



Update on Marbled Murrelet and Northern Goshawk
June 9, 2016



Update - Federal

1. Northern Goshawk

- Federal Recovery Strategy posting for public comment imminent

2. Marbled Murrelet

- Recovery Strategy amendment not posted
 - Reduce critical habitat for West and North Vancouver Island
 - Marine critical habitat



Update - Provincial

Engagement sessions – January to March 2016

Review:

- Implementation Plans = BC's response to Feds
- NOGO: 95 new ~200 ha WHAs across Coast
- MAMU: Protect 70% of the 2002 suitable crown land habitat
- Complete Land Use Planning
- Complete and Legalize Priority WHAs
- Protect certain levels of habitat

Engagement sessions completed and results compiled



Update - Provincial

Key decisions pending:

- Marbled Murrelet
 - Habitat targets and distribution
 - Spatial vs Aspatial
 - Scale
- Northern Goshawk
 - Habitat targets and distribution
 - Breeding area size
 - Forage research

Once key decisions made, WFP will be work with FLNR on WHAs.

Private managed forest land discussions



Update - Provincial

- Implementation Plans pending
- Memorandum of Understanding (final draft)
 - Coast Forest Products Association and BC Forest, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (includes BCTS)
 - Interim agreement until Implementation Plans are finalized
 - Guides how we interact and communicate
 - Work collaboratively
- Government socio-economic team
- Goshawk genetics project submitted to Genome BC for potential funding

Murrelet/Goshawk Update – June 2016

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Managing Forest Birds in Coastal BC
 June 9, 2016




Outline

- Issue
- Background
- CFP Forest Bird Initiative
- Bird Management Plan
- Summary



Golden Eagle
Photo: John Deal

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Issue

Accidentally destroying or disturbing an active bird nest may occur as part of normal forest operations

A1 (No of species per habitat)	March	April	May	June	July	August	September
Wetland (34)	[Color-coded bar chart showing activity levels]						
Open (65)	[Color-coded bar chart showing activity levels]						
Forest (53)	[Color-coded bar chart showing activity levels]						

>0 – 5%	6 – 10%	11 – 20%	21 – 40%	41 – 60%	61 – 100%
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Background

Current legislation on breeding birds

1. Migratory Bird Act

- "... the harming of migratory birds and the disturbance or destruction of their nests and eggs".
- **Max penalty: \$300K per bird/nest**



Yellow Warbler nest
Photo: John Deal

2. BC Wildlife Act

- "a person commits an offense if the person ...destroys (a) a bird or its egg, ... or (c) a nest of a bird ... when the nest is occupied by a bird or its egg
- Herons, Osprey, Eagle protected year around

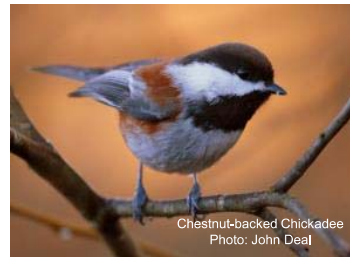


Osprey
Photo: John Deal



CFPA Forest Bird Initiative

- Madrone Environmental Services contracted
- Provide
 - Awareness
 - Options
 - Avoidance
 - Mitigation
 - Monitoring
- Options selected may be different by licensee



Chestnut-backed Chickadee
Photo: John Deal



CFPA Initiative - Approach

1. Determine Coastal Bird List
 - 297 species
 - 211 native species breeding on Coast
2. Determine Habitat Requirements
3. Assign Species to Habitat Groups
4. Identify species of conservation concern
5. Avoidance Options
6. Mitigation Options
7. Monitoring Options



Peregrine Falcon
Photo: John Deal



Marbled Murrelet
Photo: John Deal



Next Step for WFP

- Bird Management Plan
 - What can WFP do to minimize our impacts on breeding forest birds?
 - Due diligence is a defense
 - Tracking
- Short-term plan until a permitting system developed or exemption through SFM certification



Red-breasted Sapsucker
Photo: John Deal



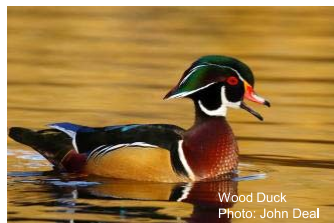
Avoidance


1. Avoid and buffer known active nests
2. Timing of activities
3. Regional Reserves
4. Landscape Reserves
5. Stand-level Reserves
6. Special Management Zones
7. Central Coast Ecosystem-based Management
8. Training



Mitigation


1. Retention Silvicultural System
2. Habitat Restoration
3. Limited Herbicide Application
4. Research




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Monitoring

- 1) Habitat monitoring
 - amount
 - elements
 - patterns
- 2) Species Monitoring
 - validate/refine assumptions
 - if habitat fall to low levels
 - species with localized habitats
 - *targeted breeding birds surveys*
 - *use existing information*




Great Blue Heron
Photo: John Deal

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CFPA Initiative – Summary

1. Avoid known stick nests and cavity sites
2. Assess habitats on the tenure
3. Undertake steps to avoid incidental take
4. If required, undertake incremental forest management to improve/mitigate habitat supply
5. Monitor habitats, birds and conservation activities



Northern Goshawk
Photo: John Deal

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Questions/Discussion

