

ORIGINAL PURPOSE To preserve for forestry research a representative stand of Douglas-fir in the Sub-Boreal Spruce Zone.

OVERVIEW

Date established:	1 May	Location:	Adjacent to Highway 16, 45 km W of Vanderhoof
ORC #:	1975		
Map number:	3060	Latitude:	54°03'N
	93 K/2	Longitude:	124°42'W

Total Area:	95 ha	Elevation:	730-800 m
Land:	95 ha		

Access: Access directly from Highway 16

Biogeoclimatic Zone:	Sub-Boreal Spruce (SBS)
Biogeoclimatic Variant:	SBSdw3 Stuart Dry Warm
Ecosection:	Bulkley Basin
Region:	Omineca
Management Area:	Nechako

COMPOSITION

Physical: The reserve straddles a low southwest-northeast trending ridge between Drywilliam and Fraser lakes on the Nechako Plateau. Though relief is not pronounced, the southern part of the reserve has a southeast aspect while the northern portion slopes gently to the northwest. Soils are well drained and there are no streams or water bodies within the reserve.

Biological: Factors such as relatively low elevation, southern exposure, and well-drained gravely soils result in Douglas-fir trees and associated plants like redstem ceanothus and needlegrasses in the southern part of the reserve. These plants are common in southern British Columbia but in the Sub-boreal Spruce Zone they occur only as isolated populations. The well-spaced veteran Douglas-fir trees, though not tall by coastal standards, are large and very old. There is some Douglas-fir regeneration. White spruce is extensive in the northern part of the reserve.

The Douglas-fir stands have an understory characterized by either common snowberry or by prickly rose and kinnikinnick. Groves of aspen with shrubs like willow and Saskatoon, and small openings dominated by needlegrasses and blue wildrye, are also present. Other plant communities are believed to be present but not yet described.

Anthropogenic modifications have shaped the habitat within this reserve. A gravel pit in the middle of the reserve has been blocked off to allow natural revegetation. The vegetation within the reserve has been affected by fire and probably by highway construction in the past. Also, the north half of the reserve was extensively logged in the

Hare, Snowshoe (*Lepus americanus*)
Hawk, Red-tailed (*Buteo jamaicensis*)
Moose (*Alces americanus*)
Owl, Great-horned (*Bubo virginianus*)