



File: ORCS 17580-55/East Howe

**ORDER TO ESTABLISH
A LANDSCAPE UNIT AND OBJECTIVES**

EAST HOWE LANDSCAPE UNIT

Pursuant to Section 4 of the *Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act*, I hereby establish the East Howe Landscape Unit, an area located on the east side of Howe Sound, Squamish Forest District, effective August 20, 2003.

The boundaries of the East Howe Landscape Unit are shown on the map, dated June 5, 2003 attached to this Order.

In addition, I hereby establish objectives for the East Howe Landscape Unit, as attached to this Order, effective August 20, 2003.

(Original signed by)

Regional Director, Coast Region
Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management

Date

Legal Objectives for the East Howe Landscape Unit

Pursuant to section 4 of the *Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act*, the following are landscape unit objectives for the East Howe Landscape Unit. First Nations traditional use of forest resources, treaty negotiations or settlements will not be limited by the following objectives.

Objective 1

1. Maintain or recruit old growth forest attributes in designated old growth management areas (OGMAs), as shown on the attached East Howe Landscape Unit map dated June 5, 2003. Timber harvesting, including salvage, single tree selection, topping for cone harvesting, and commercial gathering of botanical forest products, will not be permitted within OGMAs except as specified in section 2 and 3 below.
2. The Delegated Decision Maker (DDM) may allow operations to occur within an OGMA for reasons such as but not limited to the following:
 - (1) To prevent the spread of insect infestations or diseases that pose a significant threat to forested areas outside of OGMAs. This will be done in a manner that retains as many old growth forest attributes as possible.
 - (2) Construction of roads and yarding corridors if no other practicable option exists.
3. Exemptions:
 - (1) Maintenance, deactivation, removal of danger trees, or brushing and clearing on existing roads under active tenure within the right-of-way for safety purposes.
 - (2) Felling of guyline clearance, tailhold anchor trees, or danger trees (except high value wildlife trees) along cutblock boundaries or within the right of way on new road/bridge alignments to meet safety requirements.
 - (3) OGMAs that are >10 ha in size may be modified for operational reasons up to a cumulative maximum of :
 - a) 10 ha in variant CWHdm,
 - b) 35 ha in variant CWHvm2,
 - c) 55 ha in variant MHmm1,provided that replacement OGMA of equivalent or better quality and quantity is identified in order of priority, 1) immediately adjacent to the existing OGMA, or 2) in the same variant and landscape unit as the existing OGMA; such that OGMA ecological attributes and spatial distribution are maintained or improved, in one of the following categories:
 - i) OGMAs >10 ha to <50 ha in size where the proposed development affects the OGMA by <5 ha,
 - ii) OGMAs ≥50 ha to <100 ha in size where the proposed development affects the OGMA by <10ha,
 - iii) OGMAs ≥100 ha in size where the proposed development affects the OGMA by <10%.
 - iv) Construction of ≤500m of road or a bridge within an OGMA where there is no other practicable option. As an alternative to finding replacement area, the licensee may permanently deactivate or

- rehabilitate a temporary road or bridge site within four years after construction.
- v) Construction of rock quarries and gravel pits under authority of forest tenure where the development will be located immediately adjacent to existing roads under tenure and will affect the OGMA by <0.5 ha.
- (4) Intrusions, other than those specified in (3) above, that affect an OGMA by less than 0.5 hectare in total.

4. Exemption 3(3) above does not apply to the following OGMA: #6, 7, and 35.

Objective 2

Maintain stand level structural diversity by retaining wildlife tree patches (WTP). Cutblocks for which harvesting has been completed by each licensee by tenure will maintain adequate amounts of wildlife tree patches to ensure that over each 2 year period, commencing on the date the objectives are established, the target percentage as noted in Table A is achieved. In addition:

- (1) WTPs must be well distributed across the BEC subzone and located within or immediately adjacent to a cutblock.
- (2) Each cutblock >10 ha in size must have a minimum of 2% wildlife tree retention.
- (3) No timber harvesting, including single tree selection, is to occur within WTPs for at least one rotation, except as noted in (4) below.
- (4) Salvage of windthrown timber and harvesting of remaining standing stems is only permitted within WTPs where catastrophic windthrow exceeds 50% of the dominant or co-dominant stems; or where forest health issues pose a significant threat to areas outside the WTP. Where salvage/harvesting is planned and authorized, replacement WTP of equivalent or better quality and quantity must be identified immediately to achieve the retention target.
- (5) WTPs must include, if present, remnant old growth patches and live or dead veteran trees (excluding danger trees).
- (6) WTPs must include representative larger trees for the stand and any moderate to high value wildlife trees (excluding danger trees).
- (7) BEC subzones will be determined by site plan information.

Table A. Wildlife Tree Retention by BEC Subzone in the East Howe Landscape Unit

BEC Subzone	Total Wildlife Tree Retention (%)
CWH dm (Coastal Western Hemlock, dry maritime)	5
CWH vm (Coastal Western Hemlock, very wet maritime)	10
MH mm (Mountain Hemlock, moist maritime)	7