

Douglas-fir/Common Snowberry–Saskatoon

Pseudotsuga menziesii / *Symphoricarpos albus* - *Amelanchier alnifolia*

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Disclaimer: Very little information is currently available for this rare plant community. This species account was primarily developed using plant identification guidebooks and Dennis Lloyd biogeoclimatic zone classifications.

Conservation Status

Included in Section 7 Notice: No

Designated as Identified Wildlife: No

Federally Designated (COSEWIC): No

Species identified in Kamloops, Lillooet or Merritt SFMP: **Yes (Kamloops)**

Description

- Very dry hot forest community dominated by Douglas-fir stands.
- Found only in the PPxh2/06 zone.
- In relatively open, undisturbed stands, the shrub layer is generally poorly developed and has a low cover of common snowberry and Saskatoon.
- The herb layer is well developed.
- Common snowberry is an erect deciduous shrub 0.5-1.5m tall, spreading by a few underground rhizomes. Fruits persist through winter and are conspicuous spongy white and berry-like.
- Saskatoon: a shrub or rarely a small tree, 1-6m tall; stems slender, smooth; twigs smooth, reddish-brown; bark greyish to red-brown; sometimes spreading by rhizomes or stolons and forming dense colonies.
- NOTE: This is a rare plant community with limited distribution.



Common snowberry



Saskatoon. Photo: W.D. Bransford

Forest Districts

Cascades, Kamloops, Okanagan Shuswap

BEC Zones

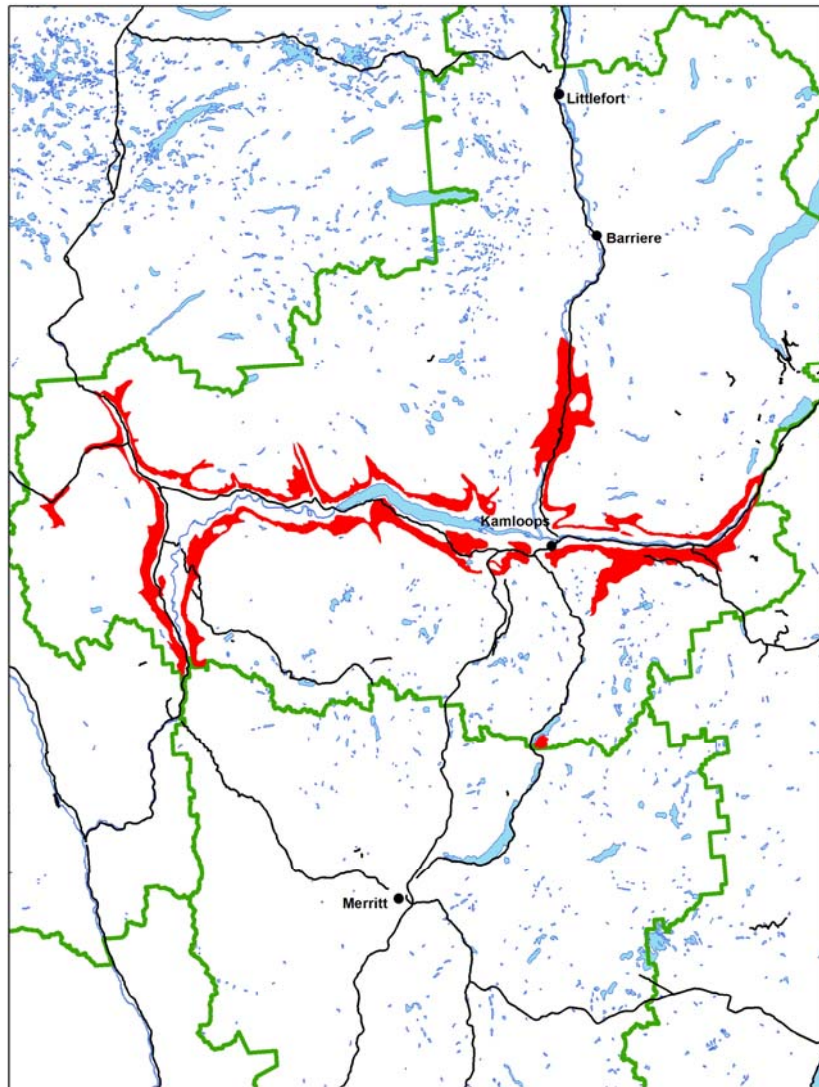
PPxh2/06

Elevation

Near Kamloops on north aspects, the lower elevation range for PPxh2 is 650-800m and the upper elevation range is 900-950m. On south aspects, the lower elevation range is also 650-800m and the upper elevation range is 950-1,050m.

Important Habitat Features

Very little information is available for this plant community. Please refer to the following map for the location of the BEC zone where this plant community may be found.



Location of PPxh2 in the Kamloops TSA

Additional Information

This plant community is geographically very restricted. No known locations available from the Conservation Data Centre. Please refer to plant guidebooks such as *Plants of the Southern Interior British Columbia and the Inland Northwest* (Lone Pine Press, 463pp) for assistance with the identification of individual species comprising this community.

Management Recommendations

The following management recommendations are generalized due to the limited information available for this plant community.

Where this plant community is found:

- Retain a qualified plant ecologist (Registered Professional Biologist) to confirm the presence of the plant community and determine the extent of the local population.
- Establish a no harvest buffer zone and a management zone large enough to maintain ecological site conditions associated with this plant community, including undisturbed forest structure, substrate, and associated microclimate. The size of this buffer will vary based on specific site conditions and should be determined by the qualified plant ecologist (Registered Professional Biologist).
- In the no harvest buffer zone:
 - Do not build roads or trails.
 - Do not harvest or salvage except to support restoration measures with silvicultural treatments that are recommended by a qualified plant ecologist (Registered Professional Biologist).
 - Do not remove non-timber forest products.
 - Do not use pesticides.
- Minimize impacts to vegetation, soils, and hydrology when operating in the management zone adjacent to this plant community, particularly during road development and maintenance.
- Prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species.
- Allow for the processes of litter accumulation, renewal, and microbiotic crust development.
- Maintain a diversity of natural disturbance regimes.

References

Lloyd, D.A, K. Angove, G.D. Hope, and C. Thompson. 1990. A Guide to Site Identification and Interpretation for the Kamloops Forest Region. Ecosystems Research Branch. 399pp.

Lloyd, D., M. Ryan, N. Brand, M. Doney, V. Larson, and J. MacDonald. 2005. Site Classification for 52 Biogeoclimatic Units in the Southern Interior Forest Region. Draft. BC Ministry of Forests. Available online at: ftp://ftp.for.gov.bc.ca/RSI/external!/publish/Dennis_Lloyd_BEC_Materials

Ministry of Forests and Range. 2006. Biogeoclimatic Ecosystem Classification Program. Accessed online from <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hre/becweb/>

Parish, Roberta, Ray Coupe and Dennis Lloyd. 1996. Plants of Southern Interior British Columbia and the Inland Northwest. Lone Pine Publishing, Vancouver, BC. 463pp