



# Quebec's Forest and Forestry



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# Presentation

Quebec's forests

Forest Legislation

A few facts...

- ▶ Forest sector
- ▶ Private forests
- ▶ Protected areas
- ▶ Certification

Conclusion



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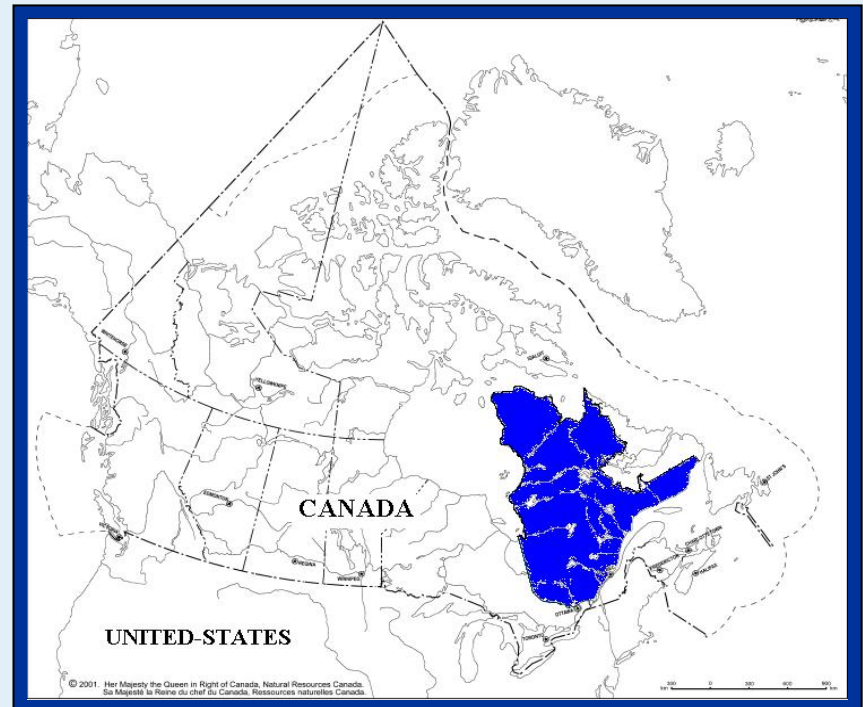
# Forestry in Canada

- ▶ Forest management is under the provinces exclusive jurisdiction.
- ▶ Each province has its own legal and regulatory framework.



