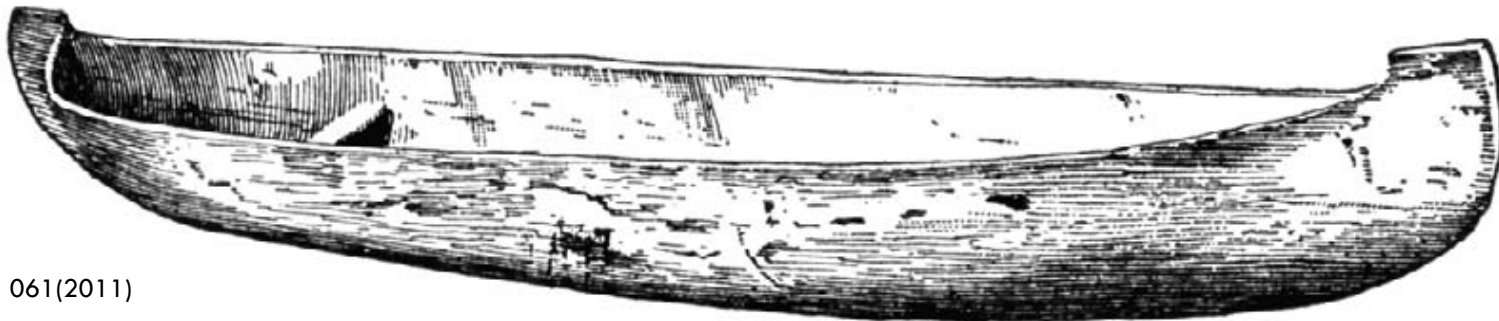
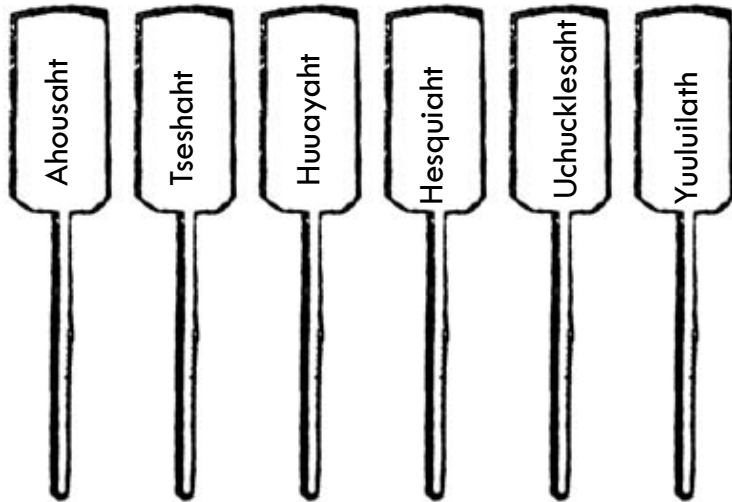


## Appendix D - Community Profile



# THE PEOPLE



POPULATION: 31 061(2011)

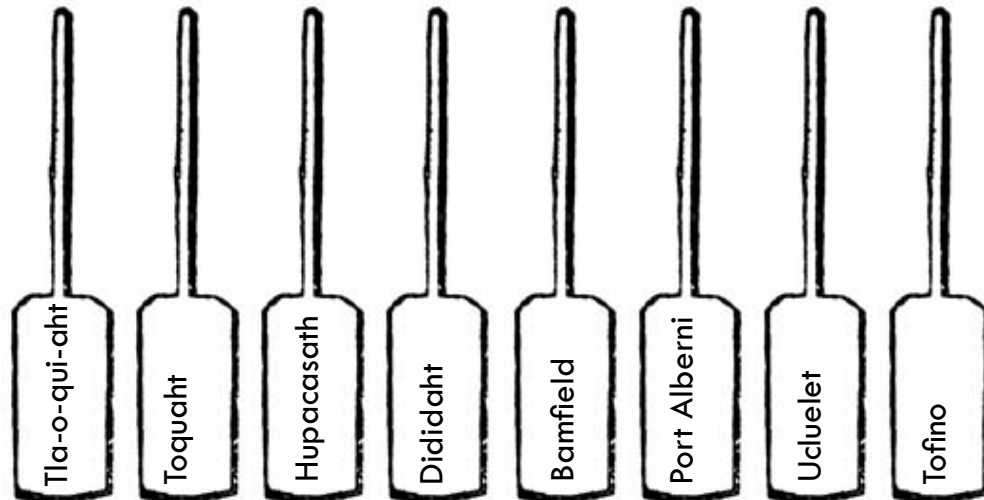
GROWTH RATE: 1.3 % (2006-2011)

