



2006 - PRESENT

# Indigenous-led Conservation in the Great Bear Rainforest

2026 NMRPC MARINE PLANNING FORUM

First Nations on the Great Bear Coast have been stewarding lands, waters, and life in their territories since time immemorial.

Coast Funds was created to deliver financing and services in support of First Nations' goals for stewardship, conservation, and economic development.



## HISTORY

# Great Bear Rainforest Agreements



1990s

First Nations and environmental groups make stands to protest industrial logging in their territories.



2000s

Joint Solutions Project brings First Nations, environmental groups, and forestry operators together to support land use planning.



2006

### Great Bear Rainforest Agreements:

- Ecosystem-based management
- Conservancies
- Conservation financing



2007

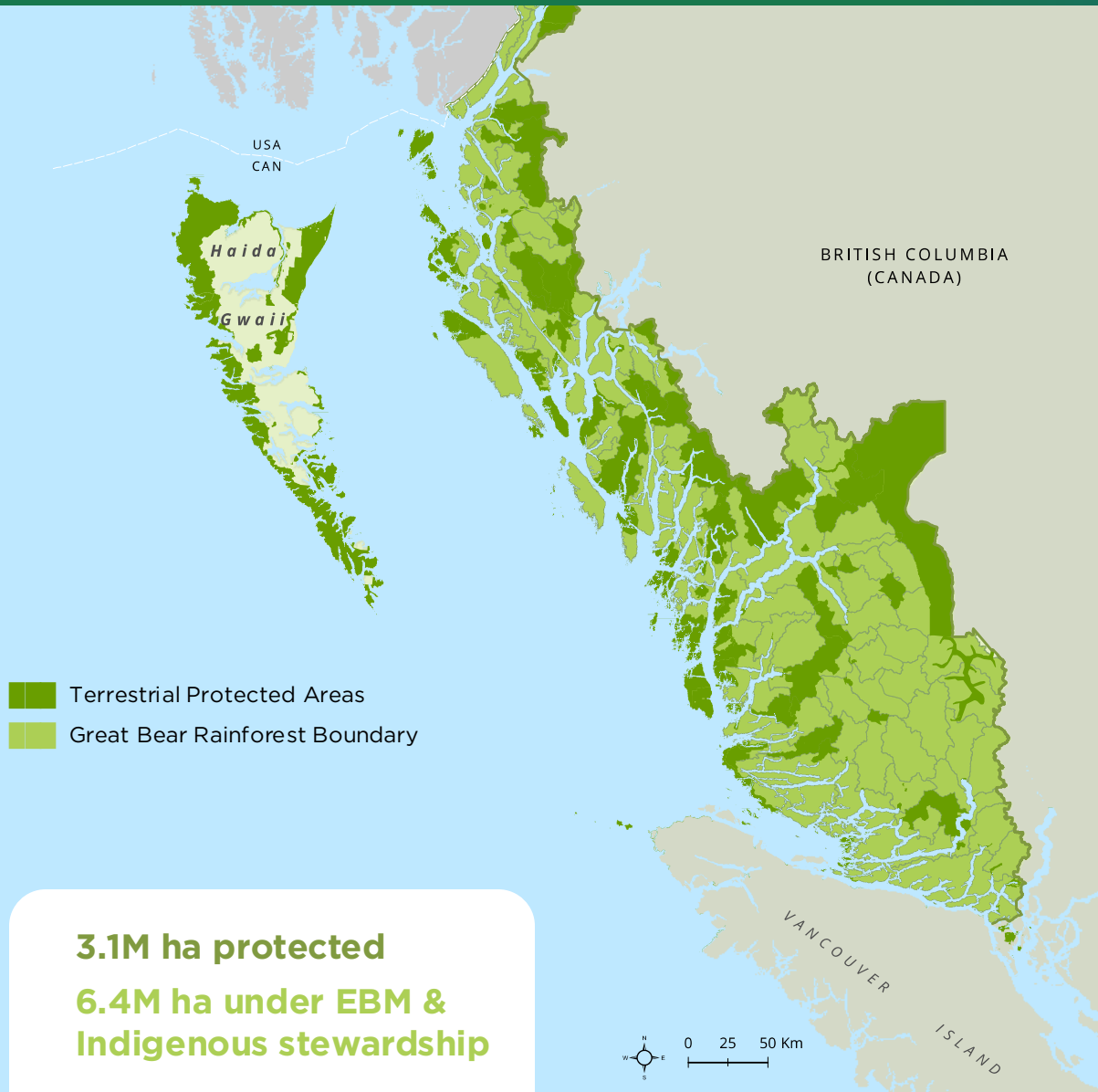
### Coast Funds

established to manage:

- **Economic Development Fund**  
\$60M from Canada and British Columbia
- **Conservation Endowment**  
\$56M from private funders

