



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

INFORMATION CONCERNING WILDLIFE HABITAT FOR THE SURVIVAL OF SPECIES AT RISK IN THE OKANAGAN SHUSWAP FOREST DISTRICT

This document is intended to provide background information and support to the legal framework of the Notice of indicators of the amount, distribution and attributes of wildlife habitat required for the survival of species at risk in the Okanagan Shuswap Forest District. 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

There are currently 12 approved wildlife habitat areas in the Okanagan Shuswap Forest District that have no impact on the mature timber harvesting landbase. Provincial policy regarding the 1% impact budget associated with the Identified Wildlife Management Strategy (IWMS) is directed at the short-term timber supply. Consistent with the Okanagan Shuswap Land and Resource Management Plan (OSLRMP) the short-term timber supply budget is 7500 ha based on a definition of mature where by 80 years was used for lodgepole pine types and 100 years was used for all other forest types.

TFL 49, which is almost entirely within the Okanagan Shuswap Forest District operates under a FPC Pilot Regulation, and thereby is exempted from the Notice. Of the 7500 ha, 733 ha were attributed to the TFL 49 landbase. Therefore, for the purposes of the Notice the timber supply impact budget is defined as 6767 ha. Table 1 summarizes the amount of area included in the Notice as well as the amount of area in approved WHAs and their respective impacts to the mature THLB.

Indicators of amount, distribution and attributes included in the Notice are based on existing data, current knowledge of species distribution, 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 greater 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.

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

http://wlapwww.gov.bc.ca/wld/identified/iwms2004_index.htm

Table 1. Summary of mature THLB impacts for amounts included in the Notice and approved WHAs in the Okanagan Shuswap Forest District.

Species	Total Area (ha)	Estimated Mature THLB (ha)	Percent of 1% District Budget of 6767 ha
Amounts in Notice			
Tiger Salamander	541.0	300.0	3.1
Great Basin Spadefoot	200.0	0.0	0.0
“Great Basin” Gopher Snake	6250.0	0.0	0.0
Flammulated Owl	540.0	420.0	4.5
“Interior” Western Screech-Owl	110.0	55.0	0.6
Lewis’s Woodpecker	84.0	0.0	0.0
Fringed Myotis	12.0	0.0	0.0
Spotted Bat	8.0	0.0	0.0
Subtotal	7745.0	775.0	8.2
Approved Wildlife Habitat Areas			
“Great Basin” Gopher Snake (8-023)	95.0	0.0	0.0
“Great Basin” Gopher Snake (8-024)	150.0	0.0	0.0
“Great Basin” Gopher Snake (8-025)	245.0	0.0	0.0
“Great Basin” Gopher Snake (8-033)	130.0	0.0	0.0
White-headed Woodpecker (8-014)	87.0	0.0	0.0
White-headed Woodpecker (8-015)	42.0	0.0	0.0
White-headed Woodpecker (8-016)	50.0	0.0	0.0
Bighorn Sheep (8-006)	64.0	0.0	0.0
Bighorn Sheep (8-007)	87.0	0.0	0.0
Bighorn Sheep (8-008)	71.0	0.0	0.0
Bighorn Sheep (8-009)	98.0	0.0	0.0
Bighorn Sheep (8-010)	66.0	0.0	0.0
Subtotal	1185.0	0.0	0.0
Total	8930.0	775.0	8.2

Figures and spatial information (shapefiles) to support the amount and distribution statements for species included in the Notices are included in the folders titled “Figures” and “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/Okanagan_Shuswap_FD/

Inclusion of draft and proposed Wildlife Habitat Area boundaries in the supporting information does not prejudice the review and comment that may be ongoing around these Wildlife Habitat Areas. Where Wildlife Habitat Areas have not been through the full review and comment

process, MWLAP will continue to work with affected parties to address the Wildlife Habitat Area boundaries.

The following section is intended to provide supporting information to clarify the content of the Notice for the Okanagan Shuswap Forest District.

1) Tiger Salamander (*Ambystoma tigrinum*)

Amount:

The amount in the Notice is based on the total area of 141.0 ha for 5 proposed Tiger Salamander wildlife habitat areas and a total area of 400 ha for 20 future wildlife habitat areas. Information is available from the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection. Estimates of mature timber supply impacts are based on estimates provided in the “Estimated Impact of the Identified Wildlife Management Strategy (Version 2004) on Provincial Timber Supply”.

Figure 1 shows the location of 5 proposed WHAs and potential suitable Tiger Salamander ponds.

2) Great Basin Spadefoot (*Spea intermontana*)

Amount:

The amount in the Notice is based on the anticipated need for 20 future wildlife habitat areas for Great Basin Spadefoot. Information is available from the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection. Estimates of mature timber supply impacts are based on estimates provided in the “Estimated Impact of the Identified Wildlife Management Strategy (Version 2004) on Provincial Timber Supply”.

A total of 350 ha, intended to address 35 future WHAs, has been identified as a long-term projection for this species.

Figure 1 shows the location of potential suitable Great Basin Spadefoot ponds.

3) “Great Basin” Gopher Snake (*Pituophis catenifer deserticola*)

Amount:

The amount in the Notice is based on the total area of 6250 ha for 25 future wildlife habitat areas for “Great Basin” Gopher Snake. Information is available from the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection. Estimates of mature timber supply impacts are based on estimates provided in the “Estimated Impact of the Identified Wildlife Management Strategy (Version 2004) on Provincial Timber Supply”.

Due to data sensitivity concerns Gopher Snake den sites are not included on Figure 1. For information on the location of den sites and future wildlife habitat areas please contact Orville Dyer, MWLAP, Penticton.

