

Metadata for NEBC VRI OLD FOREST PY



Purpose

The Northeast BC VRI Old Forest (NEBC_VRI_OLD_FOREST_PY) is a value-added product derived from the 2023 vintage of the annually updated [Forest Vegetation Composite Polygons and Rank1 Layer \(VRI\)](#) that represents forest stands 140 years and older.

Background

This dataset was created to provide operators and decision makers with current old forest stand information for the northeast. Existing old forest datasets have either been retired or are out of date. The dataset is generated following a similar approach to the legacy RSEA Old Forest Dataset, using a newer and more comprehensive version of the VRI, to capture stands that have matured to the 140 age criteria, and address known gaps in the older datasets related to Tree Farm Licenses. The data was derived using RSEA methodology where old forest polygons were extracted from VRI with the following logic: BCLCS_LEVEL_2 = 'T' And PROJ_AGE_1 >= 140. This dataset has not been modified or adjusted for Crown Forest Land Base or any other forest land base criteria. As such, this data is purely for the identification of old forest stands, irrespective of forest productivity, land ownership, or forest fire burn severity, and is not suitable for estimating stand reserves such as Range of Natural Variability without further analysis. The 140 age criteria has been applied to deciduous and coniferous stands.

Data Properties

Attributes / Column Name	Field Alias	Data Type	Data Precision	Comments
OBJECTID	Object ID	Object ID		Unique row number auto generated by database
SHAPE	Shape	Geometry (Polygon)		
BCLCS_LEVEL_4	BC Land Cover Class L4	Text	2	British Columbia Land Cover Classification Scheme Level 4 Coded Values: TC = Treed - Coniferous TB = Treed - Broadleaf TM = Treed - Mixed
PROJ_AGE_1	Leading Species Projected Age	Short		Projected Age for Leading Species
VRI_YEAR	VRI Year	Short		Vintage of VRI used to generate the dataset
SHAPE.AREA		Double		Area auto calculated by database (m ²)
SHAPE.LEN		Double		Polygon perimeter auto calculated by database (m)

Renewal Triggers and Service Levels

1. As Needed

Downstream Applications

Web Application	Map Service
REST SERVICE	TBA

Use Limitations

This data is for representation purposes only. The Regulator provides this data "as is" with the understanding that it is not guaranteed to be accurate, correct or complete and conclusions drawn from such information are the responsibility of the user. It carries no guarantee of any kind, express or implied.

Please review the [BCER Open Data License](#) for complete details.

References

¹ Holt R.F, Myers D. "OLD FOREST CURRENT CONDITION: A CUMULATIVE EFFECTS ANALYSIS FOR THE NORTHEAST RSEA STUDY AREA – Final Report". British Columbia's Environmental Stewardship Initiative: Northeast Regional Strategic Environmental Assessment (RSEA), 01 JUN. 2019, https://www.bc-er.ca/files/gis/RSEA_Old-Forest_June2019_Version1.0.pdf

Contact Information:

For further information please contact

Jacqueline Howard
Environmental Management Specialist
Responsible Development & Stewardship
jacqueline.howard@bc-er.ca

Hannah Wilson
Land and Resource Specialist
Ministry of Forests (FOR) – North Area
hannah.wilson@gov.bc.ca

Data Use Contacts:
Anna Regnier
Land and Resource Specialist
Ministry of Forests (FOR) – North Area
anna.regnier@gov.bc.ca