

### BEC-Tree Species Description: SBSwk3

Historically the forests of the Takla variant of the Wet Cool Sub-boreal Spruce biogeoclimatic unit (SBSwk3) were dominated by mature fire-origin forests. Hybrid white spruce and subalpine fir stands were widespread on upland sites. Lodgepole pine stands were common on drier sites and on more recently disturbed sites. The subalpine fir component of stands increased with stand age. Douglas-fir dominated stands rarely occur on steep warm aspects on coarse soils. These stands represent the northern limits of Douglas-fir in BC. Black spruce dominated stands occurred in localized wetlands occurring on gentle topography. Black spruce also occurred in the understory of lodgepole pine stands on poorer sites. Trembling aspen and occasionally paper birch stands occurred on more recently disturbed sites on warm aspects. Black cottonwood stands occurred along major watercourses.

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	68	0	20	0	3	9

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	Ac	At	Bl	Pl	Sx
% of total natural old/mature (age class 7-9) forest cover	1	5	25	30	38
% of total natural immature (age class 4-6) forest cover	1	15	10	47	24

Forest management of the 1960's to present have resulted in stand compositions similar to those on the natural landscape. Planting practices have likely increased the number of stands dominated by lodgepole pine and reduced the number of stands dominated by subalpine fir.

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

Species	B	Pl	S	Hardwoods
% of harvested area	9	53	31	7

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