

## BEC-Tree Species Description: ICHmm

Historically the forests of the Moist Mild Interior Cedar-Hemlock Subzone (ICHmm) were dominated by a mix of fire-origin seral forests and mature climax forests. Lodgepole pine dominated stands were widespread on warm aspects and on dry coarse-textured soils. Mature western redcedar and western hemlock dominated stands were common on cool aspects and on mid to lower slopes. Hybrid spruce stands were common on average to moist sites especially at higher elevation and in areas of cold air drainage. Douglas-fir was a common component of stands on average to dry sites and white pine occurred sporadically on drier sites. Trembling aspen and paper birch dominated stands occur occasionally on warm aspects and especially near historic settlements.

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	47	1	31	0	8	13

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	At	Bl	Cw	Ep	Fd	Hw	Pl	Sx
% of total natural old/mature (age class 7-9) forest cover	1	18	10	0	11	15	10	35
% of total natural immature (age class 4-6) forest cover	19	10	1	3	13	4	33	15

Clearcut harvesting of the 1960's to present have resulted in stand compositions that are similar to those on the natural landscape. Trembling aspen and paper birch tend to be more dispersed and not in denser patches as it was in the natural landscape due to brushing and weeding practices.

% species composition of post-harvested stands [Source: RESULTS 1988-2006]

Species	Bl	Cw	Fd	Hw	Pl	Sx	Hard-woods
% of harvested area	6	10	13	5	26	27	13

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