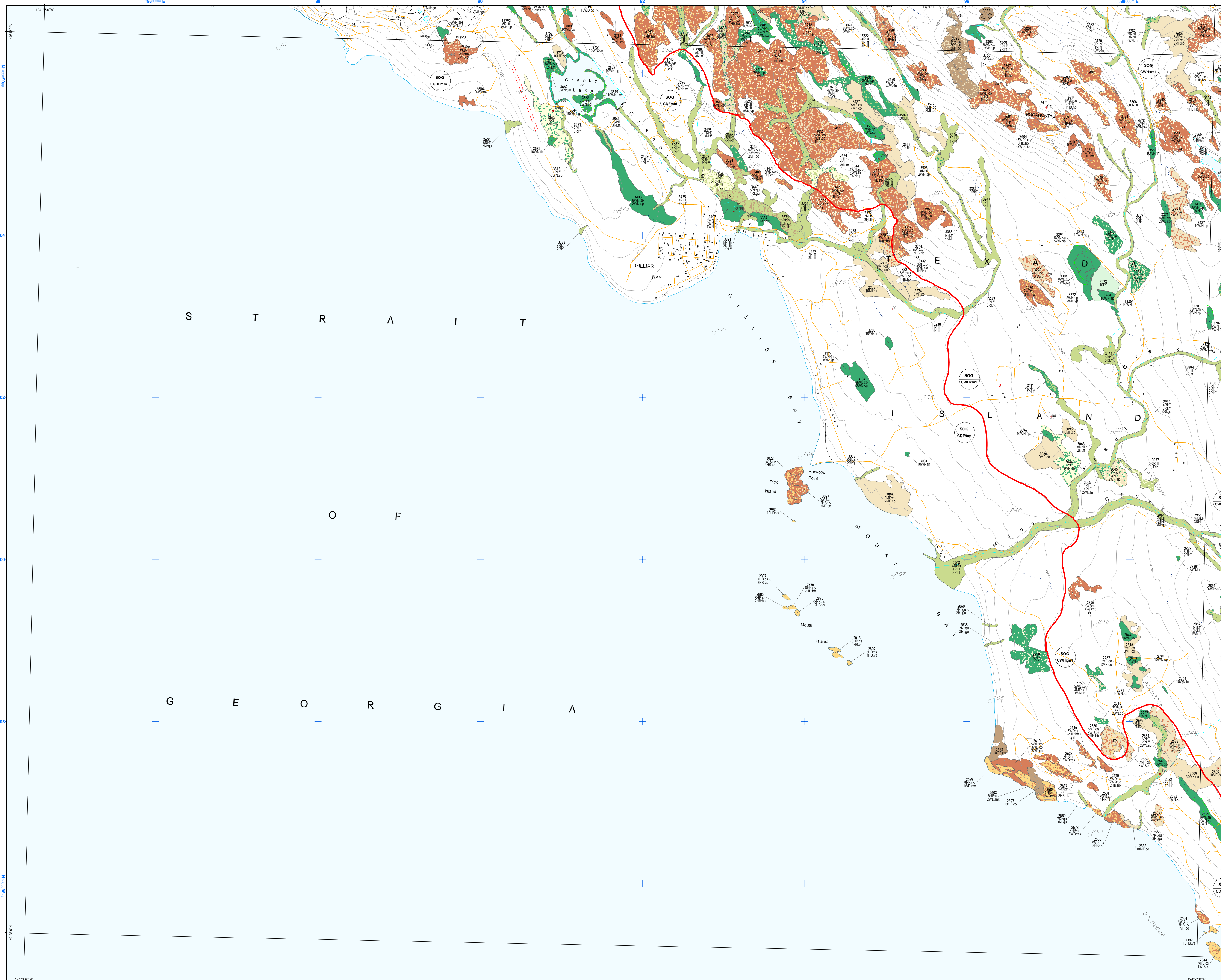


Sensitive and Terrestrial Ecosystems Labels



Sensitive Ecosystems Inventory of the Sunshine Coast and Adjacent Islands



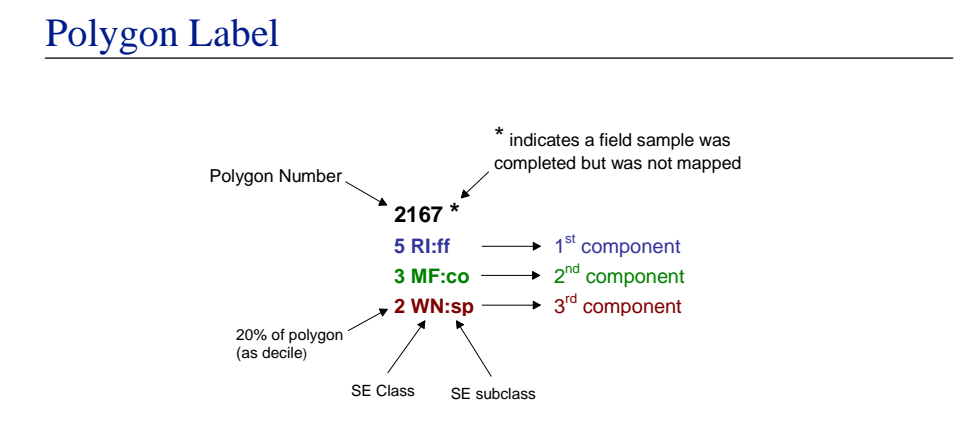
Sensitive Ecosystems

Sensitive ecosystems are fragile and/or rare, or are ecologically important because of the diversity of species they support.

