



**ORDER – Specified Area GAR**  
**#SA-6-292**  
**Thinhorn Sheep Disease Prevention – Skeena Region**

This order is given under the authority of section 9(1) of the *Government Actions Regulation* (B.C. Reg. 582/2004) (GAR).

The Regional Executive Directors of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development – Skeena Region being satisfied that:

- i. the following specified area contains habitat that is necessary to meet the habitat requirements for Dall’s sheep (*Ovis dalli dalli*) and Stone’s sheep (*Ovis dalli stonei*), collectively referenced to as thinhorn sheep; and
- ii. the general wildlife measures (GWMs) described below are necessary to protect and conserve Dall’s sheep and Stone’s sheep herd health; and
- i. the habitat requires special management that is not otherwise provided for under GAR or another enactment;

orders that:

- a) the area shown in the map set out in the attached Schedule A (#SA-6-292) and contained in the Specified Area (SA) spatial layer stored in the Geographic Warehouse (WHSE\_WILDLIFE\_MANAGEMENT.WCP\_WILDLIFE\_HABITAT\_AREA\_POLY) are established as Specified Area #SA-6-292 for thinhorn sheep. The centre point of the line on the attached Schedule A is what establishes the SA boundary; and
- b) if there is a discrepancy between the areas shown in the map set out in the attached Schedule A and the SA spatial layer stored in the Geographic Warehouse (WHSE\_WILDLIFE\_MANAGEMENT.WCP\_WILDLIFE\_HABITAT\_AREA\_POLY), the areas as detailed in the SA spatial layer will take precedent; and
- c) the GWMs outlined in Schedule 1 are established for Specified Area SA-6-292; and
- d) 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.

## Schedule 1 – General Wildlife Measures

### *Definitions*

Words and expressions not defined in this Order have the meaning given to them in the *Forest and Range Practices Act* (FRPA) and the regulations made under it, unless otherwise defined in the Order.

In this schedule:

- a) **Camelids** are defined as various mammals of the family Camelidae, having padded two-toed feet and a cleft upper lip, and including the alpaca, camels, guanaco, llama, and vicuña.
- b) **Thinhorn sheep specified area** is the specified area polygon established by way of this Order where thinhorn sheep include Dall's sheep and Stone's sheep.
- c) **Vegetation Management** includes the removal, suppression, or control of any plant growth. This may pertain to changing species composition, or structure of plant communities via different silvicultural methods.

### *General Wildlife Measures (GWMs)*

1. The use of domestic sheep, goats or camelids is prohibited on range tenures, in range tenure agreements, and for vegetation management/silviculture treatment within the thinhorn sheep specified area.
2. Salt or mineral supplement blocks placed within thinhorn sheep specified area will be in an unused condition and must not have been predisposed to contact with domestic sheep, goats or camelids.
3. Hay and feed used within thinhorn sheep specified area will not have been predisposed to contact with domestic sheep, goats or camelids.



Signed this 5 day of February, 2020  
Geoff Recknell, Regional Executive Director, Skeena Region  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

## Appendix 1 – General Information

The following information is provided as background information and support to the Order establishing Specified Area #SA-6-292. This appendix is not part of the legal Order.

1. **Activities to which the order does not apply:** Section 2(2) of the *Government Actions Regulation* states  
An order under any of sections 5 to 15 does not apply in respect of
  - (a) any of the following entered into before the Order takes effect:
    - (i) a cutting permit;
    - (ii) a road permit;
    - (iii) a timber sale licence that does not provide for cutting permits;
    - (iv) a forestry licence to cut issued by a timber sales manager under section 47.6 (3) of the *Forest Act*;
    - (v) subject to subsection (3), a minor tenure,
  - (b) a declared area,
  - (c) areas described in section 196 (1) of the Act, and
  - (d) areas referred to in section 110 of the *Forest Planning and Practices Regulation*.
2. Vegetation management by domestic sheep and goats is generally a silviculture prescription (described in section 42 of the *Forest Planning and Practices Regulation*) under FRPA.
3. GAR Order SA-6-292 applies only to Parks Protected Areas that allow for range tenure establishment or have existent range tenure agreements that involve the use or holding of domestic sheep, goat, and camelids.
4. Authority to consider an exemption from these GWMs is provided in section 92(1) of the *Forest Planning and Practices Regulation*, section 79(1) of the *Woodlot Licenses Planning and Practices Regulation* and section 36(3) of the *Range Planning and Practices Regulation*. An exemption may be provided if the Minister's delegate is satisfied that the intent of the general wildlife measure will be achieved or that compliance with the provision is not practicable, given the circumstances or conditions applicable to a particular area.

An exemption application should be submitted to the Minister's delegate (Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development Regional Director of Resource Management for the Region within which the SA is located) with a rationale describing the nature of the problem and options to integrate SA conservation with proposed forest and/or range practices. A spatially explicit strategy for conservation of thorn sheep assist in timely consideration of the matter, and will inform the conditions, if any, of the exemption that may be granted prior to commencement of activities. Upon receipt of a complete exemption application, a determination will normally be made within 14 days of arrival. Incomplete packages will be returned to the proponent for re-submission.

Exemptions may be considered for:

Temporary presence of domestic sheep, goats or camelids where singular, site-specific exceptions may be granted where it can be demonstrated by a qualified professional biologist or wildlife veterinarian that, due to exceptional circumstance(s), there is no risk to thornhorn sheep.

5. Improvements in scientific and biological information may lead to amendment(s) consistent with the *Government Actions Regulation* of the thornhorn sheep specified area measures including:
  - a. the addition of new, or deletion of existing, thornhorn sheep habitat polygon units;
  - b. the adjustment of thornhorn sheep specified area unit boundaries including their associated buffers.