

Joss-Tsuius-Mable Mtn Access Management Area

October 2017
Andrew Walker

- Objectives
 - Data, Harvest, Inventory
- Existing Regulations
- Timing





Motor Vehicle Access Regulation

Regulation Type	Regulation Suggestion	Rationale
Motor Vehicle Access	No motorized use above 1700m from Joss to Tsuius and Mable Mtn (MU 8-23, 8-24)	To limit disturbance in sensitive alpine habitats utilized by Grizzly Bears, Moose, Elk , Mule Deer and Mountain Goats.

Proposed Joss Pass/Paintbrush Range Motor Vehicle Closure

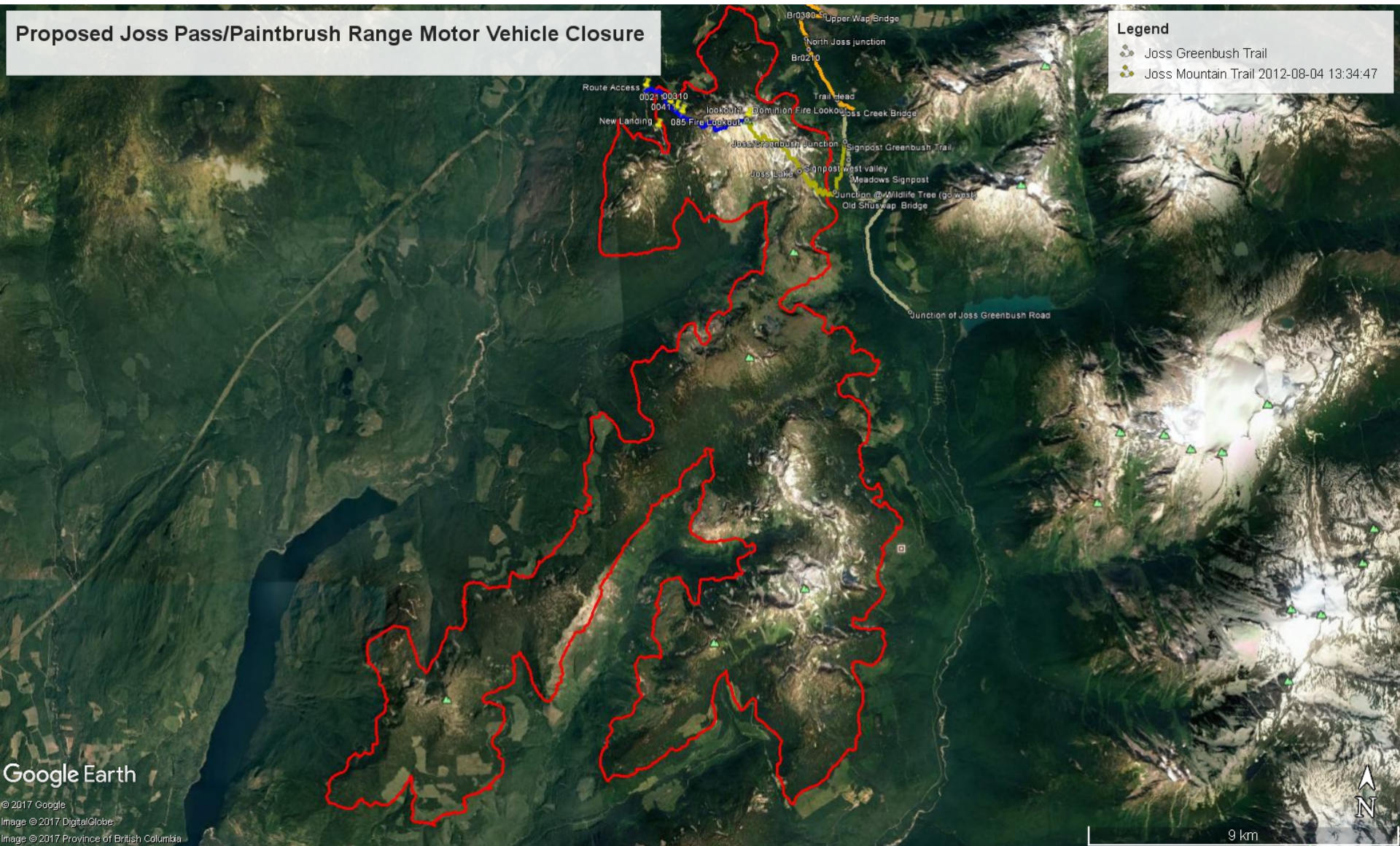
Legend

 Joss Greenbush Trail

 Joss Mountain Trail 2012-08-04 13:34:47

Google Earth

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Joss-Tsuius-Mable Mtn Access Management Area

