

TABLE 8. Summary of climate data for biogeoclimatic units ^a

| Climatic Characteristics | | Biogeoclimatic Unit | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------|---------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | | SBSdk | SBSdw2 | SBSdw3 | SBSmk1 | SBSmc2 | SBSmc3 | SBPsmc |
| Annual Precipitation (mm) | Mean | 480.6 | 552.9 | 494.4 | 727.4 | 574.4 | 505.6 | N/A |
| | Range | 415.9 - 586.3 | 427.0 - 648.5 | N/A | 628.3 - 838.2 | 460.1 | N/A | N/A |
| Growing Season Precipitation (mm) | Mean | 211.0 | 274.8 | 259.4 | 272.6 | 229.4 | 261.4 | 195.9 |
| | Range | 167.4 - 323.0 | 248.0 - 296.3 | 224.1 - 298.4 | 196.8 - 432.0 | 139.4 - 348.9 | 242.8 - 288.7 | 156.0 - 235.5 |
| Annual Snowfall (cm) | Mean | 188.1 | 204.1 | 204.2 | 306.3 | 237.1 | 197.1 | N/A |
| | Range | 121.9 - 265.2 | 169.8 - 225.8 | N/A | 241.7 - 355.5 | 177.3 - 264.0 | N/A | N/A |
| Annual Temperature (°C) | Mean | 2.1 | 3.4 | 2.6 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 0.6 | 0.8 |
| | Range | 0.8 - 3.5 | 2.0 - 4.4 | 1.3 - 3.5 | -0.2 - 3.3 | -0.7 - 3.6 | N/A | 0.7 - 0.8 |
| Growing Degree-days (>5°C) | Mean | 1028 | 1224 | 1089 | 975 | 947 | N/A | N/A |
| | Range | 884 - 1145 | 1072 - 1409 | N/A | 751 - 1198 | 844 - 1012 | N/A | N/A |
| Frost-free Period (days) | Mean | 70 | 105 | 83 | 73 | 116 | 18 | N/A |
| | Range | 39 - 103 | 94 - 122 | N/A | 43 - 92 | 106 - 125 | N/A | N/A |

^a Reynolds, G. 1989. Climatic data summaries for the biogeoclimatic zones of British Columbia. B.C. Min. For., Research Branch, Victoria, B.C. Unpublished report.

TABLE 9. Some important wildlife species that use biogeoclimatic units in the West Central guide area

| Species | Occurrence in Variants | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| | SBSdk | SBSdw2 | SBSdw3 | SBSmc2 | SBSmc3 | SBSmk1 | SBPSmc | ESSFmv1 |
| Moose (winter range) | * | * | * | | * | * | * | |
| Mule Deer (winter range) | * | * | * | * | * | | * | |
| White-tailed Deer | * | | * | | * | * | | |
| Elk | | | * | | | | | |
| Caribou ^a | * | | | | * | | * | * |
| Grizzly Bear ^a | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| Furbearers | * | * | * | * | * | * | * | * |

^a Denotes species "blue listed" in 1989 by the Ministry of Environment. Because of major declines in their populations, they are considered sensitive and/or deserving of management attention.



SBPSmc **Subzone Summary**

4.7 Moist Cold Sub-Boreal Pine - Spruce¹⁸

Location

The SBPSmc occurs in the western portions of the guide area, generally at elevations between 900 and 1200 m. In the guide area, it is bordered by the SBSmc3 to the east and SBSdk to the north (Figure 1).

Elevation range

850 - 1300 m

Climate

The climate, due to its position on a high plateau on the lee side of the Coast Mountains, is relatively dry and cold. The SBPSmc has the driest climate of the biogeoclimatic units described. The summers are dry and short, limiting forest productivity in this unit. It has the shortest growing season of any of the units described, with the exception of the ESSFmv1.

Soils, Geology, and Landforms

Bedrock in this subzone is predominantly volcanic (andesite and basalt) of Tertiary age. Parent materials are dominantly morainal, with gravelly loam textures. The associated soils are Gray Luvisols, including Brunisolic Gray Luvisols. Dystric Brunisols have formed on coarser morainal and glaciofluvial materials with gravelly loamy sand and sand textures.

