

ORDER - Ungulate Winter Range # U-8-006 - Okanagan TSA

This order is given under the authority of sections 9(2) and 12(1) 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-8-006) is established;
- 2. the ungulate winter range is established for moose (*Alces alces*);
- 3. the general wildlife measures outlined in Schedule 1 are established for the ungulate winter range as shown on the attached Schedule A;
- 4. where there is any discrepancy between the ungulate winter range boundaries shown in the attached Schedule 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;
- 5. 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;
- 6. woodlot licence agreements are exempt from this Order;
- 7. 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 moose in the Okanagan TSA;
- 8. 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*; and
- 9. the general wildlife measures listed below do not apply to the extent they would prevent the following:
 - i. operations required for safety reasons, and
 - ii. recovery of timber damaged by fire, insects or other similar events.

<u>Schedule 1 – General Wildlife Measures</u>

Forest harvest and silviculture

- 1. Forest practices are to result in not less than 33% of the gross forested area of each moose winter range unit to be maintained as mature forest cover in stands at least 16 m in height with a canopy closure class of not less than 6, where such cover is available. Where the defined forest cover is not available, stands exhibiting the next lower class for height and canopy closure are to be used.
- 2. Within each moose winter range, retain at least 50% of the mature cover requirements, detailed in GWM 1, in patches of 20 hectares, or greater, wherever practicable.
- 3. Forest practices are to result in greater than 50% of the perimeter of mineral licks, and key forage areas (greater than 0.5 ha) such as, old burns, riparian features and/or non-productive brush, being in trees greater than 3 meters in height for a distance of 10 meters from the lick or forage area.
- 4. To the extent practical, a minimum of 15% of the net forested land base of each winter range is to be less than 25 years for ICH and IDF units, and less than 35 years for MS and ESSF units.
- 5. Forest practices are to maintain, or not prevent the re-establishment of, a deciduous component of the stands that existed prior to those practices.

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6. Do not use broadcast herbicide treatments.

Signed this 7 4 day of 3 day of Chris Trumpy, Deputy Minister Ministry of Environment

Appendix 1

Note that the appendix is not part of the legal Order for U-8-006. It is intended to provide guidance for meeting the General Wildlife Measures addressed in the order.

- 1. For the purposes of this Order, moose winter ranges are defined by the extent of each of the polygons identified on Schedule A.
- 2. The intent of GWM 3 is to provide visual cover adjacent to habitats that attract moose. This can be accomplished through planned cut and leaves, Wildlife Tree Patches, 3 meter green-up, or other means. Key forage areas will exhibit browsing signs on shrub species, and concentrations of pellet groups.
- 3. The intent of GWM 4 is to provide a continual source of early seral forest, along with the associated shrub forage productivity.
- 4. Individual moose management units (MMUs) will be identified and mapped by MoE.