- Part of the only viable Grizzly Bear Population Unit in the Okanagan
- Contains the only known populations of both Mountain Goat and Mountain Caribou west of the Monashee Mountains
- Important summer range for mule deer, elk and moose
- Largest continuous piece of connected alpine in the Okanagan that lacks specific access restrictions





Grizzly Bears

Map

Grizzly Bear Population Unit Name	Central Monashee
Population Status	Viable
Reason for Status	
Population Estimate	147
Area of Useable Habitat (km ²)	6155
Estimated Population Density (Grizzly bears/1000km ²)	24
Estimation Method	Model; Expert Opinion
Is this population hunted?	Y
Reason for not hunting, if not hunted	
Percent area with > 0.6 km of roads/km ² (2003)	43%
Size of population unit (Ha)	634,892

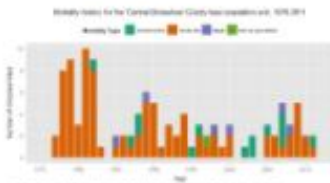


Fig. 1: Mortality History

Population Status	
Extirpated	
Threatened	
Viable	

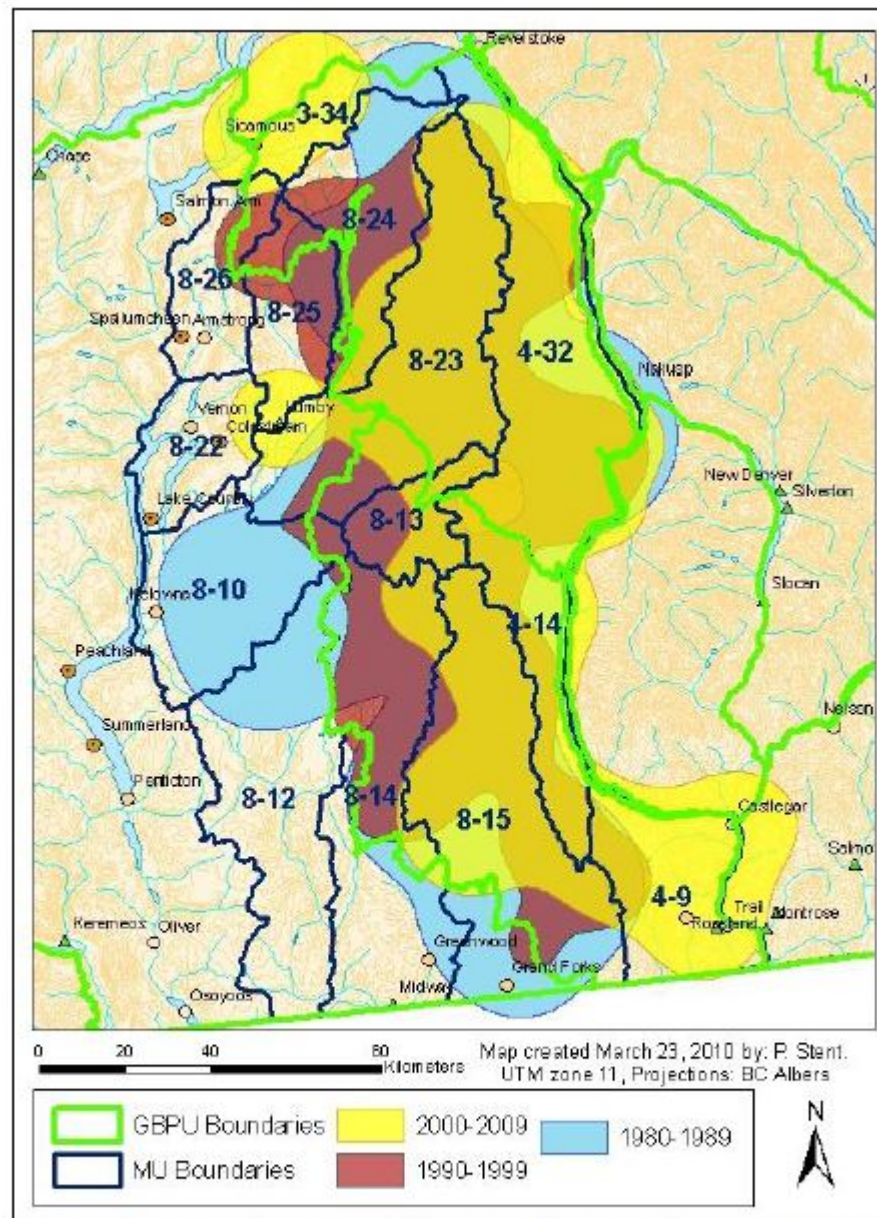
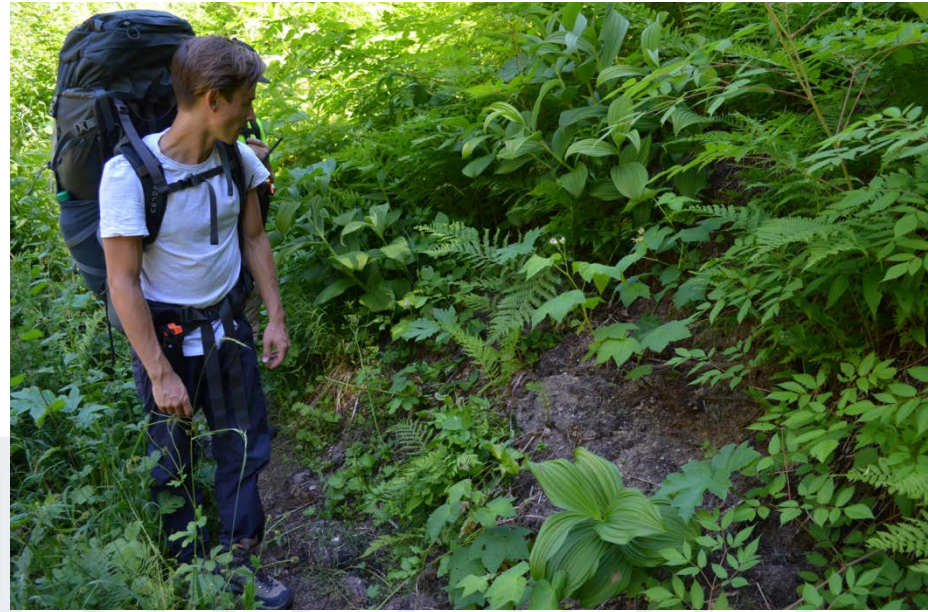


