

BEC-Tree Species Description: IDFdw

The IDFdw is a small subzone that occurs at low elevations in the broad valleys in the southwest Chilcotin Ranges. Historically, this landscape experienced frequent low-intensity wildfires and less frequent more intense stand destroying fires. The landscape is characterized by a natural mosaic of uneven-aged forests dominated by Douglas-fir and lodgepole pine and where more intense stand destroying fires occurred, even aged pine forests. Most mature and larger immature pine has been killed or is anticipated to be killed by recent outbreaks of mountain pine beetle. A large part of the IDFdw is currently protected in parks.

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	43	<1	46	>1	7	2

As a result of very effective fire control over the past century there has been a dramatic increase in the abundance of advance regeneration in the understory. Most Douglas-fir dominated stands have been managed using selected partial cutting prescriptions that maintain multi-storied stands and promote natural regeneration. Only about 3% has been previously harvested.

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	Pl	S	Fd	Bl	Ep	Act	At
% of total natural old/mature (age class 7-9) forest cover	33	3	59	2	<1	1	2
% of total natural immature (age class 4-6) forest cover	71	1	7	1	<1	1	20

There are no RESULTS data for the IDFdw. Past harvesting focussed on Douglas-fir stands. Regeneration management strategies in the IDFdw relied mostly on natural regeneration and has not significantly impacted landscape level species composition and diversity. Hardwood species in managed stands are naturally regenerated and occur at similar levels as occurs in natural immature stands.

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Notes:

- There is considerable variability in tree species composition and distribution from north to south and from valley to valley in the IDFdw. Subalpine fir is common and western redcedar is infrequent in the southern part of the subzone and moister valleys.