

Skeena Islands '47 Reaches 1 & 2

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

Covers parts of BCGS 1:20,000 map sheets 1031.023, 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 TRIMM mapping based on 2001 and 2003 aerial photography. Fieldwork for this project was conducted in June, August, and September 2004.

Citation

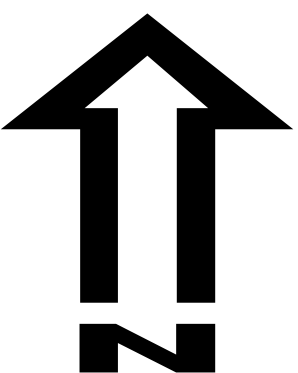
de Groot A.J., Haeussler S. and Yole D.W. 2005. Landscape and Stand Scale Structure and Dynamics of the Skeena River Floodplain Forests. Prepared for Bulkley Valley Centre for Natural Resource Research and Management, Smithers, BC in partnership with the Kalum Forest District, Terrace BC. 1:20,000 maps.

Legend

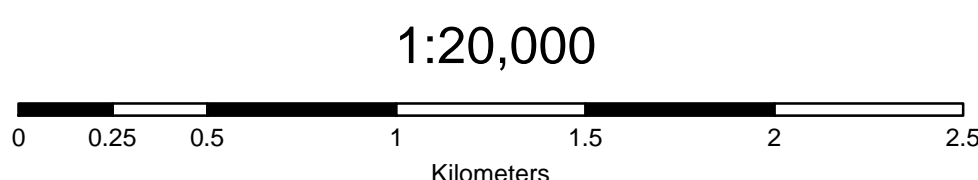
Ecosystems		Biogeoclimatic Units					
KfE: Kintail Ranges		CWH1v1: Coastal Western Hemlock very wet maritime subzone, Submontane variant					
		CWH1v1: Coastal Western Hemlock wet submontane subzone, Submontane variant					
		Banner A, et al. 1993. A field guide to site identification and interpretation for the Prince Rupert Forest Region, LHM 26, Ministry of Forests, Victoria, BC.					
Site series name	Colour	Structural stage	Map Code	Site series # (vml & wsl)	Prov. CDC rank	Typical Conditions	
Sa - Salmonberry High bench	Red	1 2 3 4	SS	09 & 07	Red	Conifer dominated stands that are occasionally flooded.	
Act - Red-ear dogwood Middle bench	Green	1 2 3 4 5	CD	10 & 08	Blue	Act or Dr dominated stands that are regularly flooded.	
Act - Willow Low bench	Yellow	1-3	CW	11 & 09		Stands on young frequently flooded landforms that are in a shrub or young pole sapling structural stage.	
CW - Skunk cabbage	Orange	4	RC	14 & 11		Open stands on receiving sites at the base of slopes were floodplain and fan or colluvium meet. Sometimes hard to distinguish from SS.	
Herb - Bramble	Light Green	5	HM	01		Zonal stands on inactive fluvial deposits.	
Shrub - Herb	Light Blue	6	SH			Early seral types in backchannels, tidal areas and wetlands.	
Gravel bar	Light Blue	7	GB				
River	Blue		RI				

Structural Stage		Ecosystem Unit Label	
Code	Modifier	417: Polygon	
1	Sparse broad	SSST - Decile 1, Site Series 1, Structural Stage 1	
2	Herb	ICD9 - Decile 2, Site Series 2, Structural Stage 2	
3a	Low shrub	ICD9ah - Decile 3, Site Series 3, Structural Stage 3, Modifier 3	
3b	Tall shrub		
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, CWH is in Group B - 80-250 years old.		
7	Old forest, CWH is in Group B - >250 years		

Seral stage modifiers		Typical conditions
Code	Modifier	
ra	Red alder	Old subbanks 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

Filepath: smtmb.env.bc.ca/wf/lot/templskse_isfske_47_1
Projection/Datum: BC Albers/NAD 83
Date Created: 2005-05-27
Created by: Smithers Service Center, wfe