



**BCTS**  
BC Timber Sales  
Skeena

## Standard Operating Procedure

### Northern Goshawk

#### BACKGROUND

The Northern goshawk is a species of management concern in BCTS Skeena's operating areas. This SOP applies to all BCTS Licensees, Permittees and Contractors, including their employees, agents and subcontractors, involved in timber harvesting, road construction and maintenance and silviculture projects. Ground crews should be vigilant in detecting Northern goshawks and/or their nests, near or within work areas.



Mature goshawk



#### IDENTIFICATION and NESTING

Northern goshawks, a raven-sized bird of prey, live and nest in mature and old-growth forests in the region. Typically, goshawks will choose the largest trees within a territory to build large stick nests (>80cm diameter) below the canopy. Breeding season begins in late winter-early spring when the birds will begin to display aggressive behaviour to protect their nesting areas until the fledglings leave in late summer.



**STOP WORK and contact your project supervisor and the BCTS representative if:**

- You encounter a goshawk or its nest or;
- You observe behavior indicating there may be a nest nearby such as birds repeatedly circling an area, alarm calls, aggressive "dive-bombing"