



ORDER – UNGULATE WINTER RANGE #U7-006

On being satisfied that the establishment of the ungulate winter range dealt with in this order is necessary to meet the habitat requirements of the ungulate species, and that the management objectives dealt with in this order are necessary to maintain the ungulate species within those areas, and under the authority of section 69 (1) (a) and (b) of the Operational and Site Planning Regulation, B.C. Reg. 107/98, the Deputy Minister of Water, Land and Air Protection orders that

1. the ungulate winter range shown in the map set out in the attached Schedule A (#U7-006) is established;
2. the ungulate winter range referred to in section 1 is approved for Stone's sheep (*Ovis dalli stonei*); and
3. the following practices are established as management objectives inside the ungulate winter range referred to in section 1:

Maintain Stone Sheep winter ranges to provide high suitability foraging opportunities (desired habitat attributes include: burns, south and west-facing windswept ridges, conifer bluffs, shrub/grass communities), screening and snow interception cover. This will be accomplished by applying the following specific management objectives to the proposed UWRs:

Timber Harvesting

No commercial forest harvesting within these winter range units.

Forest Health

Manage forest health to reduce conflicts between Stone Sheep and bark beetle management

Limit harvest to forest health sanitation control activities judged not to be a detrimental impact to habitat.

Maintain a mature forested buffer (200 m no harvest zone) adjacent to escape terrain/thermal cover or forested movement trails and licks.

Range Management

Within all UWR units

- Manage for Stone Sheep to reduce forage conflicts between Stone Sheep and livestock and also to reduce disease transfer between Stone Sheep and domestic sheep.
- Livestock use will not exceed more than 10% of current year's alpine and sub-alpine grasses, sedges, rushes, forbs and shrub growth.

ORDER – UNGULATE WINTER RANGE #U7-006

- Avoid livestock use of critical escape terrain, including but not limited to, steep slopes, rocky bluffs and cliffs, undisturbed forage sites adjacent to escape terrain.
- No livestock grazing should occur on south facing slopes until shrub leaf-out.
- New range development features such as, but not limited to, waterholes, fences, salt blocks, corrals, access road and trails will not be developed within the UWR unit.
- To reduce disease transfer between wild sheep and domestic sheep, do not allow domestic sheep within UWR unit for grazing or vegetation control.

Fire Management

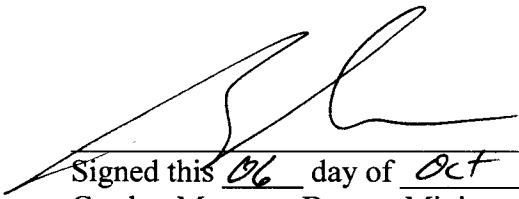
Within all UWR units:

- Minimize the amount of shrub encroachment on grazing areas
- Limit fire suppression within winter range units, which do not pose a significant risk to adjacent forest lands.
- Reflect UWR objectives in the Ministry of Forest District Fire Management Plan.
- Allow for prescribe fires or natural fires within winter range units area to reduce loss of grazing habitat due to encroachment of woodlands/shrubs.

Access Management

Within all UWR units:

- Maintain Stone Sheep winter range by minimizing human disturbance and access.
- Where reasonable alternatives exist, plan the location and design of major/secondary access routes to avoid the winter range units.
- Where road/trails are constructed within these winter ranges, de-build or plant road/trails to limit access to escape terrain/thermal cover, forested movement trails and licks.



Signed this 06 day of Oct, 2003
Gordon Macatee, Deputy Minister
Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection