

ORDER – Wildlife Habitat Areas

4-116, 4-117 and 4-119

antelope-brush/bluebunch wheatgrass plant community – Rocky Mountain Resource District

This order is given under the authority of sections 9(2), 10(1) and 10(2) of the *Government Actions Regulation* (B.C. Reg. 582/2004) (GAR).

1. The Deputy Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, being satisfied that
 - i. the following area contains habitat that is necessary to meet the habitat requirements for antelope-brush/bluebunch wheatgrass (*Purshia tridentata/Pseudoroegneria spicata*) plant community; and
 - ii. 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 As (4-116, 4-117 and 4-119) and contained in the wildlife habitat areas (WHAs) spatial layer stored in the Geographic Warehouse (WHSE_WILDLIFE_MANAGEMENT.WCP_WILDLIFE_HABITAT_AREA_POLY) are established as wildlife habitat areas 4-116, 4-117 and 4-119 for antelope-brush/bluebunch wheatgrass plant community. The centre point of the line on the attached Schedule As is what establishes the WHA boundary; and
 - b) if there is a discrepancy between the areas shown in the map set out in the attached Schedule As and the WHA spatial layer stored in the Geographic Warehouse (WHSE_WILDLIFE_MANAGEMENT.WCP_WILDLIFE_HABITAT_AREA_POLY), the areas as detailed in the WHA spatial layer will take precedent.

2. The Deputy Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, being satisfied that
 - i. the general wildlife measures (GWMs) described below are necessary to protect and conserve the habitat of antelope-brush/bluebunch wheatgrass plant community; and
 - ii. GAR or another enactment does not otherwise provide for that protection or conservation;orders that
 - a) the GWMs outlined in Schedule 1 are established for WHAs 4-116, 4-117 and 4-119.

3. The Deputy Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, being satisfied that
 - i. the wildlife habitat area requires special management that has not otherwise been provided for under this regulation or another enactment;orders that
 - b) the objectives outlined in Schedule 1 are established for WHAs 4-116, 4-117 and 4-119.

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 context indicates otherwise.

Livestock attractants: a substance or structure that draws livestock, including salt/minerals, supplements and cattle oilers.

Schedule 1 – General Wildlife Measures and Objectives

Access GWMs

1. Do not construct roads and trails or conduct any maintenance activities that require new approvals.

Range GWMs

2. Do not place livestock attractants within the WHA.

Range Objectives

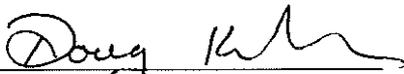
3. Manage livestock grazing in order to attain the potential natural community comprised of: 40% rough fescue, 15% bluebunch wheat grass and 5% antelope brush.

Pesticide GWMs

4. Do not use pesticides, except for the application of herbicides to control for noxious weeds or invasive plants.

Recreation GWMs

5. Do not develop recreational sites, trails or facilities.



Signed this 27 day of June, 2011

Doug Konkin, Deputy Minister

Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

Appendix 1:

The following information is provided by the Ministry of Natural Resource Operations (MNRO) as background information and support to the order establishing WHAs 4-116, 4-117 and 4-119. This appendix is not part of the 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. Authority to consider an exemption from these GWMs is provided in section 92(1) of the FPPR, 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 GWM 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 with a rationale describing the nature of the problem and options to integrate WHA conservation with proposed forest and/or range 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 14 days of arrival. Incomplete packages will be returned to the proponent for re-submission.

3. Due to the extreme sensitivity to disturbance of this plant community, fencing may be required to meet range goals and GWMs as described above, to allow for plant community recovery, or for restoration treatments. Should it be determined that fencing is required, the MoE and MoFR will work collaboratively with the range tenure holder to explore opportunities for funding assistance and to determine areas of responsibility for fence construction and maintenance.