FIRST NATIONS COMMUNITIES: 10

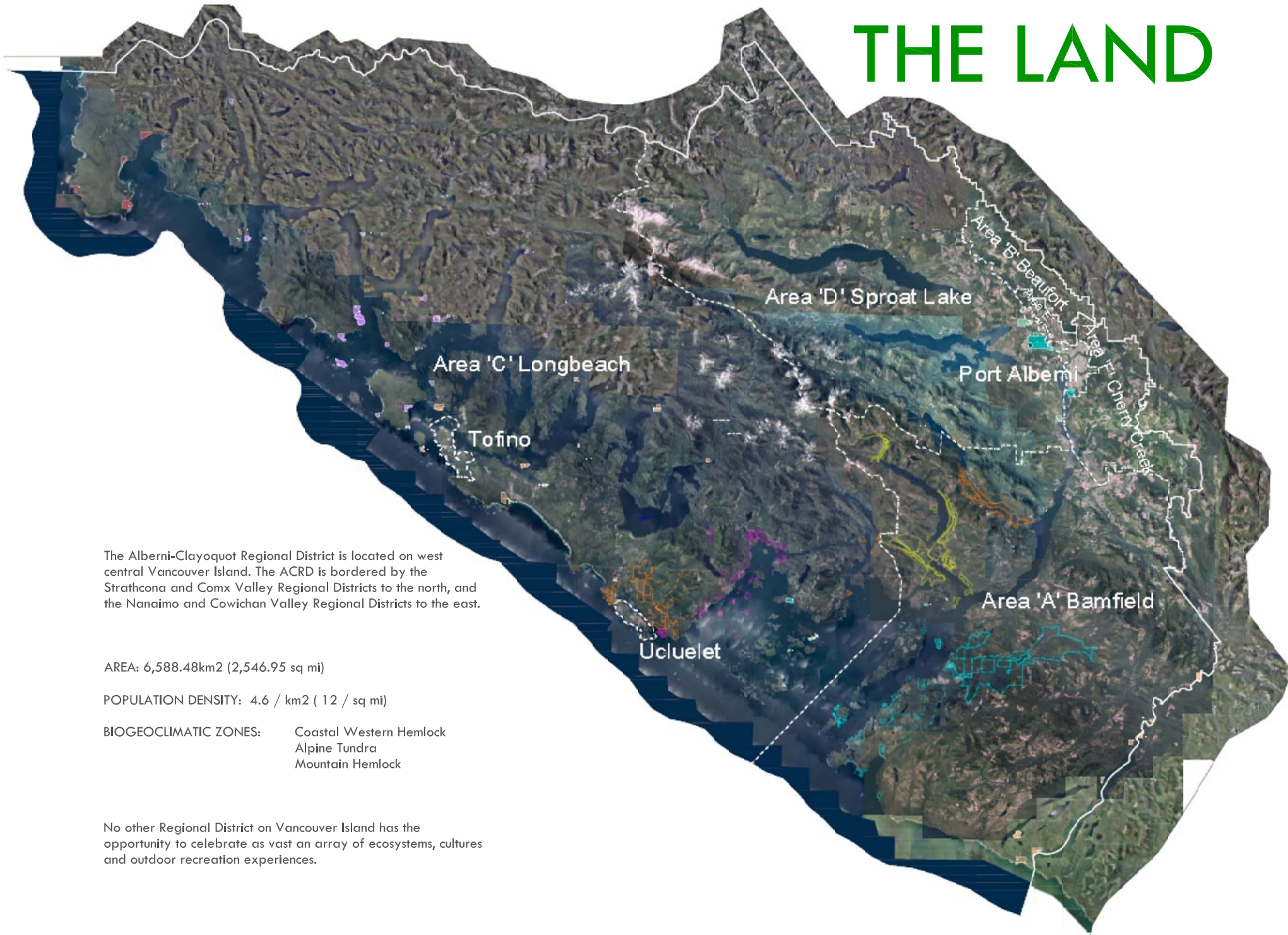
DWELLINGS OCCUPIED: 13 339

URBAN POPULATIONS:

- Bamfield: 155
- Tofino: 1876
- Ucluelet: 1627
- Port Alberni: 17743



# THE LAND



The Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District is located on west central Vancouver Island. The ACRD is bordered by the Strathcona and Comox Valley Regional Districts to the north, and the Nanaimo and Cowichan Valley Regional Districts to the east.

