ICHwc Wet Cold Subzone

Adjacent biogeoclimatic units: ICHvc to the south; BWBSdk1 to the north; CWHwm in coastal valleys to the west; ESSFwv at higher elevations; some SBS (undifferentiated) to the north along the Stikine River.

Elevation range: 150 - 900 m.

Description and comparison of site series:

Zonal site series:

01 HwBl - Oak fern is widespread on mid to lower slopes and level sites on a wide variety of landforms. Zonal forests are characterized by closed stands of Hw, with Bl and scattered Sx. Blueberries, black huckleberry, false azalea, and scattered devil's club compose the shrub layer. The most common herb species are bunchberry, five-leaved bramble, oak fern, and one-sided wintergreen. The well-developed moss layer is dominated by red-stemmed feathermoss and step moss.

Drier sites: Two drier forested site series are described.

02 HwPl - Feathermoss - Cladonia is uncommon and is only found on the very driest sites such as ridge crests, glaciofluvial benches, and recent lava flows (e.g., Iskut Canyon). Trees are well-spaced, stunted Hw and Pl (<50% cover). Understory species are similar to the 03 but cover and stature are lower. Heron's-bill moss, soopolallie, and kinnikinnick are good indicators.

03 Hw - **Step moss** is a very common ecosystem on upper and mid-slope sites that are slightly drier and poorer than zonal. The tree cover is dominated by Hw with occasional Bl, Sx, or Pl. The understory is usually sparse with a thick carpet of feathermosses. Blueberries, black huckleberry, and false azalea dominate in the shrub layer; bunchberry, prince's pine, and five-leaved bramble are scattered in the herb layer. This unit is differentiated from the 02 by lack of heron's-bill moss and by having a low cover of Pl and better tree growth. Lack of devil's club and oak fern distinguish the 03 from the 01.

Fresh to wet sites: Five wetter forested site series are described.

04 HwBl - Devil's club is widespread and extensive in the subzone on lower slope sites that are slightly moister and richer than zonal. The tree cover is dominantly Hw with a minor component of Sx and Bl. Moist conditions are reflected in the high cover of devil's club and oak fern and the presence of thimbleberry — species that have much lower cover in the 01. Large ferns such as lady fern and spiny wood fern are absent or rare (in contrast to 05). The moss layer includes ragged and leafy mosses as well as feathermosses. Soils with slight seepage or mottling at depth are common.

05 Sx - Devil's club is common on lower to toe slope positions receiving abundant seepage. It is typified by mixed Hw/Sx stands with a fairly open canopy and good vigour. Shrub layers have a heavy cover of devil's club and often include black gooseberry, red elderberry, red-osier dogwood, and highbush-cranberry. The lush herb layer is dominated by oak fern, spiny wood fern, and lady fern — the latter two species distinguish this unit from the drier

