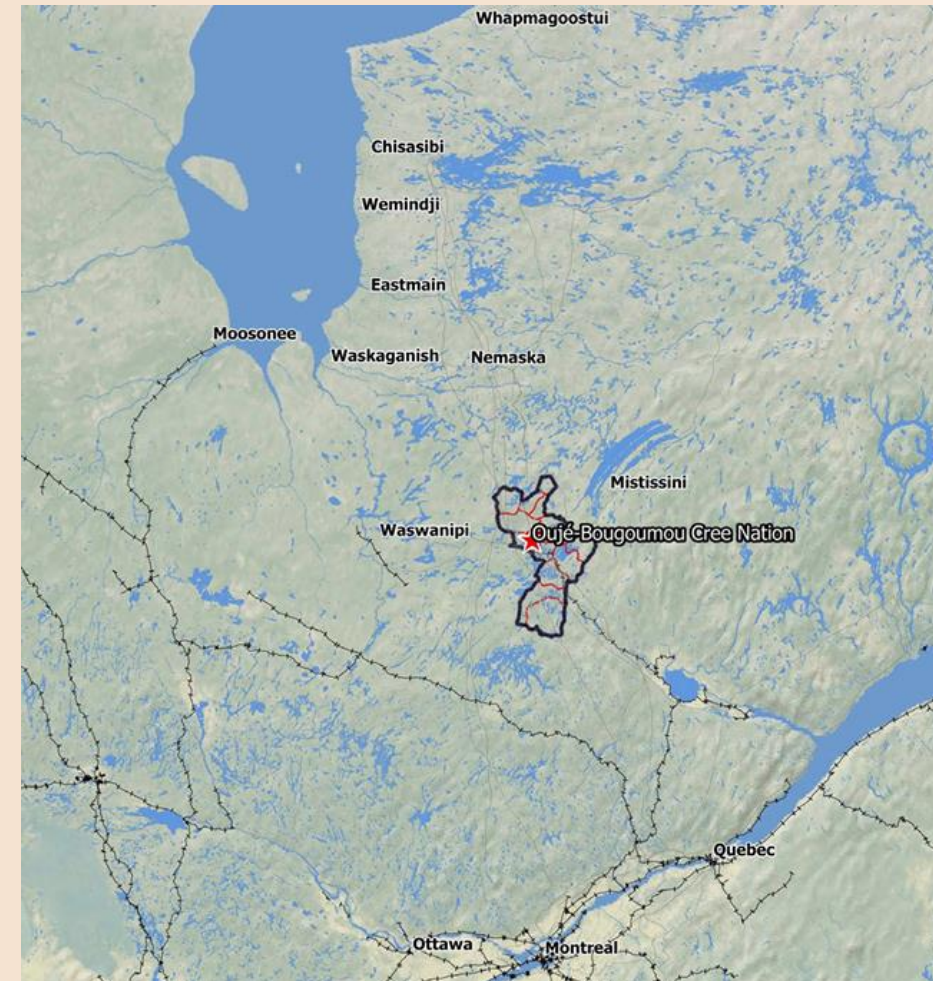
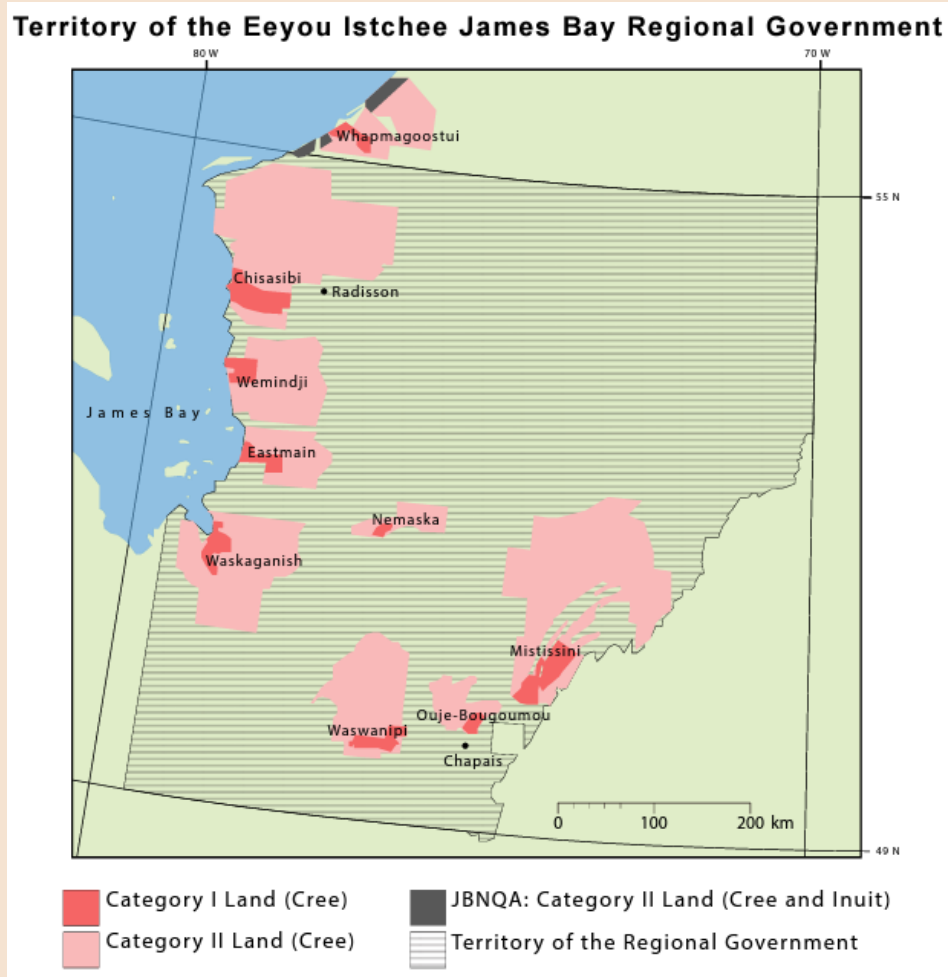