Figure 3: Comparison of 90% isopleths from adaptive kernel polygons fitted to grizzly bear sightings for 10 year time periods. Sighting data originate from guide-outfitter, forester, biologist, hunter, trapper and resident observations as well as conservation officer files. Sighting points exclude grizzly bear kill locations and observations of grizzly tracks and sign. The 2000-2009 dataset include 4 sightings from 2010.



Wildlife Act

MOTOR VEHICLE PROHIBITION REGULATION

[includes amendments up to B.C. Reg. 313/2016, December 16, 2016]

Motor vehicle closed areas

2 A person commits an offence if he or she uses or operates a motor vehicle in an area described in Schedule 1 specified in that schedule for each area.

Motor vehicle hunting closed areas

3 A person commits an offence if he or she uses or operates a motor vehicle for the purpose of hunting in an area described in Schedule 2 during the period specified in that schedule for each area.

Atv and snowmobile closed areas

4 A person commits an offence if he or she uses or operates an atv or snowmobile in an area described in Schedule 3 during the period specified in that schedule for each area.

Atv and snowmobile hunting closed areas

5 A person commits an offence if he or she uses or operates an atv or snowmobile for the purpose of hunting in an area described in Schedule 4 during the period specified in that schedule for each area.

Snowmobile hunting closed areas

6 A person commits an offence if he or she uses or operates a snowmobile for the purpose of hunting in an area described in Schedule 5 during the period specified in that schedule for each area.

Atv hunting closed areas

7 A person commits an offence if he or she uses or operates an atv for the purpose of hunting in an area described in Schedule 6 during the period specified in that schedule for each area.

Snowmobile closed areas

Thompson and Okanagan Alpine

85. Effective year round, in those portions of the Province of British Columbia that are above 1 700 m elevation and within either of the following regions, except on existing roads and trails:
- (a) Region 3, the Thompson Region;
 - (b) Region 8, the Okanagan Region.

[en. B.C. Reg. 72/2014, App. 3.]


Schedule 1 – General Wildlife Measures

Harvesting and silviculture

1. Forest practices will result in at least 10% of each management unit containing forest stands that exhibit a height of at least 19.5 meters, in patches that are at least 5 hectares in size. Management units are defined as the area of each BEC subzone within each landscape unit.
2. Forest harvesting along avalanche tracks, that are at least 40 meters in width, will result in forest stands that are at least 15 meters in height for: 100 meters on one side of the avalanche track, or 50 meters on both sides of the avalanche track.
3. Timber harvest and site preparation practices, in the BEC subzone variants described in Table 1, will not inhibit *Vaccinium* spp. productivity.
4. Planting of tree seedlings in harvested riparian site series will result in stocking densities that are consistent with maintaining plant communities that produce bear forage. Areas that did not have forest cover before timber harvesting was carried out will not be subjected to planting of trees.
5. No cutting of non-merchantable stems within 20 meters of main haul roads.

