Vegetation Composition Table (selected species):
Con = constancy, the percent of plots within which each species was found;
Cov = cover, the mean crown cover of the species in plots where it was found;
+ = trace (< 0.5% cover).

Trees Kartesz 2005 Name Con Cov
lodgepole pine Pinus contorta var. contorta 100 63
Douglas-fir Pseudotsuga menziesii 100 36
western hemlock Tsuga heterophylla 83 8

Shrubs and Dwarf-shrubs

dwarf Oregongrape Mahonia nervosa 100 8
baldhip rose Rosa gymnocarpa 100 3
little prince’s pine Chimaphila menziesii 67 +
tall Oregongrape Mahonia aquifolium 33 +
oceanspray Holodiscus discolor 33 3
salal Gaultheria shallon 33 2

Graminoids
Columbia brome Bromus vulgaris 33 4
western fescue Festuca occidentalis 33 3

Forbs and Ferns
bracken fern Pteridium aquilinum 100 6
twinflower Linnaea borealis 50 21
western starflower Trientalis borealis ssp. latifolia 50 +
Scouler’s bellflower Campanula scouleri 33 4

Vegetation Composition Table (selected species):
Lodgepole pine - Douglas-fir / dwarf Oregongrape

Sample size = 6 plots

DISTRIBUTION: Known only from Orcas Island, San Juan County.

GLOBAL/STATE STATUS: GNRS1. Largely dependent on a specific fire regime or landscape-level fire mosaic. There are only two known occurrences. Continued fire suppression is a long-term threat that will likely result in loss of this association as lodgepole pine dies out in succession.

ID TIPS: Dominated or co-dominated by lodgepole pine with Douglas-fir at least present. Understory dominated or co-dominated by dwarf Oregongrape with little to no salal.

ENVIRONMENT: These sites are moderately dry to mesic and appear to be nutrient-medium. Sites occupied are flats to moderate slopes on various aspects, typically in relatively dry topographic positions. Parent material is sedimentary residuum, locally mixed with glacial till. Occurs on sites mapped as very gravelly silt loam.

Precipitation: 38-46 inches (mean 44)
Elevation: 1000-2200 feet
Aspect/slope: various/ 2-33% slope (mean 19)
Slope position: upper, ridge, plain
Soil series: Pickett

DISTURBANCE/SUCCESSION: This association is an early- to mid-seral successional stage that will progress in the absence of disturbance (probably between stand age 100 and 200 years) to dominance by Douglas-fir and western hemlock (PSME-TSHE/MANE). This association would have likely been maintained in a shifting mosaic on the landscape by high-severity fires.

VEGETATION: Forest dominated or co-dominated by lodgepole pine, with Douglas-fir typically co-dominant or at least prominent in the sapling layer. Western hemlock is usually present to...
prominent in the understory or subcanopy. The shrub layer is sparse to moderate, with dwarf Oregongrape always present and usually prominent to co-dominant. Baldhip rose and little prince’s pine are usually present. The herb layer is variable in expression. Half the plots have a well-developed herb layer dominated by twinflower. Bracken fern is present to prominent in all plots. Western starflower is sometimes present as well.

CLASSIFICATION NOTES: Not previously described in the literature. NatureServe will recognize this association in the future.

MANAGEMENT NOTES: On most sites, this association is dependent on a landscape fire regime that no longer exists. The known occurrences are well protected from logging and development, but in the long-term will be threatened by lack of fire. Prescribed fire could be considered as a management tool that would maintain a semblance of natural processes and the continuation of this seral stage on the landscape.