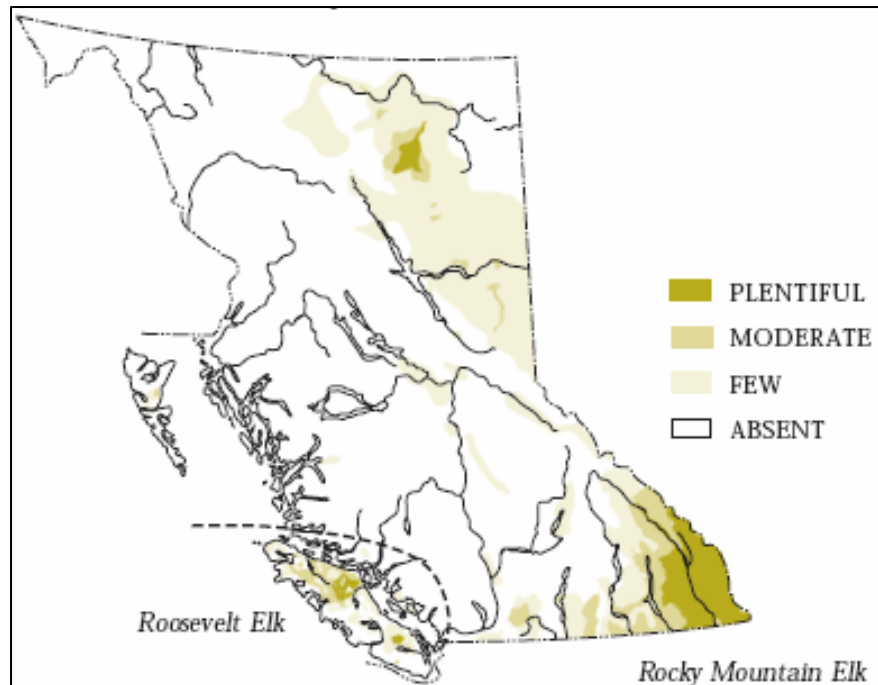


Elk in British Columbia

Distribution of Elk in B.C.



Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks 2000

Summary of population size and trend

The 2003 estimate for populations of Rocky Mountain Elk is between 39,500 and 56,000 animals (WLAP, unpublished report 2003). Roosevelt Elk, which live on Vancouver Island, number between 2700 and 4300 animals. Populations of both subspecies are considered stable to increasing overall. Logging can temporarily benefit elk by creating early seral forests which provide good foraging habitat, although the habitat disappears during forest regeneration (MoE 2000, see link below). Logging of old-growth winter range in coastal valleys can be detrimental.

For more information on Elk in British Columbia:

- B.C. Species and Ecosystems Explorer:
<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/atrisk/toolintro.html>
- B.C. Ministry of Environment:
<http://env.gov.bc.ca/wld/documents/elk.pdf>

Criteria for selection of Elk for this indicator:

- A species selected by the Canadian Council of Forest Ministers (CCFM) as a national indicator species;
- A species Classified as Category 1 forest-associated (forest-dependent);
- A species of economic significance; *and*
- A species of social/cultural significance.