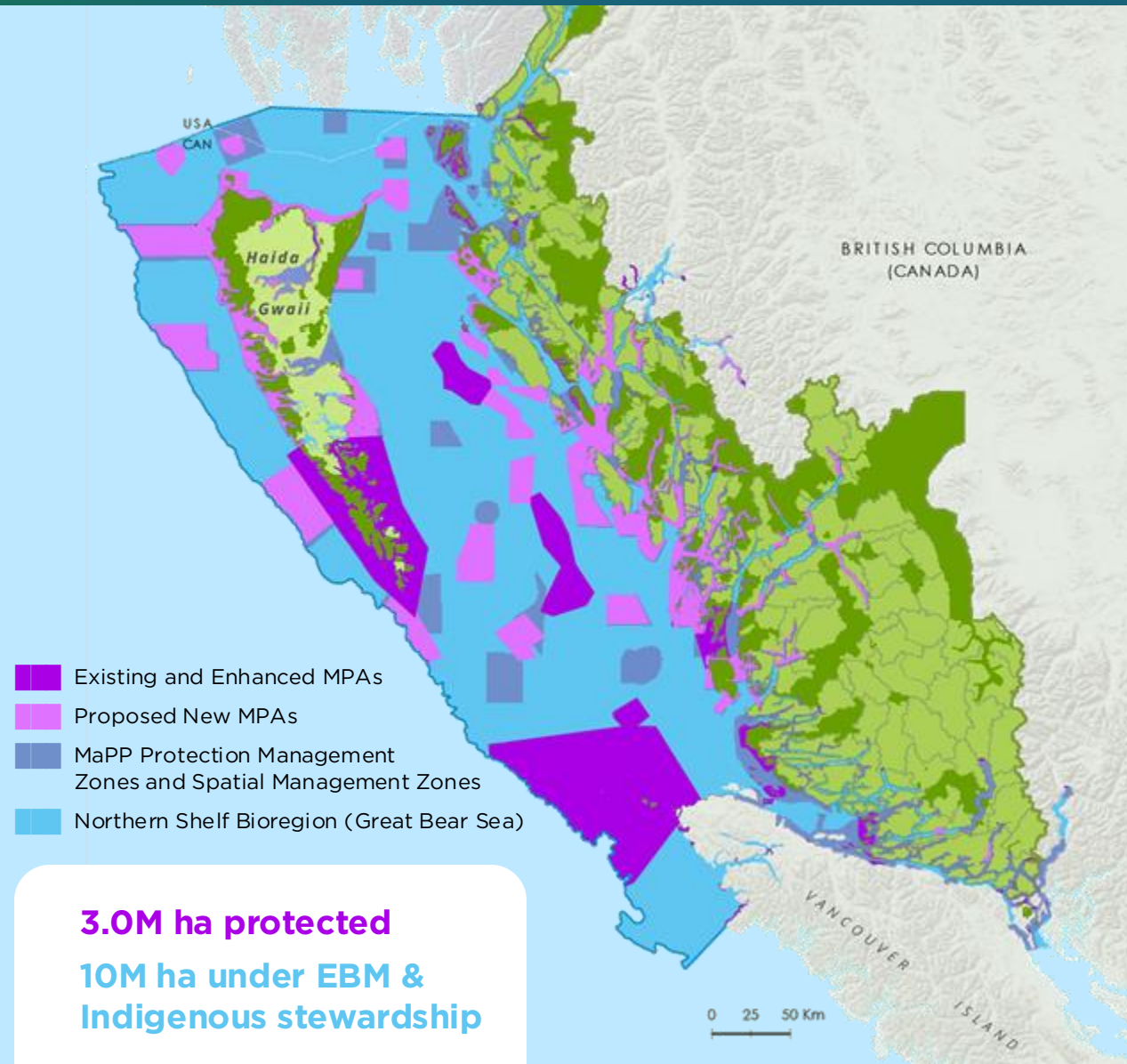
# GREAT BEAR RAINFOREST

Successful model of ecosystem-based protection



# GREAT BEAR SEA

Integrated marine protection and management



## COMPLETING THE VISION

# Great Bear Sea Agreements

Scientific research and mapping > marine use planning > action plan for a network of marine protected areas.

2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025



Pacific North Coast Integrated Management Area

Implementation >>

Great Bear Rainforest Agreements



MPA Network for the Northern Shelf Bioregion

Implementation >>



Marine Plan Partnership for the North Pacific Coast (MaPP)

Implementation >>



Reconciliation Framework Agreement

Feasibility

Development

Great Bear Sea PFP





**We believe that if we take care of the land, the land will take care of us, and if we take care of the ocean, the ocean will take care of us.**

***KÁWÁZIŁ MARILYN SLETT***

Chief Councillor, Heiltsuk Tribal Council  
Chair, Coastal First Nations

# Financial model

Three complementary funds for stewardship, economic development, and governance.