AREA: 6,588.48km<sup>2</sup> (2,546.95 sq mi)

POPULATION DENSITY: 4.6 / km<sup>2</sup> ( 12 / sq mi)

BIOGEOCLIMATIC ZONES: Coastal Western Hemlock  
Alpine Tundra  
Mountain Hemlock

No other Regional District on Vancouver Island has the opportunity to celebrate as vast an array of ecosystems, cultures and outdoor recreation experiences.

# THE ECONOMY



The **Alberni Valley's** forests consist primarily of Douglas Fir, Hemlock, Yellow Cedar and Western Red Cedar. Most of the old growth forests have been logged with current logging coming from second growth forests. A large paper mill, Catalyst Paper, Port Alberni Division sits on the edge of the Alberni Inlet. There is also a lumber mill, Alberni Pacific Division, that also sits on the inlet. Several smaller sawmills exist throughout the valley. Farming is also practised in the valley.

Port Alberni also serves as a hub for those travelling to the West Coast of Vancouver Island, including Ucluelet, Tofino and Pacific Rim National Park. As commodities tend to be much pricier in these remote areas, campers and travellers often do their shopping in Port Alberni before continuing their journey. This has resulted in development along the Johnston Road (Highway 4) corridor, including several big box retailers, grocery stores and strip mall developments. Previously, eco-tourism companies have set up shop in the Alberni Valley, taking advantage of the city's location on the fringe of wilderness yet proximate location to Vancouver and Victoria. For example, there's a kayaking, ATV touring, a windsurfing and a glider company. (L. Avis)



**Tofino** consists of approximately 1,876 residents on the west coast of Vancouver Island, in British Columbia, Canada, located at the western terminus of Highway 4, on the tip of the Esowista Peninsula, at the southern edge of Clayoquot Sound. The settlement of Tofino took place in 1909, in honour of 1792 Spanish commanders Galiano and Valdés, cartography instructor Admiral Vicente Tofiño.

A popular tourist destination in the summer, Tofino's population swells to many times its winter size. It attracts surfers, nature lovers, campers, whale watchers, fishermen, or anyone just looking to be close to nature. In the winter it is not as bustling, although many people visit Tofino and the west coast to watch storms on the water. Close to Tofino is Long Beach, a scenic and popular year-round destination, at the Pacific Rim National Park Reserve.

As a resort community, Tofino has a number of festivals including; the Pacific Rim Whale Festival, Tofino Shorebird Festival, Tofino Food and Wine Festival, Tofino Lantern Festival, "Art in the Gardens," and the O'Neill Coldwater Surf Classic. The highlight of November is the Clayoquot Oyster Festival.



Tranquil **Ucluelet** has dramatic backdrop for working, living, and recreating. The town of Ucluelet offers beaches, multi-use sports fields, community parks, waterfront promenades, restaurants, unique shops and galleries, a mini aquarium and a range of accommodation choices. The motto of Ucluelet is "Living on the Edge" due in part to its location on a peninsula surrounded by water.

Located beside Long Beach in BC's Pacific Rim National Park Reserve, people come to Ucluelet for surfing, hiking, kayaking, fishing, diving, camping, whale and bear watching, beachcombing and storm watching.

The Wild Pacific Trail is becoming the focus of many Ucluelet vacations, with its unique shoreline trails and ocean vistas. The Pacific Rim National Park Reserve offers long sandy beaches for picnicking, hiking, surfing, and other water activities. The Kwisis Visitor Centre has educational programs and activities. The Broken Group Islands, a unit of the Pacific Rim National Park Reserve, is accessible from Ucluelet and offers world class kayaking and diving opportunities. The town of Ucluelet itself offers spas, shops and galleries, as well as a waterfront promenade along the inner side of the Ucluth Peninsula.



**Bamfield** was populated by Huu-ay-aht of the Nuu-chah-nulth, the local indigenous people. Bamfield was named after the first government agent of the area, William Eddy Banfield. In 1902, the Bamfield cable station was constructed as the western terminus of a worldwide undersea telegraph cable called by some the All Red Line as it passed only through countries and territories controlled by the British Empire, which were coloured red on the map.

