



ORDER – UNGULATE WINTER RANGE #U-8-009

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

The Deputy Minister of Environment orders that:

1. the ungulate winter range shown in the map set out in the attached Schedule A (#U-8-009) is established;
2. the ungulate winter range shown in the map set out in the attached Schedule A (U-8-009, Boundary Timber Supply Area and Tree Farm Licence 8) is established for mountain goat (*Oreamnos americanis*);
3. the general wildlife measures outlined in Schedule 1 are established for the ungulate winter range as shown on the attached Schedule A;
4. 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;
5. where there is any discrepancy between the ungulate winter range boundaries as shown in the attached Schedules A and the GIS file *tuwra_bc*, the boundaries as detailed in the GIS file will take precedent. The centre point of the line on the map denoting the ungulate winter range is what establishes the boundary;
6. pursuant to Section 7 (3) of the *Forest Planning and Practices Regulation* the person(s) required to prepare a forest stewardship plan are hereby exempted from the obligation to prepare results or strategies in relation to the objective set out in Section 7 (1) of the *Forest Planning and Practices Regulation* for the winter survival of ungulates in the Boundary Timber Supply Area and Tree Farm Licence 8;
7. this notice is not applicable to woodlots in the Boundary Timber Supply Area;
8. the following General Wildlife Measures do not apply for the purposes of timber salvage to address wildfire or serious forest health issues;
9. for the purposes of section 2(3)(a) of the *Government Actions Regulation*, these General Wildlife Measures apply to minor tenures;
10. the following General Wildlife Measures do not apply for the purposes of exploration, development and production activities when these activities have been authorized for purposes of subsurface resource exploration, development or production by the *Mineral Tenure Act*, the *Petroleum and Natural Gas Act*, the *Pipeline Act* or the *Geothermal Resources Act*; and
11. Where U-8-009 overlaps with U-8-010 (Bighorn Sheep) and/or U-8-008 (Mule Deer), the General Wildlife Measure for Access for all species must be met; and
12. Where U-8-009 overlaps with 8-008 (Mule Deer) General Wildlife Measures 3 and 4 in the attached Schedule 1 are exempted and the General Wildlife Measures for U-8-008 for Harvesting and Silviculture take precedence. General Wildlife Measures 1 in the attached Schedule 1 continues to apply.

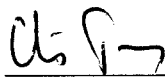
Schedule 1 – General Wildlife Measures

Access:

1. Do not develop or use roads within mountain goat winter range from December 1 to June 1.

Harvesting and silviculture:

2. Do not harvest in mountain goat winter range from December 1 to June 1.
3. Uneven-aged management silviculture systems are to be used in mountain goat winter ranges that will result in the retention of forest cover of at least 16 meters in height over at least 50% of the winter range.
4. Where an exemption is provided to GWM 3 and even-aged silviculture systems are used, cutblocks are not to exceed 5 hectares and forest cover of at least 16 meters in height is to be retained over at least 25% of the winter range.



Signed this 6th day of May, 2006
Chris Trumpy, Deputy Minister
Ministry of Environment

Appendix 1

Note that the appendix is not part of the legal Order for U-8-009. It is intended to provide guidance for meeting the General Wildlife Measures addressed in the order.

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 should consider seeking an exemption from the requirements to comply with the applicable General Wildlife Measures.

An exemption application should be submitted to the Minister's delegate (Regional Manager – Ministry of Environment, for the Region that the Ungulate Winter Range is located) 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, 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 30 days of arrival. Incomplete packages will be returned to the proponent for resubmission.

2. The following Table was used to track discussions and agreements during the development of the Boundary UWR FRPA GAR Orders. The following table is the 10th version, with the original version being developed in April of 2003.

All General Wildlife Measures (GWMs) that are currently applicable are found in the appropriate Orders (i.e. there is nothing in the Table that is deemed to be additional to the GWMs found in the Orders). Any inconsistencies between the two (the Orders and the Table) shall default to the Orders, as they have been formally established by the Ministry of Environment.