Oujé-Bougoumou and the Eeyou of Eeyou Istchee



Map credits : 2020 Ouje-Bougoumou Cree Nation et Cities & Environment Unit – OBCN Community Plan

La JBNQA and the *Paix des Braves*

1975

James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement (JBNQA)

New land regime (categories I, II and III)

Exclusive hunting, fishing and trapping rights for Cree according to land category

Land claim settlements

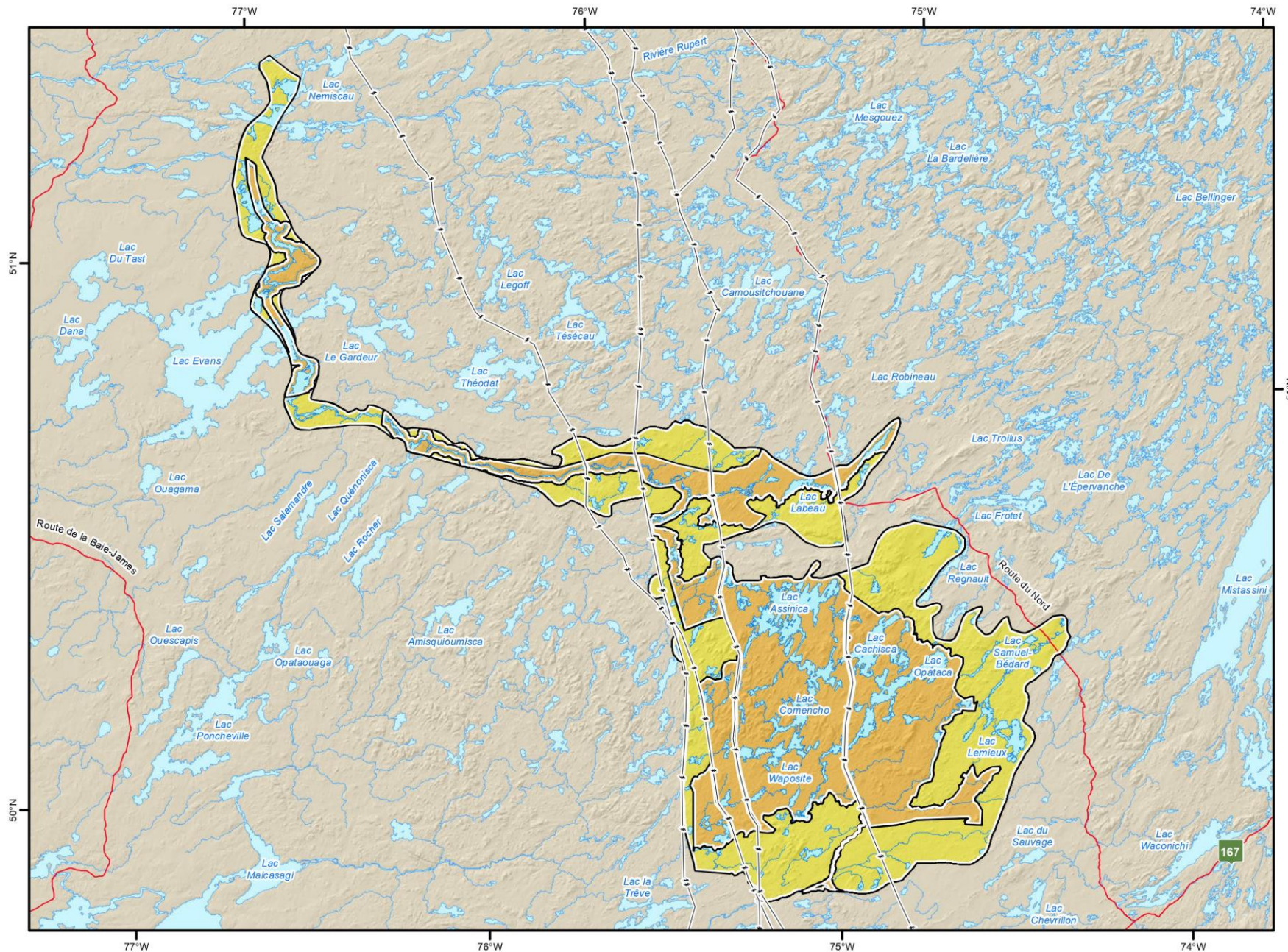
2002

Paix des Braves

“Nation-to-nation” agreement

