



ORDER – Wildlife Habitat Areas in Ministry of Environment Region 5 (Cariboo)
North Island-Central Coast Forest District
Mid Coast TSA

This order is given under the authority of sections 9(2) and 10(1) of the *Government Actions Regulation* (B.C. Reg. 582/2004).

The Deputy Minister of Environment orders that:

1. The wildlife habitat areas shown in the map set out in the attached Schedule A (WHA numbers 5-120 to 5-123, 5-126 to 5-128, 5-131, 5-133, 5-136 to 5-150, 5-168 to 5-171; WHA numbers 5-172 to 5-188, 5-190 to 5-218, 5-224 to 5-277, 5-279 to 5-283, 5-285 to 5-305, 5-307 to 5-329, 5-331 to 5-351, 5-354 to 5-358, 5-361 to 5-442, 5-456 to 5-459; WHA Numbers 5-499 to 5-513, 5-515 to 5-525, 5-527 to 5-541), with boundaries as delineated in the GIS file *twha_bc*, are established.
2. The wildlife habitat areas in the attached Schedule A are established for Grizzly Bear (*Ursus arctos*);
3. The general wildlife measures outlined in Schedule 1 are established for the wildlife habitat areas set out in the attached Schedule A;
4. For the purposes of Section 92(1) of the *Forest Planning and Practices Regulation*, the management intent of the general wildlife measures established by this order is protection of the suitability of grizzly bear habitat within the wildlife habitat areas established by this order;
5. Where there is any discrepancy between the wildlife habitat area boundaries as shown in the Schedule A maps and the GIS file *twha_bc*, the boundary as delineated in the GIS file will take precedent. The boundary is established as the centre point of the line delineating each wildlife habitat area;
6. Pursuant to Section 7(3) of the *Forest Planning and Practices Regulation*, a person required to prepare a forest stewardship plan is exempt 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 Grizzly Bear in the North Island-Central Coast Timber Supply Area;
7. The general wildlife measures outlined in Schedule 1 do not apply for the purposes of exploration, development and production activities when these activities have been authorized for the purpose of subsurface resource exploration, development or production by the *Mineral Tenure Act*, the *Coal Act*, the *Mines Act*, the *Petroleum and Natural Gas Act*, the *Pipeline Act* or the *Geothermal Resources Act*;
8. Where it becomes evident that any component of this order is in conflict with initiatives to implement government's land use policy for the Mid Coast Timber Supply Area, this order will be subject to amendment or rescission to the extent of the identified conflict; and

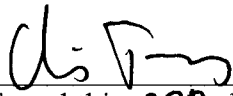
9. The general wildlife measures set out in Schedule 1 do not apply to:
- a) First Nations who are undertaking traditional use of forest resources,
 - b) Cut blocks and roads that are listed in Table 1.0.

Table 1.0 – Cut blocks and road alignments associated with cut-blocks within the area of Forest License A16847

Landscape Unit	Cut Block
Neechanz:	N121, N122, N208, N170
Kilbella/Chuckwalla:	KH35, KH 36
Sheemahant:	S221H, a road segment to be located through WHA 5-204 to join with approved access alignments in the Lemolo Creek drainage of the Sheemahant watershed

Schedule 1 – General Wildlife Measures

1. Primary forest activities will result in protection of the forest cover and plant communities within the boundaries of the wildlife habitat areas established by this order.
2. Salvage of downed or damaged timber shall not be carried out within the wildlife habitat areas established by this order.
3. Forest practices will not result in construction of new roads, trails, or landings in the wildlife habitat areas established by this order except where:
 - (a) the intent of these general wildlife measures will be achieved, or
 - (b) there is no other practicable option, and
 - (c) an exemption is granted under section 92(1) of the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation.
4. Forest practices will result in the wind firmness of forest cover within the wildlife habitat areas established by this order.
5. Pesticides shall not be utilized to manage vegetation within the boundaries of the wildlife habitat areas established by this order
6. Range developments such as but not limited to, watering holes, fences, salt blocks, corrals, access roads or livestock trails, will be constructed in a manner that does not result in increased risk of mortality to grizzly bears that may be caused by concentrating livestock in the wildlife habitat areas established by this order.
7. An exemption from the requirement to comply with these general wildlife measures is not required for:
 - (a) the purposes of activities related to safety matters, including but not limited to:
 - (i) felling of danger trees, guy line anchors, or tail hold anchor trees along adjacent cut block boundary,
 - (ii) road maintenance, road deactivation,
 - (iii) brushing and clearing on roads within wildlife habitat areas.
 - (b) construction of heli-drop sites on or along roads, or where a qualified professional biologist determines that activities at the site will not result in material, adverse impact to the suitability of grizzly bear habitat.


