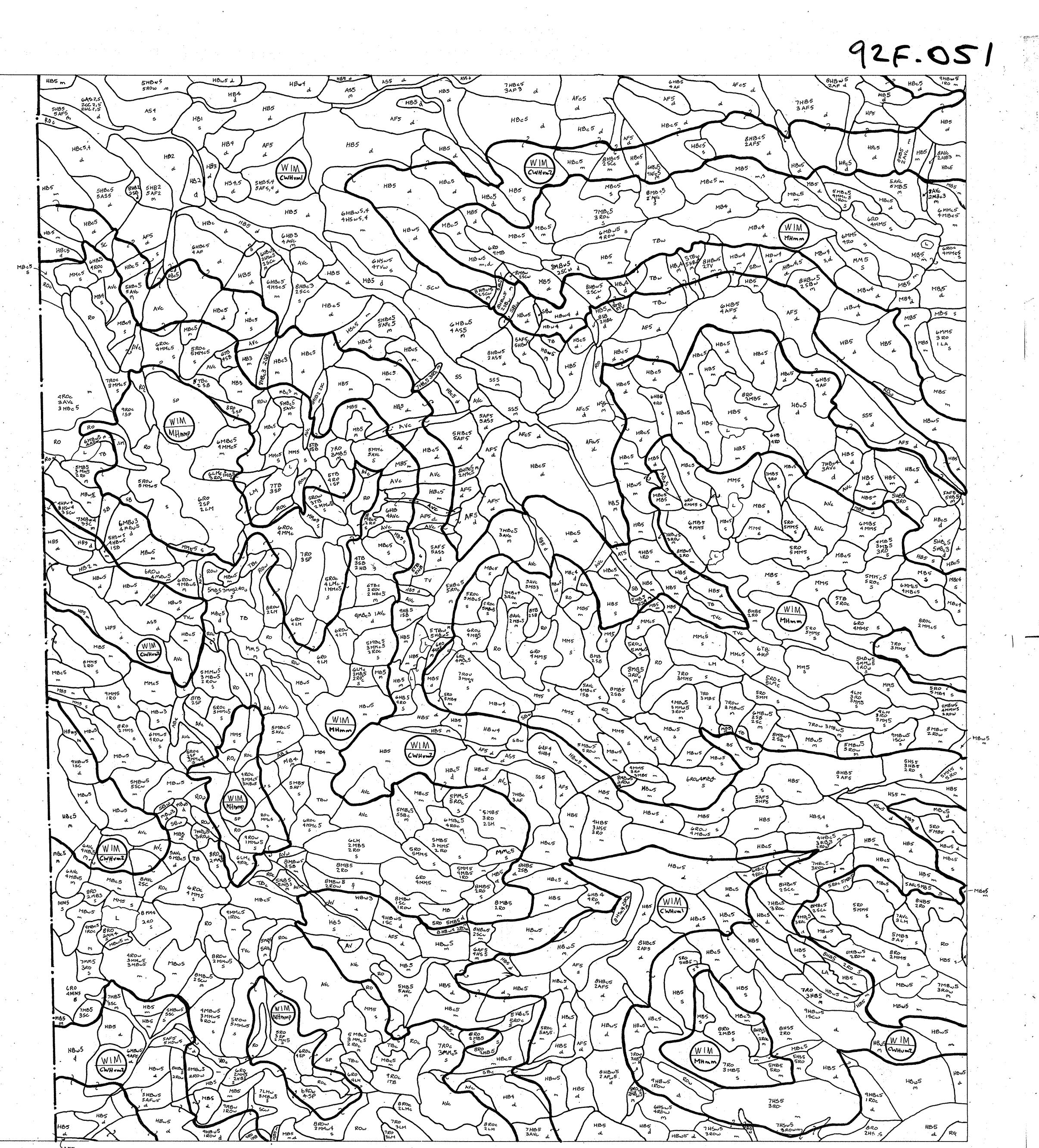
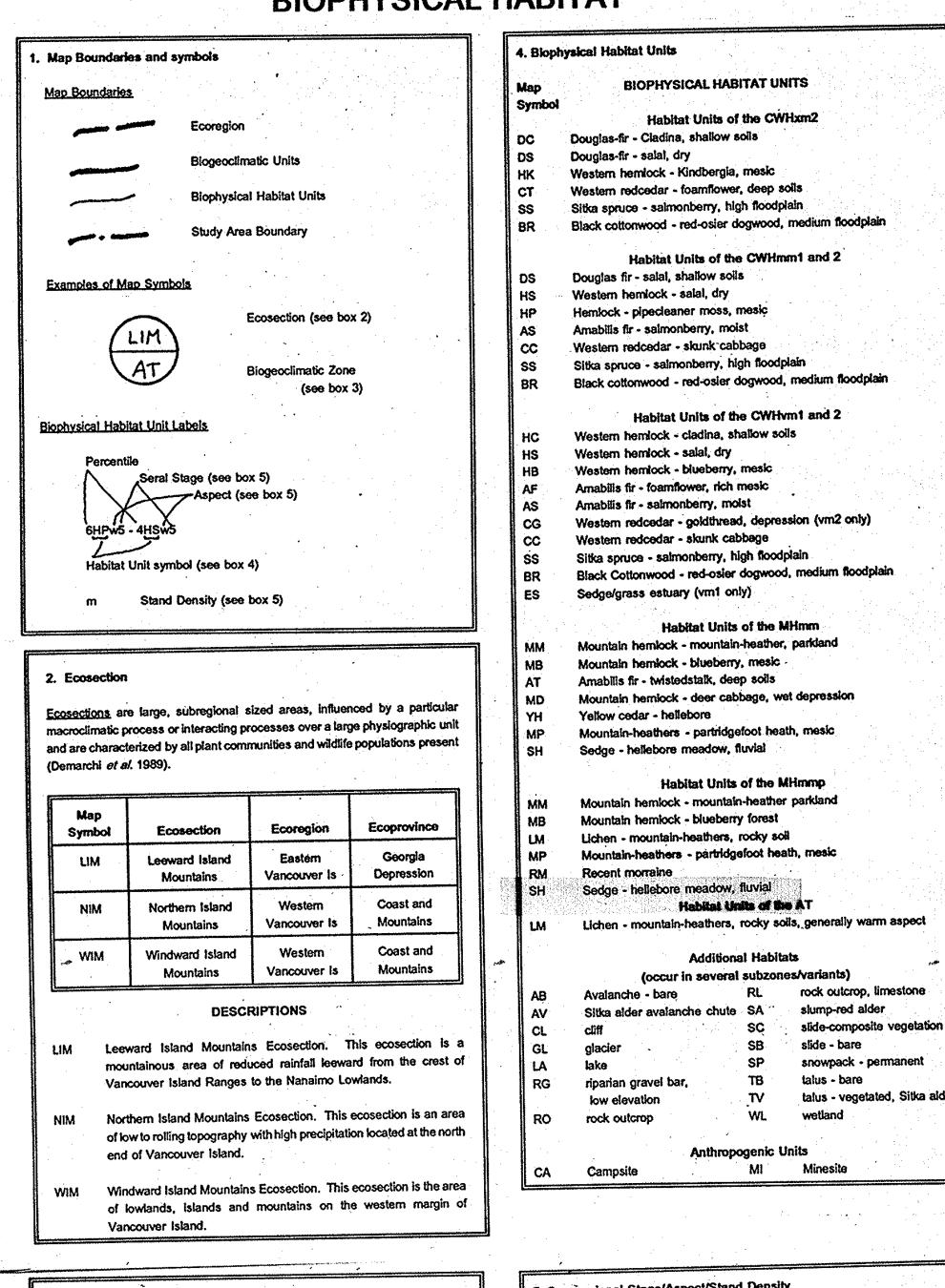
STRATHCONA PROVINCIAL PARK 1993, 92F .051



