



ORDER – IDENTIFICATION OF WILDLIFE HABITAT FEATURES

This order is given under the authority of sections 11(1) of the *Government Actions Regulation* (B.C. Reg. 582/2004).

The Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Environment orders that:

1. the features outlined in schedule 1 are identified as wildlife habitat features; and
2. the wildlife habitat features identified in Schedule 1 are defined as per Schedule 2.

Schedule 1 – Wildlife Habitat Features (WHF)

1. a fisheries sensitive feature
2. a marine sensitive feature
3. a significant mineral lick
4. a significant willow
5. a nest of a Bald Eagle
6. a nest of an Osprey
7. a nest of a Great Blue Heron
8. a nest of a Spotted Owl
9. a Mountain Beaver ground burrow
10. a Vancouver Island Marmot ground burrow
11. a Badger ground burrow
12. a Grizzly Bear ground den
13. a hot spring or thermal spring
14. the area occupied by a Scouler's corydalis plant
15. the area occupied by a Tall Bugbane plant
16. a non-classified wetland or ephemeral pond associated with a species at risk
17. a nest of a Queen Charlotte Goshawk
18. a nest of a White-headed Woodpecker
19. a nest of a Lewis's Woodpecker
20. a nest of a Flammulated Owl
21. a nest of an "Interior" Western Screech Owl (*macfarlanei* subspecies)
22. a nest of a Queen Charlotte Northern Saw-whet Owl
23. a nest of a Williamson's Sapsucker
24. a bat hibernacula used by Pallid Bat, Townsend's Big-eared Bat, Spotted Bat, Keen's Long-eared Myotis, Northern Long-eared Myotis, Fringed Myotis.
25. a bat maternity roost used by Pallid Bat, Townsend's Big-eared Bat, Spotted Bat, Keen's Long-eared Myotis, Northern Long-eared Myotis, Fringed Myotis.

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Schedule 2 - Definitions

In this order the following definitions apply to those wildlife habitat features outlined in Schedule 1.

1. Fisheries sensitive feature

Definition:

A *fisheries sensitive feature* means any of the following:

- a) the littoral zone of a lake;
- b) a flooded depression, pond or swamp that is not a stream, wetland or lake, but
 - i) either perennially or seasonally contains water, and
 - ii) is seasonally occupied by a species of fish referred to in the FPPR definition of a fish stream

2. Marine sensitive feature

Definition:

A *marine sensitive feature* includes the following ecologically important habitats, biotic communities, or species which are sensitive to disturbances from coastal forestry practices, **except where a tenure has been granted by government for the purposes of handling logs:**

- a) herring spawning areas;
- b) shellfish beds;
- b) saltwater marsh areas;
- c) aquaculture sites;
- d) juvenile salmonid rearing areas;
- e) adult salmon holding areas;
- f) the littoral zone of a marine or estuary system;
- g) a marine area where the water is less than 10 m deep

3. Significant mineral lick

Definition:

A *significant mineral lick* means an area used on a habitual basis by ungulates to obtain dietary *macro* minerals including sodium, calcium and phosphorous as well as *trace* minerals such as manganese, copper and selenium, that is (a) regionally rare on the landscape; or (b) used regularly and annually by more than one species; or (c) used by a large proportion of individuals within a population. This definition is **not applicable where the mineral lick has been created by a primary forest activity** (e.g., road construction).

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4. A significant wallow

Definition:

A ***significant wallow*** means a shallow depression or pit in the ground created by ungulates (applicable to moose, bison, elk, mountain goat) or grizzly bear through regular digging, trampling or rolling, or an existing wet depression regularly used by ungulates or grizzly bears to wallow. A significant wallow is **typically used regularly and repeatedly (at least annually) by one or more species.**

5. Nest of a Bald Eagle

Definition:

A ***nest of a Bald Eagle*** means a structure used by a Bald Eagle to hold its eggs or offspring and the tree containing the structure.

6. Nest of an Osprey

Definition:

A ***nest of an Osprey*** means a structure used by an Osprey to hold its eggs or offspring and the tree containing the structure.

7. Nest of a Great Blue Heron

Definition:

A ***nest of a Great Blue Heron*** means a structure used by a Great Blue Heron to hold its eggs or offspring and the tree containing the structure.

8. Nest of a Spotted Owl

Definition:

A ***nest of a Spotted Owl*** means a structure used by a Spotted Owl to hold its eggs or offspring and the tree containing the structure.