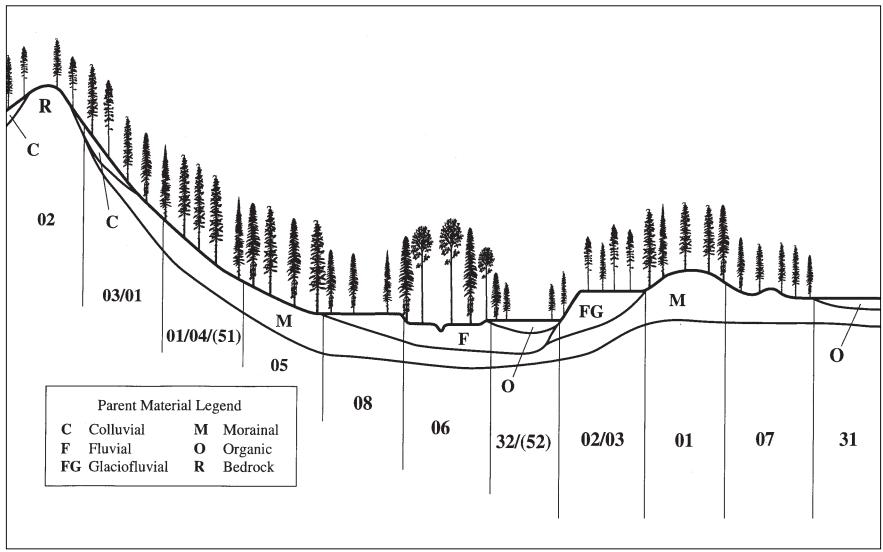
ICHwc

04 site series. Horsetails are rare. The moss layer is not well developed and is dominated by ragged and leafy mosses.

- **06 ActSx Dogwood** occupies fairly large areas of valley bottom adjacent to streams and rivers. These ecosystems are exposed to cold air drainage and periodic flooding. The vigorous tree canopy is dominated by Act (the diagnostic feature of this unit), together with Sx and Bl. Hw is rare. The well-developed shrub layer is dominated by devil's club, red-osier dogwood, mountain alder, and highbush-cranberry. Horsetails dominate the diverse herb layer. There is little moss. The soils are generally well-drained Brunisols or Gleysols on imperfectly drained sites.
- **07 HwSx Blueberry Sphagnum** represents poorly growing stands of Sx, Hw, and Bl occupying small wet depressions subject to cold air ponding. The well-developed shrub layer is dominated by blueberries, false azalea, and mountain alder, with scattered Labrador tea. The most prominent herb-layer species include bunchberry, horsetails, oak fern, sedges, and five-leaved bramble. There is a thick moss layer including red-stemmed feathermoss, sphagnum, liverworts, and leafy mosses. The soils are mostly Organics, Gleysols, or gleyed Podzols with a high water table and a thick, saturated organic layer.
- **08** Sx Horsetail is uncommon and usually occupies narrow bands at the toe of slopes, in depressions, and along sluggish streams. Forests are open, mixed stands of Sx, Bl, and Hw. Horsetail is characteristic. Soils are poorly drained Gleysols (sometimes Organics) with saturated mucky humus forms. This site series can be distinguished from the 06 (which also has abundant horsetail) by its poorer tree growth, lack of red-osier dogwood and highbush-cranberry, and greater abundance of feathermosses and sphagnum. It is distinguished from the 07 by the presence of devil's club, black gooseberry, and foamflowers, and its lack of Labrador tea and lower cover of sphagnum.
- *Non-forested site units:* Non-forested bog (31) and Non-forested fen/ marsh (32) are scattered throughout the ICHwc. See page 5 107. Two alderdominated, non-forested seral associations are recognized:
- 51 \$Sitka alder Devil's club develops on steep valley sides where frequent avalanches prevent mature tree cover from establishing. The dense shrub layer is characterized by devil's club, salmonberry, Sitka alder, and red elderberry. Ferns dominate the herb layer. Soils are mostly well- to imperfectly drained Humo-Ferric Podzols with Moder humus forms.
- **52 \$Mountain alder Lady fern** develops in swampy locations in valley bottoms where Sx -Horsetail ecosystems would be expected if the dense shrub cover ever opened up sufficiently for trees to become established. Mountain alder, rather than Sitka alder, makes up the shrub layer. Soils are saturated Organics and Humic Gleysols.

Comments: The area around Bob Quinn Lake (from Ningunsaw River to Devil's Lake) is dominated by seral stands and has such a distinct flora that a separate phase, the Bob Quinn phase [ICHwc(a)], has been proposed. In this area, Hw is generally absent, devil's club is uncommon, soils are Luvisols rather than Podzols, and the understory of mature forests contains species such as roses, snowberries, and meadowrue, which are normally associated with boreal or sub-boreal climates. This area has a history of frequent fire and probably has a colder, drier climate than the rest of the ICHwc.

