

Ambrose Lake, Sechelt Peninsula.

ER 28

Elevation - less than 500 ft.

Drainage - east from dog leg into Ruby Lake.

Surrounding rock - granitic according to geological maps, quartz diorite and granodiorite.

Shore line - peat or rock outcrop, mainly peat. Three headlands are rocky, also one small island, some stretches of shore are rocky except for very narrow margin of peat and shrubs. Most extensive peat is behind the rocky headlands and around the dog leg especially across the outflow of the stream. In the last location the peat flat extends about 300 - 500 ft. from the open water to the timber where the land begins to slope more steeply to Ruby Lake. There is no visible stream on the flat but apparently seepage which forms the stream on more sloping ground.

Surrounding terrain nowhere more than a few hundred feet above the lake.

Vegetation - surrounding forest on high ground is made up of Douglas fir and hemlock, with some red cedar, maple and alder. On the rock outcrops these come to the rock's edge, in places to the lake shore. In peaty areas pine (2 species), hemlock, Douglas fir, red cedar, some spruce and the occasional juniper, most of these stunted, and scattered, may reach the lake edge or give way to open peat with herbaceous cover. Among the trees on the peat, shrubs are plentiful: bog laurel, Labrador tea, sweet gale, etc.

No water plants to be seen except yellow water lily.

Present state of the area - apparently never burned, most of the shore line quite natural. Timber is too small to be commercially valuable around all of the lake except on the north side where the one alienation is located. Here there was a pocket of commercial timber above the lake and back from it. This pocket was logged out about 3 or 4 years ago. The logging stage is about 150 feet above lake level and the logged area extends north from the stage mostly out of sight from the lake. Debris is scattered down the slope almost to the shore and some cutting was done here too but the scar is covering already. The actual shore line is untouched. One alarming note is a cut square of peat perhaps 3 ft. x 3 ft. and 18 in. deep just behind the headland on the alienated land (the most extensive peat area on the private property). This could be a sampling with sale of peat in mind but if so the owner must plan to acquire more of the shore to extend his peat supply.

Access - logging road west up steep hill between Egmont Rd. and Earl Cove ferry landing. Passable by foot or 4-wheeled drive, roughly parallels shore and crosses logging operation from north to staging area above the lake. Otherwise by boat across Ruby Lake and by foot up the creek to the flat at east end of the lake.

Recommendation - worth saving if alienation can be reclaimed. The area is mainly natural and botanically interesting as an example of a coastal bog lake.

Flora - list of collections attached.

Flora of Ambrose Lake
(Seed Plants and Ferns)

I. Rocky shore line, open or with tree cover.

Pseudotsuga menziesii (Mirb.) Franco.
Tsuga heterophylla (Raf.) Sarg.
Thuja plicata Donn.
Pinus contorta Dougl.
Pinus monticola Dougl.
Vaccinium parvifolium Smith
Chimaphila umbellata (L.) Bart
Goodyera oblongifolia Raf.
Gaultheria shallon Pursh
Linnaea borealis L.
Galium aparine L.
Boschniakia strobilacea Gray
Saxifraga ferruginea Graham
Festuca occidentalis Hook.
Asplenium trichomanes L.
Polystichum munitum (Kaulf.) Presl.

Flora of Ambrose Lake
(Seed Plants and Ferns)

II. Peat, either open shore or among shrubs and stunted trees.

Pseudotsuga menziesii (Mirb.) Franco.
Tsuga heterophylla (Raf.) Sarg.
Pinus monticola Dougl.
Pinus contorta Dougl.
Picea sitchensis (Bong.) Carr.
Juniperus communis L. (scarce)
Rhamnus purshiana DC, (")
Pyrus fusca Raf. (")
Alnus oregona Nutt.
Kalmia polifolia Wang. (very common)
Menziesia ferruginea Smith (scarce)
Myrica gale L. (very common)
Gaultheria shallon Pursh. (very common)
Spiraea douglasii Hook.
Ledum groenlandicum Oeder (very common)
Viola palustris L.
Cornus canadensis L.
Oxycoccus quadripetalus Gilib.
Tofieldia glutinosa (Michx.) Pers.
Cicuta douglasii (DC) Coult. & Rose.
Drosera rotundifolia L.
Hypericum anagalloides C. & S.
Lycopus uniflorus Michx.
Trientalis arctica Fisch. ex Hook. (common)
Lysichitum americanum Hult. & St. J. (common)
Nuphar polysepalum Engelm.
Phragmites communis Trin.
Eriophorum chamissonis Mey.
Dulichium arundinaceum (L.) Britt.
Carex aquatilis Wahl.
C. canescens L.
C. pauciflorus Lightf.

C. cusickii Mack.

C. lasiocarpa Ehrh. var. *americana* Fern.

Pteridium aquilinum (L.) Kuhn.

The list is incomplete partly, of course, because of season or lack of time. However, some conspicuous absences appeared to be real. I looked diligently for:

Drosera anglica Huds.

Andromeda polifolia L.

Seed plants in the water other than Nuphar

Potentilla palustris (L.) Scop.

Rubus chamaemorus L.

Sanguisorba officinalis L.

Vaccinium other than *parvifolium* (which occurred only in the woods).

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