

# <u>NOTICE – INDICATORS OF THE AMOUNT, DISTRIBUTION AND ATTRIBUTES OF</u> <u>WILDLIFE HABITAT REQUIRED FOR THE SURVIVAL OF SPECIES AT RISK IN</u> <u>THE PEACE FOREST DISTRICT</u>

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 are not included in the indicators of amount, distribution and attributes for each of the species outlined in Schedule 1. 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 objective set out in section 7(1) of the *Forest Planning and Practices Regulation*, for approved Wildlife Habitat Areas.

This Notice applies to the Peace Forest District excluding the Muskwa Kechika management area.

## Schedule 1

## 1) Boreal Caribou (Rangifer tarandus caribou)

#### Amount:

1. 4,400 ha within the non-contributing landbase with no impact to the mature timber harvesting landbase.

### Distribution:

- Distribution of Boreal Caribou herds: see map-based depiction in the species account for Boreal Caribou in the *Accounts and Measures for Managing Identified Wildlife* (Identified Wildlife Management Strategy Version 2004).
- Boreal Caribou Core Habitats and Ranges: detailed distribution map is available from MWLAP.
- SAR Elements for Boreal Caribou are generally distributed in locations as described below:

SAR Elements	Size	BCG	Comments
Calving and Rutting	Up to	BWBS	Typically a high degree of
Ranges, Connectivity	1,000 ha		overlap of seasonal ranges.
Matrix			

Mineral Lick	50 ha	BWBS	Locate calving and rutting ranges within Boreal Caribou core areas (connectivity habitat within and between core areas).
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### Habitat Attributes:

- Calving and Rutting Range, Connectivity Areas: low elevation (< 1,000 m), flat to rolling terrain primarily within mosaics of large, undisturbed, treed peatlands / muskeg complexes, (black spruce leading stands) and patches of mature upland lodgepole pine stands. Limited use of commercial forested areas.
- In addition, calving sites are frequently located within 400 m of larger lake margins, within clusters of smaller lake complexes, on lake islands or peninsulas, and in riparian or wetlands habitats.
- Mineral Lick: any dry or wet mineral lick regularly used by caribou.

SAR Element	Slope	Forest Cover	Stand Age	Elev m asl	Other
Calving and Rutting Ranges, Connectivity Matrix	< 30%	Black spruce dominated stands, lodgepole pine secondary	Stand age adequate to produced terrestrial (and arboreal) lichen forage base	< 1,000	Calving - Buffer lakes (500 m for > 750 ha lakes, 250 m for <750 ha) and small lake complexes (250m from perimeter).

## 2) Northern Caribou (Rangifer tarandus caribou)

### Amount:

- 1. 13,099 ha not exceeding an impact to the mature timber harvesting landbase of 5,751 ha.
- Pink Mtn: 175 ha, 0 ha THLB
- Graham: 2,274 ha, 1,461 ha THLB
- Moberly: 3,775 ha, 3,208 ha THLB
- Kennedy Siding: 1,450 ha, 145 ha THLB
- Quintette: 2,175 ha, 218 ha THLB
- Belcourt / Narraway: 3,250 ha, 719 ha THLB

### Distribution:

- Distribution of Northern Caribou herds: see map-based depiction in the species account for Northern Caribou in the *Accounts and Measures for Managing Identified Wildlife* (Identified Wildlife Management Strategy Version 2004).
- SAR Elements for Northern Caribou are generally distributed in locations as described below:

SAR	Size	BCG	Comments
Elements			
Calving Range	50 - 300	AT, ESSF	May overlap spatially
	ha		with calving range,
Rutting Range	50 - 300	ESSF, AT	rutting range, connectivity
	ha		matrix, or ungulate winter
Connectivity	~ 1000 ha	BWBS, SBS,	range.
Matrix	(at least 2	ESSF, AT	
	km wide		Map of known SAR
	and 5 km		Element locations are
	long)		available from MWLAP.
Mineral Lick	50 ha	Any	Map of known SAR
			Element locations are
			available from MWLAP

### Habitat Attributes:

- Calving and Rutting Range: high-elevation, windswept, undisturbed flat to moderately sloped (<40%) vegetated alpine (i.e. not rock) habitats, mature to old, sub-alpine forests or parklands with flat to moderate slopes.
- Mineral Lick: any dry or wet mineral lick regularly used by caribou. Known mineral licks are located in low elevation meadows and valley bottoms.
- Connectivity Matrix: generally low elevation, flat to moderately sloped terrain, intermediate to old forest cover following major rivers or lower elevation passes and connecting seasonal ranges. May include areas adjacent to winter ranges or parks that are managed to 1) discourage intensive activity by humans and 2) reduce predation risk (an abundance of moose and wolves).

SAR Element	Slope	Forest Cover	Stand Age	Elev	Other	
				m asl		
Calving Range	Calving Range < 40%		treeless	>1,500	Where applicable,	
		sub-alpine fir	> 140	>1,300	include mid-	
		and/or spruce			elevation ESSF	
		dominated			forests (>1,300 m)	
		overstory			to buffer calving	
Rutting Range	< 40%	sub-alpine fir,	> 120 (> 60	>1,300	and rutting areas	
		spruce and/or	secondary)			
		lodgepole pine				
		dominated				
		overstory, alpine				
		(not rock)				
		plateaus				
Connectivity	primarily	forested	> 60	generally	Buffer major rivers	
Matrix	< 30%			<1,000	1 km each side	
	but may					
	range to					
	70%					