



ORDER – Wildlife Habitat Areas # 4-099 to 4-101
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. 582/04).

The Deputy Minister of Environment orders that:

1. the wildlife habitat areas shown in the maps set out in the attached Schedule As (4-099, 4-100 and 4-101) and boundaries contained in the GIS file *twha_bc* are established;
2. the wildlife habitat area in the attached Schedule 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 Schedule A and boundaries contained in the GIS file *twha_bc*;
4. for the purposes of section 2(3)(a) of the *Government Actions Regulation*, these General Wildlife Measures apply to minor tenures;
5. where there is discrepancy between the wildlife habitat area 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 wildlife habitat area is what establishes the boundary; and
6. 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 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 Minister of Environment or delegate. 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 understorey) 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 co-dominant trees of which some should include healthy crowns. Openings should be ≤ 0.6 ha.
- Retain all ponderosa pine and aspen wildlife trees and all wildlife trees ≥ 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

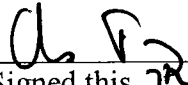
- Manage livestock and ungulate use to promote grass structure ≥ 10 cm, and promote shrub structure for berry and nut production.

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. An exemption is not required for the treatment of noxious weeds and invasive plants provided that the herbicide is applied:
 - by selective application;
 - in a manner that does not result in drift to non-target species; and
 - in a manner consistent with the Integrated Pest Management Act.


Signed this 7th day of Nov, 2007
Chris Trumpy, Deputy Minister
Ministry of Environment