## NATURE CANADA PROGRAM Quarterly Update • Winter 2022



Hadley Archer in Meares Island, B.C. © TNC

#### Hope in Our Changing World

As our global chief scientist Katharine Hayhoe says, "Real hope doesn't come knocking on the door of our brains uninvited. We have to roll up our sleeves and go out and look for it."

Our team has raised our ambition over the last year, integrating community support, economic development and local leadership. Right now, our approach is more critical than ever. Together, we are advancing work in Canada that is globally significant and building resilience across this diverse and vibrant country, while steadily advancing toward a more sustainable future.

I hope you'll enjoy this look at our work and join me in our mission to transform our collective strength into solutions to address the planet's greatest challenges.



Hadley Archer, Executive Director





Seals in the Great Bear Sea © Jon McCormack

### **Collaborative Marine Planning** The world's first co-led marine planning effort with Indigenous peoples celebrates 10 years

The Marine Plan Partnership (MaPP) has fundamentally changed how sustainable marine planning is done on the North Pacific Coast. The world's first co-led marine planning effort with Indigenous peoples, the partnership is an unprecedented agreement between 17 First Nations and the Province of British Columbia (B.C.). Integrating healthy ecosystems, economies and people, it represents the kind of conservation that's possible through bold collaboration. MaPP is a globally-recognized model for governments working together to advance ecosystem-based management.

On June 1, Nature United, our Canadian affiliate, hosted a celebration for the 10-year anniversary of MaPP's successful partnership. First Nations leaders and B.C. government ministers remarked on the incredible achievements of MaPP. MaPP is a shining example of what collaborative governance can look like, as First Nations and B.C. move forward on reconciliation and implementing B.C.'s Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act.

#### A Global Gold Standard

Jenn Burt began her role in 2019 as the Marine Program Lead, focused on finding innovative solutions to the intertwined social-ecological challenges that face Canada's Pacific. She works with First Nations, governments, industry partners and other stakeholders to support sustainable fisheries, marine planning, ecosystem-based management, climate change adaptation, and thriving ocean-based coastal communities. **Learn more here** 



Jenn Burt with anemones © TNC



Humpback whales in the Great Bear Sea ©Jon McCormack

# Safeguarding the Wonders of the Great Bear Sea

Whales are among the incredible biodiversity needing greater protections

British Columbia's marine coast is a critical natural corridor where ocean and land are inextricably connected. Cedars, wolves, and bears rely on salmon for survival; First Nations rely on these waters for food, jobs and cultural well-being; industries like fishing and tourism depend on healthy, thriving waters.

The northern Pacific Ocean is also a vibrant marine region that supports incredible biodiversity, including some of the world's most productive kelp forests, fragile cold-water coral communities and ancient glass sponge reefs found nowhere else on the planet. For most of the year, humpback and gray whales make B.C.'s coast home—drawn to healthy waters full of small fish and crustaceans.

Whales are ecosystem engineers. Their feeding habits have an immediate impact on marine ecosystems by helping recycle nutrients and improving habitat for fish and plankton. When whale populations grow, marine life also thrives—which sustains biodiversity, increases the productivity of fish populations and sequesters more carbon.

Less than eight percent of the world's ocean area is legally protected. Marine protected areas and sustainable management are important tools for safeguarding biodiversity and ensuring sustainable coastal economies. That's why we are supporting new ocean protection and collaborative ocean management in the Great Bear Sea—which encompasses nearly two-thirds of the B.C. coast.

#### Learn more about our work in the Pacific Ocean



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#### NATURE CANADA



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#### **Your Legacy Has Power**

Including the Canada Program in your will or estate plan can benefit you and your loved ones while making a difference for nature. No matter the size of your estate, you can be part of a powerful movement for change. And it's easier than you think, thanks to resources provided by The Nature Conservancy. Your commitment will support a resilient Canada, where people and nature thrive.

"For me, a legacy gift was a natural extension of my commitment to Nature United's approach, which I believe is profoundly important." — Arlin Hackman, Legacy Club member since 2016

#### Learn more here

#### **Our History in Canada**

Over the past 40 years, the Canada Program has helped set the stage for remarkable conservation gains across Canada—including the landmark Great Bear Rainforest Agreement which protected and sustainably managed 19 million acres and the establishment of the 6.5-millionacre Thaidene Nëné Indigenous Protected Area. Along with Nature United, our Canadian affiliate, we work in partnership with Indigenous communities along the Pacific Coast, in the Northwest Territories and across the boreal forest.

Learn more here

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