# Québec

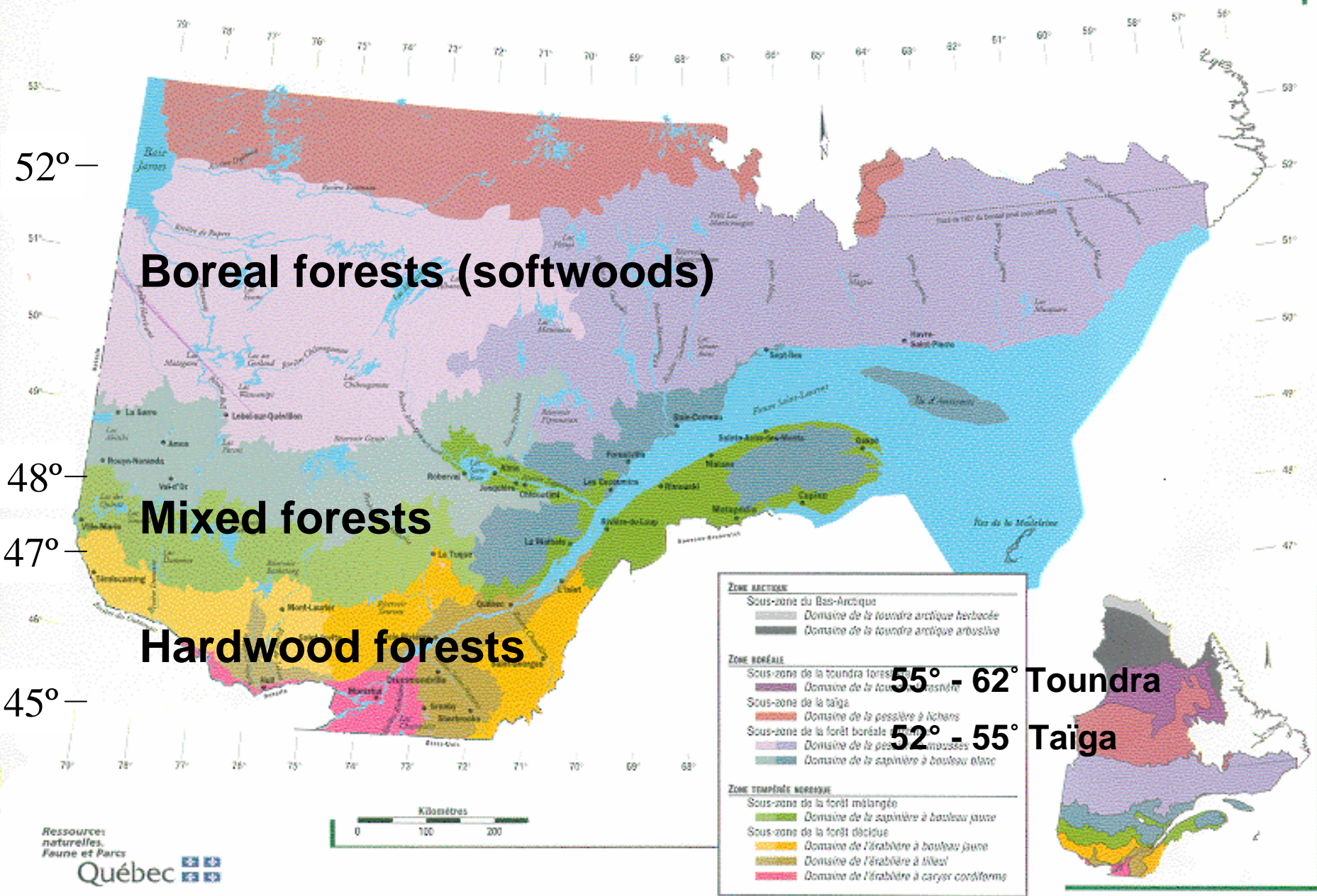
- ▶ 1 667 441 km<sup>2</sup>
- ▶ From latitude 45° to 62°
- ▶ Total population :  
~7 500 000



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# Zones de végétation et domaines bioclimatiques du Québec



# Quebec's forests

- ▶ 650 500 km<sup>2</sup>
- ▶ Public forests : 580 500 km<sup>2</sup> (89 %)
- ▶ Private forests : 70 000 km<sup>2</sup> (11 %)
- ▶ 20 % of Canadian forests
- ▶ 2 % of the world's forests



# History

## XVII<sup>th</sup> Century

- ▶ Production for domestic uses

## XVIII<sup>th</sup> and XIX<sup>th</sup> Centuries

- ▶ Lumber production

## 1900-1970

- ▶ Development of the pulp and paper and sawmilling industries



# History - Forest Legislation

- 1972 Improvement of crown land governance
- 1985 Publication of new forest policy :“Build a forest for the future”
- 1987 Forest Act (actual)
  - Sustained yield principle
  - Forest industry development
  - Forest conservation
  - Preservation of ecological processes
  - Multiple use of the forest environment



# Forest Act - General Principles (wood allocation)

- ▶ The right to harvest wood entails the obligation to practice sound forest management
- ▶ Wood allocations from public forests are reviewed every 5 years
- ▶ Allocations are complementary / subject to volumes obtained from other sources



# Forest Legislation – Continual Improvement

- 1993 Consultation of local stakeholders
- 1994 The Forest Protection Strategy
- 1995 The Summit on private forests
- 1996 The six principles of sustainable forest management are integrated in the Forest Act



# Forest Legislation – Continual Improvement

- 2001 Other forest users and public consultation
- 2002 Forestry, environmental and industrial performance criteria
- 2004 Protection and development objectives
- 2004 Coulombe Commission
  - ▶ Independent and scientific commission
  - ▶ Regional consultations and forums
  - ▶ 1200 participants, 300 briefs
  - ▶ Report in december 2004: 81 recommendations



# Coulombe Commission

## 5 main thrusts

- ▶ Ecosystem management
- ▶ Wood allocations based on quality and access to fiber
- ▶ Forest management activities : the right way, at the right place and at the right time
- ▶ Diversification of the wood products industry
- ▶ Decentralization of forest resource management