Recognition of the role of tallymen in territorial governance

Reform of the forestry model



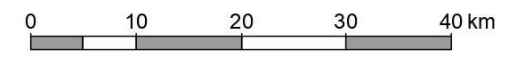
Projet de parc national Assinica

- Réserve de parc national (3 193 km²)
- Territoire à l'étude (6 198 km²)

Métadonnées

Système de référence géodésique : Amérique du Nord 1983 (NAD 83)

Projection cartographique : Conique de Lambert



1/1 000 000

Source

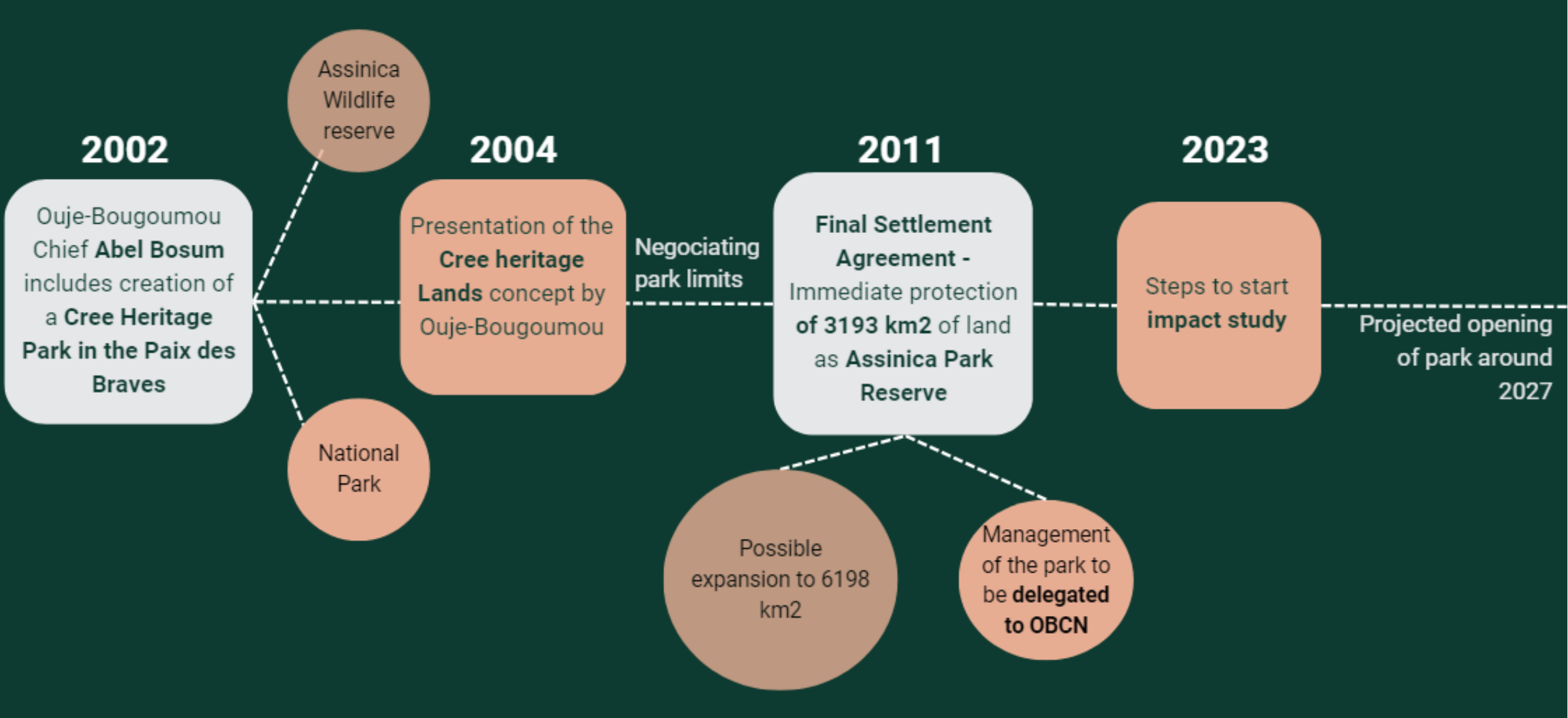
BDTA Ressources naturelles Canada 2002
(1/1 000 000)