A Marine and Fisheries lifesaving station on the Pacific coast was established at Bamfield in 1907. It was the first lifesaving station on Canada's Pacific Coast. In 1953 the cable was extended up the Alberni Inlet to Port Alberni and the local station was closed on June 20, 1959. The Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre began operations by the end of 1972. It became the largest employer in the community since. Commercial fishing was based in Bamfield up to the mid-1980s. Bamfield is also the northern terminus of the West Coast Trail, a hiking trail built in 1907 along the west coast of Vancouver Island to help survivors of the area's many shipwrecks find their way back to civilization. The trail runs 77 km (48 mi) kilometres along extremely rugged terrain.

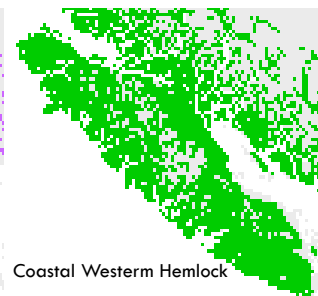
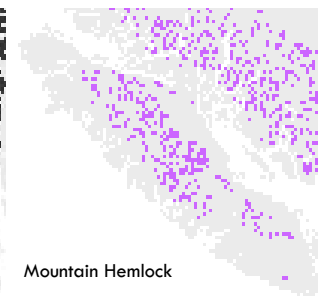
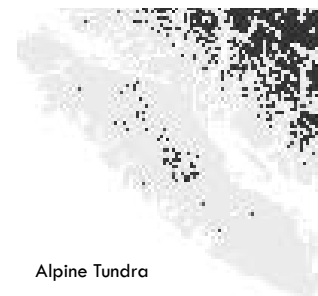
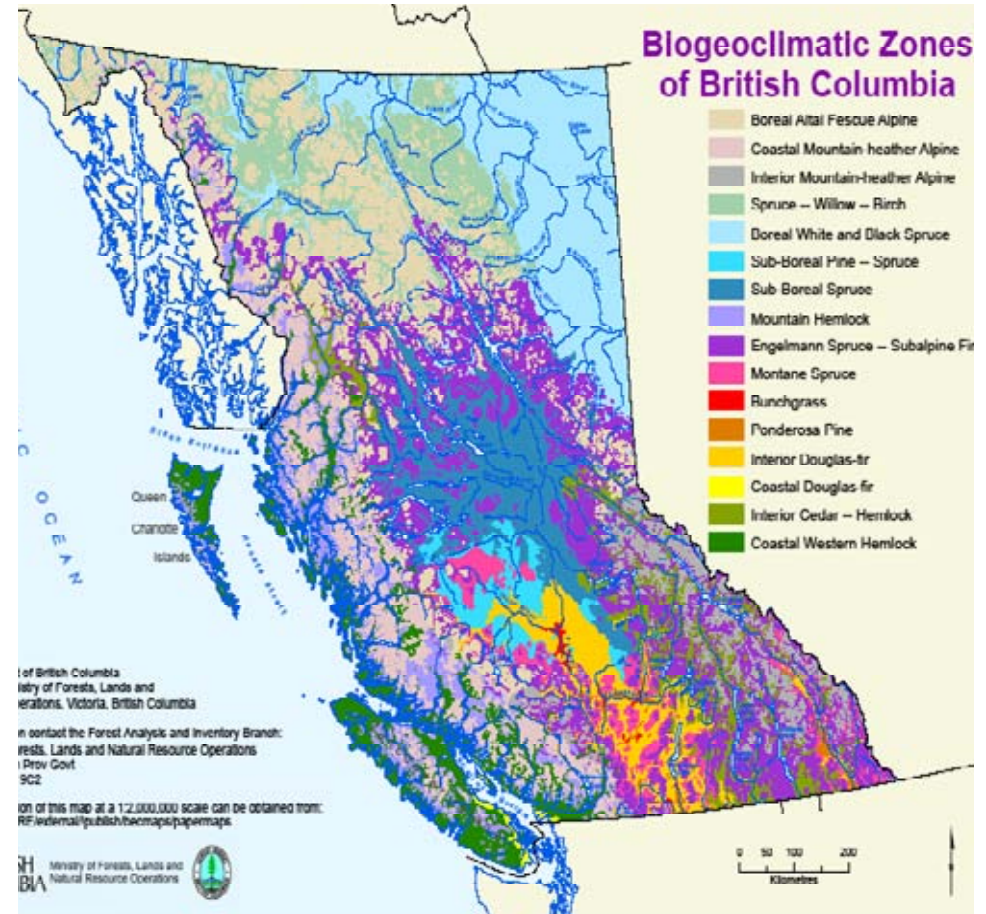
Today Bamfield is primarily a tourist destination, either for the West Coast Trail, ocean kayaking or sport fishing. The research activities at the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre attracts hundreds of researchers every year and offers credited university courses through its five associated universities.

# BIOGEOCLIMATIC ZONES

Biogeoclimatic zones are defined as “a geographic area having similar patterns of energy flow, vegetation and soils as a result of a broadly homogenous macroclimate.”(for.gov.bc.ca) Biogeoclimatic zones support a wide variety of wildlife, vegetation and tree species. The ACRD hosts several biogeoclimatic zones, making it one of the most ecologically diverse regional districts in the province. Of the 14 zones represented in BC, three are found in the ACRD.

## Alpine Tundra

This zone is the harshest and least-populated biozone in the Province. It occupies the high elevations of mountainous areas, and is especially common in the Coast Range. The terrain in this zone is dominated by ice, snow, rock, and glaciers. Climate is a major barrier to life; the growing season is extremely short. Mean average temperature usually ranges from 0 °C (32 °F) to 4 °C (39 °F), and even in summer the average temperature does not exceed 10 °C (50 °F). The zone sees heavy precipitation, usually in the form of snow. Trees are rarely found in this zone, and when they do grow, they take the low, sprawling Krummholz form. Shrubs are common, especially dwarf evergreen species. Grasses, heath, and sedges are also present. Wetter areas see a larger variety of plant species. Higher elevations are exclusively the realm of the lichens. Due to its harsh winters, few animals live in the zone year-round. However, in the spring, summer, and fall, many species are found.



### **Coastal Western Hemlock**

The Western Hemlock, *Tsuga heterophylla*, is the dominant species on the west coast of North America. A large tree, it usually grows up to 70 meters tall and 2.5 meters in diameter. The Western Hemlock can be found readily throughout the forests in Alberta, British Columbia, Alaska, Montana, Idaho, Washington, Oregon and California between the sea level and up to 2000 m elevation in coastal to sub-alpine forests. It is the dominant species within this range. In low elevation coastal forests on the west coast of North America, it shares dominance with the Spruce; in the slightly drier western Cascade Range it shares dominance with the Douglas-fir.

The climate of the region where Western Hemlocks are located is characterized by long, mild, and wet winters, and relatively sunny and dry summers. During winter time the hemlock experience the most growth. Especially on the coast, where winds can reach sustained speeds of above 100km/hour, the Hemlock have an advantage over the other shorter, weaker trees by being able to better withstand the more extreme climates. The mean average temperature throughout Western Hemlock's range in BC is around 3-5 degrees celsius.

### **Mountain Hemlock**

The Mountain Hemlock, *Tsuga mertensiana*, is a close relative of the more dominant Western Hemlock. A medium-sized tree, it usually grows up to 50 meters tall and 1.5 meters in diameter at the base. Native to the west coast of North America, the bark of the mountain hemlock is thin and gray in color. Its crown is in a conic shape in young trees and gradually taking on a cylindrical shape as the tree grows. Its needles are soft, blunt-tipped, and slightly flattened. The cones are small but long. The mountain hemlock prefers open conditions with sufficient light, and it can tolerate severe, cold weather better than many other species. The mountain hemlock is well adapted to deal with heavy snow fall and ice formations. The Mountain Hemlock shares much territory with the Western Hemlock. In BC, mountain hemlocks can be found from sea level up to about 1000 m of elevation. As the mountain hemlock grows to the treeline on the coastal mountain slopes, the best place to find its picturesque qualities are in the high mountain areas.



# SPECIES AT RISK

Based on data received from Species at Risk, BC the following species are listed as of concern, threatened, endangered.

<http://www.speciesatrisk.bc.ca/advancedsearch/?district=ACRD>

Pearson, Mike and Healey, M.C.2012. Species at Risk and Local Government: a Primer for BC. Stewardship Centre of British Columbia, Courtenay BC.

