



ORDER – Wildlife Habitat Areas

2-129, 2-139, 2-141 to 2-143, 2-145 and 2-146

Tall Bugbane - Chilliwack Forest District

This order is given under the authority of sections 9(2) and 10(1) of the *Government Actions Regulation* (B.C. Reg. 582/04).

The Deputy Minister of Environment orders that:

1. the wildlife habitat areas (WHA) shown in the map set out in the attached Schedule A (2-129, 2-139, 2-141 to 2-143, 2-145 to 2-146) and boundaries contained in the GIS file *twha_bc* are established, for Tall Bugbane (*Actaea elata*);
2. the general wildlife measures outlined in Schedule 1, of this order, are established for the WHAs in the attached Schedule A and boundaries contained in the GIS file *twha_bc*;
3. for the purposes of section 2(3)(a) of the *Government Actions Regulation*, these General Wildlife Measures apply to minor tenures;
4. where there is discrepancy between the WHA boundaries as shown in the attached Schedule A and the GIS file *twha_bc*, the boundaries as detailed in the GIS file will take precedent. The centre point of the line on the map denoting the WHA is what establishes the boundary; and
5. 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 Tall Bugbane in the Notice for the Chilliwack Forest District.

Schedule 1 – General Wildlife Measures

Access:

- Do not construct roads, trails, landings or stream crossings in the core area or management zone of the WHA, particularly upslope of the population. Exemptions would only normally be considered for construction of roads, trails, landings or stream crossings in the management zone.
- Where roads, trails, landings or stream or stream crossings are determined to be necessary in the management zone of the WHA they should be temporary wherever possible.
- Where roads already exist or are determined necessary within the WHA, ensure road maintenance/deactivation practices do not damage or kill plants (e.g. do not mow or grade over roadside plants). Use methods to prevent spread of invasive species while not damaging native species.

- Wherever practicable, minimize damage to plants near the road edge when road maintenance is required to address safety concerns.

Harvesting:

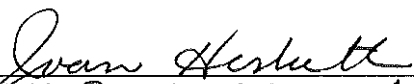
- Do not harvest, including salvage, within core area of the WHA.
- Use partial harvesting systems in the management zone that maintain at least 60% basal stem area. Remove up to 40% basal stem area in small openings ranging in size up to 0.5 ha. Small openings should be distributed throughout the management zone to maintain dispersal opportunity.
- When harvesting in the management zone, retain *Acer* species, particularly *Acer macrophyllum*. Retain at least 20-30% from inventory distribution.
- Do not salvage in the management zone unless it can be done without disturbing important structural elements (e.g. *Acer* species) or ecological conditions.
- If the WHA is overlapped by another WHA for a different species, ensure partial harvest strategy is coordinated between the general wildlife measures. The most conservative measure must apply to the overlapped area.

Silviculture & Pesticides:

- Activities to establish a free growing stand within the management zone will result in representation of deciduous species, specifically *Acer* species, in the free growing stand.
- Do not use pesticides.

Recreation:

- Do not develop recreational sites, trails, facilities, or structures within the WHA.


Signed this 24 day of August, 2007
Joan Hesketh, Deputy Minister
Ministry of Environment

Appendix 1:

The following information is intended to provide background information and support to the legal order establishing these WHAs. This appendix is not part of the legal 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.
2. An exemption application should be submitted to the Minister's delegate (Regional Manager – Ministry of Environment, for the Region that the WHA is located) with a rationale describing the nature of the problem and options to integrate WHA 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.
3. Where existing forest recreation trails are located within the WHA, consider rerouting trails to outside the WHA.