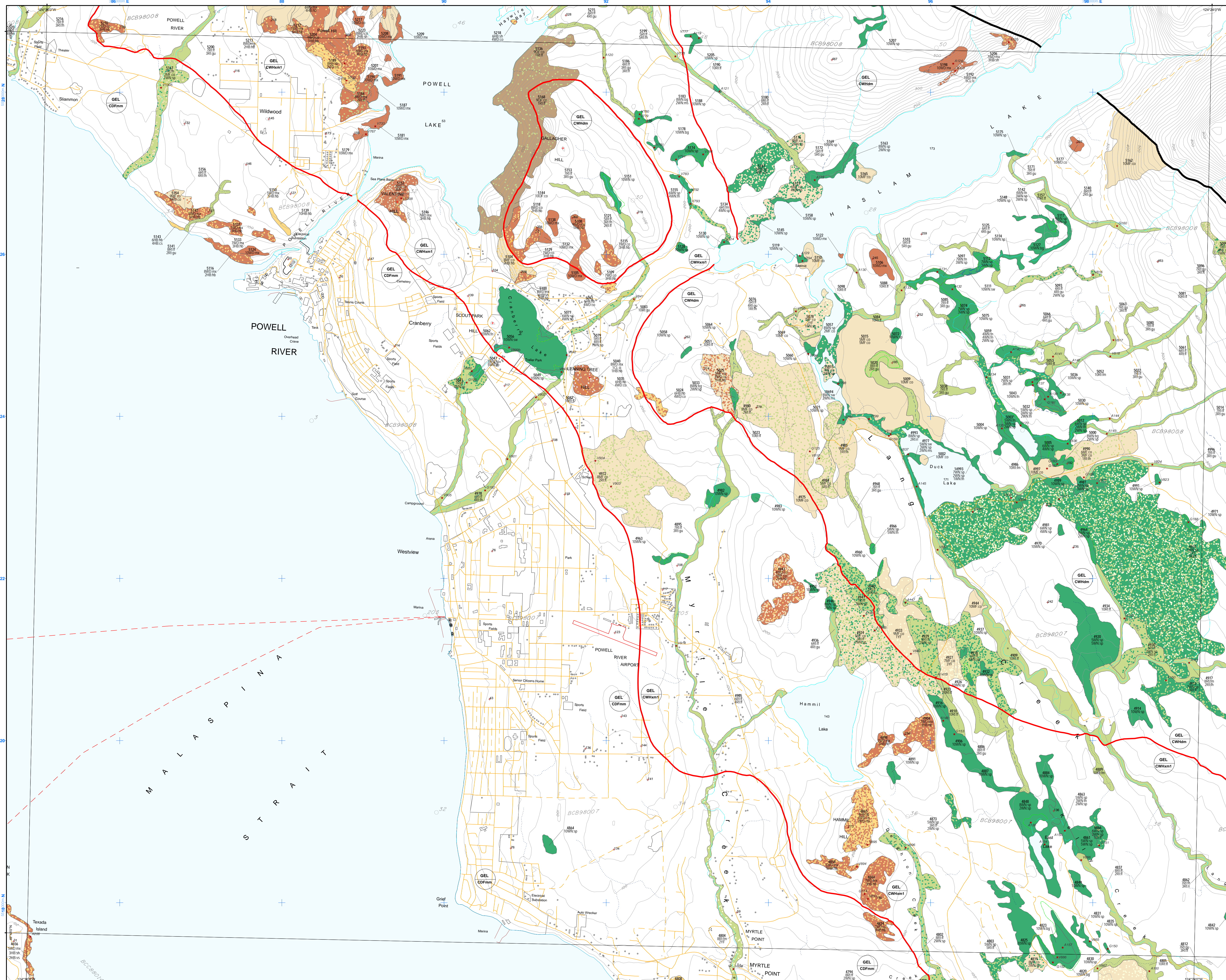


Sensitive and Terrestrial Ecosystems Labels

Table with 4 columns: Polygon Number, Ecosystem Class, Subclass, and Site Unit Name. Lists various polygons and their corresponding ecosystem classifications.



Sensitive Ecosystems Inventory of the Sunshine Coast and Adjacent Islands



Structural Stages and Terrestrial Ecosystem Map Codes and Site Unit Names. Includes a table for Structural Stages (1-6) and a table for Terrestrial Ecosystem Map Codes and Site Unit Names (1-10).

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. Intense development pressures fuelled by population and economic growth have fragmented and degraded many terrestrial ecosystems.

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. Ecosystem categories include six Sensitive Ecosystem (SE) classes, two Important Ecosystem classes, and one Other Ecosystem class.

Plan and implement all development activities in a manner that will not adversely affect or disturb the sensitive ecosystem. Consult a qualified professional to interpret the ecological inventory data and work to incorporate design that maintain the functions and values of the natural ecosystem.

A property owner learn more about the natural values of your land, including the location of any sensitive ecosystems. Find out how to protect, maintain, and enhance those values. Consider using conservation covenants or other measures to ensure that the natural features you value are protected in perpetuity.

A decision-maker (such as a politician or resource manager) ensure that protection of remaining sensitive ecosystems is a priority at all levels, and support programs, plans and operational activity that will help protect sensitive ecosystems. Encourage and facilitate the development and implementation of biodiversity conservation strategies.

Sensitive Ecosystems

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

Legend and additional information. Includes sections for Old Forest (OF), Woodland (WD), Herbaceous (HB), Riparian (RI), Wetland (WN), Cliffs (CL), Other Important Ecosystems, Mature Forests (MF), Seasonally Flooded Agricultural Fields (FS), Other Mapped Ecosystems, Young Forests (YF), Polygon Label, Ecosystem Components, Biogeoclimatic Units, and Ecosystems. Also includes a map of the Sunshine Coast region and a scale bar.