

# Skeena Islands '47 Reaches 8 & 9

## Historical Terrestrial Ecosystem Mapping of the Skeena River floodplain downstream of Terrace, BC

Covers parts of BCGS 1:20,000 map sheets 103I.023, 024, 034, 035, 036, 045, 046, 047, and 057

### Introduction

The Skeena Islands project was initiated to provide detailed information on the ecosystems of the Skeena River floodplain and their condition. This area has an extensive history of previous forest harvesting, and is made up primarily of red and blue-listed ecosystems. This mapping provides a baseline of what the ecosystems of the floodplain were before extensive harvesting occurred. This baseline mapping can then be used to set targets for the restoration of these red and blue listed ecosystems of the floodplain. The study area boundary is the floodplain of the Skeena River. Mapping was completed following the methods outlined in *Standard for Terrestrial Ecosystem Mapping in British Columbia (RIC 1998)*.

### Data Sources

This project was based on 1:30,000 black and white photographs taken in 1947. Base map is from TRIMII mapping based on 2001 and 2003 aerial photography. Fieldwork for this project was conducted in June, August, and September 2004.

### Citation

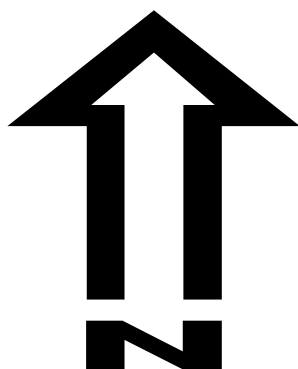
de Groot A.J., Haeussler S. and Yole D.W. 2005. Landscape and Stand Scale Structure and Dynamics of the Skeena River Floodplain Forests. Prepared for Bulkley Valley Centre for Natural Resource Research and Management, Smithers, BC in partnership with the Kalum Forest District, Terrace BC. 1:20,000 maps.

## Legend

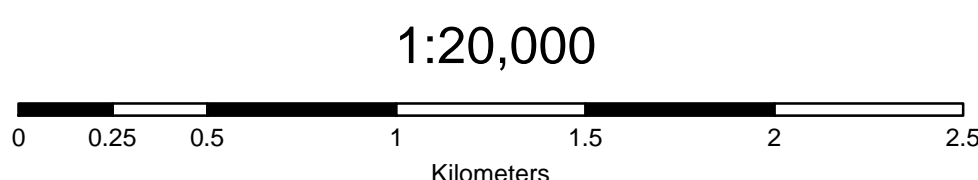
Ecosystems		Biogeoclimatic Units			
K/E: Kintail Ranges		CW1w1: Coastal Western Hemlock very wet maritime subzone, Submontane variant			
		CW1ws1: Coastal Western Hemlock wet submontane subzone, Submontane variant			
		Banner A. <i>et al.</i> 1993. A field guide to site identification and interpretation for the Prince Rupert Forest Region, LHM 26, Ministry of Forests, Victoria, BC.			
Site series name	Colour	Structural stage	Map Code	Site series # (vml & ws1)	Prov. CDC rank
Sa - Salmonberry High bench	Red	7	SS	09 & 07	Red
Act - Red-ear dogwood Middle bench	Green	6	CD	10 & 08	Blue
Act - Willow Low bench	Yellow	5	CW	11 & 09	
Cw - Skunk cabbage	Orange	4	RC	14 & 11	
Herb - Bramble	Light Green	3	HM	01	
Shrub - Herb	Light Blue	2	SH		
Gravel bar	Light Blue	1	GB		
River	Blue		RJ		

Structural Stage	Ecosystem Unit Label
1 Sparse beyond	417: Polygon
2 Herb	4587: Decile 1, Site Series 1, Structural Stage 1
3a Low shrub	1CD5 - Decile 2, Site Series 2, Structural Stage 2
3b Tall shrub	1CD5aah - Decile 3, Site Series 3, Structural Stage 3, Modifier 3
4 Pole sapling	
5 Young forest, generally 40-80 years old, but may be 30 years depending tree species and ecological conditions.	
6 Mature forest, CW1 is in Group B - 60-250 years old.	
7 Old forest, CW1 is in Group B - >250 years	

Seral stage modifiers	Modifier	Typical conditions
rs	Red alder	Old cutbacks and disturbed areas
ps	Dense willow	Low energy backchannels and young islands
ah	Alder horsetail	Cut off or filled in abandoned channels



BCGS Map Grid (1:20K)	Streams
Forest District Boundary	Road (Paved)
Protected Areas	Road (Gravel)
Landscape Unit Polygons	Rail Line
Ownership Polygon	Transmission Line
Biogeoclimatic Zone & Variant	Pipeline
Reaches	Airport
Indian Reserves	
Wetlands	
Rivers and Lakes	



Produced for:  
Ministry of Forest - Kalum District  
Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection - Skeena Region



Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management  
Skeena Contact Centre

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