

#### **Instructional Video 4. Entering the Needleleaf (Coniferous) Forest**

So, we're just entering the needle-leaf forest. You can see how tall these trees are. They presumably started [life] much earlier than the trees at the first site. I do want you to notice that there are non-native species in here, and one of them is growing right there. And it is, like the needleleaf species – it is evergreen and it is non-native, and you should recognize it from your Christmas decorations, and of course Europeans brought it here. So: this is a species I'd like you to use the key to identify. But notice its waxy, slightly prickly leaves (and I'll put another photo in [the tour materials]). Let's walk into the forest. Another species that you might want to be aware of is a native species that Indigenous peoples have made use of for millennia and it is called Salal. It has little berries on it. If you're familiar with Sloe Gin, we [here in local BC distilleries] make a version of that with its berries. So, it's an important understory species here. So, let's just wander into the forest.