Skeena Islands
Conservation Ranks 2005
Reaches 8 & 9

Conservation Value Ranking of the Skeena River Floodplain Forests Downstream of Terrace, BC
Covers parts of mapsheets 103I.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., 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

Conservation value rank

Rank	Subrank	Colour	Typical Conditions
A	n/a		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.
B	B1		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		
	B3		
	B4		
C	n/a		Areas that have been cleared of their forest vegetation for agricultural or right-of-ways purposes, or are on very unstable landforms.
D	n/a		Areas that are being used for highway, railway or residential purposes
Low bench	n/a		Stands on young frequently flooded landforms that are in a shrub or young pole/sapling structural stage.
Cw - Skunk cabbage	n/a		Open stands on receiving sites at the base of slopes were floodplain and fan or colluvium meet. Sometimes hard to distinguish from SS.
HwBa - Bramble	n/a		Zonal stands on inactive fluvial deposits.
Shrub - herb	n/a		Early seral types in backchannels, tidal areas and wetlands.
Gravel bar	n/a		
River	n/a		
Not Ranked	n/a		Not ranked due to cloud cover.

N

British Columbia

Study Area

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

1:20,000
0 0.25 0.5 1 1.5 2 2.5
Kilometers

Produced for:
Ministry of Forests & Range - Kalum District
Ministry of Environment - Skeena Region

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