



## **ORDER – UNGULATE WINTER RANGE #U-7-003**

This order is given under the authority of sections 9(2) and 12(1) of the *Government Actions Regulation* (B.C. Reg. 582/2004).

The Deputy Minister of Environment orders that:

1. the general wildlife measures outlined in Schedule 1 replace the general wildlife measures approved for ungulate winter range U-7-003 on May 27, 2006 and are established;
2. the general wildlife measures outlined in Schedule 1 apply to the boundary of Ungulate Winter Range U-7-003 established on October 6, 2003 and boundaries in GIS file `tuwra_bc`;
3. for the purposes of section 2(3)(a) of the *Government Actions Regulation*, the general wildlife measures outlined in Schedule 1 apply to minor tenures; and
4. the general wildlife measures outlined in schedule 1 do not apply for the purposes of exploration, development and production activities when these activities have been authorized for the purpose of subsurface resource exploration, development or production by the Mineral Tenure Act, the Coal Act, the Mines Act, the Petroleum and Natural Gas Act, the Pipeline Act or the Geothermal Resources Act.

### **Schedule 1 – General Wildlife Measures**

#### **GWM 1 – To provide landscape connectivity (Caribou Corridor):**

Within each Caribou Corridor Ungulate Winter Range (UWR) Unit: PC-029, PC-030, PC-031, PC-032, PC-033, PC-034, PC-036, PC-037, PC-038, PC-040, PC-044, PC-046, PC-047, PC-048, PC-049, PC-051, PC-052, PC-056, PC-057, PC-061, PC-062, PC-063, PC-066, PC-072, PC-073, PC-078, PC-080, PC-082, PC-085, RC-002, RC-005, RC-006, RC-016, TC-005, TC-009, TC-010, TC-014:

- a) Harvesting will result in a minimum of 20% of the forest within each unit as 100+ years of age in a contiguous, windfirm corridor with no more than 20% of the productive forest area of the unit being less than 3 metre green-up condition at any time.
- b) Forest health sanitation activities and salvage harvesting must not result in more than 20% of the unit being less than 3 metre green-up condition at any time, unless there is no other practicable option and an exemption is approved by the Ministry of Environment designated authority.

**GWM 2 – To maintain old forests with arboreal lichen forage and to minimize caribou displacement and predation (Caribou High):**

Within each Caribou High UWR Unit: PC-001, PC-002, PC-003, PC-004, PC-005, PC-006, PC-007, PC-008, PC-009, PC-010, PC-011, PC-012, PC-013, PC-014, PC-015, PC-016, PC-017, PC-018, PC-019, PC-020, PC-022, PC-023, PC-024, PC-025, PC-026, PC-027, PC-028, RC-001, RC-003, RC-008, RC-009, RC-013, RC-019, RC-020, RC-021, RC-022, TC-003, TC-006, TC-016, TC-018:

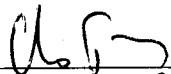
- a) Harvesting or road building is not to occur, with the exception of cut blocks and associated roads previously approved in a Forest Development Plan at the time of this ungulate winter range designation (meaning original designation date of October 6, 2003). Where previously-approved roads or trails are constructed within this winter range and upon completion of harvesting and silviculture activities, implement measures to create unfavourable future conditions for wolf and snowmobile travel.
- b) An exemption is not required for harvesting within these UWR units when it is required to address worker safety such as felling of danger trees or brushing on existing roads. Danger trees that must be felled will be left on site to provide coarse woody debris, unless the felled tree lies outside the UWR.
- c) An exemption is not required for road maintenance, road deactivation, or road reclamation activities within these UWR units.
- d) Forest health sanitation activities are not to occur unless the Ministry of Forests District Manager determines that taking no action would result in a significant negative impact on adjacent timber values, and an exemption is approved by the Ministry of Environment designated authority.
- e) A harvesting and road construction exemption is not required for emergency fire suppression activities within these UWR units. These fire suppression activities will be conducted in a manner that does not result in a material adverse impact on the ungulate winter range habitat. Where possible limit fire suppression activities within these UWR units when there is not a significant risk to adjacent forest lands.

