



ORDER – FISHERIES SENSITIVE WATERSHEDS – VANCOUVER ISLAND

The following order applies to the areas identified within the attached Schedule A as Fisheries Sensitive Watersheds and takes effect on the 28th day of December, 2005.

This order is given under the authority of sections 14(1) and 14(2) of the *Government Actions Regulation* (B.C. Reg. 582/2004).

The Deputy Minister of Environment orders that:

1. the fisheries sensitive watersheds shown in the map set out in the attached Schedule A (labeled: F-1-001, F-1-002, F-1-003, F-1-004, F-1-005, F-1-006, F-1-007, F-1-008, F-1-009, F-1-010, and F-1-011,) is established;
2. the objectives outlined in Schedule 1 are established for the fisheries sensitive watersheds in the attached Schedule A;
3. the special management of watersheds established by this order is required to protect the habitat of anadromous salmonids, including steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) and cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarki*) (hereafter referred to as fish);
4. revisions to this order will be carried out where information is made available to demonstrate that a watershed does not require special management of the amount, timing and distribution of primary forest activities to prevent material adverse effects on fish or fish habitat; and
5. where there is any discrepancy between a fisheries sensitive watershed boundary as shown in the attached Schedule A map and the GIS file (**tfswa_bc**), the centre point of the boundary as detailed in the GIS file will take precedent. Where there still may be a discrepancy, the land area encompassed by the height-of-land that defines the boundary of the watershed described in Schedule A, will be the area of land identified as the Fisheries Sensitive Watershed.

Schedule 1 – Fisheries Sensitive Watershed

The Deputy Minister of Environment is satisfied that:


1. The areas of land comprising the watersheds listed in Schedule A have significant downstream fisheries values and significant watershed sensitivity.
2. The areas of land comprising the watersheds listed in Schedule A require special management to:
 - Conserve the natural hydrological conditions, natural stream bed dynamics and stream channel integrity.

- Conserve the quality, quantity and timing of water flow consistent with the needs of fisheries values.
 - Prevent cumulative hydrological effects that would have a material adverse effect on fish and fish habitat.
3. For each of the areas of land identified by this Order as Fisheries Sensitive Watersheds, the provisions of the *Forest Planning and Practices Regulation*, or another enactment, do not specifically provide for the special management of the matters set out in item 2 above.

Therefore, Deputy Minister of Environment orders that:

1. The areas of land comprising the watersheds in the attached Schedule A are identified as Fisheries Sensitive Watersheds, and
2. The objective set out in Schedule B is established for each of the Fisheries Sensitive Watersheds named in the attached Schedule A:

Signed this 19th day of Dec, 2005



Chris Trumpy, Deputy Minister
Ministry of Environment

Schedule A – Gazetted Names of Fisheries Sensitive Watersheds (FSW)

Gazetted (FSW) Name¹	Forest District	GIS FSW Identifier²	Watershed Code²
Artlish River	Campbell River	F-1-001	9306711
Effingham River	South Island	F-1-002	9301964
Escalante River	South Island	F-1-003	9304808
Gordon River	South Island	F-1-004	9300547
Hatton Creek	South Island	F-1-005	93007170025700388
Hemmingsen Creek	South Island	F-1-006	93005380022100344
Klanawa River	South Island	F-1-007	9300755
Macktush Creek	South Island	F-1-008	930147
Memekay River	Campbell River	F-1-009	920725300358
Nahmint River ³	South Island	F-1-010	9301508
Toquart River	South Island	F-1-011	9302305

¹ The gazetted name of a creek or river at the lowest (downstream) point in the named fisheries sensitive watershed.

² For the purposes of this Order, the current GIS fisheries sensitive watershed polygon information is based on 1:50,000 scale BC Watershed Atlas (Watershed Code) boundaries. These will be replaced with 1:20,000 scale BC Corporate Watershed Base (CWB) polygon boundaries and associated watershed codes as they become available in 2006.

³ The watershed area above the confluence of the Nahmint River with Nahmint Lake.

Schedule B – Objective for Fisheries Sensitive Watersheds named in Schedule A

For each of the Fisheries Sensitive Watersheds identified by this Order, the objective is to provide, within the normal forest rotation, special management of the amount, timing and distribution of primary forest activities, in order to:

- i) conserve the natural hydrological conditions, natural stream bed dynamics and integrity of stream channels in the Fisheries Sensitive Watershed,
- ii) conserve the quality, quantity and timing of water flows required by fish in the Fisheries Sensitive Watershed, and
- iii) prevent the cumulative hydrological effects of primary forest activities in the Fisheries Sensitive Watershed from resulting in a material adverse impact on the fish habitat of the watershed.