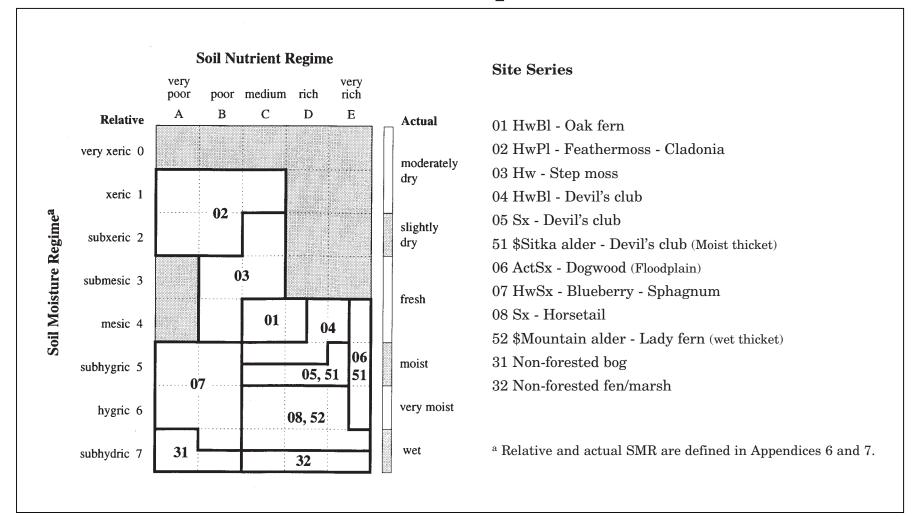
ICHwc Landscape Profile^a



^a Tree symbols are defined in Appendix 3.