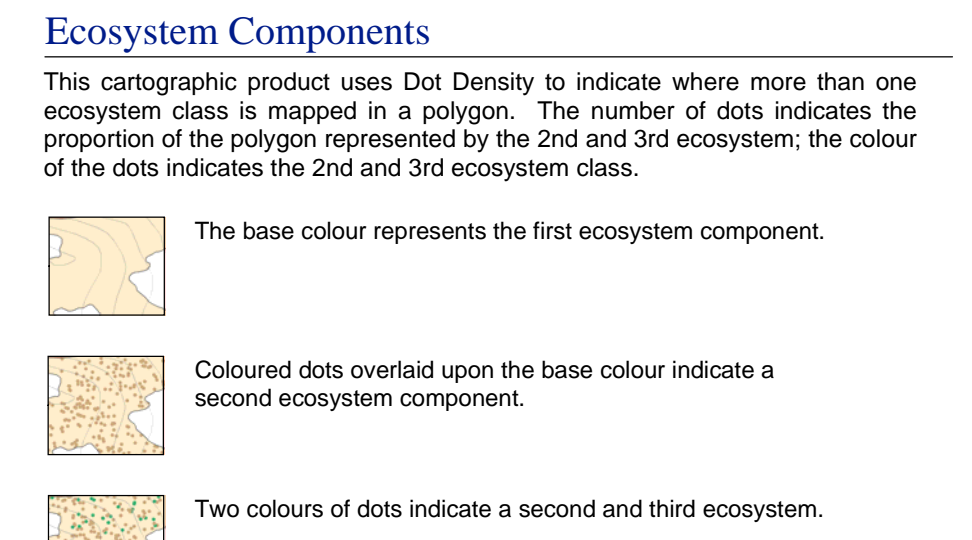
- Old Forest (OF): Conifer-dominated dry to moist forest types...
Woodland (WD): Dry open forests, generally between 10 and 30% tree cover...
Herbaceous (HB): Non-forested ecosystems less than 10% tree cover...
Riparian (RI): Areas adjacent to water bodies (rivers, lakes, ocean, wetlands)...

- Wetland (WN): Areas that are saturated or inundated with water for long enough periods of time to develop vegetation and biological activity adapted to wet environments...
Chiffs (CL): Very steep slopes, often exposed bedrock, may include steep sided sand bluffs...

- Other Important Ecosystems: Other important ecosystems have high biodiversity values.
Mature Forests (MF): Usually conifer-dominated, occasionally deciduous, dry to moist forest types...
Seasonally Flooded Agricultural Fields (FS): Annually flooded cultivated fields or hay fields...
Other Mapped Ecosystems: Other mapped ecosystems occur in mosaic with sensitive ecosystems...



Some polygon labels will have class and subclass repeated up to three times. This does not mean that the variability in site units and structural stages occurring within a polygon...



- Biogeoclimatic Units: CDFM Coastal Douglas-fir Moist Maritime Subzone, CWHM1 Coastal Western Hemlock Eastern Very Dry Maritime Variant, etc.

- Ecosystems: GEL Georgia Lowlands Ecosystem, SOG Strait of Georgia Ecosystem, QUF Outer Fjordland Ecosystem, SPR Southern Pacific Ranges Ecosystem

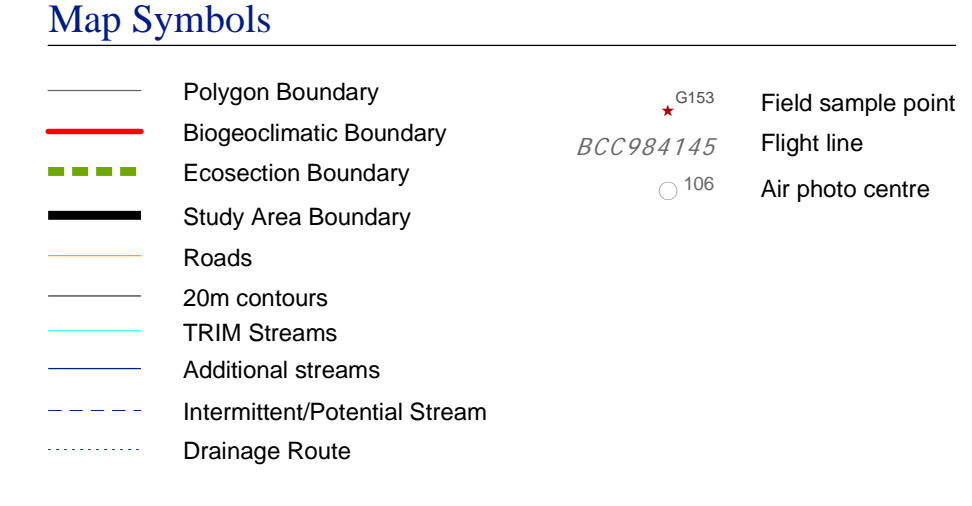


Table with 2 columns: Structural Stage 1 and Structural Stage 2. Lists various ecosystem codes and their corresponding site unit numbers.

What is a Sensitive Ecosystem? For the purpose of this study, an ecosystem is considered to be a portion of the landscape with relatively uniform dominant vegetation.

Rationale: Ecologically significant lands and important wildlife habitats are fast disappearing throughout the lowlands surrounding the Strait of Georgia.

Methodology: The mapping methods are based on the Vancouver Island SEI project and the Resources Information Standards Committee (RISC) Standard for Terrestrial Ecosystem Mapping (TEM) in BC.

Plan and implement all development activities in a manner that will not adversely affect or disturb the sensitive ecosystem.

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