

July 30, 2010

File: 17730-02/CDF Order

Ref: 168161

Al Gorley, Chair Forest Practices Board 3rd Flr, 1675 Douglas St Victoria BC V8W 9R1

Re: Notice of the Legal Establishment of the Coastal Douglas Fir Moist Maritime Biogeoclimatic subzone Land Use Objectives Order.

Dear Al Gorley:

Please find attached an Order establishing land use objectives for the Coastal Douglas Fir (CDF) moist maritime biogeoclimatic subzone area. The Order comes into effect on July 30, 2010.

The Province initiated a stewardship strategy for the CDF in response to the recommendation made in the Forest Practices Board Complaint investigation report 060733, that "Government promptly finalize and implement an overall stewardship strategy for the CDF ecosystem and communicate it to the public". The strategy included the following four components: completion of ecological mapping of the CDF; implementation of interim stewardship measures; initiation of a public awareness program targeting non-provincial landowners and people working on Crown lands in the CDF; and the establishment of a land use objective for Crown land parcels in the CDF.

The Province completed ecological mapping of the CDF and implemented interim stewardship measures while the Order was being drafted. The Order establishes land use objectives for the enhanced stewardship of nearly 1,600 hectares of Crown land for red-listed plant communities in the CDF moist maritime biogeoclimatic subzone. A copy of the Land Use Objectives Order can be found at the following website: http://www.ilmb.gov.bc.ca/content/news/2010/07/29/1598-hectares-coastal-douglas-fir-be-protected

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With the establishment of the Land Use Objectives Order over Crown land in the CDF and initiation of a public awareness program in March, 2010, the Government has now achieved the commitments it made to the Board in my letter dated March 31, 2008.

Sincerely,

Heather MacKnight

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Regional Executive Director (Coast)

Attachment

pc:

Honourable Pat Bell

Minister of Forests and Range and

Minister Responsible for the Integrated Land Management Bureau

Gary Townsend, Assistant Deputy Minister Regional Operations Division Integrated Land Management Bureau

Rudi Mayser, A/Manager, Crown Lands and Resources Integrated Land Management Bureau West Coast Service Centre

Bill Zinovich, Land and Resource Specialist Integrated Land Management Bureau West Coast Service Centre

Preamble

The Province is committed to managing Crown land within the Coastal Douglas-fir moist maritime (CDFmm) biogeoclimatic subzone in a manner that provides protection for rare or endangered plant communities.

This preamble is provided for context and background and does not form part of the following ministerial order.

Ministry of Agriculture and Lands

Ministerial Order

Coastal Douglas-fir moist maritime (CDFmm) Biogeoclimatic Subzone

Part 1 - Interpretation

1. Relationship with Forest and Range Practices Act objectives

- (1) Pursuant to Section 93.4 of the Land Act, the objective set out in paragraph 3 of this order is established as a land use objective for the purposes of the Forest and Range Practices Act and applies to the Crown lands within the mapped polygons shown on Schedules 1 to 5 attached to this order.
- (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.

2. Definitions

- (1) In this order, "plant communities" means vegetation that possesses a similar vegetation structure and native species composition and occurs repeatedly on similar habitats within the Coastal Douglas-fir moist maritime biogeoclimatic subzone.
- (2) Words and expressions not defined in this order have the meaning given to them in the Forest and Range Practices Act, the Range Act and the regulations made there under, unless the context indicates otherwise.

3. Objective for CDFmm biogeoclimatic subzone plant communities

- (1) Protect all CDFmm biogeoclimatic subzone plant communities within the polygons identified in Schedules 1 to 5 attached to this order.
- (2) Despite subsection (1), up to 5% of a polygon may be disturbed if there is no practicable alternative for road access or other infrastructure or to address a safety concern.
- (3) Where the objective refers to an area shown on a schedule and the area is also defined by a spatial dataset, the boundaries of the area as defined by the spatial dataset apply in the event of any inconsistency. All spatial datasets are available at http://www.geobc.gov.bc.ca.

Part 2 - Transition

- 4. Application of this order
- (1) This order takes effect on the date that the notice of the order is published in the Gazette.
- (2) The applicable period under 8(2) (b) of the Forest and Range Practices Act is 12 months starting on the date this order comes into effect.

Heather Macknight, MCIP

Regional Executive Director

Integrated Land Management Bureau

Coast Region









