

## EAST REDONDA ISLAND

ER #2

**ORIGINAL PURPOSE** To conserve representative coastal ecosystems of two biogeoclimatic zones, principally for forestry research in first and second growth forest stands

### OVERVIEW

<b>Date established:</b>	4 May 1971	<b>Location:</b>	40km NW of Powell River, between Homfray Channel and Pendrell Sound, at entrance to Toba Inlet
<b>ORC #:</b>	3002	<b>Latitude:</b>	50°14'N
<b>Map number:</b>	92 K/2; K/7	<b>Longitude:</b>	124°41'W

<b>Total Area:</b>	6,182 ha	<b>Elevation:</b>	0-1,570 m
<b>Land:</b>	6,181 ha		
<b>Lake:</b>	1 ha		

**Access:** The island is accessible by boat, but little disturbance has resulted from recreational boaters.

**Biogeoclimatic Zones:** Coastal Western Hemlock (CWH); Mountain Hemlock (MH), Coastal Mountain-heather Alpine (CMA)

**Biogeoclimatic Variants:** CWH dm CWH Dry Maritime; CWH vm1 CWH Submontane Very Wet Maritime; CWH wh2 CWH Montane Very Wet Maritime; MH mm1 MH Windward Moist Maritime; CMA up CMA Undifferentiated Parkland;

**Ecosection:** Outer Fjordland

**Region:** Lower Mainland

**Management Area:** Sunshine Coast

### COMPOSITION

**Physical:** The reserve comprises the massif of Mt. Addenbroke and occupies the entire eastern lobe of East Redonda Island. Most of the terrain is steep and rocky. Shallow soils are common. A variety of slope exposures is present.

**Biological:**

At lower elevations within the Coastal Western Hemlock Zone the forests are dominated by Douglas-fir with hemlock and western redcedar as secondary species. A shore (lodgepole) pine-moss/lichen community occupies dry rocky sites. On wetter sites, plant communities range from Douglas-fir-salal, Douglas-fir-hemlock-moss, and cedar-sword fern, to cedar-skunk cabbage. The driest slopes near the shoreline show vegetation transitional to the Coastal Douglas-fir Zone. Mid-elevations are occupied by a variety of hemlock and amabilis fir forests with understory of huckleberry species, salal, deer fern and mosses.

The subalpine Mountain Hemlock Zone supports forests of mountain hemlock, amabilis fir, and yellow cedar, as well as subalpine parkland where dwarfed clumps of these trees alternate with huckleberry, mountain-heather

and black alpine sedge communities. The last two communities are transitional to the Alpine Tundra Zone which is only marginally represented. Arbutus and the rare hairy manzanita occur here near the northern limit of their range.

Wildlife records on the reserve include Black Bear, Mule Deer, Turkey Vulture and Great Blue Heron. Gray Wolf and Cougar, as well as many species of smaller mammals and birds, are presumed to be present.

**Cultural:** Coast Salish rock paintings are found on cliffs near the ocean.

**MANAGEMENT CONCERNS**

<b>SIGNIFICANT SPECIES</b>	<b>BC LIST STATUS</b>	<b>COSEWIC STATUS</b>	<b>CF PRIORITY</b>
Marbled Murrelet	Blue listed	Threatened (2000)	1
hairy manzanita (northern range limit)			2

**THREATS**

**Climate Change:** If sea levels rise and storm activity increases as is projected, the coastlines of this reserve are subject to possible loss and/or degradation of coastal habitat. In reference to the original purpose of this reserve, the warming temperatures, changed hydrology and increase in growing degree days (influence by CO2, moisture, nutrient, and UV-B abundance) could change the present forest composition, resulting in the proliferation of some species and the displacement or migration of others. The net result will be novel combinations that are without current analogs.

**Forestry:** Resource extraction along the reserve boundaries poses threats associated with habitat fragmentation and pollution from fuel tanks, waste, etc.

**Recreation:** Wildlife disturbance and degradation of archaeological sites are due to anchorage of recreational marine vessels in Pendrill Sound.

**Urban development:** Development poses a risk of encroachment and disturbance of species.

**RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES** Some information is available on archaeological sites and petroglyph location on the island.

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**SCIENTIFIC NAMES OF SPECIES MENTIONED IN THE EAST REDONDA ISLAND  
ER ACCOUNT**

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**Flora**

Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*)

fern, deer (*Blechnum spicant*)

fir, amabilis (*Abies amabilis*)

hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*)

huckleberry (*Vaccinium* spp.)

mountain-heather (*Phyllodoce empetriformis* and/or *Cassiope mertensiana* var. *mertensiana*)

redcedar, western (*Thuja plicata*)

salal (*Gaultheria shallon*)

sedge, black alpine (*Carex nigricans*)

yellow-cedar (*Chamaecyparis nootkatensis*)

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**Fauna**

Bear, Black (*Ursus americanus*)

Cougar (*Felis concolor*)

Deer, Mule (*Odocoileus hemionus*)

Heron, Great Blue (*Ardea herodias*)

Murrelet, Marbled (*Brachyramphus marmoratus*)

Vulture, Turkey (*Cathartes aura*)

Wolf, Gray (*Canis lupus*)