

# PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

## Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

### Ministerial Order

Land Use Objectives for Old Growth Management Areas (OGMAs) within the Great Central Landscape Unit located on Southern Vancouver Island.

#### Part 1 - Interpretation

1. Pursuant to Section 93.4 of the *Land Act*, the following objectives are established as land use objectives for the purposes of the *Forest and Range Practices Act* and apply to OGMAs within the Great Central Landscape Unit shown on the map attached as Schedule 1.
2. Nothing in, under or arising out of this order either abrogates or derogates from any Aboriginal rights, Aboriginal title or Treaty rights of any applicable First Nation, nor relieves the province of any obligation to consult with any applicable First Nation.
3. Where an objective refers to an area shown on a map and the area is also defined by a spatial dataset, the area as defined by the spatial dataset will apply. All spatial datasets are available at <http://www.geobc.gov.bc.ca>.

## **Part 2 – Objectives**

### **Objectives for retention of western redcedar and yellow cedar within OGMA's for traditional use:**

- (1) Maintain approximately 400 hectares of OGMA's within the Great Central Landscape Unit to support cultural cedar use of western redcedar and yellow cedar as shown on the map attached as Schedule 1, subject to Sections (1) to (4) below.

## **Part 3 – Permissible Activities and Replacement**

### **Permissible activities within all OGMA's:**

- (1) Within all OGMA's, the following activities are permitted:
  - a) Topping or pruning of trees along the boundary to improve wind firmness.
  - b) Timber harvesting to prevent the spread of insect infestations or diseases that pose significant threat to forested areas outside of OGMA's. Harvesting within OGMA's for these purposes will be done in a manner that retains as many old growth forest attributes as possible.
  - c) Road maintenance, deactivation, removal of danger trees, or brushing on existing roads under active tenure within the right-of-way for safety purposes.
  - d) Felling to provide minimal guyline clearance for safety purposes, minimal tailhold anchor trees should no other practicable options be available, or danger trees along cutblock boundaries.
  - e) Timber harvesting for First Nations' cultural purposes.

### **Permissible activities within select OGMA's:**

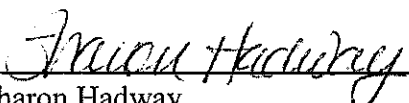
- (2) In addition to Section 1, the following applies to OGMA's 121, 124 and 126.
  - a) Timber harvesting immediately within 100 meters of the edge of an OGMA boundary where harvest does not exceed a total area 2 hectares or 2% of the OGMA, whichever is less.
  - b) Timber harvesting for road and/or bridge construction is also permitted provided that:
    - i. the road and/or bridge is required to access resource values beyond or adjacent to the OGMA;
    - ii. no other practicable option for road and/or bridge location exists;
    - iii. the total area impacted does not exceed 10% of the OGMA including any concurrent removals done under 2(a);
    - iv. right of way widths are kept to the minimum required for safety; and,
    - v. all reasonable measures are taken to minimize damage to trees within the OGMA from road building activities such as blasting of shot rock.

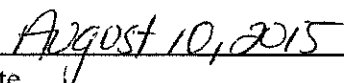
**Replacement of OGMA area:**

- (3) The area of an OGMA that is subject to timber harvesting, under Section 1 or 2, shall be replaced with forest which is:
- a) biologically suitable;
  - b) of equivalent age, structure, species composition and area; and,
  - c) situated in order of priority, either immediately adjacent to the OGMA being amended, or adjacent to another OGMA designated in this order, or adjacent to another OGMA designated in another order within Great Central Landscape Unit.
- (4) OGMA replacements made in accordance with Section 4 must be documented and submitted as digital spatial data to the delegated decision maker at the end of each calendar year. The total forested area of OGMA's in this order after replacements shall not be less than 398 hectares.

**Part 4 - Effective Date and Transition**

- 1) Application of this order
- a) This order and the land use objectives in this order take effect on the date that notice of this order is published in the *Gazette*.
  - b) The period of time under Section 8 of the *Forest and Range Practices Act* is one year.

  
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Sharon Hadway  
Regional Executive Director  
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural  
Resource Operations  
West Coast Region

  
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Date