Réalisation

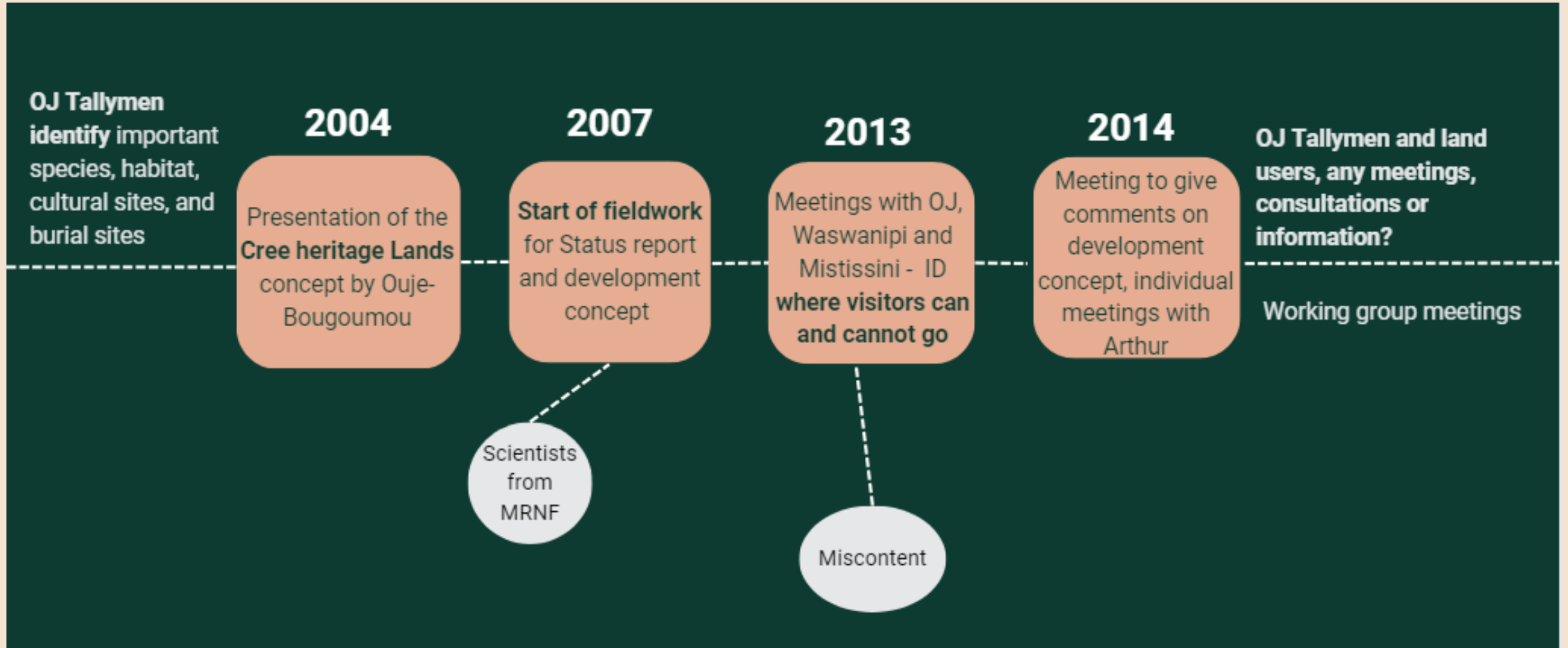
Production: Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs
Direction des parcs nationaux