Distinguishing the SBPSmc from adjoining biogeoclimatic units

SBSdk has:

- generally better developed shrub and herb layers, especially on mesic sites;
- trembling aspen in the canopy; and
- purple peavine but less kinnikinnick in the herb layer, especially on mesic sites.

SBSmc3 has:

- subalpine fir in the canopy; and
- more trailing raspberry but less kinnikinnick in the herb layer, especially on mesic sites.

ESSFmv1 has:

- subalpine fir in the canopy;
- white-flowered rhododendron but no prickly rose in shrub layer; and
- heart-leaved arnica but no kinnikinnick in the herb layer, especially on mesic sites.

Forests

Recurrent fires have ensured that climax forests are dominated by lodgepole pine. Hybrid white spruce occurs on moisture-receiving sites. Black spruce occurs in wetlands and also on upland sites on poor soils in combination with lodgepole pine. Black cottonwood occurs along streams and rivers, and is often associated with hybrid white spruce. Forest productivity is low, being limited by the dry, short growing season.

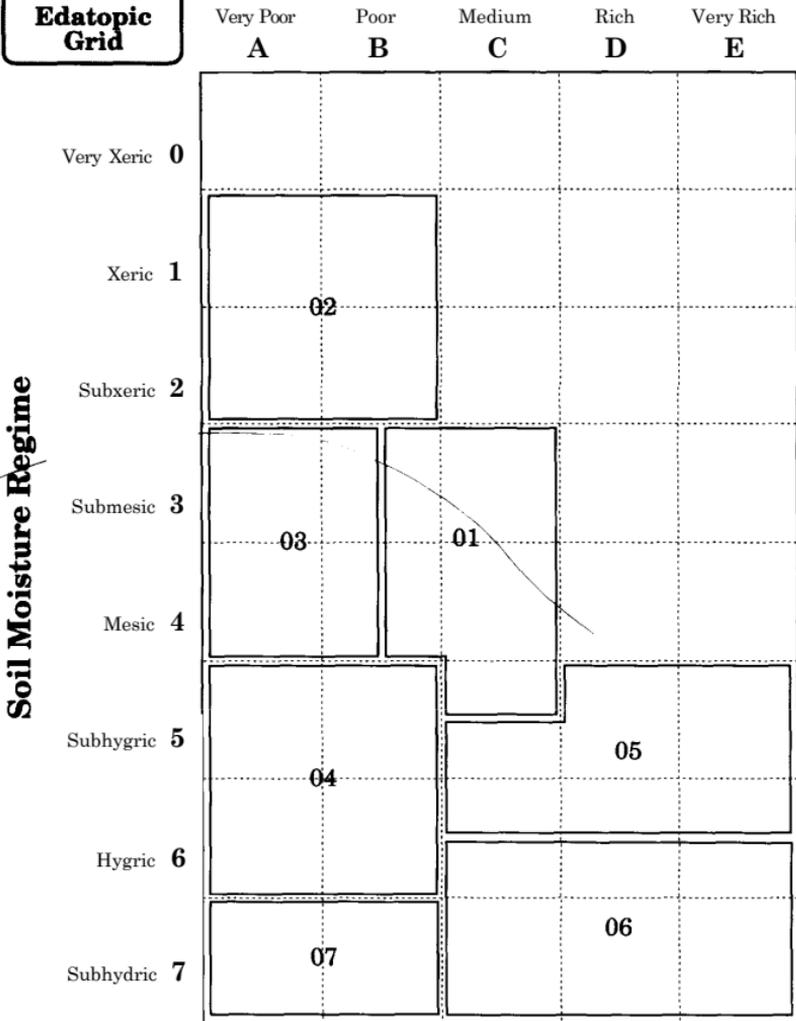
¹⁸ formerly SBSa

Wildlife

Dry pine-dominated sites within this unit with abundant terrestrial lichen provide critical winter habitat for woodland caribou. Older spruce and pine forests provide arboreal lichen that can be important for the caribou, especially in winters with high snowfall. Shrub-dominated wetlands below 1000 m elevation provide important winter habitat for moose. This wetland habitat also supports furbearers such as beaver, muskrat, mink, and otter. Sub-boreal coniferous forests are used by moose, mule deer, grizzly bear, black bear, white-tailed deer, spruce grouse, and furbearers, such as wolverine, marten and red squirrel.

