



Prince George Business Area Management of Red and Blue Species / Ecological Communities and Species and Ecosystems of Management Concern Planning Process

Background:

In TPG, the traditional SAR online training offered by PSA is no longer available and has since been replaced by BCTS planners with a combination of PDF documents and Power Point Presentation. In July of 2011 the BCTS planners updated the species and plant communities at risk lists based on a query of the CDC on all species occurring within Prince George, Mackenzie, and the Robson Valley. The list was further updated in April of 2012. In early 2013, a complete revamp of these lists occurred once again. The goal was to simplify the process and provide a vehicle for annually updating the species list. It should be noted that this list is STATIC and UPDATED ONLY ONCE ANNUALLY and can be found on the TPG FTP Site ([\\mitten.dmz\ftp\TPG\external\publish\Species at Risk \(copy link and paste in browser\)](\\mitten.dmz\ftp\TPG\external\publish\Species at Risk (copy link and paste in browser))). Later in 2013, it was determined that creating an annual list was risky given the nature of SAR/SOMC and so the vehicle of the CDC developed "live" BC Species and Ecosystems Explorer web based system was utilized as well to provide the full details PGBA was previously pulling into its Excel lists. Minor Adjustments and fixes to links, etc. were completed in 2014.

Additionally, BCTS management strategies are grouped into broad categories – species, vascular plants, and plant communities. A pdf of these broad strategies are located on the ftp site. For a full comprehensive, detailed review of the SAR/SOMC; please refer to the May 2013 Species and Ecosystems of Management Concern Management Guide produced by the Provincial BCTS Planning Working Group as a guidance document.

Purpose

The Prince George Business Area desires a pro-active, live and up-to-date approach to ensuring identification and necessary protection of provincial Red and Blue Species/Ecological Communities and Species and Ecosystems of Management Concern, when planning development activities. This specifically relates to planning processes associated with: multiphase, harvesting, road construction and road deactivation.

Scope

This planning process provides Business Area staff, Licencee's, Permittee's and Contractors (LPC's) and the public with specific information on the process necessary to identify and protect Red and Blue Species/Ecological Communities and Species and Ecosystems of Management Concern, when planning and conducting development activities.

Procedure

1. BCTS staff and associated layout contractors will use BC Species and Ecosystems Explorer to identify:
 - Provincial Red and Blue Species/Ecological Communities and Species and Ecosystems of Management Concern, by applicable Forest District within the Business Area.
 - The relevant publications to aid in identification of red and blue listed species and ecological communities.
 - Source material related to Species distribution, life histories, conservation needs, recovery plans and more. The BCTS Management Strategies will be provided to assist contract staff in determining appropriate BCTS PGBA management Direction.

2. Link to the appropriate Species and Ecosystems Explorer website:
<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/atrisk/toolintro.html>

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3. Utilise the following procedure to establish a list of the red and blue listed species and ecological communities found within the Prince George, Robson Valley and/or Mackenzie portion of the BA:
 - Click on Start to launch Application
 - Plants and Animals, or Ecological Communities >>> Must select one or the other.
 - You can either do a Quick Search (Everything) or a Basic Search (More specific) – I prefer Basic
 - Species Name >>> Search Type - Select combined Scientific and English.
 - Species Groups >>> Search Type
 - Then under Advanced Search >>> Select Area Based:
 - Forest District >>> Select Prince George, Robson Valley, or Mackenzie as appropriate.
 - BGC Zones >>> Optional but can help Narrow scope
 - Conservation Status >>> Select BC List >>> Select Red List and Blue List.
 - Sort by English Name.
 - Search

As per the search criteria, a list of records will be indicated, that can be printed and/or exported in digital format. Individual species summaries and associated reports can be printed to aid staff and contractors in field identification of the species and ecological communities.

4. Impacts to Provincial Red and Blue Species/Ecological Communities and Species and Ecosystems of Management Concern will be managed as per the process identified in TPG Management Strategies Document and the species lists updated from the CDC.
5. BCTS pre-works associated with harvesting, road construction, and road deactivation projects will confirm the relevant Red and Blue Species/Ecological Communities and Species and Ecosystems of Management Concern pertaining to the development area.
6. LPC's are responsible to ensure their staff are knowledgeable of: the BCTS planning process and associated training pertaining to species at risk, the red and blue species that may potentially be found within the development area and the appropriate resources (as provided within BC Species and Ecosystems Explorer) necessary to identify the occurrence of Red and Blue Species/Ecological Communities and Species and Ecosystems of Management Concern in the field.
7. Upon completion of planned development, the multi-phase contractor / signing forester preparing related site plans must complete an associated site plan check list, indicating the presence or absence of any Red and Blue Species/Ecological Communities and Species and Ecosystems of Management Concern. Where warranted (and in co-ordination with the BCTS representative), appropriate text and mitigative measures must be included in the site plan.

Links and Resources:

- BC Species and Ecosystems Explorer: <http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/atrisk/toolintro.html>
- PG BCTS Forms and Info/ Species at Risk TPG 2014 version.pptx/ May 2013 Management Guide - \\mitten.dmz\ftp\TPG\external\publish\Species at Risk (copy link and paste in browser).



Approved by TSM: _____

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