**GWM 3 – To maintain old forests with arboreal lichen forage and to minimize caribou displacement and predation (Caribou Medium):**

Within each Caribou Medium UWR Unit: PC-035, PC-039, PC-041, PC-043, PC-045, PC-050, PC-053, PC-054, PC-055, PC-058, PC-059, PC-060, PC-064, PC-065, PC-068, PC-069, PC-070, PC-071, PC-074, PC-075, PC-076, PC-077, PC-079, PC-081, PC-083, RC-004, RC-007, RC-010, RC-011, RC-012, RC-014, RC-015, RC-017, RC-018, TC-001, TC-002, TC-004, TC-007, TC-008, TC-011, TC-012, TC-013, TC-015, TC-017, TC-019:

- a) Harvest  $\leq 30\%$  volume removal on a cut block area every 80 years, such that:
  - i. opening sizes do not exceed 1.0 ha, with a mean opening size of  $\leq 0.5$  ha,
  - ii. openings are distributed throughout the cut block area and kept at least two tree lengths apart, where practicable,

- b) Harvesting for forest health sanitation activities will be conducted in a manner that does not result in a material adverse impact on the ungulate winter range habitat within each UWR unit.
- c) Do not construct permanent road access in the Caribou Medium UWR within 2 km of any Caribou High UWR Unit, unless there is no practicable alternative and an exemption has been approved by the Minister of Environment or delegate.
- d) A harvesting and road construction exemption is not required for emergency fire suppression activities within these UWR units. These fire suppression activities will be conducted in a manner that does not result in a material adverse impact on the ungulate winter range habitat.
- e) Upon completion of harvesting and silviculture activities, implement measures to create unfavourable future conditions for wolf and snowmobile travel, such as recontouring and reseedling/replanting of roads or pulling significant crossing structures.
- f) Where the access road is needed for multiple-year harvesting, do not plough snow unless required to facilitate timber harvesting.

  
Signed this 21<sup>st</sup> day of Feb, 2007  
Chris Trumpy, Deputy Minister  
Ministry of Environment

## Ungulate Winter Range U7-003

### Appendix 1

The following information is intended to provide background information and support to the legal order establishing UWR 7-003. These appendices are not part of the legal order for UWR 7-003.

1. Authority to consider an exemption from these General Wildlife Measures is provided in Section 92(1) of the *Forest Planning and Practices Regulation*. In instances where it is not practicable to comply with these measures, a person proposing to conduct forestry activities may choose to seek an exemption from the requirements to comply with the applicable General Wildlife Measures.

An exemption application is to be submitted to the Minister's delegate (Regional Manager - Ministry of Environment, Prince George) with a rationale describing the nature of the problem and options to integrate winter range conservation with proposed forest practices. This submission will assist in timely consideration of the matter. The applicant must not proceed with activities until the exemption is received by the applicant.

Salvage of dead (non-infectious) timber resulting from severe natural disturbance may be proposed as an exemption if the proposal results in a net benefit to the Ungulate Winter Range species being managed for, as opposed to taking no action.

When the Minister's delegate considers an exemption, they will respect that caribou habitat conservation is the overriding priority for these Ungulate Winter Range areas.

2. Further guidance on management practises in Mountain Caribou habitat can be obtained from: Susan K. Stevenson, H. Armleder, M. Jull, D. King, B. McLellan and D. Coxson, 2001. *Mountain Caribou in Managed Forests: Recommendations for Managers – 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition*. Wildlife Report No. R-26. Ministry of Environment, Victoria, BC. Also available at: [http://wlapwww.gov.bc.ca/wld/documents/techpub/r26\\_mtcaribou.pdf](http://wlapwww.gov.bc.ca/wld/documents/techpub/r26_mtcaribou.pdf)