SBPSmc
Edatopic
Grid

Soil Nutrient Regime



- 01 Pl- Feathermoss - Cladina
- 02 Pl- Kinnikinnick - Cladonia
- 03 SbPl - Feathermoss

- 04 Sxw - Scrub birch - Feathermoss
- 05 Sxw - Horsetail
- 06 Sxw - Horsetail - Glow moss
- 07 SbSxw - Scrub birch - Sedge

FIGURE 21. Edatopic grid displaying site units in the SBPSmc subzone.

| | Site Units | 02 | 03 | 01 | 04 | 05 | 06 | 07 | |
|-------------------------------|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----------|-----------------------|
| Trees | <i>Pinus contorta</i> | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | lodgepole pine |
| | <i>Picea glauca</i> | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | white spruce |
| | <i>Picea mariana</i> | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | black spruce |
| Shrubs | <i>Shepherdia canadensis</i> | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | soopolallie |
| | <i>Vaccinium membranaceum</i> | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | black huckleberry |
| | <i>Ledum groenlandicum</i> | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | ■ | Labrador tea |
| | <i>Lonicera involucreta</i> | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | black twinberry |
| | <i>Salix</i> spp. (<i>glauca</i> , <i>barclayi</i>) | | | | ■ | | ■ | ■ | willows |
| Herbs and Dwarf Shrubs | <i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i> | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | kinnikinnick |
| | <i>Calamagrostis canadensis</i> | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | bluejoint |
| | <i>Equisetum arvense</i> | | | | | ■ | ■ | | common horsetail |
| | <i>Equisetum sylvaticum</i> | | | | | ■ | ■ | | wood horsetail |
| | <i>Carex</i> spp. | | | | | | ■ | | sedges |
| | <i>Empetrum nigrum</i> | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | ■ | crowberry |
| Mosses and Lichens | <i>Cladina</i> spp. | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | ■ | cladina lichens |
| | <i>Hylocomium splendens</i> | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | step moss |
| | <i>Mnium</i> spp. | | | | | ■ | ■ | | leafy moss |
| | <i>Aulacomnium palustre</i> | | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | glow moss |
| | <i>Tomenthypnum nitens</i> | | | | | | ■ | ■ | golden fuzzy fen moss |
| <i>Sphagnum</i> spp. | | ■ | | | | ■ | ■ | sphagnums | |

FIGURE 22. SBPSmc vegetation table.

Prominence class: ■ 1 ■ 2 ■ 3 ■ 4 ■ 5

- 6a Canopy generally pure lodgepole pine; sparse shrub layer; herb layer sparse and dominated by *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi* (p.82); moss layer dominated by lichens; generally on coarse-textured glaciofluvial soils.

SBPSmc/02

- 6b Canopy pure lodgepole pine or mixed lodgepole pine and white spruce; herb layer better developed and dominated by other species; moss layer comprised of feathermosses and lichens; on medium- to coarse-textured morainal and glaciofluvial soils.

