



ORDER – Wildlife Habitat Area # 4-098

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 (4-098) 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 “Interior” Western Screech-Owl (*Otus kennicottii macfarlanei*);
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 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 establishes the boundary; and
5. for the purposes of section 2(3)(a) of the *Government Actions Regulation*, these General Wildlife Measures apply to minor tenures.

Schedule 1 – General Wildlife Measures

Access

- Do not construct roads or stream crossings in the core area. Within the management zone, avoid constructing roads or stream crossings unless no other practicable option exists.

Harvesting and silviculture

- Do not harvest or salvage within the core area.
- In PP, IDF and ICH zones, selective harvest of $\leq 20\%$ basal area may occur within the management zone provided no suitable wildlife trees (see Table 2) are removed.
- Do not harvest or salvage within the management zone during the breeding season (1 March to 15 August).
- Retain deciduous species.
- Within riparian management zones, retain $>60\%$ of trees including all suitable wildlife trees (see Table 2).

Pesticides

- Do not use pesticides.

Range (BG, PP, IDF and ICH zones)

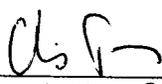
- Plan livestock grazing (timing, distribution, and level of use) to maintain desired structure of plant community, desired stubble height, and browse utilization.
- Do not place livestock attractants within WHA.
- Do not burn understorey vegetation.

Recreation

- Do not construct trails within 50 m of a known nest site.

Table 2. Preferred WTP characteristics for the Interior Western Screech-Owl

Attribute	Characteristics
Size (ha)	≥2.5 ha
Location	PPxh, PPdh, IDFxh, IDFxw, IDFdk, IDFmw, ICH; riparian areas
Tree features	visible woodpecker or natural cavities
Tree species	deciduous preferred; trembling aspen, black cottonwood, water birch, Douglas-fir, possibly ponderosa pine, and western larch
Tree size (dbh)	Deciduous spp.: 34-44 cm or larger; coniferous spp. 74-85 cm or larger; in the absence of trees with the preferred dbh, trees with ≥30 cm dbh should be retained for recruitment
Wildlife tree class	2-6


Signed this 23rd day of May, 2006
Chris Trumpy, Deputy Minister
Ministry of Environment