## SUMMARY LIST FOR ACRD

Number of Species	169	BC Red List	47
Mammals	16	BC Blue List	110
Birds	4	Identified Wildlife	14
Breeding Birds	21	COSEWIC Endangered	12
Reptiles	2	COSEWIC Threatened	16
Amphibians	3	COSEWIC Special Concern	21
Fishes	10	SARA Schedule 1	40
Insects	13	Extirpated fom BC	0
Molluscs	13	Extinct	0
Vascular Plants	66		
Mosses	10		
Fungus	1		

## MAMMALS

English Name	Scientific Name	COSEWIC	SARA	BC Status
Grey Whale	<i>Eschrichtius robustus</i>	Special Concern	Schedule 1	Blue
Harbour Porpoise	<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>	Special Concern	Schedule 1	Blue
<b>Killer Whale</b>	<b><i>Orcinus orca</i> pop. 5</b>	<b>Endangered</b>	<b>Schedule 1</b>	<b>Red</b>
Steller Sea Lion	<i>Eumetopias jubatus</i>	Special Concern	Schedule 1	Blue
<b>Vancouver Island Wolverine</b>	<b><i>Marmota flaviventris vancouverensis</i></b>	<b>Endangered</b>	<b>Schedule 1</b>	<b>Red</b>
<b>Killer Whale</b>	<b><i>Gulo gulo vancouverensis</i></b>	<b>Special Concern</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Red</b>
<b>Killer Whale</b>	<b><i>Orcinus orca</i> pop. 6</b>	<b>Threatened</b>	<b>Schedule 1</b>	<b>Red</b>
Humpback Whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	Special Concern	Schedule 1	Blue
<b>Northern Fur Seal</b>	<b><i>Callorhinus ursinus</i></b>	<b>Threatened</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Red</b>
Townsend's Big-eared Bat	<i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>	None	None	Blue
<b>American Water Shrew</b>	<b><i>Sorex palustris brooksi</i></b>	<b>None</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Red</b>
<b>Keen's Myotis</b>	<b><i>Myotis keenii</i></b>	<b>Data Deficient</b>	<b>Schedule 3</b>	<b>Red</b>
Roosevelt Elk	<i>Cervus canadensis roosevelti</i>	None	None	Blue
Wolverine	<i>Gulo gulo</i>	Special Concern	None	None
Ermine, Anguinae Subspecies	<i>Mustela erminea anguinae</i>	None	None	Blue



Killer Whale photo: bing.com



Keen's Myotis photo: bing.com



Northern Fur Seal photo: bing.com



Bear photo: bing.com

**BIRDS**

**English Name**

Pink-footed Shearwater  
**Short-tailed Albatross**  
 Black-footed Albatross  
**Laysan Albatross**

**Scientific Name**

Puffinus creatopus  
**Phoebastria albatrus**  
 Phoebastria nigripes  
**Phoebastria immutabilis**

**COSEWIC**

Threatened  
**Threatened**  
 Special Concern  
**None**

**SARA**

Schedule 1  
**Schedule 1**  
 Schedule 1  
**None**

**BC Status**

Blue  
**Red**  
 Blue  
**Red**



Short Tailed Albatross photo: bing.com

**BREEDING BIRDS**

**English Name**

Great Blue Heron  
 Marbled Murrelet  
**Northern Goshawk**  
 Western Screech Owl  
**Red Knot**  
 Peregrine Falcon  
 Common Nighthawk  
 Caspian Tern  
 Barn Swallow  
 Olive-sided flycatcher  
 Band-tailed pigeon  
 Green Heron  
**Brandt's Cormorant**  
 Northern Pygmy-Owl  
 Sooty Grouse  
 Tufted Puffin  
 White-tailed Ptarmigan  
 Cassin's Auklet  
**Common Murre**

**Scientific Name**

Ardea herodias fannini  
 Brachyramphus marmoratus  
**Accipiter gentilis laingi**  
 Megascops kennicottii kennicottii  
**Calidris canutus**  
 Falco peregrinus pealei  
 Chordeiles minor  
 Hydroprogne caspia  
 Hirundo rustica  
 Contopus cooperi  
 Patagioenas fasciata  
 Butorides virescens  
**Phalacrocorax penicillatus**  
 Glaucidium gnoma swarthi  
 Dendragapus fuliginosus  
 Fratercula cirrhata  
 Lagopus leucura saxatilis  
 Ptychoramphus aleuticus  
**Uria aalge**

**COSEWIC**

Special Concern  
 Threatened  
**Threatened**  
 Threatened  
**Endangered**  
 Special Concern  
 Threatened  
 Not at Risk  
 Threatened  
 Threatened  
 Special Concern  
 None  
**None**  
 None  
 None  
 None  
 None  
 None  
 None  
 Candidate for Listing  
**None**