4) Flammulated Owl (*Otus flammeolus*)

Amount:

The amount in the Notice is based on the anticipated need for 30 future wildlife habitat areas for Flammulated Owl or an aggregated area that is equivalent to the specified amount to which General Wildlife Measures would be applied. Information is available from the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection. Estimates of mature timber supply impacts are based on estimates provided in the “Estimated Impact of the Identified Wildlife Management Strategy (Version 2004) on Provincial Timber Supply”.

A total of 1440 ha (1120 THLB), intended to address 80 future WHAs, has been identified as a long-term projection for this species.

Figure 1 shows the location of Flammulated owl sightings in the Okanagan Shuswap Forest District. These locations are based on best available information. MWLAP is currently examining these locations and others collected during recent field surveys. It is anticipated that updated information will be available in July 2005. Please contact Orville Dyer, MWLAP, Penticton for more information.

5) “Interior” Western Screech-Owl (*Otus kennicotti macfarlanei*)

Amount:

The amount in the Notice is based on the anticipated need for 5 future wildlife habitat areas for “Interior” Western Screech-Owl. Information is available from the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection. Estimates of mature timber supply impacts are based on estimates provided in the “Estimated Impact of the Identified Wildlife Management Strategy (Version 2004) on Provincial Timber Supply”.

A total of 110 ha (55 THLB), intended to address 5 future WHAs, has been identified as a long-term projection for this species.

Figure 1 shows the location of the 5 proposed WHAs.

6) Lewis’s Woodpecker (*Melanerpes lewis*)

Amount:

The amount in the Notice is based on the anticipated need for 3 future wildlife habitat areas for Lewis’s Woodpecker or an aggregated area that is equivalent to the specified amount to which General Wildlife Measures would be applied. Information is available from the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection. Estimates of mature timber supply impacts are based on estimates provided in the “Estimated Impact of the Identified Wildlife Management Strategy (Version 2004) on Provincial Timber Supply”.

A total of 756 ha, intended to address 27 future WHAs, has been identified as a long-term projection for this species.

Figure 1 shows the location of the 3 proposed WHAs.

7) Fringed Myotis (*Myotis thysanodes*)

Amount:

The amount in the Notice is based on the anticipated need for 1 future wildlife habitat areas for Fringed Myotis. Information is available from the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection. Estimates of mature timber supply impacts are based on estimates provided in the “Estimated Impact of the Identified Wildlife Management Strategy (Version 2004) on Provincial Timber Supply”.

A total of 108 ha, intended to address 9 future WHAs, has been identified as a long-term projection for this species.

Due to data sensitivity concerns Fringed Myotis hibernacula and roost sites are not included on Figure1. For information on the location of hibernacula, roost sites and future wildlife habitat areas please contact Orville Dyer, MWLAP, Penticton.

8) Spotted Bat (*Euderma maculatum*)

Amount:

The amount in the Notice is based on the anticipated need for 1 future wildlife habitat areas for Spotted Bat. Information is available from the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection. Estimates of mature timber supply impacts are based on estimates provided in the “Estimated Impact of the Identified Wildlife Management Strategy (Version 2004) on Provincial Timber Supply”.

A total of 112 ha, intended to address 14 future WHAs, has been identified as a long-term projection for this species.

Due to data sensitivity concerns Spotted Bat hibernacula and roost sites are not included on Figure1. For information on the location of hibernacula, roost sites and future wildlife habitat areas please contact Orville Dyer, MWLAP, Penticton.

9) Coastal Tailed Frog (*Ascaphus truei*)

Amount:

No amount for Coastal Tailed Frog has been included in the Notice. This species range includes the Okanagan Shuswap Forest District, however its status and distribution is unclear. Where

inventory work generates known occurrences and suitable habitat, the Notice may be amended to include indicators of the amount, distribution and attributes for this species.

10) White-headed Woodpecker (*Picoides albolarvatus*)

Amount:

An amount for White-headed Woodpecker has not been included in the Notice. This species is known to occur in the district, but there is no current information that would allow an amount, distribution and attributes to be identified. Where inventory work generates known occurrences and suitable habitat, the Notice may be amended to include indicators of the amount, distribution and attributes for this species.

A total of 1000 ha (990 THLB), intended to address 20 WHAs, has been identified as a long-term projection for this species in this district.

11) Badger (*Taxidea taxus*)

Amount:

An amount for Badger has not been included in the Notice. This species is known to occur in the district, but there is no current information that would allow an amount, distribution and attributes to be identified. Where inventory work generates known occurrences and suitable habitat, the Notice may be amended to include indicators of the amount, distribution and attributes for this species.

A total of 400 ha, intended to address 8 WHAs, has been identified as a long-term projection for this species in this district.

12) Mountain Caribou (*Rangifer tarandus caribou*)

Amount:

An amount for Mountain Caribou has not been included in the Notice. This species is known to occur in the district, but there is no current information that would allow an amount, distribution and attributes to be identified. Where inventory work generates known occurrences and suitable habitat, the Notice may be amended to include indicators of the amount, distribution and attributes for this species.

A total of 2450 ha (2086 THLB), intended to address 14 WHAs, has been identified as a long-term projection for this species in this district.

13) Grizzly Bear (*Ursus arctos*)

Amount:

An amount for Grizzly Bear has not been included in the Notice. This species is known to occur in the district, but there is no current information that would allow an amount, distribution and attributes to be identified. Where inventory work generates known occurrences and suitable habitat, the Notice may be amended to include indicators of the amount, distribution and attributes for this species.

A total of 1190 ha (190 THLB), intended to address 7 WHAs, has been identified as a long-term projection for this species in this district.