



ORDER – Wildlife Habitat Areas # 4-086

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 area shown in the map set out in the attached Schedule A (#4-086) 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 Lewis's Woodpecker (*Melanerpes lewis*);
3. the general wildlife measures outlined in Schedule 1 are established for the wildlife habitat area in the attached Schedule 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 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
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 Lewis's Woodpecker in the Notice for the Rocky Mountain Forest District.

Schedule 1 – General Wildlife Measures

Access

- Do not construct roads or upgrade existing roads unless there is no other practicable option and an exemption is approved by the MOE Delegated Decision Maker.

Harvesting and Silviculture

- Do not harvest or salvage mature timber unless an exemption is approved by the MOE Delegated Decision Maker. When harvesting is approved, follow the measures below. Protect and retain all ponderosa pine and black cottonwood live and dead trees ≥ 30 cm dbh for nesting, perching, and foraging.
- Maintain at least six standing dead trees per ha. Where it is not possible to retain six ≥ 45 cm, use the largest available. The highest practical density of snags is preferred. Hazardous snags or trees can be incorporated into group reserves (plan as no-work zones if appropriate); otherwise maintain snags within the operational setting as described in the *Wildlife/Danger Tree Assessor's Procedures*. Use partial cutting silvicultural systems to maintain widely spaced (<25% canopy cover) late seral ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir.
- Topping large diameter snags may be appropriate in areas where standing dead trees are few.

- Additional potential nest sites in intensely managed stands may be provided by leaving some high-cut (5 m in height) stumps of large (≥ 45 cm dbh) ponderosa pine or black cottonwood.

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.

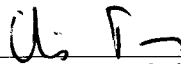
Range

- Manage livestock browsing, with consideration of wildlife browsing, to promote shrub structure for berry and nut production.

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 but 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 20th day of July, 2005
Chris Trumpy, Deputy Minister
Ministry of Environment