



ORDER – Wildlife Habitat Areas # 8-121, 8-122 and 8-123

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 map set out in the attached Schedule A (#8-121 to 8-123) and boundaries contained in the GIS file *twha_bc* is established;
2. the wildlife habitat areas in the attached Schedules 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 areas 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 Okanagan Shuswap Forest District.

Schedule 1 – General Wildlife Measures

Access

- Do not construct roads unless there is no other practicable option.

Harvesting and Silviculture

- Do not harvest or salvage mature timber. When harvesting is approved, follow the measures below.
- Protect and retain all ponderosa pine and black cottonwood live and dead trees ≥ 30 cm, 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.

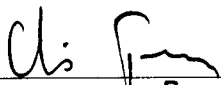
- Additional potential nest sites in intensely managed stands may be provided by leaving some high-cut (5 m in height) stumps of large (≥ 45 cm dbh) ponderosa pine or black cottonwood.

Pesticides

- Do not use pesticides unless an exemption is approved by the MWLAP delegated decision maker.

Other

- Limit browse utilization by livestock to no more than 10%.


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