



December 30, 2004

NOTICE – INDICATORS OF THE AMOUNT, DISTRIBUTION AND ATTRIBUTES OF WILDLIFE HABITAT REQUIRED FOR THE SURVIVAL OF SPECIES AT RISK IN THE SOUTH ISLAND FOREST DISTRICT

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 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 South Island Forest District.

Schedule 1

1) “Queen Charlotte” Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis laingi*)

Amount:

1. 239 ha of suitable habitat not exceeding an impact to the mature timber harvesting landbase of 79 ha.

Distribution:

1. The amount of habitat referenced above must be distributed to provide:
 - areas of suitable breeding habitat including functional nesting and post fledging habitat of the size identified in the species account for Charlotte Goshawk in the *Accounts and Measures for Managing Identified Wildlife* (Identified Wildlife Management Strategy Version 2004).
 - areas of suitable goshawk breeding habitat to minimize overlap between goshawk home ranges (approximately 5-8 km separation).

The areas described above are located within the ecosections and preferred elevations identified in the species account for Queen Charlotte Goshawk in the *Accounts and Measures for Managing Identified Wildlife* (Identified Wildlife Management Strategy Version 2004).

Attributes:

**Species: Queen
Charlotte
Goshawk**

| Attribute | Characteristics |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Nesting and PFA Area | Approximately 200 ha in size. |
| Stand Features (Nesting and PFA) | Structural stage 5-7 (>45yrs), multi-layered canopies, structurally diverse, canopy closure (greater than 50%), large diameter trees (for the locale), snags and coarse woody debris (CWD), typically not along forest/non-forest edges. Not near urban areas and generally on the lower 2/3 of slopes where slope gradient is <40%. |
| Tree Species (Nesting and PFA) | Western hemlock, Douglas fir, Sitka spruce, Western red cedar, amabilis fir and red alder. |
| Structural Stage | 5 (young forest - is used but is generally not preferred), 6 (mature forest) and 7 (old forest). |
| Elevation (Nesting and PFA) | Areas managed for nesting must generally be below 900 m. |

2) Marbled Murrelet (*Brachyramphus marmoratus*)

Amount:

1. An amount equal to the total amount of currently suitable nesting habitat in the non-contributing landbase. Government policy for determining the amount of suitable nesting habitat is provided in the species account for Marbled Murrelet in the *Accounts and Measures for Managing Identified Wildlife* (Identified Wildlife Management Strategy Version 2004).
2. An amount of suitable Marbled Murrelet nesting habitat within Old Growth Management Areas consistent with the direction from landscape unit planning; and

Distribution:

1. The amount of habitat referenced above must be distributed to provide:
 - areas of suitable nesting habitat of the size and spatial distribution identified in the species account for Marbled Murrelet 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 Marbled Murrelet in the *Accounts and Measures for Managing Identified Wildlife* in the Identified Wildlife Management Strategy Version 2004.

Attributes:

**Species:
Marbled
Murrelet**

| Attribute | Characteristics |
|--------------------------|--|
| Size | Maintain a balanced range of patch sizes including a mix of large (>200 ha), medium (50-200 ha) and small (<50 ha) patches within managed forests. The area should include vertical canopy complexity, |
| Tree Features | Large branches or branches with deformities, and presence of mossy platforms |
| Tree Species | It is unlikely that Marbled murrelets select particular tree species, however certain species are more likely to provide large horizontal platforms suitable for nesting. This includes yellow cedar, western hemlock, Sitka spruce, Douglas-fir and western red cedar. Less likely species include mountain hemlock and amabilis fir. |
| Nesting Habitat Features | Suitable nesting habitat includes old seral stage coniferous forests, providing large trees with platforms (limbs or deformities >15cm diameter) with variable canopy structure and small gaps in the canopy. Readily nest on steep slopes but is not essential if forest canopies are non-uniform. |
| Tree Size | Most nesting trees in BC are >200 yr. Nest trees are typically >40 m tall and nest heights are typically >30 m. Nest limbs range in size from 15-74 cm diameter. |
| Structural Stage | 7: old forest (>250 yr - age class 9, but 8 is acceptable if older forest is not present and the age class 8 provides platform limbs and other nest attributes). |
| Additional information | Table 3 of the IWMS Version 2004 species account for Marbled Murrelet provides detailed information about the habitat features that are associated with most likely, moderately likely and least likely habitat within each of the Marbled Murrelet Conservation regions. |

3) Scouler's Corydalis (*Corydalis scouleri*)

Amount:

1. 50 ha of suitable habitat not exceeding an impact to the mature timber harvesting landbase of 20 ha.

Distribution:

1. The amount of habitat referenced above must be distributed to provide:
 - areas of suitable habitat, including the known populations identified in the species account for Scouler's Corydalis in the *Accounts and Measures for Managing Identified Wildlife* (Identified Wildlife Management Strategy Version 2004).
2. The areas described above are located within the ecosections and preferred elevations identified in the species account for Scouler's Corydalis in the *Accounts and Measures for Managing Identified Wildlife* (Identified Wildlife Management Strategy Version 2004).

Attributes:

Species:

Scouler's

Corydalis

| Attribute | Characteristics |
|------------------|---|
| Size | Typically <10 ha in size depending on the extent of the population and suitable habitat. Should include a core (defined by the perimeter of the population) and management zone (close to 50m but may extend up to 250m). |
| Habitat Features | Cool, moist and moderately shady habitats usually adjacent to watercourses. Tend to be located in deciduous or mixed forest. Maintain ~ 60% basal stem area in the management zone and remove the 40% basal stem area in small openings. Includes west, southwest, north to northeast aspects from 0 to 45% slopes. Occurs in young and older dominant red alder stands, but is also found in mixed conifer stands with mature big-leaf maple and Sitka spruce as well as red alder, western red cedar and western hemlock. |
| Structural Stage | 5 (young forest), 6 (mature forest), 7(old forest). |
| Elevation | 5 - ~200 m. |