



ORDER – WILDLIFE HABITAT AREAS
4-217 – 4-232 and 4-234 – 4-242
Gillette's Checkerspot – Rocky Mountain Forest District

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

1. The Regional Executive Director of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, Kootenay Boundary Region, being satisfied that

- i. the following area contains habitat that is necessary to meet the habitat requirements for Gillette's Checkerspot (*Euphydryas gillettii*);

orders that

- a) the areas shown in the maps set out in the attached Schedule A 4-217 – 4-219, 4-236, 4-238 – 4-242 and Schedule A 4-220 – 4-232, 4-234, 4-235 and 4-237 contained in the wildlife habitat area (WHA) spatial layer stored in the BC Geographic Warehouse (WHSE_WILDLIFE_MANAGEMENT.WCP_WILDLIFE_HABITAT_AREA_POLY) are established as wildlife habitat areas 4-217 – 4-232 and 4-234 – 4-242 for Gillette's Checkerspot. 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 Rocky Mountain Forest District, Regional Executive Director of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, being satisfied that

- i. the general wildlife measures (GWMs) described below are necessary to protect or conserve Gillette's Checkerspot and the habitat of Gillette's Checkerspot; and
- ii. existing 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 4-217 – 4-232 and 4-234 – 4-242.

Schedule 1 – General Wildlife Measures (GWMs):

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.

Desired plant community: primarily black twinberry, Utah honeysuckle, snowberry, valerian, lousewort and yellow composite flowers (Asteraceae).

Access

1. Do not construct roads.

Harvesting and silviculture

2. Avoid silviculture treatments and prescriptions that would result in closed canopies.
3. Harvest in winter with an adequate snowpack to minimize damage to twinberry shrubs, other potential larval plants and larval hibernation sites.

Pesticides

4. Do not use pesticides, except for the application of herbicides to control invasive plants. Ensure applications are specific to invasive plants.

Range

5. Plan livestock grazing (e.g., timing, distribution, and level of use) such that no trampling of black twinberry and larval food plants occurs.
6. Limit browse by livestock to 10% of the annual growth (including leaves) of black twinberry and other shrub species in the desired plant community.
7. Do not place livestock attractants or water developments within the WHA.

Recreation

8. Do not construct recreation sites or trails unless this can be accomplished without reducing the cover of black twinberry.



Signed this 25 day of Nov, 2014
Paul Rasmussen, Regional Executive Director, Kootenay Boundary Region

Appendix 1

The following information is provided as background information and support to the order establishing WHAs 4-217 – 4-232 and 4-234 – 4-242. 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 *Forest Planning and Practices Regulation*, 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 (FLNRO Regional Director of Resource Management) 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 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.

The following information is background information and support to the order establishing the WHAs. This appendix is not part of the order.

1. Goals for establishing Gillette's Checkerspot WHAs are:

- a) Maintain an open forest habitat (76 – 400 stems/ha, 12.5 dbh) with ample growth of black twinberry for larval development.
- b) Maintain scattered trees and composite flowers (nectar sources).
- c) Reduce stocking standards to achieve desired objectives.
- d) Avoid machine site preparation (i.e., scarification) that will damage shrub rootstocks.

2. Access GWM

The access GWM applies throughout the year because Gillette's Checkerspot larvae hibernate over at least one, and in some cases two, winters before developing into adult butterflies. Harvesting should occur during high snow pack periods and use designated skid trails to minimize impacts on black twinberry shrubs.

3. Range

Heavy livestock grazing is a major threat to this species' habitat as incidental livestock ingestion of egg clusters or trampling of black twinberry can destroy individuals and damage feeding and egg laying substrate. Therefore fencing may be required to control livestock use.

(Note: Detailed information in regard to the Gillette's Checkerspot is available in the Accounts and measures for managing Wildlife – Accounts V. 2004 at:

http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wld/frpa/iwms/documents/Invertebrates/i_gillettscheckerspot.pdf)