

E.R.#95

From: IBP

PROPOSAL #290 - Islets off Anthony Island

The two groups of islets of the Southwest and Northwest coast of Anthony islets support various colonies of breeding marine birds. Although the islets form groups, each islet within the group has unique landforms and vegetation patterns. Some islets have rugged rocky chasms and do not support vegetation while other islets have gentler topography and support Picea sitchensis stands. Consequently the colonies of nesting marine birds are distinct and different on the various islets.

Leaches Storm Petrels and Fork-Tailed Storm Petrels were found nesting on only 4 of the more exposed islets with Picea-sitchensis Calamagrostis-nutkaensis vegetation associations predominating. Cassin's auklets were found nesting on 13 out of the 20 islets proposed. Pelagic cormorants, Pigeon Guillemots, and Glaucous-Winged Gulls nested mainly on the rocky sparsely vegetated islets. Rhinoceros auklets were found nesting on only one densely forested islet. Tufted Puffins were found nesting only on one very steep islet. It is of major interest to note that more than 4 Horned Puffins were seen flying with Tufted Puffins near the nesting cliff off the 93' island. Nesting was suspected. Further observations may substantiate these suspicions and yield a positive new nesting record for British Columbia.

Out of the thirteen species of breeding sea-birds in British Columbia, nine species (including the Horned Puffin) breed on the islets off Anthony Island. Population summaries are presented in Table 1. The islets off Anthony Islet would provide an excellent opportunity to study the habitat relationships of nesting sea-birds.

During the observation period (June 29 - July 4) numerous Hair Seals (Phoca vitulina) were seen with pups "hauling out" in small coves and on rocks. Breeding may occur on these islets.

Observations at an extremely low tide and on a dive were made (Anne Stewart). Exceptional variety and richness was noted in the intertidal and sub-tidal ecosystems surrounding the islets.

At present these islets show no signs of man-caused disturbance. Ecological Reserve classification would help maintain the natural integrity of these island eco-systems.

Trudy Carson

Marine Flora, Marine Fauna, Fish

ANTHONY ISLAND

E.R. #95

REFERENCE
NUMBER

REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS

Page 1 of 1

13-6

Campbell, R.W., H.R. Carter, and S.G. Sealy. 1979. Nesting of horned puffins in British Columbia. Can. Field-Naturalist 93(1):84-86.

Marine Flora, 17-1
Marine fauna,
fish

Foster, J.B., and E. Anne Stewart. 1977. Dive reports. Report submitted to the Ecological Reserves Program, Victoria, B.C. 46p.

Marine Flora 45-1

Stewart, E. Anne. 1977. Report to the Ecological Reserves Unit on the 1977 marine phycological survey. Report submitted to the Ecological Reserves Program, Victoria, B.C. 53 p.

Islet off North Anthony Island

Location: southwest coast of Moresby Island.

Latitude: 52°04.8'N; longitude: 131°14.5W

Date of dive: 2 July 1977

Time: 18:30-19:30

Species observed

Chlorophyta

Codium fragile
C. setchellii

Phaeophyta

Alaria sp
Costaria costata
Desmarestia ligulata

Egregia menziesii
Laminaria sp
Leathesia difformis
Lessionopsis (littoralis?)
Macrocystis integrifolia
Nereocystis luetkeana
Pterygophora californica

Rhodophyta

Bonnemaisonia sp
Bossiella sp
Botryoglossum farlowianum
Calliarthron sp
Constantinea simplex
C. subilifera
Corallina sp
Iridaea sp
Opuntiella californica
Plocamium coccineum
Ptilota sp
Porphyra sp (epiphytic on *Pterygophora*)

4. Flora

	Species diversity	Abundance of particular species	Rare species	Threatened/relict species	Spp. of biogeographical interest	Exceptional associations	Outstanding specimens				
Angiospermae :											
trees											
shrubs											
herbs		X			?						
grass		X									
Gymnospermae		X									
Pteridophyta											
Bryophyta					?						
Lichens and Algae											

5. Names of main threatened, endemic, relict and rare species

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15. Exceptional Interest of IBP Area*

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 Small separated islets with different habitat (Landform and vegetation) features supporting distinct colonies of various breeding sea-birds (Leach's Storm Petrel, Pigeon Guillemot, Cassin's Auklet, Pelagic Cormorants, Glaucous-winged Gull and Tufted Puffin).

 Hair seals "haul out" on these islands and may breed here.

 Exceptional variety in sub- and intertidal ecosystems.

E1295 file



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Department of Biology

Nov. 2, 1980

Dr. J. B. Foster
Director
Ecological Reserves Unit
Parliament Buildings
Victoria BC

Dear Dr. Foster:

My apologies for not providing you with a species list from the Ecological Reserve which I visited before this.

Your letter of May 7, 1980 gave me permission to sample ecoreserves # 23, 25, 44, 45, 95 and 96. In actual fact, due to weather, tides, etc, the only ones I could visit 95 and (near) 96 were

#95 - I sampled on the west side of Anthony Island in the mid intertidal sediment a shelly gravel/sand, May 19, 1980
H.R. Baker, K.A. Coates coll. (my reference QC 046)

Tubificidae { Tubificoides sp. (Peloscolex)
Bathydritus sp.

Enchytraeidae (Grania paucispina)



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#96 (near) south west side of St. James Island just below
light house mid intertidal, coarse shell sand with some
fine silts, May 16, 17, 1980. Coll. H.R. Baker, K.A. Coates
(my reference QC 032, QC 045)

Tubificidae { Tubificoides sp. (Peloscoides)
Phallosdrilus sp.

These species are all Annelids, class Oligochaeta.
The Tubificoides sp is a new species (similar to Peloscoides).
The Bathysdrilus and Phallosdrilus spp. are both new and
are in the process of being described.

I'll send you further details of distribution, taxonomy,
as I publish my results.

If you would like further information pls. write or
call me here at local 4719 (or at I.O.S. 656-8443).

yours sincerely
Randy Baker