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ICHwc Edatopic Grid

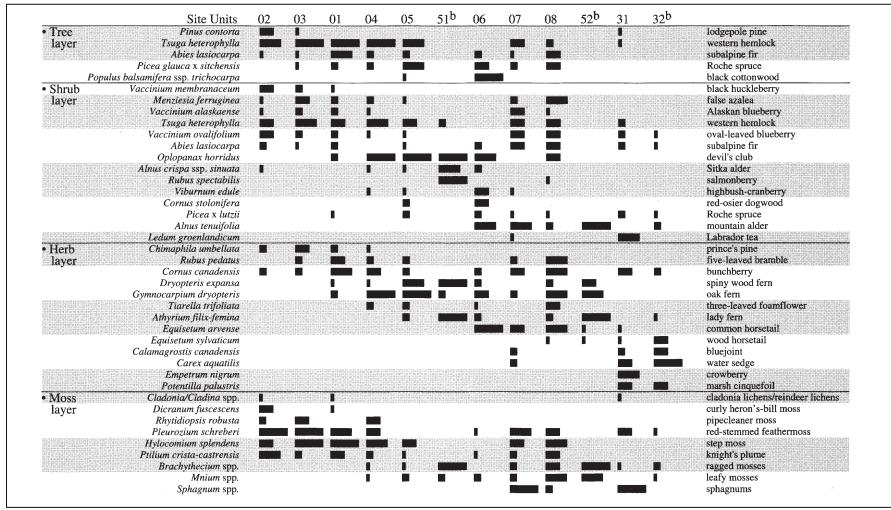


ICHwc Site Series Flowchart

10	nwc Site Series Flowchart
Non-forested	Sites dominated by sphagnum , Labrador tea , and other ericaceous shrubs.
WETLANDS Tree cover < 10%.	Sites dominated by sedges and willows ; sphagnum mixed with other mosses. 32 Non-foreste fen/marsh
ALDER-DOMI- NATED SERAL ECOSYSTEMS Tree cover < 10%.	Moist, sloping sites. Thickets of Sitka alder, devil's club, salmonberry, and red elderberry. Soils well to imperfectly drained. Wet, swampy depression. Thickets of mountain alder. Soils poorly drained. 51 \$Sitka alder - Devil's club 52 \$Mountain alder - Lady fee
FLOODPLAIN FORESTS	Act-dominated forests. Dense tall shrub layer; red-osier dogwood abundant. Of ActSx - Dogwood
DRY FORESTS Moisture regime 1-2. Most commonly on	Very dry Hw/Pl forests with poor growth. Curly heron's-bill moss abundant; scattered lichens. O2 HwPl - Feathermoss - Cladonia
very coarse parent materials, or on ridge crests and upper slopes.	Dry, Hw-dominated forests. Thick feathermoss carpet; lichens not abundant .
VERY MOIST TO WET FORESTS	Sx/Hw/Bl forests with poor growth . Blueberries. Labrador tea in shrub layer. Devil's club, lady fern absent or rare. Sphagnum common .
Moisture regime 6-7. Level/depressional areas. Saturated Organic or	Open Hw/Sx/Bl forests with moderate to good growth. Horsetails dominant. Devil's club common; lady fern rare. Feathermosses and leafy mosses abundant; sphagnum uncommon.
Gleysolic soils.	
FRESH TO MOIST FORESTS	Hw-dominated forests with poor to moderate growth. Devil's club absent or rare ; blueberries dominant. Feathermosses only.
Moisture regime 3-5. Sites not clearly dry or wet.	Hw-dominated forests with moderate growth. Devil's club, blueberries, and oak fern common. Feathermosses only. No mottling.
	Hw-dominated forests of moderate to good growth. Diverse shrub/herb layers with devil's club and oak fern abundant. Large ferns absent or rare. Some ragged and leafy mosses. Some seepage or mottling.
	Open Sx/Hw forests with good growth. Devil's club dominant; lady fern common. Leafy, ragged mosses co-dominate with feathermosses.
	> Sx/Hw/Bl forests with poor growth. Blue berries, Labrador tea in shrub layer. Devil's club, lady fern absent or rare. Sphagnum common.

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ICHwc Vegetation Table^a



^a Prominence bars are described in Section 3.2.2, page 3 • 6.

^b Limited data; unit described from fewer than three plots.

Site Units

ICHwc Environment Table

Site series	Phase	Soil moisture/ nutrients	Slope position	Slope %	Parent material ^a
01		4/C(D)	mid - lower, level	0 - 90	M, C, (F, E)
02		1-2/A-C	crest - level	0 - 20	R, C (M, FG)
03		2-4/B-C	upper - mid, level	0 - 80	M, C (F, E, R)
04		4-5/(C)D-E	lower	3 - 60	F, M, E (C)
05		5/(C)D-E	lower - toe	0 - 70	F, M, (E, C)
06		4-6/E	level	0 - 5	F
07		(5)6-7/A-B	depressions	0	O (M)
08		6-7/(C)-E	depressions, level	0 - 50	O, F, M
31		7/A-B	depressions	0	0
32^{b}		7/C-E	depressions	0	0
51 ^b		4-5/ (C)D(E)	mid - upper	40 - 90	C, M, (D)
$52^{ m b}$		6-7/C-E	depressions	0	O (M) (F)

^a Codes are described in Section 3.2.2, page 3 • 8.

 $^{^{\}rm b}$ Limited data; unit described from fewer than three plots.

