

Williamson's Sapsucker Effectiveness Monitoring

WHAs and BMPs

Background

- 2016 Draft monitoring protocol developed
- 2017 Habitat plots completed in Boundary and EK
- 2017 Habitat plots and occupancy monitoring completed in Thompson
- 2018 Occupancy monitoring completed
- Report, data entry and next steps completed

Plot and Survey Summary

Habitat plots completed for:

- 17 sites in the Boundary (7 WHAs)
- 12 sites in the East Kootenay (6 WHAs)

Occupancy rates determined for:

- 27 WHAs
- 18 blocks harvested to BMPs
- 10 un-harvested controls
- Level 1 surveys in April - early May
- Level 2 surveys in June

WHA and BMP Effectiveness Monitoring 2017/18

Prior WISA Knowledge	Factor	Regions	N	Occupancy		% Occupied Territories Successful*
				April	June	
Prior Nesting Known	WHAs	Bdy/EK	11	82%	55%	67%
	Harvested	Bdy/West	3	67%	-	-
Prior Nesting Not Known	Unharvested	Bdy	5	40%	20%	50%
	Harvested	Bdy/EK	10	40%	10%	25%

* % Territories occupied in April with confirmed or probable WISA breeding by June

WHA and BMP Effectiveness Monitoring 2017/18

Recommendations (Gyug 2018)

1. Tidy up some loose ends:
 - a) Determine WISA occupancy at 6 EK sites where tree data collected 2017,
 - b) Enter tree data from West 2017.
2. Continue monitoring WISA occupancy to goal of ≥ 25 sites per level.
3. Study Design considerations:
 - a) Annually develop pool of available sites (e.g. WHAs, Harvested areas),
 - *Also consider “heavy” harvest vs “light” harvest levels.*
 - b) Make sure each is suitable (i.e. has been harvested),
 - c) Select randomly from pool, and
 - d) Select controls for harvested sites from nearby unharvested similar habitats.
4. WISA Territory losses from April to June may be most significant metric.
 - a) Assess occupancy in both April and June for entire WHAs or cutblocks/WTPs.