

July 26, 2000

File Number: 12434-25/LAKES

Order Establishing Resource Management Zones and Resource Management Zone Objectives for the Lakes District Pursuant to Sections 3(1) and 3(2) of the *Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act (the Act)*

Pursuant to section 3(1) of the Act, Zones A, B and C as presented on Map 1 (attached) are Resource Management Zones.

Resource Management Zone A

Pursuant to section 3(2) of the Act, the following provisions are Resource Management Zone objectives for Resource Management Zone A:

- 1 Maintain early, mature plus old, and old seral stages by:
 - (1) Using Table 1 to determine seral stage targets¹ for each landscape unit including recruitment strategies where necessary. In the case of catastrophic events such as wildfire or insect outbreaks, the District Manager and Designated Environment Official by mutual agreement and in consultation with the public may deviate from the requirements of Table 1 as the situation dictates;
 - (2) Locating Old Growth Management Areas¹ (OGMAs) which will contribute to part of the old seral target;
 - (3) Providing for interior forest conditions¹ in OGMAs that are a minimum of 600 metres wide. The minimum area of interior forest condition to be retained within old seral will be based on the percentages in Table 2; and
 - (4) Including the range of ecosystem types present in each landscape unit when establishing OGMAs. Ecosystem types consist of site series grouped into subhygric, mesic and xeric classes for each variant as per Table 4.
- 2 Where there is no landscape unit objective in place as of the date that this objective (Objective 2) comes into effect (see transition provisions in Objective 7 below), the levels of early, mature plus old, and old seral stage distribution in Table 1 are the target levels for each Biogeoclimatic Ecosystem Classification (BEC) zone variant of each landscape unit in Resource Management Zone A as per Map 1 (attached) and not just a basis for developing targets through landscape unit planning.

¹ The establishment of seral stage distribution, old growth management area targets and interior forest conditions will be completed through landscape unit planning.

Resource Management Zone B (Chelaslie Caribou Migration Corridor)

Pursuant to section 3(2) of the Act, the following provisions are Resource Management Zone objectives for Resource Management Zone B:

- 3 Maintain early, mature plus old, and old seral stage by:
 - (1) Using Table 3 to determine seral stage targets for each landscape unit including recruitment strategies where necessary¹. In the case of catastrophic events such as wildfire or insect outbreaks, the District Manager and Designated Environment Official by mutual agreement and in consultation with the public may deviate from the requirements of Table 3 as the situation dictates;
 - (2) Locating OGMAs¹ which will contribute to part of the old seral stage target;
 - (3) Providing for interior forest condition¹ in OGMAs that are a minimum of 600 metres wide. The minimum area of interior forest condition to be retained within old seral will be based on the percentages in Table 2; and
 - (4) Including the range of ecosystem types present in each landscape unit when establishing OGMAs. Ecosystem types consist of site series grouped into subhygric, mesic and xeric classes for each variant as per Table 4.

Table 1: Seral Stage Distribution for Resource Management Zone A

Biodiversity Emphasis Option ^d	Early ^a			Mature plus Old ^b			Old ^c		
	L	I	H	L	I	H	L	I	H
SBS (dk, mc2, wk3)	N/A	<54%	<40%	>11%	>23%	>34%	>11%	>11%	>16%
ESSF (mc, mv1, mv3)	N/A	<36%	<27%	>14%	>28%	>42%	>9%	>9%	>13%

^a Early forest is <40 years for SBS and ESSF

^b Mature forest is >100 years for SBS and >120 years for ESSF

^c Old forest is >140 years for SBS and >250 years for ESSF

^d BEOs assigned to Landscape Units as per the Prince Rupert Region Landscape Unit Planning Strategy.

SBS is Sub-Boreal Spruce, its subzones and variants

ESSF is Engelmann Spruce Sub-Alpine Fir, its subzones and variants

Table 2: Interior Forest Condition Targets

NDT	Low BEO	Intermediate and High BEO
NDT 2	>10%	>25%
NDT 3	>10%	>25%

Table 3: Seral Stage Distribution for Resource Management Zone B

Seral Stage Management Zone*	Seral Stages		
	> 140 Years	> 80 Years	< 40 Years
High Use	> 40%	> 60%	< 25%
Moderate Use	> 30%	> 45%	< 32%
Low Use	> 20%	> 30%	< 54%

* From attached Map 1.

Table 4: Lakes Forest District Ecosystem Types

Ecosystem Type	SBSdk	SBSmc2 ^a	ESSF ^b
Subhygric	* 09, 10, some 08	12, some 10	10, some 08, some 09
Mesic	01, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07, some 08	01, 03, 05, 06, 07, 09, some 10	01, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07, some 08, some 09
Xeric	02	02	02

^a SBSwk3 is included within the SBSmc2 for representation purposes.

^b All ESSF subzones and variants (mc, mv1, and mv3) are included together for representation purposes.

* Numbers 01-12 in Table 4 refer to site series as identified through *A Field Guide to Site Identification and Interpretation for the Prince Rupert Forest Region*, updated 1993.

- 4 Where there is no landscape unit objective in place as of the date that this objective (Objective 4) comes into effect (see transition provisions in Objective 7 below), the levels of early, mature plus old, and old seral stage distribution in Table 3 become the target levels in each seral stage management zone of each landscape unit in Resource Management Zone B as per attached Map 1 and not just a basis for developing targets through landscape unit planning.

Joint Approval of Forest Development Plans

- 5 Pursuant to Section 2(1) of the Operational Planning Regulation, the approval of both the District Manager, Ministry of Forests and the Designated Environment Official, Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks is required for all forest development plans or parts of forest development plans within the high use seral stage management zone in Resource Management Zone B (Chelaslie Caribou Migration Corridor) on attached Map 1.

Resource Management Zone C (Lindquist and Chikamin Mineral/Wildlife Management Zone)

- 6 Maintain caribou habitat by not permitting commercial timber harvesting except where required for approved mineral exploration and development and/or oil and gas exploration and development.

Transition

- 7 Pursuant to section 9.1 of the Act, Objectives 2 and 4 come into effect on October 1, 2001.

Effective Date of the Order

This order will take effect on October 1, 2000.

The Honourable Jim Doyle
Minister of Forests

Date

The Honourable Dan Miller
Minister of Energy and Mines

Date

The Honourable Joan Sawicki
Minister of Environment, Lands and Parks

Date