Soil particle size	Soil classification ^a	Humus form depth (cm) min-mean-max	Important site features
FL(s) - KL(s)	HFP, (FHP) (FO, GL)	Mors 5 - 9 - 21	Widespread on a variety of landforms with more-or-less mesic moisture regime.
FLs - KLs, Ss	HFP, DYB	Mors 3 - 5 - 14	Restricted to very dry shallow, gravelly soils. Iskut lava beds.
FL(s) - KL(s)	HFP (FHP)	Mors 3 - 6 - 9	Typically occurs on shedding sites upslope of 01.
FL(s) - KL(s), (s)	HFP (FHP), (DYB) (gleyed)	Mors, moders 3 - 6 - 10	Intermittent seepage within 40 cm of soil surface.
FL(s) - KL(s)	HFP,FHP,DYB, (HP,G); gleyed.	Moders, mors 2 - 11 - 28	Seepage always present within 40 cm of soil surface.
S, FL	G (DYB)	Moders, Mulls, Mors 0 - 3 - 5	Active floodplain sites only. Seasonally fluctuating water tables.
	HG, H, M, F, HFP; gleyed	peaty "O" horizons > 30 cm	Bog forest. Cold air drainage sites.
F, KL(s)	G, GL, H, M, FO	Moders, Mors 4 - 14 - 30	Saturated, poorly aerated soils along sluggish streams.
	F, M	peaty "O" horizons >1 m	Non-forested bogs. Soils too wet and cold for tree growth.
	Н	peaty "O" horizons >1 m	Non-forested fens/marshes. Soils too wet and cold for tree growth.
FL, KL	HFP (G, DYB)	Moders < 5 cm	Avalanche tracks and late snow areas. Nutrient-rich, friable soils.
F	M, HG, (H)	Mulls, Moders 5 - 30+ cm	Wet, saturated depressions.

Site Units



 ${\it Copperbush} \\ {\it Cladothamnus\ pyroliflorus}$

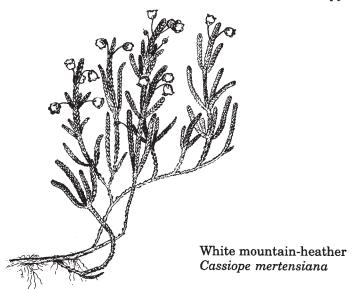


 TABLE 5.2.1
 Distribution of Fen Site Associations by biogeoclimatic zone

		BG	BWBS					SBPS			
Wf01	Water sedge – Beaked sedge		XX	X	XX	XXX	XXX	XXX		$\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{i}}$	
Wf02	Scrub birch – Water sedge		XXX	X	XX	XX	XX	XX			
Wf03	Water sedge – Peat-moss			XX				X			
Wf04	Barclay's willow – Water sedge – Glow mosss		X	XXX			X	X			
Wf05	Slender sedge – Common hook-moss		X		XX	XX	XX	XX			
Wf06	Slender sedge – Buckbean		X		X	X		X			
Wf07	Scrub birch – Buckbean – Shore sedge		X		X	X		X			
Wf08	Shore sedge – Buckbean – Hook-moss		X	X		X	X	X			
Wf09	Few-flowered spike-rush – Hook-moss			X			X	X			
Wf10	Hudson Bay clubrush – Red hook-moss							X			
Wf11	Tufted clubrush – Star moss		X	X	X		X	X			
Wf12	Narrow-leaved cotton-grass – Marsh-marigold			XXX							
Wf13	Narrow-leaved cotton-grass - Shore sedge			XX			X				
Wf50	Narrow-leaved cotton-grass - Peat-moss									X	XXX
Wf51	Sitka sedge – Peat-moss				X				XX	XX	
Wf52	Sweet gale – Sitka sedge								XX	xx^s	
Wf53	Slender sedge – White beak-rush								X	xxs	
	-										

