

SECOND RECORD OF MENZIES' PIPSISSEWA, *CHIMAPHILA MENZIESII*, ON HAIDA GWAI

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On June 22, 1999, *Chimaphila menziesii* (Menzies' pipsissewa) was recorded blooming in several locations in the forest interior of Haswell Island. The occurrence is the second record of this species for the Laskeek Bay area. *C. menziesii* was previously recorded on East Limestone Island in 1997, misidentified as *Vaccinium alaskense*, and again in 1998, correctly identified as *C. menziesii* (Smith and Butler 1999). The eight individuals detected on Haswell Island effectively doubles the total number of individuals detected on Haida Gwaii thus far. The location of Haswell Island, 6.5 km SSW of East Limestone expands the known range on Haida Gwaii.

The habitat in which *C. menziesii* was found on Haswell Island is mostly consistent with that on Limestone Island; a thick bed of moss, primarily *Rhytidiadelphus squarrosus*, beneath *Tsuga heterophylla* (western hemlock) and *Thuja plicata* (western redcedar). The volcanic basalt substrate of Haswell Island is the only significant departure from the previously record. Given the ubiquitous nature of this habitat, the occurrence of this species on islands other than East Limestone was expected (Smith and Butler 1999), and given the occurrence on a non-limestone substrate the species' presence on further islands in the archipelago is also expected.

Vegetation on Haswell Island as well as Limestone Island is radically modified by Sitka Black-tailed Deer (*Odocoileus hemionus sitkensis*) (Daufresne and Martin 1997). Browsing of *C. menziesii* may constitute a major impediment to the successful identification of this small and inconspicuous plant species.

REFERENCES

- Daufresne T. and J.L.Martin 1997. Changes in vegetation structure and diversity in relation to the presence of a large herbivore: the impact of introduced Black-tailed deer on old-growth forests in Haida Gwaii (Queen Charlotte Islands). *Laskeek Bay Research* 7: 2-26.
- Smith J. and I. Buttler 1999. First record of Menzies' pipsissewa, *Chimaphila menziesii*, on Haida Gwaii. *Laskeek Bay Research* 9: 29.