SBPSmc/01

*Shepherdia canadensis**Arctostaphylos uva-ursi**Pleurozium schreberi*

VEGETATION

Tree Layer: 35% cover
lodgepole pine, white spruce

Shrub Layer: 20% cover
Shepherdia canadensis (soopolallie)
[*Rosa acicularis*] (prickly rose)
[*Spiraea betulifolia*: (birch-leaved spirea)]
[*Juniperus communis*] (common juniper)]
white spruce
[lodgepole pine]

Herb Layer: 20% cover
Cornus canadensis (bunchberry)
Arctostaphylos uva-ursi (kinnikinnick)
Linnaea borealis (twinflower)
Vaccinium caespitosum (dwarf blueberry)
[*Epilobium angustifolium*] (fireweed)]
[*Calamagrostis canadensis*] (bluejoint)]

Moss Layer: 75% cover
Pleurozium schreberi (red-stemmed feathermoss)
Peltigera spp. (peltigera lichens)
Cladina spp. (cladina lichens)
[*Hylocomium splendens*] (stepmoss)]
[*Ptilium crista-castrensis*] (knight's plume)]
[*Dicranum* spp.] (dicranum mosses)]

SOIL AND SITE

Moisture Regime: 3-5 (sm-shg)
Nutrient Regime: B-C (p-m)
Slope Gradient (%): 0-65
Slope Position: variable
Parent Material: morainal or glaciofluvial
Soil Texture: variable
Coarse Fragments (%): not available

DISTRIBUTION: very common, widespread, and often large

Pl- Feathermoss - Cladina (SBPSmc/01)

INTERPRETATIONS

- Site limitations: - sites within this unit with thick organic horizons (> 10 cm) have reduced spring soil temperatures, which slows root development; **reduce organic horizon thickness during site preparation.**
- Silviculture system: - see Section 5.1
- minimize or align large slash accumulations when logging to help meet site preparation objectives.
- Site preparation: - light scarification for seedbed preparation or summer logging with no site preparation.
- Species choice: - Pl (**Sb, Sx**)
- Vegetation potential: - low
- Reforestation: - attempt to regenerate naturally if potential exists.
- if natural regeneration is not feasible, plant Pl stock without site preparation.
- Sx and Sb are generally not as productive as Pl.
- Concerns: - site conditions may lead to frost damage of regeneration, especially in any naturally occurring or artificially created depression; **leaving a partial canopy and/or choosing a frost-resistant species (eg., Pl) is advised.**
- sites within this unit with shallow and/or coarse textured soils are vulnerable to nutrient deficiency if forest floors are reduced; **site preparation methods that reduce forest floor thickness, such as slashburning or brushblading, must be avoided.**
- full tree harvesting will lead to nutrient depletion and seriously reduce cones; **woody debris and cones should be distributed across these sites (ie., lop and scatter)**
- high windthrow hazard if effective rooting depth < 30 cm.
- sites with terrestrial lichen cover are valuable for caribou winter habitat, so prescription should be discussed with wildlife personnel.

*Shepherdia canadensis**Arctostaphylos uva-ursi**Cladonia* spp.

VEGETATION

Tree Layer: 20% cover
lodgepole pine

Shrub Layer: 40% cover
Shepherdia canadensis (soopolallie)
Spiraea betulifolia (birch-leaved spirea)
lodgepole pine

Herb Layer: 20% cover
Arctostaphylos uva-ursi (kinnikinnick)
Vaccinium caespitosum (dwarf blueberry)
[*Oryzopsis* spp. (ricegrasses)]

Moss layer: 95% cover
Cladina spp. (cladina lichens)
Cladonia spp. (cladonia lichens)
Peltigera spp. (peltigera lichens)
Stereocaulon spp. (coral lichens)
[*Pleurozium schreberi* (red-stemmed feathermoss)]

SOIL AND SITE

Moisture Regime: 1-2 (x-sx)
Nutrient Regime: A-B (vp-p)
Slope Gradient (%): 0-44
* Slope Position: upper - crest
Parent Material: glaciofluvial, or colluvial
veneers
* Soil Texture: moderately coarse - coarse
Coarse Fragments (%): not available

DISTRIBUTION: common, but localized on eskers and other glaciofluvial landforms

Pl - Kinnikinnick - Cladonia (SBPSmc/02)