x = incidental; < 5% of wetlands

xx = minor; 5-25% of wetlands

xxx = major; >25% of wetlands

i = inland areas only

TABLE 5.2.2 Fen Species Importance Table

	Species	Wf01	Wf02	Wf03	Wf04	Wf05	Wf06	Wf07	Wf08
Shrubs	Betula nana	ı		I	II	I	I		I
	Salix barclayi		 ==	I					
	Salix pedicellaris Spiraea douglasii	I	 ■ 			∥ 	 		I
	Myrica gale		•			•	•	•	
Herbs	Carex utriculata		II	II	II	III	1	ı	ı
and	Carex aquatilis					iii	Į_	iii.	Į.
Dwarf	Comarum palustre	ļ		Ⅱ 		Ⅱ 	II		ļ
Shrubs	Calamagrostis canadensis Carex lasiocarpa	ļ		1	1188			i	i
	Menyanthes trifoliata		İ	I					
	Carex limosa		!	1	1	!	Ī		
	Carex chordorrhiza		1			I	ı		
	Eleocharis quinqueflora Trichophorum alpinum							¦ .	1
	Trichophorum cespitosum							•	
	Eriophorum angustifolium		1	I	I	I	1	I	I
	Caltha leptosepala			I	I				
	Carex anthoxanthea Equisetum fluviatile	I	ı					ı	I
	Carex magellanica	ı	i I			11		18	
	Carex sitchensis		İ		III	I		1	•
	Rhynchospora alba						1	_	_
	Carex livida			l					
	Eriophorum chamissonis Vahlodea atropurpurea			1			1	I	ı
	Drosera anglica			'			1	1	ı
	Hypericum anagalloides								
	Triantha glutinosa		ı					I	I
Scho	enoplectus tabernaemontani								
	Fauria crista-galli Senecio triangularis	ı	ı		1				
	Andromeda polifolia	•	•		-		1	I	I
	Kalmia microphylla						!	Į.	!
	Oxycoccus oxycoccos			I		 		II II	l I
	Triglochin maritima Drosera rotundifolia		I			i	 	!!	II
	Leptarrhena pyrolifolia			I					
	Platanthera dilatata		1	I			1	1	1
	Sanguisorba canadensis		ı	I					
	Utricularia intermedia Viola palustris		ı	1		l I		I	II
Liobors	1	II.	<u>'</u>	İ	ı	i I		Ш	ı
Lichens and	Sphagnum Group I Aulacomnium palustre	ľ				i	1		i
Mosses	Drepanocladus spp.	III	Ī	ii			III	III	III
	Sphagnum Group II		III.	<u> </u>	<u> </u>			iii	<u>I</u>
	Tomentypnum nitens	ı				I		III	II
	Philonotis fontana Calliergon stramineum		I	I		1	I	1	1
	Scorpidium spp.	I				i		İ	İ
	Campylium stellatum		Į.	Ţ		I	II_	Ī	Ī
	Warnstorfia spp.	l	ļ	!		I			
	Meesia triquetra		I	I				II	I

Carex aquatilis - Carex utriculata

General Description

The Water sedge – Beaked sedge Fen Site Association is the most common and widespread Fen Site Association in the province. It occurs in all but the warmest and driest subzones from low to subalpine elevations on sites that are annually inundated by shallow, low-energy flood waters and that expe-



rience some late-season drawdown. Wf01 fens are found in a wide variety of landscape positions but most commonly palustrine basins. They occupy wetter zones in larger peatland complexes but also form extensive pure "meadows."



Species diversity is low; Carex

aquatilis and Carex utriculata cover is often continuous, with scattered forbs, aquatics, and mosses in the understorey. On sites that dry out at the surface, Calamagrostis canadensis or C. stricta can become prominent, species diversity increases, and sites become more meadow-like.

Peat depths range from 30 to > 300 cm. Common soil types include typic and terric Fibrisols and Mesisols. This Site Association tolerates variable hydrology.

Characteristic Vegetation

Tree laver (0 - 0 - 0) **Shrub layer** (0 - **0** - 10) Herb layer (13 - 80 - 100) Carex aquatilis, C. utriculata Moss layer (0 - 5 - 100) Drepanocladus aduncus

Comments

Sites dominated by C. utriculata and C. aquatilis but with mineral or humic soils are described by the Wm01. Because Wf01 and Wm01 sites are species-poor and the two dominant sedge species have a wide ecological amplitude, the plant community poorly differ-

Soil Nutrient Regime Soil Moisture Regime The stock to the state of the s

Wetland Edatopic Grid

entiates between sites on peat (Wf01) and those on mineral soil (Wm01). Wf01 sites typically have less C. utriculata and fewer aquatics than Wm01 sites. The Wf01 develops from the Wm01 in most circumstances.

