



**NOTICE – INDICATORS OF THE AMOUNT, DISTRIBUTION AND
ATTRIBUTES OF WILDLIFE HABITAT REQUIRED FOR THE WINTER
SURVIVAL OF UNGULATE SPECIES IN THE LAKES TIMBER SUPPLY
AREA**

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 winter survival of the ungulate species outlined in Schedule 1.

This notice applies as specified within the Lakes Timber Supply Area.

Schedule 1

Lakes TSA

Ungulate Species:

Moose and Mule Deer

Amount:

Moose:

A maximum of 218,142 ha of which 156,427 ha is within the timber harvesting landbase.

Mule deer

A maximum of 10,877 ha of which 1,332 ha is within the timber harvesting landbase

Distribution:

Moose:

- Moose winter range located in forest types at the elevation and on slope aspects typical of ungulate winter ranges for Moose in the Lakes TSA considering the attributes presented below
- Provide winter range habitat throughout the SBSdk, and SBSmc according to the attributes identified below.

Mule Deer:

- Mule Deer winter range located in forest types at the elevation and on slope aspects typical of ungulate winter ranges for Mule Deer in the Lakes TSA considering the attributes presented below.
- Provide winter range habitat throughout the SBSdk, and isolated patches of the SBSmc subzones according to the attributes identified below.

Attributes:

Moose:

Attributes of critical moose winter habitat include:

Forest cover: A minimum of 30% of the area > 101 years.

Green up: A maximum of 33% of the area < 3 m or 17 years.

Preferred topographic features: Generally below 1200m elevation, slopes < 60%, and where ever snow accumulations are <90cm deep.

Preferred ecosystems and forest structure: Wetlands, meadows, and adjacent forests, all successional stages within riparian areas and deciduous forests, mixed and coniferous forests including uplands especially earlier successional stages, burned and logged upland areas that produce adequate forage.

Preferred winter foraging species: Willows, red-osier dogwood, paper birch, maple, sub-alpine fir, false-box, high-bush cranberry, Saskatoon, and aspen which have not grown out of the reach of moose.

Sufficient food availability within 80 meters of security cover

Sufficient forest cover to provide snow interception cover when snow depths begin to restrict moose mobility (90 cm +);

Mosaic of age classes, stand types and openings that provide for near optimum balance of forage, shelter/bedding, screening, and thermoregulation in late winter;

In deciduous complexes, mature and old conifer clusters that can provide for shelter and screening.

Mule Deer:

Attributes of critical mule deer winter habitat include:

Forest cover: A minimum of 50% of the area > 101 years.

Green up: A maximum of 33% of the area < 3 m or 17 years.

Preferred topographic features: Elevations below 1000 m. Warm aspects, 0 – 80 degree slopes, topographic breaks, benches, and ridges associated with warm aspects. Areas with snow depths <50cm.

Preferred winter forage: Saskatoon, willow, maple, rose, red-osier dogwood, high-bush cranberry, false-box, conifer litter-fall from the tops of trees, and arboreal lichens.

Effective snow interception cover: Old and mature forest with large deep crowns, especially trees producing arboreal lichens. Preferred species is Douglas fir, followed by Lodgepole Pine, followed by other conifer species.

Effective thermal and hiding cover: Stands that reduce air movement at ground level and minimize radiation of heat to the open sky. Old and mature conifer forest with dense canopy and large crowns, multi-layered conifer stands with large crowns, and dense thickets.

Preferred forest structure: Most effective habitat has snow interception cover located along ridges, benches, and topographical breaks in proximity to areas producing preferred forage. The ideal winter range is a mosaic of open and closed canopies.