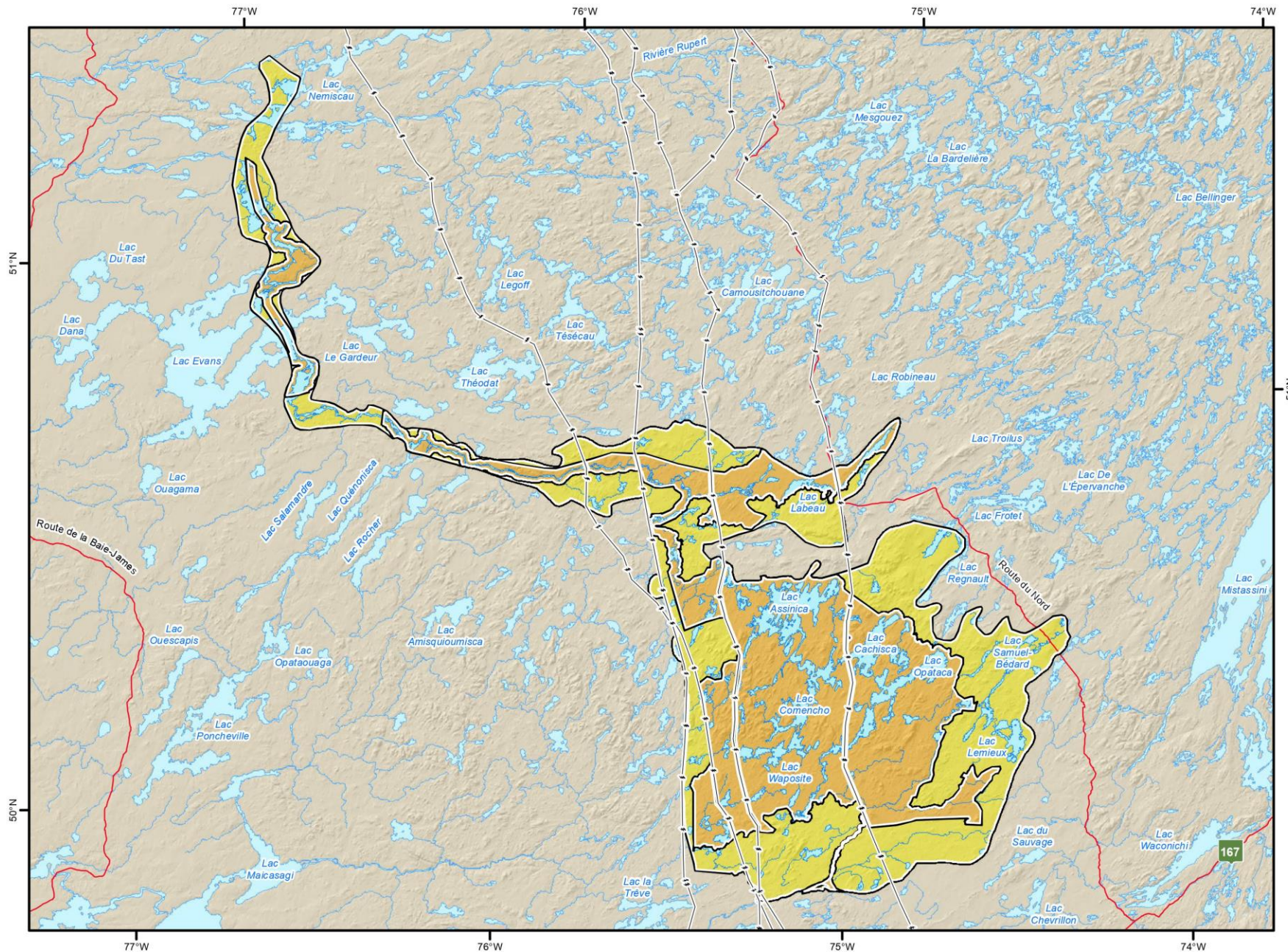
© Gouvernement du Québec, 1^{er} trimestre 2015

