

File: 12560-25/1-023
12560-25/1-025
12560-25/1-026
12560-25/1-027
12560-25/1-028
12560-25/1-029
12560-25/1-030
12560-25/1-031

MARBLED MURRELETS
WHA- 1-023; 025; 026;
027; 028; 029;
030; 031

February 28, 2003

Mike K. Hooper
Planning Co-ordinator
Weyerhaeuser Company Limited
Nanaimo Woodlands
65 Front Street
Nanaimo, BC
V9R 5H9

Dear Mike Hooper:

On February 13, 2003 the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection advertised, in the British Columbia Gazette, the establishment of Wildlife Habitat Areas; 1-023, 1-025, 1-026, 1-027, 1-028, 1-029, 1-030, 1-031 for Marbled Murrelets within Tree Farm License 44 in the South Island Forest District. Details of the order may be obtained from the Fish and Wildlife Science and Allocation Section, Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection, 2080A Labieux Road, Nanaimo, BC V9T 6J9.

As per Section 1 of the Operational and Site Planning Regulation (BC Reg. 107/98 Deposited April 2, 1998, O.C. 0426/98 effective June 15, 1998 and consolidated to December 17, 2002) these Wildlife Habitat Areas are designated as "Known" information.

This information is made Known as of March 10, 2003 and must be incorporated into related operational plan submissions four months after this date.

If you have any questions contact either the undersigned or Dan Biggs, Planning Officer, at 250-731-3000.

Yours truly,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Cindy Stern
District Manager
South Island Forest District

CC: R.H. Heath, Regional Manager, Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection, 2080A Labieux Road, Nanaimo, BC V9T 6J9.

This is to inform you that the following Wildlife Habitat Areas (WHA) for Marbled Murrelet were established on January 15, 2003 in the South Island Forest District under the Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act and the regulations made under that Act. Notification of these WHAs will be published in the February 13, 2003 issue of the BC Gazette.

Changes to the Forest Practices Code regulations for Transition, effective December 17, 2002, removed joint-ministry statutory authorities. The Deputy Minister of Water Land and Air Protection now has the sole statutory authority for

WHAs.

1-023 Darling River
1-025 Walbran
1-026 Klanawa
1-027 Oden Creek
1-028 Sabrina Creek
1-029 Worthless Creek
1-030 Snow Creek
1-031 Two Rivers

Plot files and digital copies of the boundaries of these WHAs can be downloaded from the following ftp site: ftp://ribftp.env.gov.bc.ca/pub/outgoing/cdc_data/wha/r1. The table below lists the filenames and passwords for each WHA listed above.

WHA#	Filename	File format	Projection	Zip password
1-023	twha_1-023.zip	Zipped E00	BC Albers	ducky1
1-025	twha_1-025.zip	Zipped E00	BC Albers	tracker1
1-026	twha_1-026.zip	Zipped E00	BC Albers	tracker2
1-027	twha_1-027.zip	Zipped E00	BC Albers	tracker3
1-028	twha_1-028.zip	Zipped E00	BC Albers	tracker4
1-029	twha_1-029.zip	Zipped E00	BC Albers	spotted66
1-030	twha_1-030.zip	Zipped E00	BC Albers	skunk99
1-031	twha_1-031.zip	Zipped E00	BC Albers	highway66

If there are any problems with accessing the file at the ftp site, please contact Annika Livingston at aeliving@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca. These data will remain at the above location indefinitely so that additional digital copies can be downloaded as required. These digital boundaries are the final approved versions. Please ensure that any draft versions you may have received are deleted.

Proposed Measures

1-030 Snow Creek

(modified measures in bold)

Access

- Do not build roads unless the district manager and regional fish and wildlife manager are satisfied there is no other practical option and the variance is approved by the district manager and regional fish and wildlife manager.
- Seasonal constraints on the **building and use** of the road may be required. Consult the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection so any seasonal constraints can be specified.

Recreation

- Do not establish recreation sites.

Silviculture

- Do not harvest except for salvage, traditional aboriginal purposes, or construction of trail, penstock or facilities for small scale hydro-power generation when a variance is approved by the district manager and regional fish and wildlife manager.
- Identify WHA's on forest district fire protection maps and consider them a priority for protection from fires.

Restoration and enhancement

- In second-growth stands use silvicultural techniques to encourage old-growth characteristics.

1-023, 1-025, 1-026, 1-027, 1-028, 1-029, 1-031

(modified measures in bold)

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- Seasonal constraints on the use of the road may be required. Consult the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection so any seasonal constraints can be specified.

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- Identify WHA's on forest district fire protection maps and consider them a priority for protection from fires.

If you require more information on this WHA, you can contact myself or the regional MWLAP designate, Erica McClaren (Acting for Trudy Chatwin).

Regards,

Stewart Guy
Project Manager
Wildlife Conservation Planning
Biodiversity Branch
Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection