Title
FOREST ECOLOGICAL CLASSIFICATION AND MAPPING

Model Forest
Western Newfoundland Model Forest

From	**To**
April 1994	March 1996

Keywords
Damman, Ecosystem, Management Planning, Forest Inventory Maps

Objective
To produce a set of ecologically based forest site type maps for the Western Newfoundland Model Forest.

Description
In Newfoundland, management ideology has shifted from timber management to the management of forest ecosystems. An ecological classification system is an essential tool for the management of forest ecosystems, as it provides the framework for ecosystem management planning. Dr. A.W.H. Damman developed an ecological classification system for Western Newfoundland in 1967, based on vegetation, soil and land form criteria. In addition, Damman provided predictions concerning the successional relationship between forest types and their response to disturbance by fire and logging. A Canada Land Inventory (CLI) Classification was initiated in the 1970's to assess and map forest potential through the delineation of land based capability classes. In Newfoundland the CLI classification was based on Damman's forest type classification system, though in the digital map production, the capability classes were the only information recorded. The Western Newfoundland Model Forest initiated a pilot project to re-link the Damman forest type classification with the CLI capability maps, to produce a set of ecologically based classification maps. Utilizing geographic information technology, the ecological classification maps can be overlaid with traditional timber inventory maps, and a Damman forest type assigned to each forest stand. This stand level ecological classification will supply valuable information necessary for effective ecosystem management planning.

Reports and Products

Forest Ecological Classification and Mapping: Their Application in Ecosystem Management. Moores, L; Pittman, B. 1996. Newfoundland Forest Service, Corner Brook, Newfoundland. WNMF: 6-103-001, 10p.