INTERPRETATIONS

- Site limitations: - site and soil conditions of this unit result in marginal forest productivity and sites have high value as caribou winter habitat; **serious consideration should be given to excluding logging from this unit.**
- sites within this unit with high coarse fragment content (> 70%) will have significantly reduced soil moisture retention and will be extremely difficult to plant; **attempt to regenerate naturally by retaining Pl cones.**
- Silviculture system: - see Section 5.1
- Site preparation: - no site preparation
- Species choice: - Pl, (Sx, Sb)
- Vegetation potential: - low
- Reforestation: - attempt to regenerate naturally if potential exists.
- if natural regeneration is not feasible, plant Pl without site preparation.
- Sx and Sb are significantly less productive than Pl on these sites.
- Concerns: - full tree harvesting will lead to nutrient depletion and seriously reduce cones; **woody debris and cones should be distributed across these sites (i.e. lop and scatter).**

VEGETATION

Tree Layer: 50% cover
lodgepole pine, black spruce

Shrub Layer: 25% cover

Ledum groenlandicum (Labrador tea)
Vaccinium membranaceum (black huckleberry)
[*Lonicera involucrata* (black twinberry)]
[*Rosa acicularis* (prickly rose)]
black spruce

Herb Layer: 20% cover

Empetrum nigrum (crowberry)
Petasites frigidus
var. *palmatus* (palmate coltsfoot)
Cornus canadensis (bunchberry)
Linnaea borealis (twinflower)
[*Lycopodium annotinum* (stiff clubmoss)]

Moss Layer: 85% cover

Pleurozium schreberi (red-stemmed feathermoss)
Ptilium crista-castrensis (knight's plume)
Hylocomium splendens (step moss)
Peltigera spp. (peltigeralichens)
[*Cladina* spp. (cladina lichens)]

SOIL AND SITE

Moisture Regime: 3-4 (sm-m)
Nutrient Regime: A-B (vp-p)
Slope Gradient (%): 0-20
* Slope Position: mid or level
* Aspect: generally northerly
Parent Material: morainal blankets with
glaciofluvial deposits
* Soil Texture: medium - moderately coarse
Coarse fragments (%): not available

DISTRIBUTION: scattered; most common on cool,
northerly aspects



Ledum groenlandicum



Empetrum nigrum

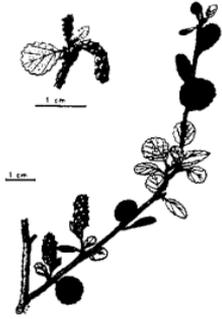


Pleurozium schreberi

SbPl - Feathermoss (SBPSmc/03)

INTERPRETATIONS

- Site limitations:
- compact soil layers and/or low aeration porosity associated with fine-textured soils will reduce rooting depth and decrease productivity over a rotation; ***regenerate naturally whenever possible.***
 - soils are saturated in the spring, but may experience drought in summer, both resulting in poor root development; ***the poor productivity resulting from these limitations should dictate a limited intensive silvicultural investment.***
 - sites within this unit with thick organic horizons (> 10 cm) have reduced spring soil temperatures, slowing root development; ***reduce organic horizon thickness during site preparation.***
- Silviculture system:
- see Section 5.1
 - minimize or align large slash accumulations when logging to help meet site preparation objectives and reduce fire hazard.
- Site preparation:
- see Section 5.2
- Species choice:
- Pl, (***Sx, Sb***)
- Vegetation potential:
- low
- Reforestation:
- Sx and Sb are significantly less productive than Pl.
 - attempt to regenerate naturally if potential exists.
 - if natural regeneration is not feasible, plant Pl.
- Concerns:
- full tree harvesting will lead to nutrient depletion and seriously reduce cones; ***woody debris and cones should be distributed across these sites (i.e. lop and scatter).***
 - sites within this unit with fine-textured soils are vulnerable to compaction under wet conditions; ***restrict traffic to winter operations or dry soil conditions.***
 - possible windthrow hazard if effective rooting depth is < 30 cm.