Sites that are drier or at least have more pronounced microtopography than the Wf01 are usually occupied by communities with low shrubs and high moss cover (most commonly, the Wf02). However, at higher elevations few shrubs occur and only moss cover increases (Wf03). Sites with greater waterflow are characterized by tall-shrub swamps dominated by willows or alders, and water sedges, and have mineral or humic peat soils.

 TABLE 5.2.1
 Distribution of Fen Site Associations by biogeoclimatic zone

		BG	BWBS					SBPS			
		PP	SWB	ESSF	ICH	IDF	MS	SBS	CDF	CWH	MH
Wf01	Water sedge – Beaked sedge		XX	X	XX	XXX	XXX	XXX		$\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{i}}$	
Wf02	Scrub birch – Water sedge		XXX	X	XX	XX	XX	XX			
Wf03	Water sedge – Peat-moss			XX				X			
	Barclay's willow – Water sedge – Glow mosss		X	XXX			X	X			
Wf05	Slender sedge – Common hook-moss		X		XX	XX	XX	XX			
Wf06	Slender sedge – Buckbean		X		X	X		X			
Wf07	Scrub birch – Buckbean – Shore sedge		X		X	X		X			
	Shore sedge – Buckbean – Hook-moss		X	X		X	X	X			
Wf09	Few-flowered spike-rush – Hook-moss			X			X	X			
Wf10	Hudson Bay clubrush – Red hook-moss							X			
Wf11	Tufted clubrush – Star moss		X	X	X		X	X			
Wf12	Narrow-leaved cotton-grass – Marsh-marigold			XXX							
Wf13	Narrow-leaved cotton-grass – Shore sedge			XX			X				
Wf50	Narrow-leaved cotton-grass – Peat-moss									X	XXX
Wf51	Sitka sedge – Peat-moss				X				XX	XX	
Wf52	Sweet gale – Sitka sedge								XX	xx^s	
Wf53	Slender sedge – White beak-rush								X	xxs	

x = incidental; < 5% of wetlands

xx = minor; 5-25% of wetlands

xxx = major; >25% of wetlands

i = inland areas only

s = southern subzones only

TABLE 5.2.2 Fen Species Importance Table

	Species	Wf01	Wf02	Wf03	Wf04	Wf05	Wf06	Wf07	Wf08
Shrubs	Betula nana	I		I	I	I	I		I
	Salix barclayi Salix pedicellaris	ı	l I∎	I		II	ı		ı
	Spiraea douglasii	•	ï.			ï	ï	ï	
	Myrica gale								
Herbs	Carex utriculata						 		
and Dwarf	Carex aquatilis Comarum palustre					- 	i		I
Shrubs	Calamagrostis canadensis	I	ļļ.	I				<u>I</u>	ļ.
	Carex lasiocarpa Menyanthes trifoliata			1					
	Carex limosa		i	i	I	i	ii		
	Carex chordorrhiza		I			I	I	iii.	
	Eleocharis quinqueflora Trichophorum alpinum								!
	Trichophorum cespitosum			_	_			_	_
	Eriophorum angustifolium Caltha leptosepala		I			I		I	I
	Carex anthoxanthea								
	Equisetum fluviatile	I	1			II		I	ļ
	Carex magellanica Carex sitchensis			ш	ш			1	I
	Rhynchospora alba	-	-			•	1	•	
	Carex livida			ı				!	
	Eriophorum chamissonis Vahlodea atropurpurea			ı			ļ	'	'
	Drosera anglica						1	I	I
	Hypericum anagalloides Triantha glutinosa		1					1	
Schoe	noplectus tabernaemontani		•					•	-
	Fauria crista-galli	1	ı	ш	ı				
	Senecio triangularis Andromeda polifolia	'	1				I	I	I
	Kalmia microphylla						!	Į.	!
	Oxycoccus oxycoccos Triglochin maritima		l I	I		 	1		
	Drosera rotundifolia		•			i	i	Ī	-
	Leptarrhena pyrolifolia Platanthera dilatata		ı				ı	ı	
	Sanguisorba canadensis		i	i			ı	'	'
	Utricularia intermedia					!	I	I	I
1.1.1.	Viola palustris				1	l			1
Lichens and	Sphagnum Group I Aulacomnium palustre	Ⅱ 				! 	1	!!!	i
Mosses	Drepanocladus spp.	III	<u> </u>	I					iii
	Sphagnum Group II Tomentypnum nitens								
	Philonotis fontana	,		ii	ii.			.48	
	Calliergon stramineum		I				1		
	Scorpidium spp. Campylium stellatum	I	I	ı			I		III
	Warnstorfia spp.	I	I	I		Ī	ΪΙ	İ	II
	Meesia triquetra		I	I				I	I

