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October 2010

NOTICE – INDICATORS OF THE AMOUNT, DISTRIBUTION AND ATTRIBUTES OF WILDLIFE HABITAT REQUIRED FOR THE SURVIVAL OF GRIZZLY BEAR IN THE CHILLIWACK FOREST DISTRICT

Amendment

This Notice is given under the authority of section 7(2) of the *Forest Planning and Practices Regulation* (B.C. Reg. 14/04) and 9(3) of the *Woodlot Licence Planning and Practices Regulation* (B.C. Reg. 21/04).

The following Notice includes indicators of the amount, distribution and attributes of wildlife habitat required for the survival of the species at risk outlined in Schedule 1.

Approved Wildlife Habitat Areas for Grizzly Bear are not included in the indicators of amount, distribution and attributes for Grizzly Bear. As per section 7(3) of the *Forest Planning and Practices Regulation*, forest tenure holders are exempt from the obligation to specify a result or strategy in relation to the objectives set out in section 7(1) of the *Forest Planning and Practices Regulation*, for approved Wildlife Habitat Areas

This Notice applies to the Chilliwack Forest District.

This Notice replaces the amount, distribution and attributes provided for Grizzly Bear in the Notice for the Chilliwack Forest District dated August 3, 2007. The August 3, 2007 Notice remains in effect for the other species at risk.

Schedule 1

1) Grizzly Bear (*Ursus arctos*)

Amount:

1. 4928 ha not exceeding an impact to the mature timber harvesting landbase of 234 ha.

Distribution:

1. The amount of habitat referenced above must be distributed to provide:
   - areas of suitable foraging and security habitat of the size and spatial distribution identified in the species account for Grizzly Bear in the *Accounts and Measures for Managing Identified Wildlife* (Identified Wildlife Management Strategy Version 2004).
2. The areas described above are located within the biogeoclimatic units and preferred elevations identified in the species account for Grizzly Bear in the *Accounts and Measures for Managing Identified Wildlife* (Identified Wildlife Management Strategy Version 2004).

Attributes:

Stein-Nahatlatch Grizzly Bear Population Unit

Species:
Grizzly Bear

Attribute	Characteristics
Size	1-500 ha, depending on the area of use, extent of seasonal habitat and buffer size required.
Critical patch habitats	Critical patch habitats include, estuaries, rich non-forested fens, the edges of forested and non-forested bogs, herb-dominated patches on avalanche chutes with adjacent forest (particularly south-facing ones), herb-dominated subalpine parkland meadows, skunk cabbage swamps, floodplain ecosystems, white bark pine forage areas, and areas where bears fish for spawning salmon. Den cavities and surrounding stands are also considered critical. Non-forested critical habitats include a core area and buffer of forested cover. Forested critical habitats are not buffered.
Denning Habitat Features	Hibernating habitats tend to be high elevation areas that are sloped with dry, stable soil conditions that remain frozen throughout the winter. Dens are typically located on steep north-facing slopes, areas where vegetation will stabilize the den roof and where snow will accumulate for insulation. Dens are rarely re-used but Grizzly bears will often return to the same vicinity to dig new dens.
Foraging Habitat Features	Habitat selection is strongly influenced by meeting nutritional requirements, access to mates, thermal cover (i.e., dens), social interactions and the presence and activities of people. Habitat requirement vary greatly as some bears are more transient while others are more resident. Both residents and transients select patches or complexes of habitats within landscapes.
Structural Stage	Generally, foraging is more abundant in non-forested sites, sites with partial forest or sites with many tree gaps in older forest. Closed forest sites near quality habitat may be used for security and day bedding areas. Many or all structural stages can be used seasonally or for specific needs and as such, forage type is not necessarily tied to one particular structural stage.
Elevation	All elevations from sea level estuaries to high alpine meadows and talus slopes.

Signed this 4th day of October, 2010
Kaaren Lewis, Director Ecosystems Protection and Sustainability Branch
Ministry of Environment