Creation of the Assinica National Park - Context



OBCN consultation during park creation process





Projet de parc national Assinica

- Réserve de parc national (3 193 km²)
- Territoire à l'étude (6 198 km²)

Métadonnées

Système de référence géodésique Amérique du Nord 1983 (NAD 83)

Projection cartographique Conique de Lambert

0 10 20 30 40 km

1/1 000 000

Source

BDTA Ressources naturelles Canada 2002
(1/1 000 000)

Réalisation

Production: Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs
Direction des parcs nationaux

© Gouvernement du Québec, 1^{er} trimestre 2015

National Parks in Quebec and in Canada

Double mission of national parks :

- 1) Conservation and permanent protection of outstanding or representative natural sites
- 2) Providing access for educational or recreational purposes

Source : (Gouvernement du Québec 2018)





Project objectives

Understand how to implement the **Cree vision** of a protected area in the context of the creation of the **Assinica National Park**

1

Context

2

Vision

3

Collaboration modes

Data collection summer 2022



Spending 8 weeks in
Oujé-Bougoumou in
the Department of
Natural Resources



Collecting and reading
historical and political
documents



7 group interviews



Choice of participants

- People whose trapline is impacted by the National Park
- 16 people - 7 tallymen and members of their family
- 3 elderly women, 3 young women, 1 young man, 9 elderly men

Preliminary results

Vision – Values, threats and collaboration modes





1) Park creation process

- Long process – ongoing since 2002
- A need for more information and consultation
- Administrative gray area
- Desire for a Cree framework of protected areas to be put in place

"Old tallymen are all gone he says. Now these guys are new guys, he doesn't know how they would feel about it. " O5

" No. I'm pretty sure most people don't even know it's protected. Like a park. That's why they keep going over there and doing whatever they want, but it's a park. So they could get in trouble if they were to get caught. " O6



2) How to collaborate in the park creation process

- Understanding and considering Cree knowledge
- Involving communities in all decisions on an ongoing basis
- Sufficient information
- Focus on group meetings instead of individual

"We would appreciate you know if there was a brief presentation about exactly what is a national park, about what can be done, what cannot be done. Just show the maps, maybe half the day kind of thing. Because we've never had that." O2



3) Importance of protecting the land

- Important species and their habitat

Hunting, fishing, trapping, Goose Break, Moose Break

- Protecting against forestry and mining

Park expansion

- More surveillance and monitoring of activities

"I know it's always going to be there for us to be hunting no matter what." - O1

"That area still can be logged and all that. It's not part of the park. I would like to see protected, because of the caribous". - O2

"I think it needs to be more protected, like more maintained. Somebody needs to make sure people are not overfishing. " - O6



4) Strengthen Cree control of the land with Cree governance

- Importance of tallymen's role

Badge

- Park rangers

- Eeyou Istchee Land Keepers Program

"Yeah he would like to have those landkeepers. They could check on forestry as well, cause he says there are some forestry companies they say they'll end the cut here and they go furthur. So at least somebody's there." T2

"He would like to be involved when they start making trails he says. Because apparently there's gonna be trails in the park. And he would like to be part of doing the work on the trail I guess." O10

Discussion





Analysis

Oujé-Bougoumou: emphasis on conservation, less on development

Sporadic and insufficient consultation

Cree territorial governance as a means of taking ownership of the project

Recommendations

Developing a common vision – more frequent presentations by the Quebec Parks representatives and OBCN

Management delegation agreement that gives real powers to the community



Validation points

Rôle of OBCN in management of the park :

- Importance of tallymen's rôle to be respected.
- Should OBCN manage the park itself or with the government?
What role should the community play in decisions : on-field only or big picture decisions too?
- How can OBCN have more control of the land with the Assinica Park? What powers do you want to have for this?

Oujé-Bougoumou: emphasis on conservation, little on development.

- Is recreational activities not a priority for you?

Validation points

Communication :

- How do you want to be informed about the park? What is the best way to communicate with you about the park?
- Do you prefer group meetings rather than individual meetings?
- Do you prefer presentations made by Quebec Parks representatives or people from OJ?
- Where do you want these presentations to take place?

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Thank you

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