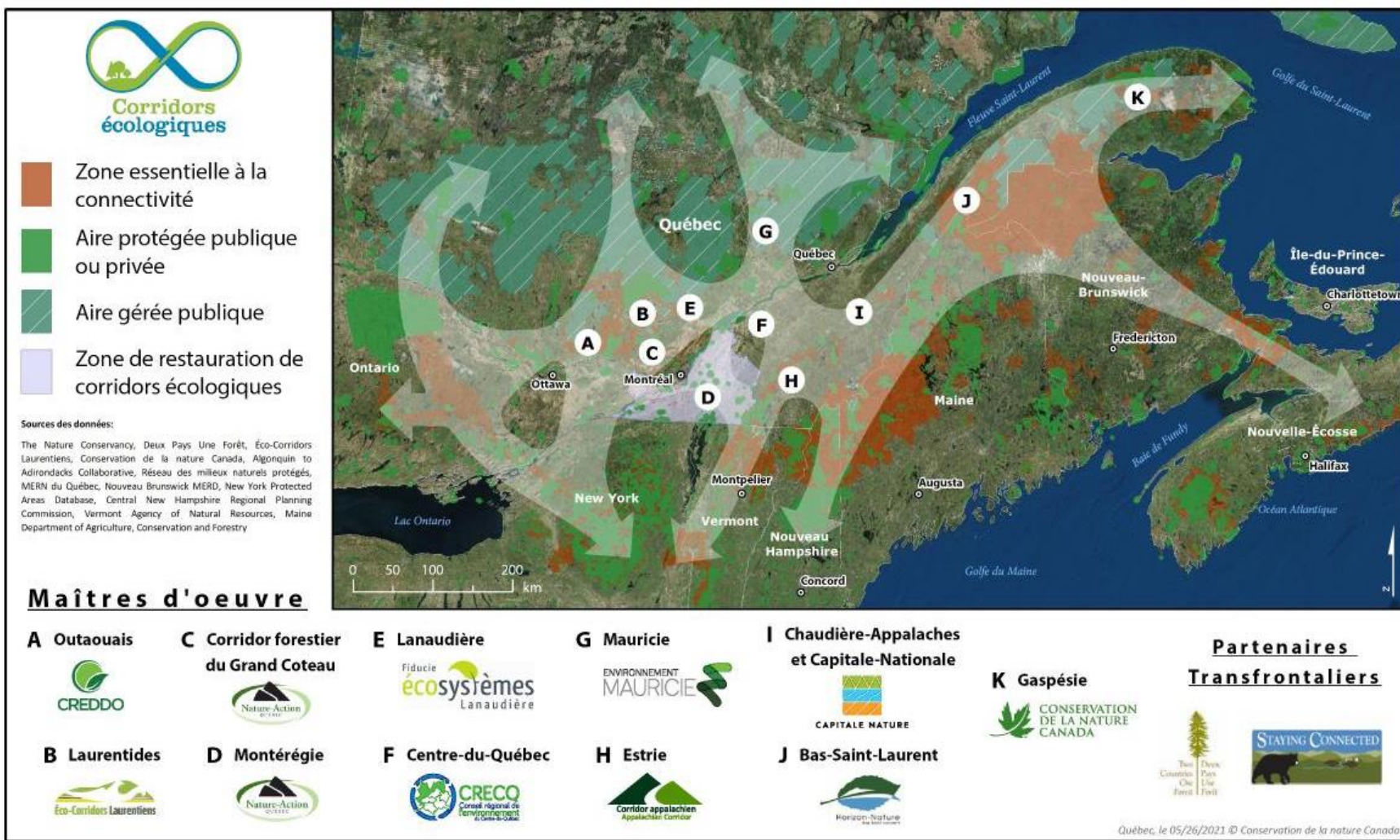
The Government of Québec
supports or implements
nature-based solutions

Ecological connectivity: wildlife crossing structures on the Ministère des Transports du Québec (MTQ) road network

- 2013: around 40 wildlife crossing structures for large mammals on the MTQ road network
- 2019: 114 crossing structures—51 for large mammals, 60 for small and medium-sized mammals, and 3 for herpetofauna
- Helps maintain connectivity between habitats and resources on both sides of roads
- Facilitates wildlife migration while reducing the risks of wildlife-vehicle collisions (WVC)
- As part of a research project with key partners (university, government, forestry agency and conservation NGOs), a GIS and statistical modeling approach coupled with field surveys supports the decision-making process regarding the identification of the optimal locations for the development of wildlife crossing structures in regions of Québec where WVC are an issue



