



ORDER – Wildlife Habitat Area # 8-124

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 (8-124) 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 area 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;
5. for the purposes of section 2(3)(a) of the *Government Actions Regulation*, these General Wildlife Measures apply to minor tenures; 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 to the extent that wildlife habitat area 8-124 addresses the amount included for “Interior” Western Screech-Owl in the Notice for the Okanagan-Shuswap Forest District.

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.

Harvesting and silviculture

- Do not harvest or salvage within the core area.
- In PP and IDF 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, and IDF 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 Wildlife Tree Patch characteristics for the Interior Western Screech-Owl

Attribute	Characteristics
Size (ha)	≥2.5 ha
Location	PPxh, PPdh, IDFxh, IDFxw, IDFdk, IDFmw; 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 24th day of July, 2006
 Chris Trumpy, Deputy Minister
 Ministry of Environment