



## Taiga Plains Ecozone

The Taiga Plains are mainly located in the southwesterly corner of the Northwest Territories; however, they also extend into northeastern British Columbia and the upper margin of Alberta.

The climate is semi-arid and cold. Annual precipitation ranges from about 400 mm in the south to about 200 mm in the north. The mean daily January temperature ranging from  $-22.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $-35^{\circ}\text{C}$ , with the mean daily July temperature ranging from  $10^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $15^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

Dwarf birch, labrador tea, willows, bearberry, mosses and sedges are associated with the arctic tundra environment. Upland and foothill areas and southerly locales tend to be better drained and warmer. The mixedwood forest is characterized by white and black spruce, tamarack, white birch, trembling aspen, balsam poplar and lodgepole pine.

Characteristic mammals of the Taiga Plains Ecozone include moose, woodland caribou, bison, wolf, black bear, marten and lynx.

Some representative bird species include red-throated loon, northern shrike, and common redpoll.

This ecozone includes:

- [Nahanni National Park Reserve of Canada](#)
- [Wood Buffalo National Park of Canada](#)

Reference: Lands Directorate, *Terrestrial Ecozones Of Canada*, Ecological Land Classification No. 19, 1986, p. 26.