**\$48M** Marine Planning Partnership  
Implementation Fund

**\$120M** Community Prosperity  
Fund

**\$167M** Marine Stewardship Fund

---

**\$335M** **GREAT BEAR SEA PFP**





Photo: Deirdre Leowinata / Coast Funds



**Great Bear Sea Declaration**

From Nations across the North Pacific Coast Great Bear Sea have cared for and governed these lands and waters since time immemorial. Today, First Nations, Canada, and British Columbia affirm our shared commitment to carry forward the traditions of coastal and marine stewardship. We will work together, and with stakeholders and partners, to advance a Network of Marine Protected Areas, foster sustainable communities, restore marine resources, and promote healthy and resilient coastal ecosystems and communities. We will work in the spirit of reconciliation, respect, and partnership, to uphold and demonstrate world-leading models of collaborative governance and Indigenous conservation — for the benefit of this coast and for the benefit of all. Our commitments today will leave a legacy of hope and prosperity for generations to come.



Photo: Georgie Lawson / CSTG

# Great Bear Sea PFP: First Nations Leadership



## North Pacific Coast First Nations

Rights holders and decision makers



Nanwakolas Council



Central Coast Indigenous Resource Alliance



North Coast Skeena First Nations Stewardship Society



Council of the Haida Nation



Coastal First Nations

## Coast Solutions Task Group

CSTG is the mandated deal team charged with designing and developing the PFP on behalf of participating First Nations.

Finance & Investment




Sub Regional Organizations and Tables

# Community Well-Being Outcomes: 2008 - 2024

**GUARDIANS**

**18**  
GUARDIAN  
TEAMS  
MONITORING

**7.5M**  
HECTARES



**RESEARCH**



**444**  
RESEARCH  
& RESTORATION  
PROJECTS  
BENEFITTING

**77**  
SPECIES

**LANGUAGE**

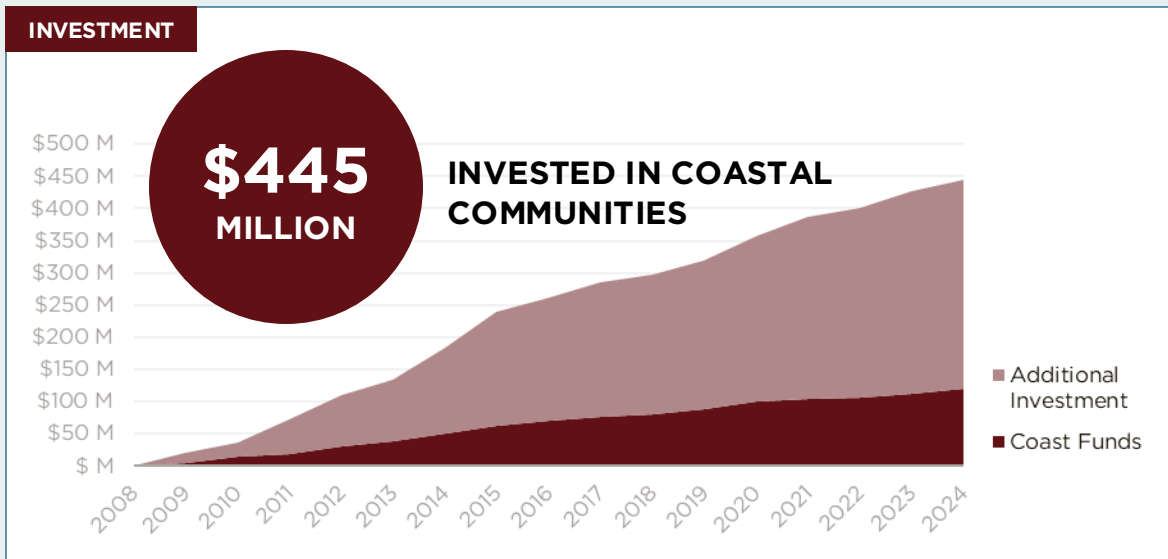
**91**  
PROJECTS HAVE  
SUPPORTED  
LANGUAGE  
REVITALIZATION



**TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE**



**118**  
PROJECTS HAVE  
SUPPORTED  
KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER  
FROM ELDERS TO YOUTH



**TRAINING**

**1,794**  
PEOPLE PARTICIPATED IN  
654 TRAINING INITIATIVES

**304**  
PEOPLE SUPPORTED TO  
ATTEND POST-SECONDARY



**JOBS + BUSINESSES**

**1,416**  
NEW JOBS  
SUPPORTED

**144**  
NEW & EXPANDED  
BUSINESSES

