

ORDER – AMENDMENT TO KISPIOX and CRANBERRY MOUNTAIN GOAT UNGULATE WINTER RANGE U-6-006

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

The Regional Executive Director of the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations orders that:

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 mountain goat in the Kispiox and Cranberry TSAs; and", is replaced with:

"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 mountain goat in the Kispiox TSA.

7. "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.", be deleted.

Definitions:

Include an additional definition of material or adverse disturbance:

c) "material or adverse disturbance" means inducing stress to mountain goats to the point of either temporary winter range abandonment, diminishment of individual health and fitness, or diminishment of population well being.

General Wildlife Measure 3:

"Primary forest activities that occur within 500 meters horizontal distance of a mountain goat winter range will not result in material or adverse disturbance to goats. Operational activities that have not been exempted will take place during the period starting June 15 and ending October 31", is replaced with:



"Primary forest activities that occur within 500 metres horizontal distance of a mountain goat winter range, or within 1000 metres horizontal distance of a specified canyon/escarpment mountain goat winter range, will not result in material or adverse disturbance to goats. Primary forest activities that have not been exempted will take place only during the period starting June 15 and ending October 31".

General Wildlife Measure 4:

"Access roads and structures required for primary forest activities within 500 meters of mountain goat winter range will be constructed in a manner that will facilitate effective deactivation. All roads or structures that have not been exempted will be deactivated within one year following forest harvesting activities", is replaced with:

"Access roads and structures required for primary forest activities within 500 metres horizontal distance of mountain goat winter range, or within 1000 metres horizontal distance of a specified canyon/escarpment mountain goat winter range, will be constructed in a manner that will facilitate deactivation. All roads or structures that have not been exempted will be deactivated within one year following forest harvesting activities".

General Wildlife Measure 5:

"All helicopter logging activities conducted within 2000 meters line of sight of a mountain goat winter range that have not been exempted will take place during the period starting June 15 and ending October 31", is replaced with:

"All helicopter logging activities conducted within 2000 metres line of sight of a mountain goat winter range will take place during the period starting June 15 and ending October 31."

Appendix 1

Clarity of when the Order does not apply is added to be consistent with other Orders:

- 1. As per section 2(2) of the *Government Actions Regulation*, the order entitled "ORDER –UWR 6-006 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 FRPA; and
- d. areas referred to in section 110 of the FPPR.
- 2. "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", is replaced with.

"Authority to consider an exemption from these general wildlife measures 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. 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", is replaced with:

"An exemption application should be submitted to the Minister's delegate, 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."

Appendix 2:

3. "Primary forest activities should avoid road or trail construction within 500 meters horizontal distance of a mountain goat winter range", is replaced with,



"Primary forest activities should avoid road or trail construction within 500 metres horizontal distance of a mountain goat winter range, or within 1000 metres horizontal distance of a canyon/escarpment mountain goat winter range."

- 4. "A person conducting forestry activities may consider seeking an exemption from the requirement to comply with the applicable General Wildlife Measures. Authority to consider an exemption is provided in section 92(1) of the *Forest Planning and Practices Regulation*", is replaced with:
 - "A person conducting forestry activities may consider seeking an exemption from the requirement to comply with the applicable General Wildlife Measures. Authority to consider an exemption is provided in section 92(1) of the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation and section 79(1) of the Woodlot Licenses Planning and Practices Regulation."
- 4b) "The construction of semi-permanent mainline roads within 500 meters horizontal distance of a mountain goat winter range, when it can be demonstrated that no other road location options exist to access timber beyond a specific mountain goat winter range", is replaced with:
 - "The construction of semi-permanent mainline roads within 500 metres horizontal distance of a mountain goat winter range, or within 1000 metres horizontal distance of a canyon/escarpment mountain goat winter range, when it can be demonstrated that no other road location options exist to access timber beyond a specific mountain goat winter range.
- 6. "It is recommended that existing roads and trails within 500 meters of a mountain goat winter range be assessed for disturbance risk according to mountain goat populations", is replaced with:
 - "It is recommended that existing roads and trails within 500 metres of a mountain goat winter range, or within 1000 metres horizontal distance of a canyon/escarpment mountain goat winter range, be assessed for disturbance risk to mountain goat populations."

Additional section added for clarification:

7. The following goat winter range polygons are considered canyon/escarpment dwelling for purposes of this Order:

Polygon # 5 - Moonlit Creek Canyon;

Polygon #8 - McCully Creek Canyon;



Polygon # 13 - Suskwa River Canyon;

Polygon # 17 - Gail Creek Canyon;

Polygon # 18 - Babine River;

Polygon # 19 - Shenismike Creek Canyon;

Polygon # 32 - Lorne Creek Canyon (lower Lorne Ck.) - e.g., photo 1, site 97,

page 6 in Roberts et al. 2005;

Polygon #33 - Quill Creek Canyon (lower Quill Ck.);

Polygon # 34 - Insect Creek Canyon (lower polygon on Insect Ck.);

Polygon # 37 - Shegunia Creek Canyon;

Polygon # 44 - Aluk Creek Canyon;

Polygon # 56 - Tsugwinselda Creek Canyon;

Polygon # 66 - Sedan Creek Canyon (lower polygon on Sedan Ck.);

Polygon #71 - along an unnamed stream between Insect and Sedan Creeks;

Signed this / day of alt , 2014

Eamon O'Donoghue, Regional Executive Director, Skeena Region, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations