

Re: GPS-collared Roosevelt elk on Vancouver Island

The Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (MFLNRORD) and the University of British Columbia are conducting a Roosevelt elk habitat selection research project in the Campbell River Natural Resource District on Vancouver Island. Additional funding for this project is being provided by the Habitat Conservation Trust Fund and the Forest Enhancement Society of BC which mutually invests in projects aimed at improving fish, wildlife and habitat management in British Columbia.

As part of this project, MFLNRORD is deploying GPS-radio collars on adult female elk to collect information on elk densities, distribution and seasonal habitat use. Results from this project will be used to inform habitat supply models across all seasons and improve our understanding of the linkages between habitat supply and populations.

The study area encompasses portions of Wildlife Management Units (WMU) 1-09, 1-10, 1-11 and 1-12, but note that collared elk may roam beyond this area and could be encountered in adjacent WMUs.

We are requesting LEH hunters, with an authorization to hunt antlerless elk, and First Nation hunters to voluntarily refrain from harvesting collared cow elk to maximize the data that each animal contributes to this program.

Elk are being fitted with **white collars** and marked with **yellow ear tags** printed with a Wildlife Health ID Number (WLH-ID).

If you spot a collared elk, please note the date, time, specific location and how many other elk are observed with the collared individual.

If you have an LEH authorization for antierless elk and you harvest a collared elk, please return the collar to MFLNRORD and provide the WLH-ID for information regarding the safe consumption of the meat.

For more information about the project or to report collar sightings in the Campbell River District please contact:

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