

Updated August 18, 2009

MATERIAL SUPPORTING THE NOTICE, BUT NOT PART OF THE NOTICE.

**INFORMATION CONCERNING WILDLIFE HABITAT FOR THE SURVIVAL OF
SPOTTED OWL IN THE CHILLIWACK FOREST DISTRICT**

This document is intended to provide background information and support to the legal framework of the Notice of indicators for the amount, distribution and attributes of wildlife habitat required for the survival of Spotted Owl in the Chilliwack Forest District, dated August 14, 2009. This document is not part of the legal Notice. Its purpose is to provide additional information for consideration by delegated decision makers and by those persons required to prepare results and strategies consistent with section 7(1) of the *Forest Planning and Practices Regulation* or act in a manner consistent with section 9(3) of the *Woodlot Licence Planning and Practices Regulation*.

1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Indicators of amount, distribution and attributes included in the Notice are based on existing data, current knowledge of species distribution, current and future inventory efforts, and species biology, including territory size and intraspecific competition. In many cases, comprehensive inventories have not been completed. Where inventory work generates a different number of known occurrences and suitable habitat, the Notice may be amended to reflect a greater number of anticipated wildlife habitat areas. Any amendment to the Notice will be consistent with the policy direction on timber supply impacts.

Wildlife Habitat Areas (WHAs) and associated General Wildlife Measures for Spotted Owl in the Chilliwack Forest District that were established in 2006 remain in effect. It is the government's intentions to change the 2006 WHA linework to conform to with linework from the 2009 Spotted Owl Management Plan when the new WHAs are established. In the interim licensees should be aware of instances where 2009 Spotted Owl Management Plan linework overlaps with approved WHAs when preparing their results or strategies consistent with the objective in section 7(1) of the FPPR and considering the information contained in the Notice.

Species accounts for each of the species mentioned in the Notice can be obtained from the Identified Wildlife Management Strategy website:

<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wld/frpa/iwms/accounts.html>

Documents, including figures and spatial information (shapefiles) to support the amount and distribution statements for species included in the Notices are included in the folders titled "Docs", "Figures", "Spatial Data" on the following ftp site:

ftp://ribftp.env.gov.bc.ca/pub/outgoing/cdc_data/Approved_FRPR_sec7_WLPPR_sec9_Notices_and_Supporting_Info/Species_at_Risk/Chilliwack_FD/Supporting_info/

The following section is intended to clarify the amount, distribution and attribute statements in the legal Notice.

1) Spotted Owl (*Strix occidentalis*)

The amount, distribution and attributes included in the Notice are based on provisions within the *Chilliwack Forest District Spotted Owl Management Plan Map and the Spotted Owl LTOH and MFHA Area Summary Table* dated May 22, 2009. These documents represent current Government policy for management of Spotted Owl habitat. These documents are included on the FTP site mentioned above.

Spotted Owl will continue to be managed separately from the IWMS 1% budget. This species is known to occur in the Chilliwack Forest District; however, nest areas and forage areas cover large expanses and are outside the scope of the 1% timber impact for IWMS.

Refer to the *Chilliwack Forest District Spotted Owl Management Plan Map* dated May 22, 2009 for spatial boundaries to support the amount and distribution in the Notice. The map and accompanying spatial data are available on the FTP site mentioned above.

Refer to *Best Management Practices for Managing Spotted Owl Habitat: A component of the Spotted Owl Management Plan 2, Chilliwack and Squamish Forest Districts* dated July 7, 2009 for the most up to date information on the attributes to be maintained within Spotted Owl habitat. The BMP document is available on the FTP site mentioned above.

An overview map and individual maps showing the blocks referenced in the attributes section of the Notice is available on the FTP site mentioned above.