STRATHCONA PROVINCIAL PARK BIOPHYSICAL HABITAT



5. Successional Stage/Aspect/Stand Density FOREST SUCCESSIONAL STAGES A biogeoclimatic unit is an area characterized by a distinct climatic climax or zonal ecosystem association. A subzone consists of unique sequences of Pole-Sapling geographically related ecosystems influenced by one type of regional climate Young Forest (Utzig, et al. 1983). Mature Forest Old Growth COASTAL WESTERN HEMLOCK - western very dry maritime subzone occurs at lower elevations along the east warm aspect slopes facing approximately 135° - 280' side of Vancouver Island. Characterized by warm, dry cool aspect slopes facing approximately 280° - 135° summers and moist, mild winters with relatively little snowfall. Growing seasons are long and feature water STAND DENSITY deficits on zonal sites. dense canopy: greater than 65% cover moderate canopy: 25 - 65% cover CWHmm1 & 2 COASTAL WESTERN HEMLOCK - moist manitime subzone sparse: less than 25% cover mm1: Submontane The submontane variant occurs on the leeward side of the

Vancouver Island Ranges above the CWHxm subzone and

below 650m. Climatic conditions are intermediate between

leeward side of the Vancouver Island Ranges between 650

cooler temperatures, shorter growing seasons and heavier

snowfall, with snowpacks persisting throughout the winter.

windward slopes of Strathcona Park. This subzone has a wet, humid climate with cool summers and mild winters

featuring relatively little snow. Growing seasons are long.

The montane variant occurs at higher elevations (600 -1000m), above the CWHvm1. It grades into the MH zone

short summers and cool winters featuring substantial

above. Characterized by a wet, humid climate with cool,

MOUNTAIN HEMLOCK - moist maritime subzone occurs at

high elevations (1000 - 1300m). It has long, moist, cold winters and short, cool moist summers. Frozen soils are rare due to insulating snowpack, but growing season frosts

MOUNTAIN HEMLOCK PARKLAND - moist maritime parkland subzone occurs above the MHmm (1300m). The climate is harsher than in the MHmm. If trees occur at all they are in isolated clumps and irregular small patches.

ALPINE TUNDRA zone occurs on high mountains

The harsh alpine climate is cold, windy, and snowy, and is characterized by low growing season temperatures and a

snowpacks that can persist into July.

very short frost-free period.

Precipitation is high but can vary considerably.

COASTAL WESTERN HEMLOCK - very wet maritime

and 1000m. Compared to CWHmm1 this subzone has

CWHxm and CWHvm subzones with moist, mild winters

and cool but relatively dry summers.

mm2 - Montane The montane variant occurs at higher elevations on the

vm1 - Submontane The submontane variant occurs below 600m on the

6. Survey and Credits

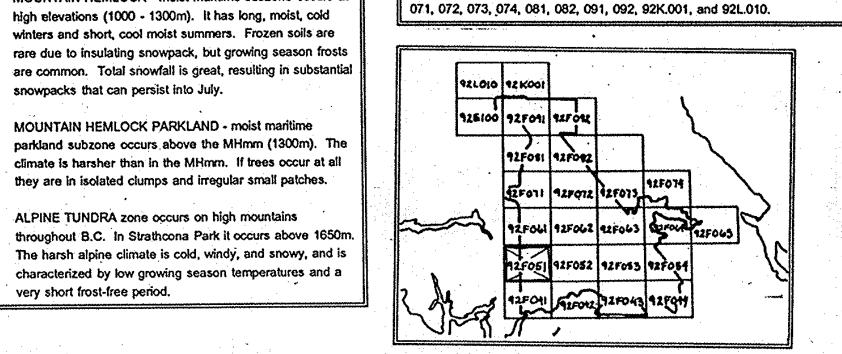
Air photo coverage for this project: BC78052: 116-125, 168-180; BC78076; 36, 43-66, 71-86, 101-103, 261-262, 288-291; BC80093: 123-162; BC80095: 18-53, 59-86, 226-250, 257-277; BC80096: 143-159, 166-177; BC81010: 164, 165; BC81072: 168-172; BC84026: 107-115, 167-173; BC84028: 22-28, 209, 210, 213-218; BC84031: 28-37

Fieldwork: Minimal field checking was undertaken from July 19 to August 8, 1993. Less than 0.5% of the polygons were fieldchecked. Mapped by: Madrone Consultants Ltd. 1994

Explanatory notes

in 1993 BC Parks (South Coast) initiated the Strathcona Provincial Park project to provide habitat mapping for effective vegetation and wildlife management.

The project area is over 230,000 hectares in size and is located in the central portion of Vancouver Island straddling the Vancouver Island Mountains. Three ecosections, eight biogeoclimatic zones and 65 biophysical habitat units fail within the study area. Mapping is at a scale of 1:20,000 for BCGS map sheets 92E.100, 92F.041, 042, 043, 044, 051, 052, 053, 054, 061, 062, 063, 064, 065,



92F.051