# In the wake of the Coulombe Commission...

## Amendments to Forest Act

- ▶ Ecosystemic management
- ▶ As precaution, reduction until 2008 of the AAC : 20 % for softwoods, 5 % for hardwoods
- ▶ Nomination and mandate of Chief Forester
  - ▶ AAC calculations
  - ▶ State of the Forests Report

Other changes to come



# Other tools...

Specific guidelines are set to protect

- ▶ Landscapes (mosaic cutting, dispersion)
- ▶ Water quality (concerns mainly road construction and forest camps construction and removal)
- ▶ Essentials wildlife habitats (terrestrial and aquatic)
- ▶ Advance-growth in cutting areas
- ▶ Biodiversity (size and distribution of harvesting areas, fragile sites, etc.)



# Global Legal Framework

- ▶ Forest Act
- ▶ Natural Heritage Conservation Act
- ▶ Act respecting the Conservation and Development of Wildlife
- ▶ Parks Act
- ▶ Environment Quality Act
- ▶ Act respecting the Lands in the Domain of the State



# A few facts...

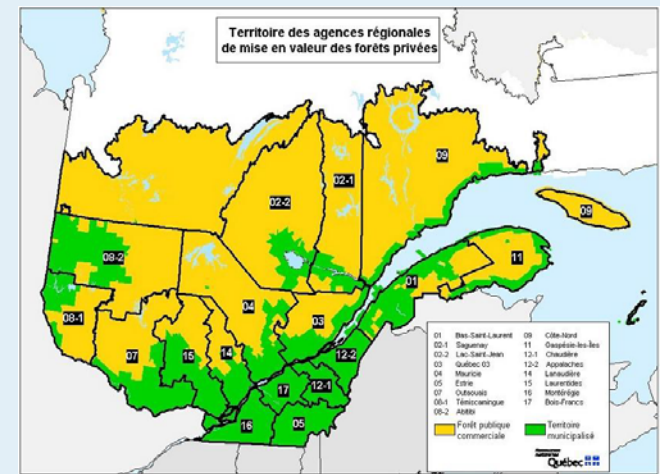
- ▶ 80,000 direct jobs + 100 000 indirect jobs
- ▶ The economy of more than 250 municipalities depends directly on forest management activities
- ▶ Value of shipments: 19.6 billion \$
- ▶ Less than 1% of productive area is harvested annually (25 Mm<sup>3</sup> of softwoods and 6 Mm<sup>3</sup> of hardwoods)
- ▶ Important activities: Eco-tourism, Wildlife, Recreation, etc...



# A few facts...

## Private forests

- ▶ 120 000 woodlots owners (70,000 km<sup>2</sup>)
- ▶ 45 000 registered forest producers
- ▶ 17 regional development agencies
- ▶ 43 producers cooperatives
- ▶ 15 marketing boards
- ▶ 7 or 8 million m<sup>3</sup> delivered each year to processing plants



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## A few facts...

- ▶ The Natural Heritage Conservation Act is intended to facilitate the establishment of a network of protected areas representative of Quebec's biodiversity.
- ▶ 1 200 natural sites already under 26 different status of protected areas
- ▶ 97 000 km<sup>2</sup> (5,8 % of Quebec territory)
- ▶ Objective: 8% in 2007



# Forest Certification

## Government policy

- ▶ Encourages forest certification
- ▶ Facilitates and supports companies procedures
- ▶ Does not favor a particular system
- ▶ Participates in the development of the certification systems

## Under Forest Standards (December 2005)

- ▶ CSA            8 542 358 ha
- ▶ FSC            1 206 086 ha
- ▶ SFI            1 935 210 ha
- ▶ **Total        11 683 654 ha**



# In short...

## Quebec's forestry aims at

- ▶ Protecting all forest resources and uses
- ▶ Taking into account public concerns, with special emphasis for First Nations
- ▶ Ensuring that silviculture is well adapted to the various forest ecosystems (and that it is based on a constantly broadening knowledge of the forest environment)
- ▶ Maintaining biodiversity
- ▶ Producing wood fiber on a sustainable basis (volume and quality)



## Conclusion - In short ...

...respecting the principles of sustainable forest management and working towards continual improvement

Thank you for your attention!  
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