



Skeetchestn Indian Band

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Skeetchestn Cultural Resource Management Zones (CRMZ)

Updated May 1, 2008

To address the deterioration of our watersheds and the loss of fisheries and riparian habitats, as well as, other important cultural values Skeetchestn Indian Band has implemented the management strategy of Cultural Resource Management Zones (CRMZ) throughout our Area Of Interest within Secwepmecul'ecw.

For any resource development or activity within our Area of Interest the following applies:

C.R.M.Z.s are to be established within 100 meters of all water and riparian features in Skeetchestn Traditional Territory.

All C.R.M.Z.s require a Skeetchestn Cultural Heritage Assessment and Inventory

The forest canopy within these management zones is to be managed for:

1. Traditional culturally significant plants for medicinal, food, technological, ceremonial, spiritual and other uses.
2. Wildlife habitat, biodiversity, travel corridor and connectivity values.
3. Fisheries habitat in terms of:
 - water temperatures
 - contributions to stream processes and biology
 - amelioration of spiking in the hydrograph
 - sediment filtration capacity
4. Wind firmness of residual stands.

Applicable management strategies within C.R.M.Z.s:

- No more than 50 % basal area removal in any single pass within 50 meters of water.
- Use of selection and shelterwood silviculture systems.
- Use of light impact equipment and harvesting methods.
- Assessment and protection of all potential and existing wildlife trees.
- Inventory and protection of all regeneration and non-merchantable stems.
- Aspen, birch, sub-alpine fir, spruce, and Douglas -fir will be considered preferred species within these zones and are to be encouraged for their wildlife habitat, medicinal and other Traditional Use values.
- Minimal road building within Cultural Resource Management Zones
- Minimum 20 meter reserves on all fish bearing and direct tributary streams, with consideration for Coarse Woody Debris (CWD) values

During this period of intense Mountain Pine Bark Beetle infestation, due to the unpredictable rates and duration of attack it is very difficult to determine if and when unacceptable E.C.A.s (Equivalent Clear-cut Areas) will occur within any one watershed or portion thereof. These unacceptably high E.C.A.s can have extremely detrimental effects to important First Nation Cultural values and will impact Aboriginal Rights of the Skeetchestn people. In the case of Mountain Pine Beetle Blocks, where harvesting is occurring primarily to address forest health issues further constraints will therefore apply.

This constraint includes:

- The retention of all advanced regeneration and species other than pine within 100 meters of water and riparian areas.

Originally dated Sept. 20, 2002
Chief Eddy Jules
Skeetchestn Indian Band

Updated May 1, 2008
Chief Ron Ignace
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