Ecological connectivity : the Québec Ecological Corridors Initiative



- With financial support from the **Government of Québec**, the Québec Ecological Corridors Initiative proposes a collective approach to land use planning in order to increase the conservation of natural ecosystems connected by ecological corridors
- Established and coordinated by the Nature Conservancy of Canada, the initiative **brings together 10 organizations in 11 regions of Québec**
- It engages Regional County Municipalities, municipalities, woodlot owners, farmers and other local partners who play a key role in land use

Eastern Habitats Joint Venture

- Eastern Habitat Joint Venture (EHJV): formed in 1989 to conserve wetlands of importance for waterfowl by acquiring land, implementing beneficial wildlife management measures, conserving sensitive areas known for wildlife diversity and restoring destroyed/degraded waterfowl habitats
- Québec: EHJV is a partnership between the Gouvernement du Québec, the Canadian federal government and environmental NGOs. The Québec EHJV Steering Committee guides conservation planning & implementation.
- Québec: the 2007-2012 EHJV Action Plan renewed annually until 2015, then adoption of the 2015-2020 Action Plan with relevant partners
- 2012-2015 accomplishments of Québec partners: protection or stewardship of 1,805,128 ha of habitats and restoration/enhancement of 631 ha
- 2015-2020 accomplishments: permanent protection of 10,405 ha; 10 to 99-year leases for the protection of 238,098 ha; continued stewardship of 1,807,560 ha; and restoration/enhancement of 22,202 ha



Marsh restoration in
Montmagny, Québec

© Ducks Unlimited Canada (left)
and Daniel Thibault (right)

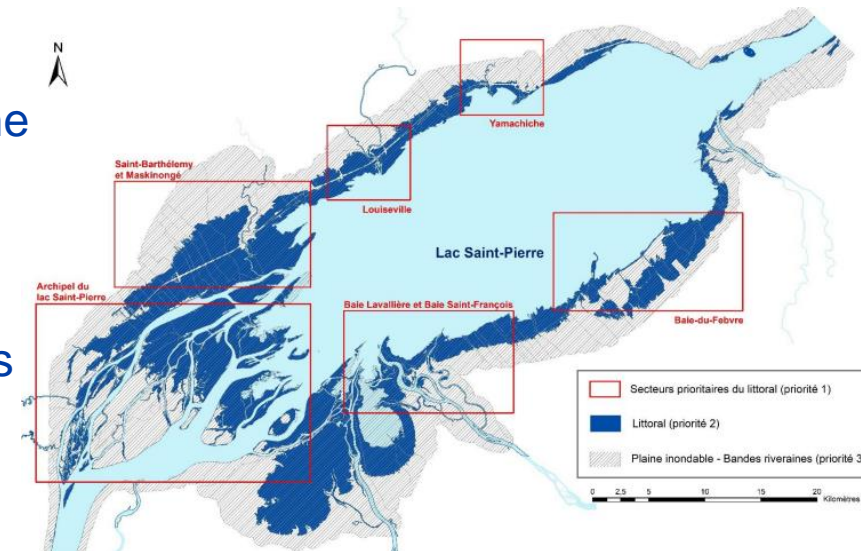


Program for the conservation of Lac Saint-Pierre

- Québec's *Stratégie d'intervention pour l'avenir du lac Saint-Pierre* (2018-2022) targets: 1) the restoration of priority habitats, particularly wildlife habitats; and 2) research on sustainable agricultural practices. The Lac Saint-Pierre Conservation Program provides financial support for projects aiming to restore natural freshwater habitats in the littoral zone and land habitats in the watersheds of the lake's tributaries, particularly in agricultural areas. CA \$4million have been granted to 25 ongoing projects.

Objectives:

- Promote the restoration of ecological functions that are characteristic of the shoreline, particularly to improve water quality, restore ecosystem productivity and revitalize biodiversity
- Provide optimal conditions for breeding and feeding of fish, waterfowl, farmland birds, amphibians, reptiles and insect pollinators at restored sites
- Restore functional connectivity and promote the re-establishment of characteristic native vegetation



The Government of Québec
remains committed to the
Convention on Biological Diversity

Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) and COP15

- Important biodiversity challenges remain at the global, national and subnational levels
- COP15 postponed to December 2022 – Montréal (Québec) Canada
- Opportunities for Québec as Co-coordinator of the Advisory Committee of Subnational Governments for Biodiversity
- Importance of a Global Monitoring Framework within the GBF with global indicators that can be “translated” into workable indicators for subnational governments – key role of RegionsWithNature (RWN)
- Québec committed to work closely with RWN



Merci !

Québec.ca/international



Learn more at

[Québec.ca/rapport-biodiversite-2011-2020](https://quebec.ca/rapport-biodiversite-2011-2020)



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