**SARA**

Schedule 1  
 Schedule 1  
**Schedule 1**  
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**Schedule 1**  
 Schedule 1  
 Schedule 1  
 None  
 None  
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 Schedule 1  
 None  
 None  
 None  
 None  
 None  
**None**

**BC Status**

Blue  
 Blue  
**Red**  
 Blue  
**Red**  
 Blue  
 Yellow  
 Blue  
 Blue  
 Blue  
 Blue  
 Blue  
 Blue  
 Blue  
**Red**



Western Painted Turtle photo: bing.com

**REPTILES**

**English Name**

**Western Painted Turtle**  
**Leatherback Turtle**

**Scientific Name**

**Chrysemys picta pop. 1**  
**Dermodochelys coriacea**

**COSEWIC**

**Endangered**  
**Endangered**

**SARA**

**Schedule 1**  
**Schedule 1**

**BC Status**

**Red**  
**Red**



Common Murre photo: bing.com

**AMPHIBIANS**

**English Name**

Northern Red-legged Frog  
 Western Toad  
 Wandering Salamander

**Scientific Name**

Rana aurora  
 Anaxyrus boreas  
 Aneides vagrans

**COSEWIC**

Special Concern  
 Special Concern  
 None

**SARA**

Schedule 1  
 Schedule 1  
 None

**BC Status**

Blue  
 Blue  
 Blue

**FISHES**

**English Name**

**Green Sturgeon**  
**Coho Salmon (interior Fraser populations)****Oncorhynchus kisutch**  
 Basking Shark  
 Rougheye rockfish  
 Yelloweye Rockfish

**Scientific Name**

**Acipenser medirostris**  
 Cetorhinus maximus  
 Sebastes aleutianus  
 Sebastes ruberrimus

**COSEWIC**

**Special Concern**  
**Endangered**  
 Endangered  
 Special Concern  
 Special Concern

**SARA**

**Schedule 1**  
**None**  
 Schedule 1  
 Schedule 1  
 None

**BC Status**

**Red**  
**Yellow**  
 None  
 None  
 None



Green Sturgeon photo: bing.com



## Insects

### English Name

Dun Skipper  
 Monarch  
 Blue Dasher  
 Autumn Meadowhawk  
**Edwards' Beach Moth**  
 Quatsino Cave Amphipod  
 Western Pine Elfin,  
**Johnson's Hairstreak**  
**Common Woodnymph,**  
 Western Branded Skipper,  
 Phoebus' Parnassian,  
 Boisduval's Blue,  
**Zerene Fritillary,**

### Scientific Name

Euphyes vestris  
 Danaus plexippus  
 Pachydiplax longipennis  
 Sympetrum vicinum  
**Anarta edwardsii**  
 Stygobromus quatsinensis  
 Callophrys eryphon sheltonensis  
**Callophrys johnsoni**  
**Cercyonis pegala incana**  
 Hesperia colorado oregonia  
 Parnassius smintheus olympiannus  
 Plebejus icarioides blackmorei  
**Speyeria zerene bremnerii**

### COSEWIC

Threatened  
 Special Concern  
 None  
 None  
**Endangered**  
 None  
 None  
**None**  
**None**  
 Candidate for Listing  
 None  
 None  
**None**

### SARA

Schedule 1  
 Schedule 1  
 None  
 None  
**Schedule 1**  
 None  
 None  
**None**  
**None**  
 None  
 None  
**None**

### BC Status

Blue  
 Blue  
 Blue  
 Blue  
**Red**  
 Blue  
 Blue  
**Red**  
**Red**  
 Blue  
 Blue  
 Blue  
**Red**



Common Woodnymph photo: bing.com

## Molluscs

### English Name

**Dromedary Jumping-slug**  
**Northern Abalone**  
 Olympia Oyster  
 Warty Jumping-slug  
 Broadwhorl Tightcoil  
 Scarletback Taildropper  
 Western Thorn  
 Pacific Sideband  
 Black Gloss  
**Fossaria Species 1**  
**Evening Fieldslug**  
**Threaded Vertigo**  
 Umbilicate Sprite

### Scientific Name

**Hemphillia dromedarius**  
**Haliotis kamtschatkana**  
 Ostrea conchaphila  
 Hemphillia glandulosa  
 Pristiloma johnsoni  
 Prophysaon vanattae  
 Carychium occidentale  
 Monadenia fidelis  
 Zonitoides nitidus  
**Fossaria vancouverensis**  
**Deroceras hesperium**  
**Nearctula sp. 1**  
 Promenetus umbilicatellus

