

KHLPO Deer

Source of Objective: <i>KHLPO</i> section 2.1.12.1
<p>[a] Maintain or enhance forage production and habitat requirements in critical deer winter range.</p> <p>[b] Disperse the timber harvest throughout the winter range and spread it out evenly over the rotation.</p> <p>[c] Maintain at least 25% of <i>forested area</i> in thermal cover. Link thermal cover units together with suitable travel corridors, especially mature Douglas-fir vets on ridges.</p>
Source of Objective: <i>KHLPO</i> section 2.5.1
The overall objective of special resource management zones for habitat and wildlife management areas is to: maintain or enhance identified <i>wildlife habitat areas</i> .
Source of Objective: <i>KHLPO</i> section 2.5.2
[H11 - Skull Wildlife Habitat] Maintain or enhance forage production and habitat requirements in critical deer winter range.
Applicable FDUs: #1-Kamloops

Definitions

For the purposes of this result or strategy:

“critical deer winter range” means an area that:

- a) is identified as critical deer winter range on *Map 1: Critical Deer & Moose Winter Range for Kamloops Higher Level Plan* of the Kamloops Higher Level Plan Order, dated January 8, 2009; or
- b) is within the Skull Wildlife Habitat Management Area.

“harvest area” means the area associated with harvesting a cutblock or road, where the harvest is conducted with a silviculture system other than a single tree or group selection, and less than 40% of the pre-harvest basal area is retained at the conclusion of harvesting, **or an area that is not associated with harvesting a cutblock or road for a fuel hazard mitigation treatment.**

“suitable snow interception cover” or **“SIC”** means:

1. a *VRI* polygon within *critical deer winter range* that:
 - a) is greater than 0.25 hectares in size;
 - b) is conifer leading (with preference given to Douglas-fir); and
 - c) has a crown closure class of:
 - (i) 2 or greater in the PP or IDFxh *BEC*;
 - (ii) 5 or greater in the ICH *BEC*; or
 - (iii) 4 or greater in *BEC* zones or subzones not identified in (i) or (ii).

“planning cell” means a sub-unit of a *Critical Deer Winter Range* polygon with a maximum area of 800 hectares, that is designated and managed internally by the *FSP holder*.

“ridge” means a topographic feature consisting of a continuous elevated crest of land at least 50 metres in length, where the ground slope perpendicular and downslope of both sides of the crest exceeds 30% for a distance of at least 20 metres (all distances measured as slope distance).

“suitable travel corridors” means areas identified by a QP that provide suitable winter travel habitat for mule deer, with preference given to areas where Douglas-fir greater than 65cm dbh are located on *ridges*.

“deer forage” means palatable species of plants that are a food source for deer, including Douglas maple (*Acer glabrum*), Trembling aspen (*Populus tremuloides*), Saskatoon (*Amelanchier alnifolia*), and Redstem ceonothus (*Ceanothus sanguineus*).

Result or Strategy for KHLPO Deer

Applicable *FDU*: #1-Kamloops

In relation to the objectives set by government for deer, where the *FSP holder* harvests a cutblock or constructs a road within *critical deer winter range*, the *FSP holder* will:

1. at the conclusion of that harvesting or *road* construction, when the *harvest area* of the *cutblock* or *road* is added to the *harvest area* of *established cutblocks* or *established roads*, not cause there to be less than 25% of the *forested area* in a *planning cell* retained as *SIC*; unless that harvesting is required to construct a *road* and no *practicable* alternative *road* location exists;
2. at the conclusion of that harvesting, road construction, or silviculture treatments on that cutblock (including brushing, weeding and stand tending):
 - a) areas of suitable snow interception cover within or directly adjacent to the cutblock are adequately linked together with suitable travel corridors, to the extent that it is *practicable* to do so; and
 - b) retain *deer forage* where present and practicable, unless retaining deer forage impedes the ability of a stand to reach free growing status.