

**Province of British Columbia**  
**Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations**

**Ministerial Order**

***Draft for Public Review***

**Land Use Objectives for the San Josef Landscape Unit situated on Northern Vancouver Island  
within the North Island – Central Coast Resource District**

**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 (FRPA)* and apply to old-growth management areas (OGMAs) within the San Josef Landscape Unit (LU), as shown in the map set out in Schedule A and contained in the old-growth management area spatial layer stored in the Geographic Warehouse (WHSE\_LAND\_USE\_PLANNING.RMP\_OGMA\_LEGAL\_CURRENT\_SVW).
2. If there is a discrepancy between the areas shown in the map attached as Schedule A and the OGMA spatial layer stored in the Geographic Warehouse (WHSE\_LAND\_USE\_PLANNING.RMP\_OGMA\_LEGAL\_CURRENT\_SVW), the areas as detailed in the OGMA spatial layer will take precedence.
3. 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 obligations to consult with any applicable First Nation.

**Part 2 – Objectives**

The Objectives for Old Growth Management Areas (OGMAs) are as follows:

4. Maintain or recruit old growth forests in established Old Growth Management Areas (OGMAs), as shown on the attached Old Growth Management Area map dated May 9, 2016, subject to part 3 below.

**Part 3 – Permissible and Non-Permissible Activities within OGMAs**

5. Within all OGMAs, the following activities are permitted:
  - a. Sanitation harvesting to prevent insect infestations or diseases posing a significant threat to forest health;
  - b. Felling of trees to remove a safety hazard along cutblock boundaries or within road right-of-ways, recreation sites or trails; and
  - c. Timber harvesting for First Nations' cultural purposes.
6. Within all OGMAs, the following activities are permissible as minor intrusions and/or adjustments:
  - a. Felling of trees to enable a safe and logical falling boundary where the area does not exceed two hectares;
  - b. Wind firming treatments along a boundary;
  - c. Road or bridge construction for access to resource values beyond or adjacent to the OGMA, and no other practicable option for road or bridge location exists;

- d. 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 less than 0.5 ha in total; and
  - e. Road maintenance, deactivation, or brushing and clearing on existing roads under active tenure within the road permit area.
  - f. Felling to provide guyline clearance, tailhold anchor trees, or to mitigate a safety hazard along cutblock boundaries.
7. Within all OGMAs, the following activity is non-permissible:
- a. Salvage opportunities, including firewood; OR
  - b. Any activity not listed in Section 5 or 6.

**Part 4 – Identification of Replacement Area and Communication**

8. OGMA replacement forest area is required as a result of the activities in section 6 when the total net change to the OGMA exceeds 0.5 ha in size. Replacement forest will be of an equivalent area and:
- a. of similar stand attributes,
  - b. of equivalent or better habitat quality and functionality for species on the Category of Species of Risk list; and,
  - c. situated in order of priority, either directly adjacent to, or in the same variant and landscape unit as the adjusted OGMA.
9. Exceptions to section 8 include:
- a. As an alternative to finding replacement area, the licensee may permanently deactivate and rehabilitate a temporary road or bridge site within four years of the date of construction.
  - b. In recognition of surplus suitable old seral forest within the San Josef Landscape Unit, the requirement to identify OGMA replacement forest may be waived in the CWHvh1, vm1, vm2 and MHmm1 variants, provided that the total area of mature and old seral forest maintained in OGMAs plus the contributing old seral forest area in protected areas meets or exceeds the targets in Table A.

**Table A: San Josef LU Old Seral Minimum Requirements**

<b>BEC Unit</b>	<b>Old Seral Target (ha)</b>
CWHvh1	3,631
CWHvm1	4,835
CWHvm2	286
MHmm1	34
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,786</b>

10. OGMA replacements made in accordance with section 8 must be documented and submitted as digital 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**

11. This order repeals objectives established by the *Order to Establish a Landscape Unit and Objectives (2005)* for the San Josef Landscape Unit.
12. This order and land use objectives in this order take effect on the date that notice of this order is published in the Gazette.

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

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Date  
(MM/DD/YY)