

Slocan Forest Products, Ltd. MACKENZIE DIVISION

Integrated Resources Management



Identified Wildlife Species in the Mackenzie Region:

IWMS	Bull	American	Sandhill	Trumpeter	Northern	Fisher	Grizzly	Mountain
Home	Trout	Bittern	Crane	Swan	Goshawk		Bear	Goat

Northern Goshawk (Accipiter gentilis atricapillus)

This species is considered REGIONALLY IMPORTANT because it is associated with habitats that are becoming rare, & because adjacent jurisdictions have listed it at risk. The sub-species *Accipiter gentilis laingi* (Queen Charlotte goshawk) is RED-listed.



Distinguishing Characteristics

Adult:

- 1. Broad WHITE stripe over RED eye
- 2. Belly & breast: finely barred & PALE GREY
- 3. Fine bands on under-side of wings
- 4. GREY back
- 5. Large stick nests built in the crotch of decidous trees, approx. 2/3 of the way up

NORTHERN GOSHAWK CALL







Juvenile:

- 1. Plumage BROWN until approx. 3 years of age
- 2. Characteristic white stripe over eye may or may not be present
- 3. Eye colour YELLOW until approx. 1 year of age



Similar Species: Red-tailed Hawk

- 1. Plumage mostly BROWN
- 2. Breast mostly WHITE, not barred
- 3. Wings have characteristic BLACK BARS on fore edge of wings
- 4. Tail feathers most often RED



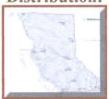
RED-TAILED HAWK CALL



Species Ecology:

- Habitat: coniferous/deciduous forest in mountain regions
- Feeds on large birds & small mammals associated with old-growth forests or forest edges
- Adult will not feed young if nest is disturbed
- Nesting females are very aggressive in the spring while rearing young, & will often "dive-bomb" intruders
- Females alternate nest sites between nesting seasons

Distribution:



Northern Goshawk Management:

Critical Habitat:

- Nesting areas in stands of large trees with dense canopies & relatively open understories
- Post-fledging areas that contain feeding perches (stumps, downed snags, large horizontal limbs below the canopy) with relatively open understory to facilitate pursuit & capture of prey
- Coarse woody debris important to provide habitat for Goshawk prey. Northern Goshawks avoid foraging in open habitats
- Breeding season: March 15 thru September 1 (activity restrictions may be removed after June 30 for inactive or unsuccessful nests)

Wildlife Habitat Area:

- A "two-tiered" WHA implemented at breeding sites for a total area of approximately 240 ha
- The entire WHA should include the nest area & post-fledging area (PFA)
- The 240 ha area should include three nest areas, 12 ha in size each: one should be the

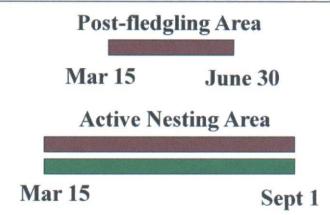


active nest, and the other two nests will provide alternate nesting sites

• If alternate nest sites cannot be identified (based on presence of inactive nests), appropriate 12 ha areas should be selected which include suitable habitat

 Known breeding sites include any active nest, or any nest which is known to be active within the last 5 years

CRITICAL DISTURBANCE TIMES:



Road Construction:

- Active Nesting Area: no road construction within nest areas (12 ha)
- · Post-fledging Area:
 - o no blasting during courtship & nest establishment (March 15 June 30)
 - no road building or modification within 200 m of active nest between March 15 -September 1

Silviculture:

- Active Nest Area: No harvest or salvage within nest areas, except for treatments aimed at maintaining or improving stand structure for nesting - all activities should be restricted during breeding (March 15-September 1)
- Post-fledging Area: Plan harvest sequence to create mosaic of success ional stages, with at least 20% closed-canopy old growth & 40% in mature forest
 - restrict harvest to less important goshawk habitat
 - no prolonged hauling on existing roads within 200 m of active nest between March
 15 September 1
 - o no logging or hauling within WHA with active nest from March 15 September 1
 - o no silviculture treatments between March 15-June 30 within 500 m of active nest

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