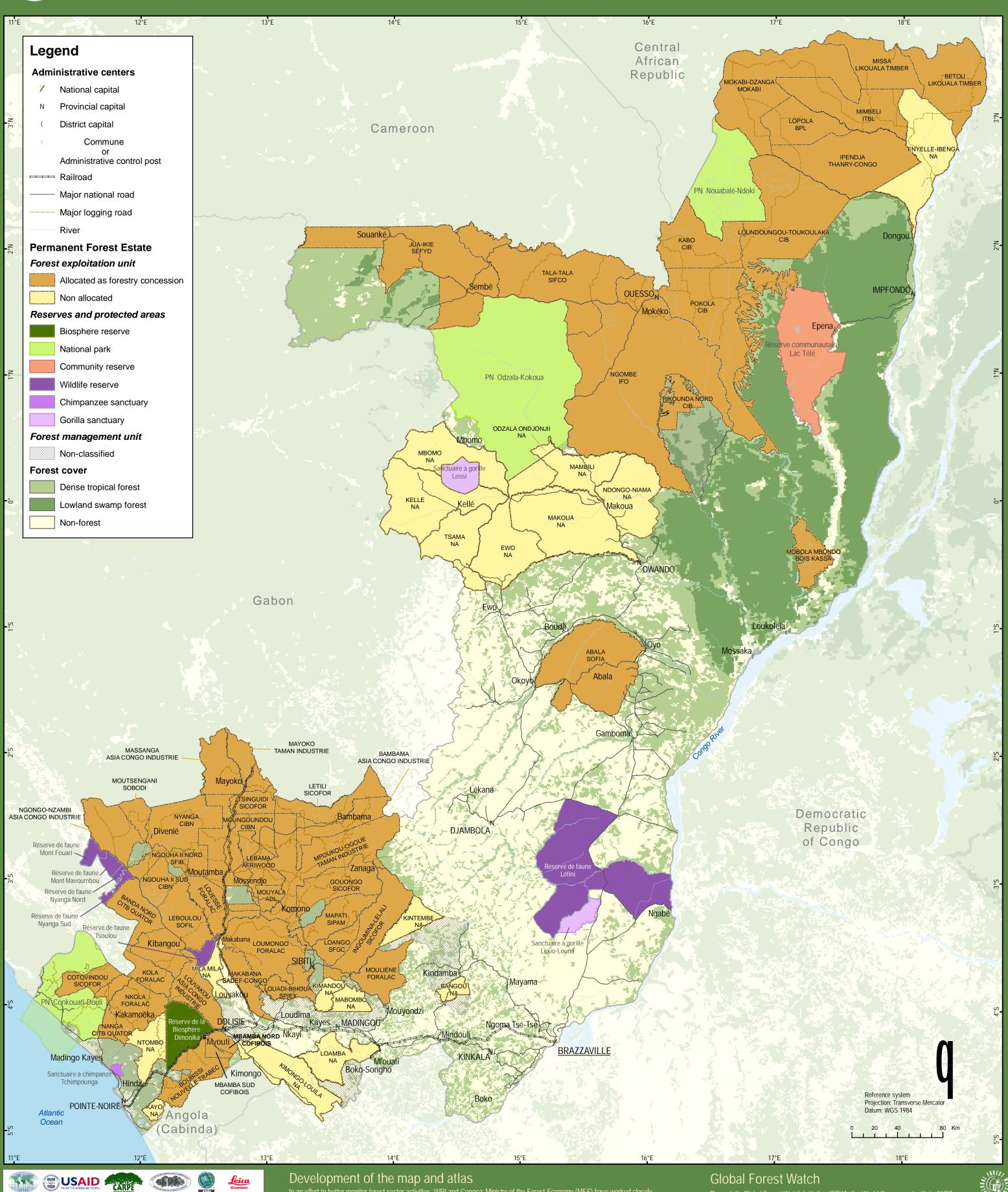


STATUS OF FOREST CONCESSIONS IN THE REPUBLIC OF CONGO

June 2006







Forest cover: Global Land Cover 2000, Joint Research Center, European Commission, 2003

Publication Date: July 2007

In an effort to better monitor forest sector activities, WRI and Congo's Ministry of the Forest Economy (MEF) have worked closely together since 2003 to build national capacity in the production and management of forest sector information. With financial support from ITTO, the various forestry permits and protected areas of Congo were mapped in their entirety from official documents and satellite imagery. This map represents the ensemble of land designation throughout the permanent forest estate - notably the production forests (area designated for logging) and protected areas. Here, forestry concessions are presented according to whether or not they have been allocated for by the government for logging. In addition to the information displayed above, the Interactive Forestry Atlas of Congo, published in June 2007, contains a number of maps and a host of spatially linked data on Congo's forests. This atlas tool is the principal product of four years of collaborative effort and has since been widely distributed both amongst actors in the sector and the general public in Congo. The atlas represents an important decision-making tool because it allows key forest sector information to be publicly accessible - for the first time and in a user-friendly format. In order to remain relevant to the sector, the atlas is scheduled to undergo regular updates and improvements to both its content and function over the coming years.

Through its Global Forest Watch Initiative (GFW), the World Resources Institute (WRI) undertakes efforts to catalyze the sustainable management of the world's major forested regions. In Central Africa, this international network seeks to provide governments, the private sector, research and learning institutions and non-governmental organizations with up-to-date, objective and accurate information related to commercial logging activities and forest management. The overarching goal of GFW in Central Africa is to encourage improved natural resource management through the development of independent and objective monitoring of logging activities and by building local capacity towards these ends - in government institutions as well as in civil society.