Table 1: Important Berry Producing Site Series

BEC Subzone Variants	Site Series
ESSFdc1	01, 04
ESSFdc2	01, 04, 05
ESSFwc2	01, 02, 03, 04, 05
ESSFwc4	01, 02, 03, 04
ESSFxc	01
ESSFvc	01, 02, 03
ESSFvv	01, 03
ICHvk1	03
ICHwk1	01, 04

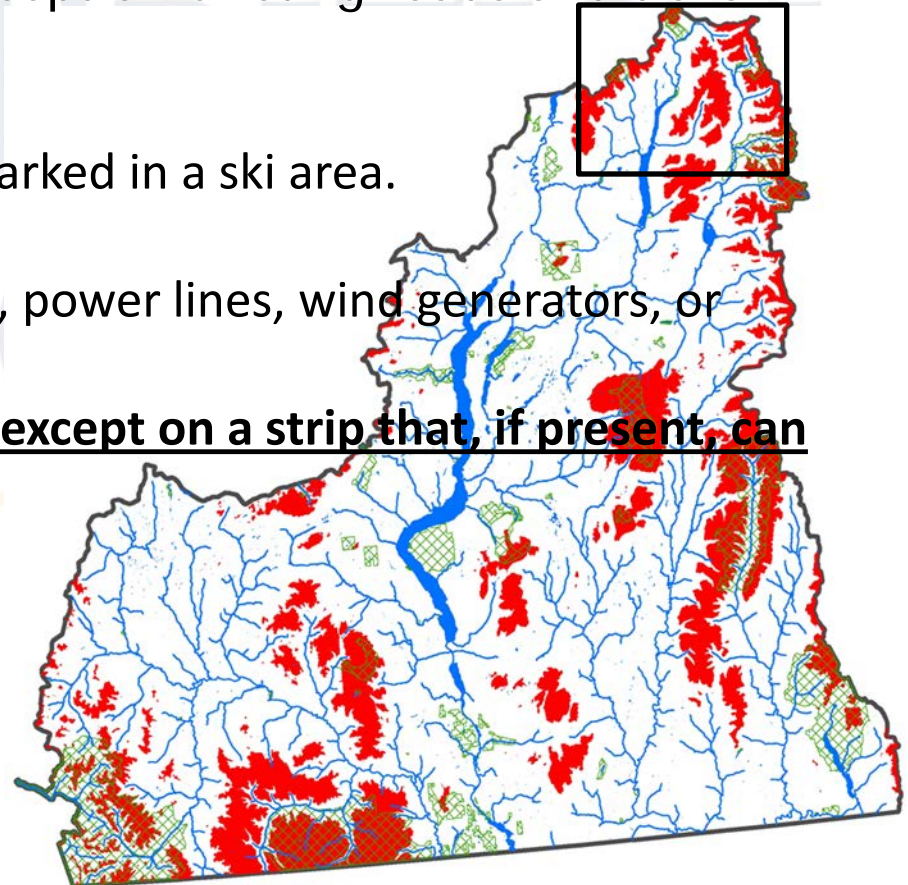

Signed this 24th day of May, 2006
Chris Trumpy, Deputy Minister
Ministry of Environment

Existing Regulations

- GAR and Wildlife Habitat Areas – forest harvesting activities
- Wildlife Act Motor Vehicle Prohibition Regulations - Operation of all motor vehicles, excluding snowmobiles is prohibited in the Thompson and Okanagan above 1,700m elevation, except on existing roads and trails.

An existing road or trail is defined as:

- A road or trail with a paved surface.
- A cross-country or downhill ski route marked in a ski area.
- A road used for logging or mining.
- A road or trail used for access to fences, power lines, wind generators, or communication towers.
- **A trail on which there is no vegetation except on a strip that, if present, can be straddled by a 4-wheel vehicle.**







Timing and Process

- Consultation and data collection
 - Meetings to date:
 1. Okanagan Hunting Advisory Committee (April 22, 2017)
 2. Shuswap Regional Trails Strategy Working Group (June 19, 2017)
 3. Joss-Tsuius-Mabel Mountain Access Management Meeting (August 9, 2017)
- Regional Regulation Proposals submitted to Victoria (deadline October 2017)
- Hunting and Trapping Consultation Website (posted October 2017)
- Minister Sign-off (March 2018)
- Regulation takes effect July 1st 2018