*Betula glandulosa**Calamagrostis canadensis**Aulacomnium palustre*

VEGETATION

Tree Layer: 50% cover
lodgepole pine, white spruce, [black spruce]

Shrub Layer: 25% cover
Betula glandulosa (scrub birch)
[*Rosa acicularis*] (prickly rose)]
[*Ledum groenlandicum*] (Labrador tea)]
[*Salix* spp.] (willows)]
white spruce
[lodgepole pine]
[black spruce]

Herb Layer: 20% cover
Calamagrostis canadensis (bluejoint)
Linnaea borealis (twinflower)
Cornus canadensis (bunchberry)
Empetrum nigrum (crowberry)

Moss Layer: 75% cover
Pleurozium schreberi (red-stemmed feathermoss)
Aulacomnium palustre (glow moss)
Peltigera spp. (peltigeralichens)
Cladina spp. (cladina lichens)
Hylocomium splendens (step moss)

SOIL AND SITE

Moisture Regime: 5-6 (shg-hg)
Nutrient Regime: A-B (vp-p)
Slope Gradient (%): 2-4
* Slope Position: lower and toe
Parent Material: morainal
Soil Texture: variable
Coarse Fragments (%): not available
* Seepage Water: often present

DISTRIBUTION: common, but generally localized as imperfectly drained fringes around wetlands

Sxw - Scrub birch - Feathermoss (SBPSmc/04)

INTERPRETATIONS

- Site limitations:
- site and soil conditions of this unit result in marginal forest productivity; **serious consideration should be given to exclude logging from this unit.**
 - sites within this unit with saturated soils are poorly aerated, which slows root development; **plant seedlings on naturally or artificially raised microsites.**
 - sites within this unit with thick organic horizons (> 10 cm) have reduced spring soil temperatures, slowing root development; **reduce organic horizon thickness during site preparation.**
- Silviculture system:
- see Section 5.1
 - minimize or align large slash accumulations when logging to help meet site preparation objectives and reduce fire hazard.
- Site preparation:
- light scarification for seed bed preparation, light burn or disk trench (plant on berm).
- Species choice:
- Pl, Sb, Sx
- Vegetation potential:
- low
- Reforestation:
- do not accept advance Bl regeneration.
 - attempt to regenerate naturally if potential exists.
 - if natural regeneration is not feasible, plant Pl stock.
- Concerns:
- sites within this unit with high water tables, combined with thick organic horizons (> 10 cm), increase the windthrow hazard; **block layouts must have wind-firm boundaries, or a wide buffer of standing timber must be left around such sites.**
 - site conditions may lead to frost damage of regeneration, especially in any naturally occurring or artificially created depression; **leaving a partial canopy and/or choosing a frost-resistant species (eg., Pl) are advised.**
 - sites within this unit with fine-textured soils are vulnerable to compaction under wet conditions; **restrict traffic to winter operations or dry soil conditions.**
 - water table may rise after logging, making the site non-productive and increasing rotation age of the stand.
 - Warren's root collar weevil can cause mortality in young stands, especially where duff layers are thick.

VEGETATION

Tree Layer: 55% cover
white spruce, lodgepole pine

Shrub Layer: 25% cover

Lonicera involucrata (black twinberry)
Rosa acicularis (prickly rose)
[*Viburnum edule* (highbush-cranberry)]
[*Alnus tenuifolia* (mountain alder)]
[*Ribes lacustre* (black gooseberry)]
white spruce

Herb Layer: 40% cover

Calamagrostis canadensis (bluejoint)
Cornus canadensis (bunchberry)
Equisetum arvense (common horsetail)
Linnaea borealis (twinflower)
Epilobium angustifolium (fireweed)
Fragaria virginiana (wild strawberry)
[*Mitella nuda* (common mitrewort)]
[*Petasites frigidus* var. *palmatus* (palmate coltsfoot)]

Moss Layer: 65% cover

Pleurozium schreberi (red-stemmed feathermoss)
Ptilium crista-castrensis (knight's plume)
Hylocomium splendens (step moss)
Peltigera spp. (peltigera lichens)
[*Timmia austriaca* (false-polytrichum)]

SOIL AND SITE

Moisture Regime: 5-6 (shg-hg)
Nutrient Regime: C-E (m-vr)
Slope Gradient (%): 2-14
* Slope Position: lower - toe
* Parent Material: usually fluvial, occasionally lacustrine or glaciofluvial
Soil Texture: variable
Coarse Fragments (%): not available
* Seepage Water: often present

