



## Environmental Protection and Management Guide and Environmental Information Management System Updates

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** June 18, 2018

The BC Oil and Gas Commission (Commission) has released a series of updates to the Environmental Protection and Management Guidelines (EPMG) and the Environmental Information Management System (EIMS). These updates continue to provide transparent wildlife guidance to the oil and gas sector that fits within the provincial oil and gas legislation and aligns, where possible, with natural resource sector guidance.

Updates to the EPMG and EIMS have been posted and the changes become effective on June 18, 2018. Applications submitted after June 18, 2018 must adhere to the updated guidance. Updates include:

### 1. Environmental Protection and Management Guidelines

The EPMG has been updated to provide guidance and clarification for the:

- High Priority Wildlife (HPW) Determination Process.
- Hierarchy of External Wildlife Guidance.
- Application of Planning and Operational Measures for Wildlife.
- Wildlife Habitat Feature setback requirements.

Additional editing and formatting changes have been made to the EPMG to increase user readability.

### 2. Environmental Information Management System

Updates to the online system include:

- Restructure of system to focus guidance on northeast B.C. wildlife species.
- The HPW species list in EIMS has been updated to reflect northeast B.C. focus and HPW Determination Process (refer to the EPMG updates).
- Addition of new Areas Under Order summaries and the revision of existing summaries for those species occurring in application areas within northeast B.C.

Interim Operating Practices continue to apply for Boreal Caribou Wildlife Habitat Areas and Ungulate Winter Range.

### **Training Session:**

To support the updates, the Commission is offering scenario-based training designed to work through the online tools. The training session is free and will be held on May 30, 2018, 1:30-3:30 p.m. MST at the Fort St. John office of the BC Oil and Gas Commission, 6534 Airport Road. Send an RSVP to [Amber.Bergen@bcogc.ca](mailto:Amber.Bergen@bcogc.ca) to confirm attendance. Participants wishing to dial in can call 1-877-385-4099 (toll-free in Canada and the U.S.) using participant access code 3501648#.

For those not able to attend or needing a refresher, a recorded version of the training will be available on the Commission's website prior to the June 18 effective date. The Commission is also updating its FAQ web page to assist operators during this transition.

### **Should you have any questions regarding this bulletin, please contact:**

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