9. Mountain Beaver ground burrow

Definition:

A ***Mountain Beaver ground burrow*** means an excavated hole that descends below ground and is inhabited by a Mountain Beaver.

10. Vancouver Island Marmot ground burrow

Definition:

A ***Vancouver Island Marmot ground burrow*** means an excavated hole that descends below ground and is inhabited by a Vancouver Island Marmot.

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11. Badger ground burrow

Definition:

A *Badger ground burrow* means an excavated hole that descends below ground and is inhabited by a Badger.

12. Grizzly bear ground den

Definition:

A *Grizzly Bear ground den* means an excavated hole that descends below ground and is used by grizzly bear.

13. Hot spring or thermal spring

Definition:

A *hot spring or thermal spring* means a source of water that is heated geothermically and comes to the surface. There is no defined minimum temperature for this heated water.

14. Scouler's corydalis plant

Definition:

A *Scouler's corydalis plant* means the location occupied by a Scouler's corydalis plant.

15. Tall Bugbane plant

Definition:

A *Tall Bugbane plant* means the location occupied by a Tall Bugbane plant.

16. Non-classified wetland or ephemeral pond which is associated with a species at risk

Definition:

A *non-classified wetland or ephemeral pond associated with a species at risk* is considered a wildlife habitat feature. This means that the non-classified wetland or ephemeral pond (as described below) is **occupied or used by a red- or blue-listed species, or a species classified as endangered, threatened or special concern** by COSEWIC .

A *non-classified wetland* means wetlands that are not classified under the FRPA and are <1 ha in size in all biogeoclimatic zones, except for the BG, PP and IDFxh, xw, xm where non-classified wetlands are between 0.25 and 1 ha in size. An *ephemeral pond* means seasonal wetlands that are filled with spring meltwater or seasonal rains and are typically dry by mid-summer.

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17. Nest of a Queen Charlotte Goshawk

Definition:

A nest of a Queen Charlotte Goshawk means a structure used by a Queen Charlotte Goshawk to hold its eggs or offspring and the tree containing the structure.

18. Nest of a White-headed Woodpecker

Definition:

A nest of a White-headed Woodpecker means a structure used by a White-headed Woodpecker to hold its eggs or offspring and the tree containing the structure.

19. Nest of a Lewis's Woodpecker

Definition:

A nest of a Lewis's Woodpecker means a structure used by a Lewis's Woodpecker to hold its eggs or offspring and the tree containing the structure.

20. Nest of a Flammulated Owl

Definition:

A nest of a Flammulated Owl means a structure used by a Flammulated Owl to hold its eggs or offspring and the tree containing the structure.

21. Nest of a Western Screech Owl *macfarlanei* subspecies

Definition:

A nest of a Western Screech Owl macfarlanei subspecies means a structure used by a Western Screech Owl *macfarlanei* subspecies to hold its eggs or offspring and the tree containing the structure.

22. Nest of a Queen Charlotte Northern Saw-whet Owl

Definition:

A nest of a Queen Charlotte Northern Saw-whet Owl means a structure used by a Queen Charlotte Northern Saw-whet Owl to hold its eggs or offspring and the tree containing the structure.

23. Nest of a Williamson's Sapsucker

Definition:

A nest of a Williamson's Sapsucker means a structure used by a Williamson's Sapsucker to hold its eggs or offspring and the tree containing the structure.

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24. Bat hibernacula used by Pallid Bat, Townsend’s Big-eared Bat, Spotted Bat, Keen’s Long-eared Myotis, Northern Long-eared Myotis, Fringed Myotis.

Definition:

A bat hibernacula used by Pallid Bat, Townsend’s Big-eared Bat, Spotted Bat, Keen’s Long-eared Myotis, Northern Long-eared Myotis, Fringed Myotis means a site where any of these bat species hibernate during the winter.

25. Bat Maternity Roost used by Pallid Bat, Townsend’s Big-eared Bat, Spotted Bat, Keen’s Long-eared Myotis, Northern Long-eared Myotis, Fringed Myotis.

Definition:

A bat maternity roost used by Pallid Bat, Townsend’s Big-eared Bat, Spotted Bat, Keen’s Long-eared Myotis, Northern Long-eared Myotis, Fringed Myotis means a site that “houses” an aggregation of any of these bat species and their young.