BRITISH COLUMBIA

File: ORCS 17580-55/ Fraser Canyon

ORDER TO ESTABLISH
A LANDSCAPE UNIT AND OBJECTIVES

NAHATLATCH LANDSCAPE UNIT

Pursuant to Section 4 of the *Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act*, I hereby establish the Nahatlatch Landscape Unit, an area located on the west side of the Fraser Canyon, Chilliwack Forest District, effective January 13, 2004, 2004.

The boundaries of the Nahatlatch Landscape Unit are shown on the Nahatlatch Landscape Unit map, dated December 11, 2003, attached to this Order.

In addition, I hereby establish objectives for the Nahatlatch Landscape Unit, as attached to this Order, effective January 13, 2004, 2004.

(Original signed by)

_____ _____

Regional Director, Coast Region, **Date**
Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management

Legal Objectives for the Nahatlatch Landscape Unit

Pursuant to section 4 of the *Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act*, the following are landscape unit objectives for the Nahatlatch Landscape Unit. The goal of these objectives is to sustain biological diversity at the landscape level; exemptions are included to streamline administrative procedures and address operational safety concerns.

First Nations traditional use of forest resources, treaty negotiations or settlements will not be limited by the following objectives.

Objective 1

1. Maintain or recruit old growth forests in designated old growth management areas (OGMAs), as shown on the attached Nahatlatch Landscape Unit map dated December 11, 2003. Timber harvesting, including salvage, single tree selection, topping for cone harvesting, and commercial gathering of botanical forest products, will not be permitted within OGMAs except as specified in section 2 and 3 below.

2. The Delegated Decision Maker (DDM) may allow operations to occur within an OGMA for reasons such as:
   (1) To prevent the spread of insect infestations or diseases that pose a significant threat to forested areas outside of OGMAs. This will be done in a manner that retains as many old growth forest attributes as possible.
   (2) Construction of roads and yarding corridors if no other practicable option exists.

3. Exemptions:
   (1) Maintenance, deactivation, removal of danger trees, or brushing and clearing on existing roads under active tenure within the right-of-way for safety purposes.
   (2) Felling of guyline clearance, tailhold anchor trees, or danger trees (except high value wildlife trees) along cutblock boundaries or within the right of way on new road/bridge alignments to meet safety requirements.
   (3) OGMAs that are >10 ha in size may be modified for operational reasons up to a cumulative maximum of :
      a) 10 ha in variant CWHds1,
      b) 75 ha in variant CWHms1,
      c) 70 ha in variant ESSFmw,
      d) 70 ha in IDFww, and
      e) 35 ha in variant MHmm2,

      provided that replacement OGMA of equivalent or better quality and quantity is identified in order of priority, 1) immediately adjacent to the existing OGMA, or 2) in the same variant and landscape unit as the existing OGMA; such that OGMA ecological attributes and spatial distribution are maintained or improved, in one of the following categories:
         i) OGMAs >10 ha to <50 ha in size where the proposed development affects the OGMA by <5 ha,
         ii) OGMAs ≥50 ha to <100 ha in size where the proposed development affects the OGMA by <10ha,
         iii) OGMAs ≥100 ha in size where the proposed development affects the OGMA by <10%.

iv) Construction of ≤500m of road or a bridge within an OGMA where there is no other practicable option. As an alternative to finding replacement area, the licensee may permanently deactivate or rehabilitate a temporary road or bridge site within four years after construction.

v) Construction of rock quarries and gravel pits under authority of forest tenure where the development will be located immediately adjacent to existing roads under tenure and will affect the OGMA by <0.5 ha.

(4) Intrusions, other than those specified in (3) above, that affect an OGMA by less than 0.5 hectare in total.

4. Exemption 3(3) above does not apply to the following OGMAs: # 8, 9, 14, 28, 34, 53, 68, 77, 95, 108, 113, 125.

Objective 2

Maintain stand level structural diversity by retaining wildlife tree patches (WTP). Cutblocks for which harvesting has been completed by each licensee by tenure will retain adequate amounts of wildlife tree patches to ensure that over each 3 year period, commencing on the date the objectives are established, the target percentage as noted in Table A is achieved. In addition:

(1) WTPs must be well distributed across the BEC subzone and located within or immediately adjacent to a cutblock.
(2) Each cutblock >10 ha in size must have a minimum of 2% wildlife tree retention.
(3) No timber harvesting, including single tree selection, is to occur within WTPs for at least one rotation, except as noted in (4) below.
(4) Salvage of windthrown timber and harvesting of remaining standing stems is only permitted within WTPs where catastrophic windthrow exceeds 50% of the dominant or co-dominant stems; or where forest health issues pose a significant threat to areas outside the WTP. Where salvage/harvesting is planned and authorized, replacement WTP of equivalent or better quality and quantity must be identified immediately to achieve the retention target.
(5) WTPs must include, if present, remnant old growth patches and live or dead veteran trees (excluding danger trees).
(6) WTPs must include representative larger trees for the stand and any existing moderate to high value wildlife trees (excluding danger trees).
(7) Where differences exist between mapped and actual BEC subzones, subzones will be confirmed by site plan information.

Table A. Wildlife Tree Retention by BEC subzone in the Nahatlatch Landscape Unit.

BEC Subzone	% Wildlife Tree Retention
CWH ds (Coastal Western Hemlock, dry submaritime)	3
CWH ms (Coastal Western Hemlock, moist submaritime)	7
ESSF mw (Engelmann Spruce-Subalpine Fir, moist warm subzone)	6
MHmm (Mountain Hemlock, moist maritime subzone)	8
IDF ww (Interior Douglas-fir, wet warm subzone)	4

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Nahatlatch Landscape Unit

- Landscape Unit Boundary
- Biogeoclimatic Ecosystem Boundary
- Protected Area
- Roads
- Water
- 20m Contours
- Lake
- River
- Swamp

OLD SERAL REPRESENTATION AREAS

- PROTECTED AREA OLD GROWTH (REPRESENTATION CONTRIBUTION)
- OLD GROWTH MANAGEMENT AREAS

Scale 1: 50 000

0 0.5 1 2 Kilometers

N

Projection/Datum: Albers / Nad 83
Forest Cover: MOF FC1 1: 20 000
Digital Mapping Base: TRIM 1: 20 000
Contour Interval: 20 meters

Mapped by LS, GG December 11, 2003

Submitted by: LS, GG MSRM

Date: December 11, 2003

Amendment:_____

Date:_____