




Ecological Site Description ID:	F222XY341AK
Ecological Dynamics of the Site:	
<p>This maritime ecological site is in depressions along lower elevation mountain slopes. The reference plant community is a closed canopy mixed forest with a diversity of tree species, including Sitka spruce (<i>Picea sitchensis</i>), western hemlock (<i>Tsuga heterophylla</i>), <i>Pinus contorta</i>, and paper birch (<i>Betula papyrifera</i> var. <i>papyrifera</i>).</p> <p>There is minimal field documentation of the plant community dynamics for this ecological site. An early sere mixed scrub-herbaceous community has been observed in the field. This plant community becomes established after ponding. Late sere plant communities were not observed in the field.</p> <p>Very poorly drained organic soils are in the depressions.</p>	
State and Transition Model:	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin: 10px auto; width: 80%;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Maritime Forest Organic Depression F222XY341AK</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin: 10px auto; width: 90%;"> <p>1. Reference State</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 5px auto; width: 80%; text-align: center;"> <p>Reference Community Phase 1.1 (RCP) Mixed Coniferous- Deciduous Forest</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin: 5px 0;"> <p>↑ 1.3A</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 5px auto; width: 80%; text-align: center;"> <p>Community Phase 1.3 (2PM) Mixed Stunted Tree-/ Scrub/ Herbaceous Community</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin: 5px 0;"> <p>↑ 1.2A</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 5px auto; width: 80%; text-align: center;"> <p>Community Phase 1.2 (2PE) Mixed Scrub/ Herbaceous Community</p> </div> <div style="text-align: right; margin: 5px 0;"> <p>← 1.1A</p> </div> </div> </div>	

State ID Number:	1	State Name:	Reference state
Phase 1.1			
Community Phase Number:	1.1	Community Phase Name:	Mixed Coniferous-Deciduous Forest
Community Phase Narrative:			
<p>This is the reference community phase for this ecological site. The plant community is characterized by a closed canopy forest with approximately 40 to 55 percent cover. The canopy is comprised of variable cover and tree-sized stratum of <i>Betula papyrifera</i>, Sitka spruce (<i>Picea sitchensis</i>), and western hemlock (<i>Tsuga heterophylla</i>). <i>Pinus contorta</i> may make up as much as 5 percent cover. Shrub cover commonly is 20 to 40 percent with species such as <i>Viburnum edule</i>, <i>Menziesia ferruginea</i>, <i>Sanguisorba Canadensis</i>, Sitka alder (<i>Alnus viridis ssp. sinuata</i>), and <i>Rubus arcticus</i>. Forb cover is 10 to 15 percent with species such as <i>Cornus canadensis</i>, <i>Pyrola asarifolia</i>, <i>Equisetum arvense</i>, and <i>Gymnocarpium dryopteris</i>. Moss cover is as much as 75 percent.</p>			
Community Pathways			
Pathway Number	Pathway Name & Description		
1.1A	Water ponding in the depressions may kill the tree and understory species.		

<p>Phase 1.2</p>			
<p>Community Phase Number:</p>	<p>1.2</p>	<p>Community Phase Name:</p>	<p>Mixed Scrub-Herbaceous Community</p>
<p>Community Phase Narrative:</p>			
<p>This early sere community develops following ponding in a forest depression. The closed forest canopy in the reference community is replaced by an open mixed shrub, graminoid, forb, and moss community. Graminoid cover is 60 percent with species such as <i>Eleocharis palustris</i>, <i>Vahlodea atropurpurea</i>, and <i>Eriophorum angustifolium</i>. Moss cover is 30 percent. Shrub cover is 20 percent and consists of <i>Kalmia microphylla</i>. Forb cover is 25 percent with species such as <i>Fauria crista-galli</i>, <i>Erigeron peregrines</i>, <i>Viola</i>, <i>Geum</i>, <i>Tofieldia</i>, <i>Chamerion angustifolium</i>, <i>Platanthera dilatata</i>, <i>Parnassia fimbriata</i>, <i>Equisetum arvense</i>, and <i>Drosera rotundifolia</i>.</p>			
<p>Community Pathways</p>			
<p>Pathway Number</p>	<p>Pathway Name & Description</p>		
<p>1.2A</p>	<p>The plant community shifts toward a forest community as the soil dries.</p>		

<p>Phase 1.3</p>			
<p>Community Phase Number:</p>	<p>1.3</p>	<p>Community Phase Name:</p>	<p>Mixed Scrub-Herbaceous-Stunted Tree Community</p>
<p>Community Phase Narrative:</p>			
<p>This mid sere plant community develops as the soils in the depressions dry out. This plant community is characterized by mixed moss, shrubs, and forbs. As compared to the early sere community, this community has more shrub cover. Shrub cover is about 90 percent with species such as <i>Ledum palustre ssp. Decumbens</i>, <i>Vaccinium oxycoccos</i>, <i>Kalmia microphylla</i>, and <i>Vaccinium uliginosum</i>. Stunted western hemlock (<i>Tsuga heterophylla</i>), Sitka spruce (<i>Picea sitchensis</i>), and <i>Pinus contorta</i> make up 5 percent cover. Spagnum moss cover is 65 percent, and forb cover is 50 percent. Forb species include <i>Drosera rotundifolia</i> and <i>Nuphar lutea ssp. Polysepala</i>.</p> <p>A late sere community phase was not observed for this ecological site. It is likely that tree canopy cover will increase with time, leading to mixed <i>Betula papyrifera</i>, Sitka spruce (<i>Picea sitchensis</i>), and western hemlock (<i>Tsuga heterophylla</i>) woodland.</p>			
<p>Community Pathways</p>			
<p>Pathway Number</p>	<p>Pathway Name & Description</p>		
<p>1.3A</p>	<p>The plant community will shift toward a forest community as the soil continues to dry out.</p>		