

TACHEEDA LAKES

ER #41

ORIGINAL PURPOSE To retain mature forest ecosystems representative of the wet cool Sub-Boreal Spruce subzone and its transition with the Engelmann Spruce-Subalpine Fir Zone

OVERVIEW

Date established:	1 Sept. 1972	Location:	80 km N of Prince George; 2.5 km SE of Tacheeda Lakes
ORC #:	3041	Latitude:	54°41'N
Map number:	93 J/10	Longitude:	122°30'W

Total Area:	526 ha	Elevation:	20-400 m
Land:	519 ha		
Lake:	7 ha		

Access: Access by trail from Tacheeda Lakes.

Biogeoclimatic Zones: Sub-Boreal Spruce (SBS);
Engelmann Spruce-Subalpine Fir (ESSF)

Biogeoclimatic Variant: SBS wk1 SBS Willow Wet Cool;
ESSF wk2 ESSF Misinchinka Wet Cool

Ecosection: MacGregor Plateau

Region: Omineca

Management Area: Omineca

COMPOSITION

Physical: The reserve lies in an area of rolling wooded hills between the Parsnip and Crooked rivers. Its northeastern extremity encompasses the southwestern slopes of Tacheeda Mountain, almost to its rounded summit at the 1295 m level. Small streams in shallow valleys flow south-westward from Tacheeda Mountain, eventually finding their way into Tacheeda Lakes (outside the reserve) and the Parsnip River. One lake in the reserve, near the south edge, is about 10 ha in size. Soils are primarily Podzols and Luvisols.

Biological: Except for the lake, one wetland of about 10 ha, and a few small scattered bogs, the reserve is entirely forested. Most of it is in the Sub-boreal Spruce Zone, with forest stands dominated by white spruce. Small areas at higher elevations support subalpine forest vegetation.

Three white spruce communities have been described. On the richest sites, Subalpine fir is subdominant and devil's club (up to three metres tall) and oak fern characterize the understory. Other white spruce-Subalpine fir stands lack devil's club but contain oak fern and much knight's plume moss. More or less pure stands of white spruce having shrub cover dominated by black huckleberry and ground cover of mosses, are also present. On drier sites and old burns, the spruce forest contains some trembling aspen and Douglas-fir. Douglas-fir attains good growth here despite being within a few kilometres of its northern limit of range.

Wetlands, many resulting from activity of beavers, are typically dominated by water sedge and beaked sedge and may be rimmed by stands of scrub birch, willows and black spruce. Buckbean is common in shallow ponded areas. Bogs characterized by sphagnum mosses or by long-leaved sundew and sickle moss also occur.

Typical subalpine woods are of the Engelmann spruce-Subalpine fir-white rhododendron type.

MANAGEMENT CONCERNS

SIGNIFICANT SPECIES

None listed

THREATS

Climate Change: As the climatic envelopes of various forest systems shift and change, the composition of such transitional communities as represented in this reserve will also change. The result may be the supplanting of one forest ecosystem by another, in this case the wetlands and moist forest systems may be replaced by drier communities.

Access: Cutblocks and logging roads adjacent to boundary encourage hunting within the reserve

SCIENTIFIC NAMES OF SPECIES MENTIONED IN THE TACHEEDA LAKES ER ACCOUNT

Flora

aspen, trembling (*Populus tremuloides*)
 birch, scrub (*Betula nana*)
 buckbean (*Menyanthes trifoliata*)
 devil's club (*Oplopanax horridus*)
 Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*)
 fern, oak (*Gymnocarpium dryopteris*)
 fir, subalpine (*Abies lasiocarpa* var. *lasiocarpa*)
 huckleberry, black (*Vaccinium membranaceum*)
 knight's plume (*Ptilium crista-castrensis*)
 moss, peat (*Sphagnum* sp.)
 moss, sickle (*Drepanocladus uncinatus*)
 rhododendron, white-flowered (*Rhododendron albiflorum*)
 sedge, beaked (*Carex utriculata*)
 sedge, water (*Carex aquatilis*)
 spruce, black (*Picea mariana*)
 spruce, Engelmann (*Picea engelmannii*)
 spruce, white (*Picea glauca*)
 sundew, long-leaved (*Drosera anglica*)
 willow (*Salix* spp.)

Fauna

Beaver, American (*Castor canadensis*)