### COSEWIC

**Threatened**  
**Threatened**  
 Special Concern  
 Special Concern  
 None  
 None  
 None  
 None  
 None  
 None  
**None**  
**Data Deficient**  
**Special Concern**  
 None

### SARA

**Schedule 1**  
**Schedule 1**  
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 None  
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**None**  
**None**  
**Schedule 1**  
 None

### BC Status

**Red**  
**Red**  
 Blue  
 Blue  
 Blue  
 Blue  
 Blue  
 Blue  
 Blue  
 Blue  
**Red**  
**Red**  
**Red**  
 Blue



Dromedary Jumping Slug photo: bing.com



Northern Abalone photo: bing.com

## Vascular Plants

### English Name

**Short-tailed rush**  
**Knotgrass**  
**Pink Sand-verbena**  
**White Meconella**  
**White-top Aster**  
**Tall Woolly-heads**  
**Cup Clover**  
 Angled Bitter Cress

### Scientific Name

**Juncus brevicaudatus**  
**Paspalum**  
**Abronia umbellata var. breviflora**  
**Meconella oregana**  
**Sericocarpus rigidus**  
**Psilocarphus elatior**  
**Trifolium Cyathiferum**  
 Cardamine angulata

### COSEWIC

**None**  
**None**  
**Endangered**  
**Endangered**  
**Special Concern**  
**Endangered**  
**None**  
 None

### SARA

**None**  
**None**  
**Schedule 1**  
**Schedule 1**  
**Schedule 1**  
**Schedule 1**  
**None**  
 None

### BC Status

**Red**  
**Red**  
**Red**  
**Red**  
**Red**  
**Red**  
**Red**  
 Blue



White Meconella photo: bing.com

**Small Headed Tarweed**  
**White Lip Rein Orchid**  
**Owyhee Mudwort**  
**Chairmaker's Bulrush**  
 California Wax-myrtle  
 Waterwort Water-milfoil  
 Northern Adder's-tongue  
 Redwood Sorrel  
**Fringed Pinesap**  
 Black Knotweed  
 Smith's Fairybells  
**Oregon Selaginella**  
**Graceful Arrow-grass**  
 Howell's Violet

**Hemizonella minima**  
**Piperia candida**  
**Limosella acaulis**  
**Schoenoplectus americanus**  
 Myrica californica  
 Myriophyllum quitense  
 Ophioglossum pusillum  
 Oxalis oregana  
**Pleuricospora fimbriolata**  
 Polygonum paronychia  
 Prosartes smithii  
**Selaginella oregana**  
**Triglochin concinna**  
 Viola howellii

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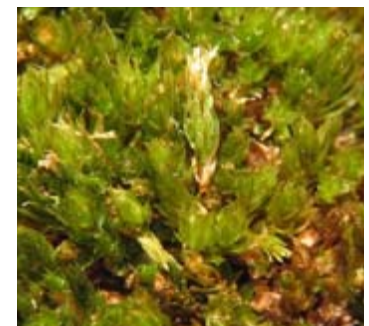
Fringed pinesap photo: bing.com



Oregon Selaginella photo: bing.com



Pink Sand verbena photo: bing.com



Pohlia Pacifica photo: bing.com

### Mosses

#### English Name

Lacks a Common Name  
 Lacks a Common Name  
 Lacks a Common Name  
 Lacks a Common Name  
 Lacks a Common Name  
 Lacks a Common Name  
**Lacks a Common Name**  
 Lacks a Common Name  
 Lacks a Common Name  
 Lacks a Common Name

#### Scientific Name

Dicranodontium asperulum  
 Diphyscium foliosum  
 Ditrichum schimperi  
 Epipterygium tozeri  
 Orthotrichum rivulare  
 Platyhypnidium riparioides  
**Pohlia pacifica**  
 Pohlia sphagnicola  
 Sphagnum subobesum  
 Trichostomum crispulum

#### COSEWIC

None  
 None  
 None  
 None  
 None  
 None  
**None**  
 None  
 None  
 None

#### SARA

None  
 None  
 None  
 None  
 None  
 None  
**None**  
 None  
 None  
 None

#### BC Status

Blue  
 Blue  
 Blue  
 Blue  
 Blue  
 Blue  
**Red**  
 Blue  
 Blue  
 Blue

### Fungus

#### English Name

Felted elf

#### Scientific Name

Leioderma solediatum

#### COSEWIC

None

#### SARA

None

#### BC Status

Blue