



Providing practical solutions to environmental challenges

Standardized Methodology

Ecosystem classification is a standard component of land use planning, impact assessment and species management plans. Cornice is experienced in completing ecosystem classification projects throughout British Columbia and parts of Alberta and Nunavut to:

- ❖ Quantify project footprint effects on terrestrial ecosystems.
- ❖ Identify rare, unique and environmentally sensitive ecosystems.
- ❖ Provide a framework for completing rare plant surveys
- ❖ Support wildlife habitat suitability and capability modelling.
- ❖ Aid in route selection to minimize risk and maximize cost effectiveness.
- ❖ Support ecosystem and habitat mitigation, restoration and enhancement programs.
- ❖ Provide a framework for conserving and recovering important habitats for species at risk.

ECOSYSTEM CLASSIFICATION AND MAPPING

provides a supporting framework of information that is used for pre-development planning and **environmental impact assessment** to the development of detailed construction and mitigation plans. The identification of ecosystems at risk, wetlands and important wildlife habitat contributes to constraint mapping and site/route selection. Ecosystem classification and mapping at the site series level provides information such as forest productivity, soils, and water table that describe site operability and constraints that is utilized in site selection, route refinements, construction and mitigation planning.

Utilizing wildlife habitat rating standards to support wildlife habitat suitability modelling uses an ecosystem based mapping approach that yields quantitative and predictive information that is used in species conservation planning and management as well as impact assessment.



Project Examples

KITIMAT LNG PORT DEVELOPMENT

Ecosystems and plant species at risk assessment, grizzly bear habitat suitability modelling

LONG LAKE HYDRO TRANSMISSION LINE DEVELOPMENT

Ecosystem classification and modelling of mountain goat habitat suitability

GABION RIVER INDEPENDENT POWER PROJECT

Ecosystem classification and modelling of marbled murrelet, northern goshawk and grizzly bear habitat suitability

BARKERVILLE GOLD MINES BONANZA LEDGE

Ecosystem classification, rare plant survey and modelling of mountain caribou habitat suitability

Photo: Peace River Valley

At Cornice we believe that by providing the **best quality information** to decision makers in a readily understandable and relevant manner is the most **effective strategy in finding practical solutions to environmental challenges**.

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