DISTRIBUTION: restricted to lower and toe slopes adjacent to streams and rivers



Lonicera involucrata



Calamagrostis canadensis



Equisetum arvense

Sxw-Horsetail (SBPSmc/05)

INTERPRETATIONS

- Site limitations: - sites within this unit with saturated soils are poorly aerated, which slows root development; **plant seedlings on naturally or artificially raised microsities.**
- Silviculture system: - see Section 5.1
- Site preparation: - see Section 5.2
-creating an excessive number of mounds (eg., >300/ha) should be avoided, especially on sites within this unit with a water table < 30 cm from the surface.
- Species choice: - Sx, **[Pl]**
- Vegetation potential: - high (black twinberry, fireweed, bluejoint)
- Reforestation: - advance regeneration should be preserved.
- supplement advance regeneration by planting sturdy stock in groups on available raised microsities.
- Concerns: - site conditions may lead to frost damage of regeneration, especially in any naturally occurring or artificially created depression; **leaving a partial canopy and/or choosing a frost resistant species (eg., Pl) are advised.**
- sites within this unit with fine-textured soils are vulnerable to compaction under wet conditions; **restrict traffic to winter operations or dry soil conditions.**
- sites within this unit with thick organic horizons (> 10 cm) have an extreme windthrow hazard; **block layouts must have wind-firm boundaries, or a wide buffer of standing timber must be left around such sites.**
- these units may represent important wildlife and fish habitat so prescription should be discussed with wildlife personnel.
- sites within this unit with silty soils are susceptible to frost-heaving; **bare root stock will likely resist frost-heaving better than plug stock.**
- water table will likely rise above the ground surface in the spring causing seedling mortality.
- Warren's root collar weevil can cause mortality in young stands, especially where duff layers are thick.

VEGETATION

Tree Layer: 35% cover
white spruce

Shrub Layer: 35% cover

Lonicera involucrata (black twinberry)
Ribes lacustre (black gooseberry)
Ribes hudsonianum (northern black currant)
[*Alnus tenuifolia* (mountain alder)]
[*Rosa acicularis* (prickly rose)]
white spruce

Herb Layer: 70% cover

Equisetum arvense (common horsetail)
Equisetum sylvaticum (wood horsetail)
Calamagrostis canadensis (bluejoint)
Carex spp. (sedges)
Mitella nuda (common mitrewort)
Cornus canadensis (bunchberry)
Linnaea borealis (twinflower)
[*Rubus pubescens* (trailing raspberry)]
[*Petasites frigidus* var. *palmatus* (palmate coltsfoot)]
[*Gymnocarpium dryopteris* (oak fern)]

Moss Layer: 75% cover

Hylocomium splendens (step moss)
Mnium spp. (leafy mosses)
Aulacomnium palustre (glowmoss)
Pleurozium schreberi (red-stemmed feathermoss)
[*Sphagnum* spp. (sphagnums)]
[*Brachythecium* spp. (brachythecium mosses)]

SOIL AND SITE

Moisture Regime: 6-7 (hg-shd)
Nutrient Regime: C-E (m-vr)
* Slope Gradient (%): 2-10
* Slope Position: level and depressions
Parent Material: morainal, fluvial, and organic blankets
* Soil Texture: organic
Coarse Fragments (%): not available
* Seepage Water: always present

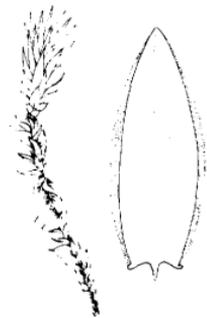
DISTRIBUTION: uncommon, and generally small



Lonicera involucrata



Equisetum arvense



Aulacomnium palustre

Sxw - Horsetail - Glowmoss (SBPSmc/06)

