



## **ORDER – Wildlife Habitat Areas # 4-077 – 4-085**

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 shown in the maps set out in the attached Schedules A (4-077 and 4-078, 4-079 and 4-080, 4-081 to 4-083, 4-084 and 4-085) and boundaries contained in the GIS file *twha\_bc* are established;
2. the wildlife habitat areas in the attached Schedules A and boundaries contained in the GIS file *twha\_bc* are established for Flammulated Owl (*Otus flammeolus*);
3. the general wildlife measures outlined in Schedule 1 are established for the wildlife habitat areas in the attached Schedules A and boundaries contained in the GIS file *twha\_bc*;
4. where there is any discrepancy between the Wildlife Habitat Area boundaries as shown in the attached Schedules 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 wildlife habitat area 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 to the extent that wildlife habitat areas 4-077 – 4-085 addresses the amount included for Flammulated owl in the Notice for the Rocky Mountain Forest District.

### Schedule 1 – General Wildlife Measures

#### *Access*

- Do not construct roads or upgrade existing roads unless an exemption is approved by the MOE Delegated Decision Maker. An exemption is not required for road maintenance, road deactivation, felling of danger trees or brushing and clearing on existing roads within the WHA. These activities will be conducted in a manner that does not result in a material adverse impact on the WHA. When Watson Mountain Forest Service Road is not being utilized for log hauling it must be deactivated to previous condition including replacing shallow waterbars where appropriate.
- Hauling is not permitted between June 1 and August 31.

#### *Harvesting and Silviculture*

- Do not harvest or salvage within core area except for partial harvesting systems designed to maintain suitable habitat features (i.e., recruitment nest trees; brushy understory) that will achieve the objective of the general wildlife measures.
- Treatments should not occur during the breeding season (1 June to 31 August).
- Do not harvest in xeric sites. In the management zone, in mesic or subhygric/hygric sites, use selective harvest methods that retain  $\geq 50\%$  of the dominant or codominant trees of which some should include healthy crowns. Openings should be  $\leq 0.6$  ha.

- Retain all ponderosa pine and aspen wildlife trees and all wildlife trees  $\geq 35$  cm dbh, using no work zones if necessary.
- Plan for recruitment of ponderosa pine, aspen, and other species into  $>35$  cm dbh class.
- Maintain thickets and veteran trees adjacent to openings.

#### *Range*

- Manage livestock and ungulate use to promote grass structure  $\geq 10$  cm, and promote shrub structure for berry and nut production.

#### *Recreation*

- Do not develop trails, roads, or recreation sites within core area.
- Do not cut any wildlife, mature, or veteran trees.

#### *Pesticides*

- Do not use pesticides unless an exemption is approved by the MOE delegated decision maker. An exemption is not required for the treatment of noxious weeds and invasive plants provided the herbicide is applied by selective application and the herbicide is applied in a manner that does not result in drift to non-target species.
  - where glyphosate is the active ingredient, the herbicide may be used up to 1 metre from the high water mark of any body of water;
  - where the product used has an active ingredient other than glyphosate, the herbicide may be used up to 10 metres from the high water mark of any body of water.

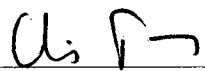
#### *Mineral*

- WHAs 4-077, 4-078, 4-079 and 4-080 are located within a high subsurface resource potential area. In the event that development or exploration is proposed within this WHA, the MOE Delegated Decision Maker will be guided by policy, to be developed, when considering exemptions to the general wildlife measures.

#### Appendix A (included as supporting information but not directly part of the GWMs)

Bodies of water include a) water in a watercourse such as a river, stream or creek; b) water in the basin of a lake, marsh or slough; c) marine or estuarine water; d) dry watercourse or temporary wetland that is either wet or dry; or e) water in a ditch by does not include human-made, self-contained water bodies (e.g., ponds and dugouts).

Selective Application means the application of a pesticide to individual plants so that the vegetation between the individual plants is not treated.

  
 Signed this 20<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2005  
 Chris Trumpy, Deputy Minister  
 Ministry of Environment