Wf09	Wf10	Wf11	Wf12	Wf13	Wf50	Wf51	Wf52	Wf53	Common Name
 	I	Ⅱ I	 	I I		 		 	scrub birch Barclay's willow bog willow pink spirea sweet gale
 	 	 	 		 	 	II	I I	beaked sedge water sedge marsh cinquefoil bluejoint reedgrass
 		 	 	 	 	 	 		slender sedge buckbean shore sedge cordroot sedge
						 	I		few-flowered spike-rush Hudson Bay clubrush tufted clubrush narrow-leaved cotton-grass white mtp. march maricald
" 	l I	' 	ii -	"- 	1				white mtn. marsh-marigold yellow-flowered sedge swamp horsetail poor sedge Sitka sedge
l	II	∥ 			 			 	white beak-rush pale sedge Chamisso's cotton-grass mountain hairgrass
l I		II II	I	Ϊ !!	Ϊ !!		I		great sundew bog St. John's-wort sticky asphodel great bulrush
l	III	 	 	I I		 			deer-cabbage arrow-leaved groundsel bog-rosemary
İ		 	-		II II	ļ		i II	western bog-laurel bog cranberry seaside arrow-grass round-leaved sundew
ii I	I I	 	 	Ⅱ 	 	 	I I	I	leatherleaf saxifrage fragrant white rein orchid Sitka burnet flat-leaved bladderwort marsh violet
 	 - 	 	 -				 		peat-moss Group I glow moss hook-mosses peat-moss Group II
		 		 	l I	I	I		golden fuzzy fen moss spring moss straw spear-moss sausage-moss
 ∎			 	1			I		yellow star-moss hook-mosses three-ranked hump-moss

Chapter 5.2 Fens 81

Carex sitchensis – Sphagnum

General Description

Sitka sedge – Peat-moss fens occur at low elevations along the Coast, in wet drainage channels or hollows in sloping peatlands where there is gradually flowing surface water. These



sites are uncommon and often of small areal extent relative to other ecosystems of the Coast.

Carex sitchensis grows in dense swards with Sphagnum species in carpets or floating in shallow water. A diversity of other species occurs with low cover on most sites.

Peat accumulations in the **Wf51** range from thin veneers to deep blankets of poorly to

well-decomposed peat. Organic layers are often intermixed with mineral materials. Fibrisols are the most common soil type but Mesisols and Humisols also occur.

Characteristic Vegetation

Tree layer (0 - 0 - 0) Shrub layer (0 - .5 - 5) Herb layer (15 - **82** - 100) Carex sitchensis, Comarum palustre Moss layer (0 - 40 - 100) Sphagnum spp.

Comments

The Wf51 is similar to the Wf01 in most respects but has a coastal distribution; Carex sitchensis replaces Carex aquatilis on the Coast. The presence of Sphagnum on these sites reflects the wider tolerance to variable hydrology of Sphagnum species that occur in this climate and not to ombrotrophic conditions, which is typical in the Interior.

The Wm50 occurs on more hydrologically active sites than the Wf51.

Wetland Edatopic Grid