The Table is provided as formal documentation of the agreements reached, and can also be used as a concise 1 page summary related to GWMs and forestry practices for the six ungulates in the Boundary TSA.

Table: Boundary Ungulate Winter Range Planning Cell GWMs for Snow Interception Cover (SIC), Forage and Access Management Dec.7/05 Draft

Ungulate Species ¹	Snowpack Zone with Biogeoclimatic Ecosystem Classification (BEC) Unit	Minimum Per Cent of Cell in SIC ²	SIC Definition (Height or Age and Canopy Closure)	Forage Requirement ³	Specific Requirements/Comments	Access
Mule Deer	Shallow: PP IDF _{xh} IDF _{dm1} (<1000 meters asl with aspects ⁴ 135 – 270°)	15	Age >= 100 years	N/A ⁵	SIC areas are not permanent set asides, and may be harvested when replacement stands having acceptable attributes are available (i.e. meet the minimum age requirements and are comprised of high canopy closure Douglas-fir). In areas where maps indicate an overlap with moose and deer winter range, only deer objectives and areas apply.	Road development in mule deer winter range is to include a road closure and/or management strategy to reduce the impacts of development on winter habitat.
	Moderate: ICH _{dw} IDF _{dm1} (all sub-zone sites except above) MS (all)	ICH _{dw} - 25 MS - 25 IDF _{dm} - 20	Age >= 100 years, except in MS and ICH _{dw} where Age >= 120 years Canopy closure > 45% ⁶	< 33% of cell < 20 years of age	In the Shallow Snowpack Zone, low canopy closure stands (16 – 35%) are acceptable SIC provided they are comprised of large diameter Douglas-fir with large crowns. In the Moderate Snowpack Zone, the forage requirement can be attained over a maximum of three adjacent planning cells In the Moderate and Deep Snowpack Zones, the initial allocation of SIC is to be located in stands with the oldest Douglas-fir with the highest canopy closure.	Minimize, to the extent practical, the amount of road accessible to 2 or 4 wheel drive vehicles (cars/trucks). Avoid, to the extent practicable, road or trail development in areas required for SIC, unless selection harvest is proposed.
Elk	Deep: ICH _{mk1} ICH _{mw2} ESSF (all)	40	Age >= 120 years; canopy closure > 55% ⁶	N/A ⁵		Open road densities (accessible to 4 wheel drive cars/trucks) are not to exceed 3 km per km ² .
Bighorn Sheep	All BEC Units	The same as for deer/elk	The same as for deer/elk	N/A ⁵	The access objective for bighorn sheep takes precedence where bighorn sheep winter range overlaps with other species winter range	Avoid, to the extent practicable, permanent road development within Bighorn Sheep winter range.
Moose ⁷	All BEC Units	20	>= 16 meters in height	< 40% of cell < 30 years of age	To the extent practicable, retain at least 50% of the riparian management area of S1, S2, S3 and S5 streams and W1, W3 and W5 wetlands in stands => 16 m in height.	N/A
Mtn. Goat	All BEC Units	25 for clear cut, and 50 for selection, silvicultural systems	>= 16 meters in height	N/A ⁵	Utilize selection harvest systems to the extent practicable. Where selection harvest systems are not practicable, clearcut blocks are not to exceed 5 ha. Where mountain goat winter range overlaps with the winter range of other species, both access objectives apply. In areas of overlap, mule deer SIC objectives take precedence.	Avoid logging, road use or development, from December 1 to June 1.

Table 1 Explanatory Notes:

- 1 – it is assumed that white-tailed deer habitat requirements are adequately addressed by the objectives for the other ungulates
- 2 - FMER areas do not contribute to planning cell area calculations; SIC is not to be located on FMER areas; where planning cells contain more than one snowpack zone, then the cell minimum will be pro-rated based on the area within each snowpack zone
- 3 – relates to amount of area (% of planning cell) in young managed forest stands
- 4 – forage productivity is important in these areas, and will be managed for by ‘best management practices’, and/or objectives for range/livestock management
- 5 – where the specified canopy closure is not available within the cell, then the next highest canopy closure class is to be used