

# Skeena Islands Conservation Ranks 2005 Reaches 3 & 4

Conservation Value Ranking of the Skeena River Floodplain Forests Downstream of Terrace, BC  
Covers parts of mapsheets 1031.023, 024, 034, 035, 036, 045, 046, 047, and 057  
Scale 1:20,000  
July 2005  
Projection: BC Albers, Datum: NAD83

## 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 the Red-listed high bench Sitka Spruce – salmonberry and the Blue-listed middle bench Cottonwood – red-osier dogwood ecosystems. These two ecosystems have been ranked for their conservation value, with the other ecosystems listed in the legend being unranked. This mapping will provide the basis for the restoration of these ecosystems by identifying the areas with the greatest conservation value. The areas with the greatest conservation value are ranked "A" and the least conservation value are ranked "D". The study area boundary is the floodplain of the Skeena River. For information on ranking methodology see the report cited below.

## Data Sources

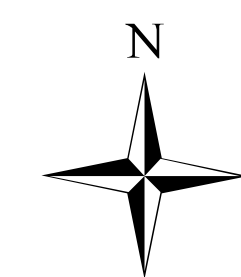
The base TEM map was based on 1:20,000 colour photographs taken in 1994 and 1:30,000 black and white photographs taken in 2003. The conservation ranks were based on aerial photographs taken in April 2005.

## Citation

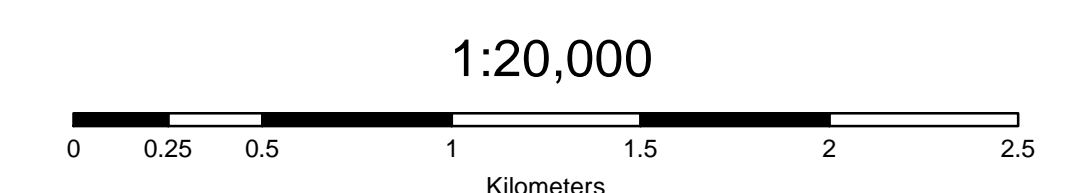
de Groot A.J., Hacussler S. and Yole D.W. 2005. Landscape and Stand Scale Structure and Dynamics of the Skeena River Floodplain Forests. Prepared for Bulkley Valley Centre for Natural Resource Research and Management, Smithers, BC in partnership with the Kalam Forest District, Terrace BC. 1:20,000 maps.

## Legend

Conservation value rank			
Rank	Subrank	Colour	Typical Conditions
A	n/a	Dark Red	Mature and old conifer-dominated stands that have either not been previously harvested or <25% of the basal area has been removed, and are on stable landforms.
	B1	Dark Green	Primary or secondary deciduous-dominated stands with varying amounts of conifer regeneration or remnant conifer structure. Lower subranks have less conifer prominence, are on less stable landforms or are smaller polygons.
	B2	Medium Green	
	B3	Light Green	
C	n/a	Blue	Areas that have been cleared of their forest vegetation for agricultural or right-of-ways purposes, or are on very unstable landforms.
	n/a	Purple	Areas that are being used for highway, railway or residential purposes.
D	n/a	Brown	Stands on young frequently flooded landforms that are in a shrub or young pole/sapling structural stage.
	n/a	Orange	Open stands on receiving sites at the base of slopes were floodplain and fan or colluvium meet. Sometimes hard to distinguish from SS.
Cw - Skunk cabbage	n/a	Yellow	
Drumline	n/a	Light Orange	Zonal stands on inactive fluvial deposits.
Shrub - herb	n/a	Pink	Early seral types in backchannels, tidal areas and wetlands.
Gravel bar	n/a	Light Blue	
River	n/a	Dark Blue	
Not Ranked	n/a	White	Not ranked due to cloud cover.



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 Forests & Range - Kalam District  
Ministry of Environment - Skeena Region

Produced by:



**Integrated Land Management Bureau  
Land Information BC  
Business Solutions Branch**

Filepath: G:\S\alkow\l\centre\skeena\_islands\mxd\liske\_2005\_3-4.mxd  
Projection/Datum: BC Albers/NAD 83  
Date Created: August 5th, 2005  
Created by: Smithers Service Centre