Preamble

This Order establishes objectives for old growth management areas across the Nahmint Landscape Unit (LU). The goal of these objectives is to contribute to biological diversity at the landscape level. The established old growth management areas (OGMA) that are the outcome of this Order are consistent with legal Objectives on two separate but largely overlapping scales. The first scale is that of the entire Nahmint LU. At this scale, the established OGMAs are consistent with the *Order Establishing Provincial Non-Spatial Old Growth Objectives* where target amounts of old forest and recruitment are maintained by biogeoclimatic subzone variant **by LU**. The second scale is of the Special Management Zone (SMZ)13 portion that is located within the Nahmint LU. At this scale, the established OGMAs are consistent with the *Vancouver Island Land Use Plan (VILUP) Higher Level Plan Order (HLPO)*, where regionally rare and underrepresented ecosystems are emphasized and protected at the site series level **within the SMZ 13 portion of the Nahmint LU**. In addition, minimum targets for site series-level protection are established in SMZ 13 through this landscape unit planning process and are defined in this Order.

Exceptions to the objectives established through this Order are described to address circumstances where activities may occur as well as address operational safety concerns. Due to the co-location with other reserves such as wildlife habitat areas and ungulate winter ranges and their associated established objectives, some OGMAs may not share the same exceptions. The objectives under this order may be periodically updated to incorporate new knowledge and address changing environmental, economic, and social conditions. First Nations traditional use of forest resources, treaty negotiations or settlements are not intended to be limited by the objectives established by this Order.

This preamble is intended to provide context and background; it does not form part of the Order.

ORDER OF THE MINISTER OF FORESTS

Land Act

Ministerial Order No.

Land Use Objectives for the Nahmint Landscape Unit situated in Central Vancouver Island within the South Island Natural Resource District

- I. Pursuant to s. 93.4 of the Land Act, I, Sharon Hadway as Regional Executive Director for the West Coast Region, Ministry of Forests, establish objectives for the Nahmint Landscape Unit.
- II. This Order takes effect on the date the notice is posted in the Gazette.
- III. Pursuant to section 5(1)(b) of the Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA), the holder of an Operational Plan (OP) must specify results and strategies within 12 months of the date that the order takes effect.
- IV. Pursuant to section 8(2)(b) of the FRPA, the holder of an OP must propose and submit for approval amendments to the OP within 12 months of the date that the order takes effect.

NR 3 Date

Sharon Hadway, Regional Executive Director, West Coast Region, Ministry of Forests

(This part is for administrative purposes only and is not part of the Order.)

Authority under which Order is made:

Act and section: Land Act Section 93.4

Page 2 of 6

Legal Objectives: Nahmint Landscape Unit

Part 1: Interpretation

- 1. Relationship with Forest and Range Practices Act objectives:
 - a) Pursuant to Section 93.4 of the Land Act, for the purposes of the Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA), the following land use objectives are established and apply to the Nahmint Landscape Unit (LU) shown on the map attached as Schedule A, with the centre point of the line establishing the area boundaries, and contained in the legal OGMA spatial layer (WHSE_LAND_USE_PLANNING.RMP_OGMA_LEGAL_CURRENT_SVW) stored in the British Columbia Geographic Warehouse;
 - b) If there is a discrepancy between the areas shown on the map attached as Schedule A and the legal OGMA spatial layer stored in the British Columbia Geographic Warehouse (WHSE_LAND_USE_PLANNING.RMP_OGMA_LEGAL_CURRENT_SVW), the areas as detailed in the legal OGMA spatial layer will take precedence.

Part 1: Definitions

1. For the purpose of this order, the following definitions apply:

"Old growth forest" a forest stand where the inventory age is greater than 250 years old.

"**Recruitment of old growth forest**" to identify and conserve forest that is not yet old growth forest, with the expectation that this forest will in future achieve the objectives of old growth forest.

Part 2: Objectives

- 1. The Objectives for the OGMAs are as follows:
 - a) Within the LU, retain old growth forest or recruit old growth forests in the old growth management areas shown on Schedule A (OGMAs) except as required and described in part 3 below.
 - b) In the portion of the OGMAs referred to in paragraph a) above that is located in Special Management Zone 13 shown on Schedule A, maintain late-successional habitat elements and attributes of biodiversity in forested ecosystems with emphasis on regionally rare and underrepresented ecosystems by retaining old growth or by recruitment of old growth forest at the site series level to no less than the targets in Appendix A.

Part 3: Exceptions

- 1. Exceptions to Part 2 are as follows:
 - a) Felling of danger trees to remove a safety hazard along cutblock boundaries, within road right-of-ways, or within recreation sites or trails, provided that felled trees are left on site as wildlife habitat unless removal is required for fire hazard abatement;

- b) Road maintenance, deactivation, or brushing and clearing on existing roads under active tenure within the right-of-way for safety purposes;
- c) Windfirming treatments along a boundary, up to 30m from an edge and impacting up to 2% of the total OGMA area;
- 2. All individual exceptions in accordance with Part 3 must be documented and submitted as digital and spatial data to the delegated decision maker no later than 2 months following the end of each calendar year.

Part 4: Effective Date and Transition

1. This Order takes effect on the date that notice of this Order is published in the Gazette.

Appendix 1 – Minimum targets for old growth forest retention for site series in the Special Management Zone 13 portion of the Nahmint Landscape Unit, in order to meet the objectives of this order.

Biogeoclimatic			
zone, subzone,	Site Series	Rarity	Site Series Target (ha)
and variant		-	
CWHvm1	01	Common	275
CWHvm1	02	Regionally rare	17
CWHvm1	03	Regionally rare	269
CWHvm1	04	Regionally rare	329
CWHvm1	05	Regionally rare	356
CWHvm1	06	Regionally rare	125
CWHvm1	07	Regionally rare	121
		Underrepresented	
CWHvm1	08	Regionally rare	36
		Underrepresented	
CWHvm1	09	Regionally rare	27
		Underrepresented	
CWHvm1	10	Regionally rare	10
		Underrepresented	2
CWHvm1	14	Regionally rare	۷. ۲
CWHvm2	01	Common	175
CWHvm2	02	Underrepresented	14
CWHvm2	03	Regionally rare	249
CWHvm2	04	Regionally rare	274
CWHvm2	05	Regionally rare	194
CWHvm2	06	Regionally rare	108
CWHvm2	07	Regionally rare	88
		Underrepresented	
CWHvm2	08	Regionally rare	28
CWHvm2	09	Underrepresented	12
		Underrepresented	2
CWHxm2	01	Regionally rare	Ζ.
		Underrepresented	0.1
CWHxm2	02	Regionally rare	0.1
		Underrepresented	0.3
CWHxm2	04	Regionally rare	0.5
		Underrepresented	0.5
CWHxm2	05	Regionally rare	
MHmm1	01	Underrepresented	120
MHmm1	02	Common	179
MHmm1	03	Underrepresented	88
MHmm1	04	Underrepresented	48
MHmm1	05	Underrepresented	27
MHmm1	06	Underrepresented	23
MHmm1	08	Underrepresented	7
MHmm1	09	Underrepresented	1