Signed this 27th day of Feb, 2007
Chris Trumpy, Deputy Minister
Ministry of Environment

Appendix 1

Table 2. WHA Tag numbers for the WHA polygons approved in this order

5-120	5-177	5-211	5-249	5-283	5-318	5-354	5-389	5-422	5-507
5-121	5-178	5-212	5-250	5-285	5-319	5-355	5-390	5-423	5-508
5-122	5-179	5-213	5-251	5-286	5-320	5-356	5-391	5-424	5-509
5-123	5-180	5-214	5-252	5-287	5-321	5-357	5-392	5-425	5-510
5-126	5-181	5-215	5-253	5-288	5-322	5-358	5-393	5-426	5-511
5-127	5-182	5-216	5-254	5-289	5-323	5-361	5-394	5-427	5-512
5-128	5-183	5-217	5-255	5-290	5-324	5-362	5-395	5-428	5-513
5-131	5-184	5-218	5-256	5-291	5-325	5-363	5-396	5-429	5-515
5-133	5-185	5-224	5-257	5-292	5-326	5-364	5-397	5-430	5-516
5-136	5-186	5-225	5-258	5-293	5-327	5-365	5-398	5-431	5-517
5-137	5-187	5-226	5-259	5-294	5-328	5-366	5-399	5-432	5-518
5-138	5-188	5-227	5-260	5-295	5-329	5-367	5-400	5-433	5-519
5-139	5-190	5-228	5-261	5-296	5-331	5-368	5-401	5-434	5-520
5-140	5-191	5-229	5-262	5-297	5-332	5-369	5-402	5-435	5-521
5-141	5-192	5-230	5-263	5-298	5-333	5-370	5-403	5-436	5-522
5-142	5-193	5-231	5-264	5-299	5-334	5-371	5-404	5-437	5-523
5-143	5-194	5-232	5-265	5-300	5-335	5-372	5-405	5-438	5-524
5-144	5-195	5-233	5-266	5-301	5-336	5-373	5-406	5-439	5-525
5-145	5-196	5-234	5-267	5-302	5-337	5-374	5-407	5-440	5-527
5-146	5-197	5-235	5-268	5-303	5-338	5-375	5-408	5-441	5-528
5-147	5-198	5-236	5-269	5-304	5-339	5-376	5-409	5-442	5-529
5-148	5-199	5-237	5-270	5-305	5-340	5-377	5-410	5-456	5-530
5-149	5-200	5-238	5-271	5-307	5-341	5-378	5-411	5-457	5-531
5-150	5-201	5-239	5-272	5-308	5-342	5-379	5-412	5-458	5-532
5-168	5-202	5-240	5-273	5-309	5-343	5-380	5-413	5-459	5-533
5-169	5-203	5-241	5-274	5-310	5-344	5-381	5-414	5-499	5-534
5-170	5-204	5-242	5-275	5-311	5-345	5-382	5-415	5-500	5-535
5-171	5-205	5-243	5-276	5-312	5-346	5-383	5-416	5-501	5-536
5-172	5-206	5-244	5-277	5-313	5-347	5-384	5-417	5-502	5-537
5-173	5-207	5-245	5-279	5-314	5-348	5-385	5-418	5-503	5-538
5-174	5-208	5-246	5-280	5-315	5-349	5-386	5-419	5-504	5-539
5-175	5-209	5-247	5-281	5-316	5-350	5-387	5-420	5-505	5-540
5-176	5-210	5-248	5-282	5-317	5-351	5-388	5-421	5-506	5-541

Appendix 2

Note that this Appendix is not part of this Order and is intended only to provide information that pertains to matters addressed by this Order. There is no requirement to comply with the information provided in this Appendix.

1. Authority to consider an exemption from these general wildlife measures is provided in Section 92(1) of the *Forest Planning and Practices Regulation*. In instances where the intent of the general wildlife measures can be achieved, or where it is not practicable to comply with these measures, a person choosing to conduct primary forest activities may consider seeking an exemption from the requirement to comply with the general wildlife measures applicable to the matter at hand.

An exemption application should be submitted to the Minister's delegate (Regional Manager – Ministry of Environment, Environmental Stewardship Division, Cariboo Region) with a rationale describing the nature of the problem, and options that integrate protection of grizzly bear habitat suitability with the proposed forest practices. This submission will assist in timely consideration of the matter, and will inform the conditions, if any, of the exemption that may be granted. Exemption requests without supporting information will be returned to the proponent for resubmission. Forest practices must not commence prior to granting of the exemption, which may occur by facsimile to be followed up by written copy.

In cases where an exemption is being sought on the basis of section 92(1)(a) of the *Forest Planning and Practices Regulation*, it would be appropriate that a qualified professional biologist certify that intended forest practices will achieve the intent of the general wildlife measure(s) from which exemption is being sought. A rationale supporting the professional certificate would inform the exemption decision.

Upon receipt of an exemption application with supporting information, a determination will normally be made within 10 working days. If there are matters requiring clarification, the exemption applicant will be normally be contacted within 5 working days of receipt.

2. Treatment of areas within an established WHA that have previously been subject to timber harvesting.

The Ministry of Environment respects that the Wildlife Habitat Areas established by this order include areas of managed forest plantations that are also areas important to conservation of grizzly bear habitat suitability. Long term removal of these areas from the timber harvesting land base could be detrimental to economic timber availability. Timber harvesting activities could be designed for these areas that would improve habitat conditions, and permit a level of commercial timber utilization. Work will be undertaken through 2007 with the forest sector to develop a GWM applicable to these plantation areas. This order will be amended to incorporate this GWM.