



ORDER – Wildlife Habitat Areas
2-120 to 2-128, 2-130 to 2-138, 2-148 and 2-149
Pacific Giant Salamander - 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 (WHAs) shown in the map set out in the attached Schedule A (2-120 to 2-128, 2-130 to 2-138, 2-148 to 2-149) and boundaries contained in the GIS file *twha_bc* are established for Pacific Giant Salamander (also known as the Coastal Giant Salamander) (*Dicamptodon tenebrosus*);
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 Coastal Giant Salamander 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 WHA, except where an exemption has been granted under section 92(1) of the *Forest Planning and Practices Regulation*. An exemption is not required to construct road WL1000 through WHA 2-124.
- Where roads, trails, landings or stream crossings are authorized in the WHA, they should be temporary wherever possible and constructed with minimum road bed and right-of-way widths. During construction near streams, ensure that water quality is maintained by controlling erosion and sediment sources and prevent water diversion (e.g. re-vegetate exposed soil with native grasses).
- When no longer in use, roads, trails, landings or stream crossings should be deactivated using methods that minimize risk of water diversion, stream sedimentation and erosion.
- Ensure road maintenance activities, including activities to address safety concerns, use methods that minimize risk of water diversion, stream sedimentation and erosion.
- Where road construction options are present, whenever practicable construct roads downslope of WHAs. If constructed upslope, implement sediment and erosion control measures to maintain water quality, and prevent water diversion.
- Approved stream crossings must use open-bottom structures to ensure unimpeded upstream and downstream movement for salamanders (i.e. bridges or open-bottom culverts).

Harvesting:

- Do not harvest in the core area of the WHA, except in the right-of-way, where road construction has been authorized.
- Within all riparian areas in the management zone, use partial harvesting systems that maintain 70% basal area, ensure the core area is wind firm and maintain forest structure and cover by retention of multi-layered canopy, snags and coarse woody debris.
- Within all upland areas in the management zone, ensure harvesting maintains shade and microclimatic conditions by retaining non-merchantable conifers and understory deciduous trees, shrubs, herbaceous vegetation, and at least 30% of merchantable trees. Retain wildlife trees where safe. Also maintain all coarse woody debris and ground structure (i.e. small mammal burrows, root channels, shrubs) to facilitate salamander dispersal between streams.
- Do not salvage timber anywhere within the WHA.
- Fall and yard away from all streams in the core area or riparian management zone. Retain those trees that cannot be safely felled away from streams as either part of the basal area retention percent or in wildlife tree patches.
- Remove slash and debris that inadvertently enters the stream, unless it will destabilize the bank or channel. Place slash and debris well above the high water mark in a stable manner.
- Avoid burning in the WHA, except debris piles on landings.
- Use equipment that minimizes ground disturbance (e.g. consider operating on frozen ground or using systems that require less road).

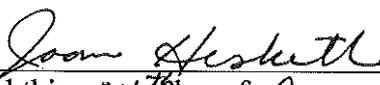
- If the WHA is overlapped by another WHA for a different species, ensure partial harvest strategy is coordinated between the general wildlife measures. The most conservative measure must apply to the overlapped area.

Silviculture & Pesticides:

- Use silviculture strategies that minimize ground disturbance.
- Do not use pesticides.

Recreation:

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


Signed this 24th 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.