**BEC-Tree Species Description: MHmm1**

The MHmm1 is dominantly old forest (86% of the forested area is age class 7 to 9). About 10% of the forested area is comprised of natural immature stands (mostly age class 4 to 6) established after windthrow, snow avalanche, landslide, and (minor) fire disturbances.  There has been some timber harvesting in the MHmm1, mainly in the south, with about 4% of the forested area being in managed regeneration - age class 1 to 3. Old stands are dominantly mountain hemlock (with minor western hemlock) – amabilis fir mixes (53 and 24% respectively) with lesser amounts of yellow cedar (19%) and very minor western red-cedar (2%; only at lower elevations). Natural immature stands are very similar in species composition to the old-growth stands.

Age class distribution as a % of total forest area [Source: VRIMS 2008]

| Stand age class | 7-9 natural forest | 7-9 harvested forest | 4-6 natural forest | 4-6 harvested forest | 1-3 natural forest | 1-3 harvested forest |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| % of total forest area | 86 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 2 | 4 |

Tree species distribution in natural old/mature (age class 7-9) and natural immature (age class 4-6) as a % of the total natural old/mature and natural immature forest cover respectively [Source: VRIMS 2008]

| Species | Hm | Ba | Yc | Cw |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| % of total natural old/mature (age class 7-9) forest cover | 53 | 24 | 19 | 2 |
| % of total natural immature (age class 4-6) forest cover | 55 | 25 | 14 | 2 |

Managed immature stands are dominated by amabilis fir (54 to 56%[1]) with significant amounts of mountain (and some western) hemlock (23 to 26%), and yellow cedar (12 to 19%). Minor species in harvested blocks are Sitka spruce (1 to 4%) and (at lowest elevations in the south) Douglas-fir (1 to 3%).

% species composition of post-harvested stands [Source: RESULTS 1988-2003]

| Species | Ba | Yc | Hm | Ss | Fd |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| % of harvested area | 56 | 19 | 23 | 1 | 1 |

With the limited harvesting that has occurred in the MHmm1 to date, together with the appropriate mix of tree species occurring in harvested blocks, there has thus far been relatively little impact on tree species composition and diversity at the landscape level. Where harvesting is deemed appropriate in

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[1] Range of values reflects differences between VRIMS and RESULTS data sources.

maritime sub-alpine forests, future tree species selection choices should continue to emphasize a mix of all ecologically appropriate species.

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Note: the above write-up does not account for TFL forest cover/regeneration information. This is not expected to impact significantly on the tree species percentages and age class described above.