INTERPRETATIONS

- Site limitations:
- site and soil conditions of this unit result in marginal forest productivity; ***serious consideration should be given to excluding logging from this unit.***
 - sites within this unit with saturated soils are poorly aerated, which slows root development; ***plant seedlings on naturally or artificially raised microsites.***
- Silviculture system:
- see Section 5.1
- Site preparation:
- see Section 5.2
- Species choice:
- ***Sx, [PI]***
- Vegetation potential:
- high (black twinberry, fireweed, bluejoint)
- Reforestation:
- advance regeneration should be preserved.
 - supplement advance regeneration by planting sturdy stock in groups on available raised microsites.
- Concerns:
- site conditions may lead to frost damage of regeneration, especially in any naturally occurring or artificially created depression; ***leaving a partial canopy and/or choosing a frost-resistant species (eg., PI) is advised.***
 - sites within this unit with thick organic horizons (> 10 cm) have an extreme windthrow hazard; ***block layouts must have windfirm boundaries, or a wide buffer of standing timber must be left around such sites.***
 - these units may represent important wildlife habitat, so prescription should be discussed with wildlife personnel.
 - water table will likely rise above the ground surface in the spring, causing seedling mortality.

VEGETATION

Tree Layer: 20% cover
black spruce

Shrub Layer: 70% cover
Ledum groenlandicum
Betula glandulosa
[*Salix* spp.]
black spruce

(Labrador tea)
(scrub birch)
(willows)]

Herb Layer 25% cover
Empetrum nigrum
Kalmia microphylla
Oxycoccus oxycoccus
Carex aquatilis
Gaultheria hispidula

(crowberry)
(bog-laurel)
(bog cranberry)
(water sedge)
(creeping-snowberry)

Moss Layer: 100% cover
Sphagnum spp.
Aulacomnium palustre
Cladina spp.
Tomentypnum nitens

(sphagnums)
(glow moss)
(cladina lichens)
(golden fuzzy fen moss)

SOIL AND SITE

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Moisture Regime: | 7 (shd) |
| Nutrient Regime: | A-B (vp-p) |
| * Slope Gradient (%): | 0 |
| * Slope Position: | level and depressional |
| Parent Material: | organic |
| * Soil Texture: | organic |
| Coarse Fragments (%): | 0 |

DISTRIBUTION: scattered throughout the landscape, but never covering extensive areas



Ledum groenlandicum



Kalmia microphylla



Sphagnum spp.

SbSxw - Scrub birch - Sedge (SBPSmc/07)

INTERPRETATIONS

Site limitations: - site and soil conditions of this unit result in marginal forest productivity; ***serious consideration should be given to excluding logging from this unit.***

Silviculture system: - avoid logging

TABLE 12 Environmental characteristics of SBPS subzones in the Cariboo Forest Region

| | SBPSxc | SBPSdc | SBPSmc | SBPSmk |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|
| Area (km ²) | 10898 | 4227 | 1165 | 5658 |
| Elevation range (m) | 1100– 1500 (S) 850– 1300 (N) | 900– 1280 | 900– 1250 | 950– 1350 (S) 900– 1250 (N) |
| Climate | | | | |
| Precipitation (mm) | | | | |
| Mean annual | 389 | 508 | no data | 506 |
| Mean summer | 177 | 275 | 196 | 232 |
| Mean winter | 212 | 233 | no data | 283 |
| Mean annual snowfall (cm) | 179 | 178 | no data | no data |
| Temperature(°C) | | | | |
| Mean annual | 1.7 | 1.9 | 0.8 | 3.2 |
| Mean - warmest month | 12.3 | 13.9 | 10.9 | 13.7 |
| Mean - coldest month | -11.8 | -13.5 | -12.5 | -10.3 |
| Frost-free days | 93 | 152 | no data | no data |
| Soils | | | | |
| Zonal soils ^a | O.DYB (O.GL) | O.DYB (O.GL) | O.DYB | O.GL |
| Zonal humus form ^b | HR | HR | HR | HR |

^aO.DYB = Orthic Dystric Brunisol; O.GL = Orthic Gray Luvisol

^bHR = HemiMor