Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

Ministerial Order to Amend Objective 4
LAKES NORTH
SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

I. Pursuant to Section 93.4 (1) of the *Land Act*, objective 4 of the Lakes North Sustainable Resource Management Plan (2009) is cancelled and replaced with the following objective for the area shown on Map 3. Any footnote or map referenced in the objective is an integral part of the objective.

II. This Order takes effect on the date the notice is posted in the Gazette.

III. Pursuant to section 8(2) (b) of the *Forest and Range Practices Act*, the holder of a Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) must propose and submit for approval amendments to the FSP within eight months of the date that the order takes effect.

DRAFT

_____

Signed this _____ day of _____, 2016
Eamon O'Donoghue, Regional Executive Director, Skeena Region
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

Objective 4: Maintain habitat connectivity within the landscape connectivity matrix (LCM) shown on Map 3 and in accordance with (a), (b) and (c).

(a) Maintain the forested LCM in a contiguous mature and old condition. Each LCM is in a contiguous mature and old condition if all the following criteria are met:

(i) At least 70% of the stands[1] within the LCM are in mature and old condition at all times,
   a. Cutblocks are considered mature and old where the residual stand volume and the vertical stand structure layer attributes are 70% or greater than the pre-harvest stand condition and where the diameter classes, by species, are representative of the pre-harvest mature and old conditions,

(ii) Cutblocks are spatially distributed as follows:
   a. A new cutblock cannot be adjacent to an existing cutblock unless at least 70% of the net area to be reforested on the existing cutblock has developed attributes that are consistent with a mature seral condition,
   b. No more than 30% of the net area to be reforested of a new cutblock can fully span the width of a LCM

(iii) Operational and block roads are deactivated within two years of harvest completion.

(b) Within the red or blue-listed ecological communities identified in Table 1, retain 100% of the forested area.

(c) Retain 100% of hydro-riparian ecosystems as identified in Table 2.

Table 1. Red and Blue-listed Ecological Communities

SBSdk 04, 08, 81, 82
SBSmc 81, 82

Table 2. Hydro-Riparian Ecosystems

SBS dk – 07, 08, 09, 10
SBS mc2 – 07, 09*, 10, 12
ESSF mc – 07, 08, 09, 10*
ESSF mv1 – 04, 05
ESSF mv3 - 07
SBSdk 04

[1]A stand is a contiguous group of trees sufficiently uniform in age class distribution, composition and structure, and growing on a site of sufficiently uniform quality, to be a distinguishable and manageable unit

DRAFT