



CPAWS-BC

CANADIAN PARKS AND WILDERNESS SOCIETY
BRITISH COLUMBIA

ANNUAL REPORT
2018 - 2019

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear friends,

This has been another exciting and challenging year for nature protection in British Columbia. With your support, considerable progress has been made on a number of parks and protected areas all across the province.

This year, you backed the launch of an ambitious new plan to protect BC's Deep Sea Oasis, an underwater wonderland of seamounts and hydrothermal vents that shelter a huge array of sealife. You stood with us for BC's rare glass sponge reefs, celebrating the protection of nine more reefs in Howe Sound, while also calling for permanent protection for the rest of the reefs off our coast. And you cheered alongside us at the announcement of new minimum protection standards for marine protected areas, which prohibit oil and gas activities, mining, dumping and bottom trawling.

Thousands of you raised your voices for nature: telling the government to stop issuing logging permits in the Skagit Valley near Manning Park, sharing your dreams for a South Okanagan-Similkameen National Parks Reserve, backing First Nations' led protection for endangered caribou, and calling for stronger, better managed provincial parks.

The science is clear: we have entered a global nature emergency. We are losing fish, wildlife, and plants at an unprecedented rate. Climate change is accelerating faster than anticipated. Protecting large natural areas, spaces where life can take shelter and thrive, is a critical step in fighting back. That's why our work, together, inspires me - why I won't give up.

Thank you for defending nature this year. We know that together we can make a future where plants and animals thrive now and long into the future.

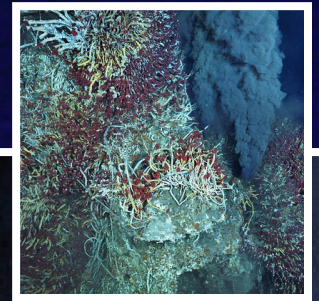
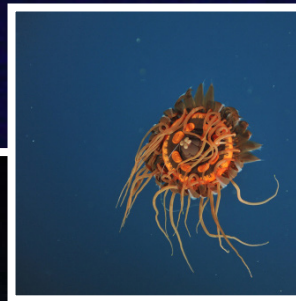
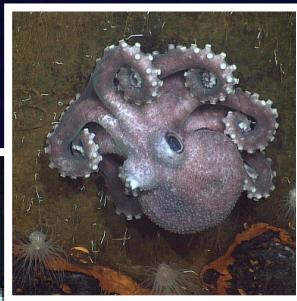
To a great year to come,

BRUCE PASSMORE



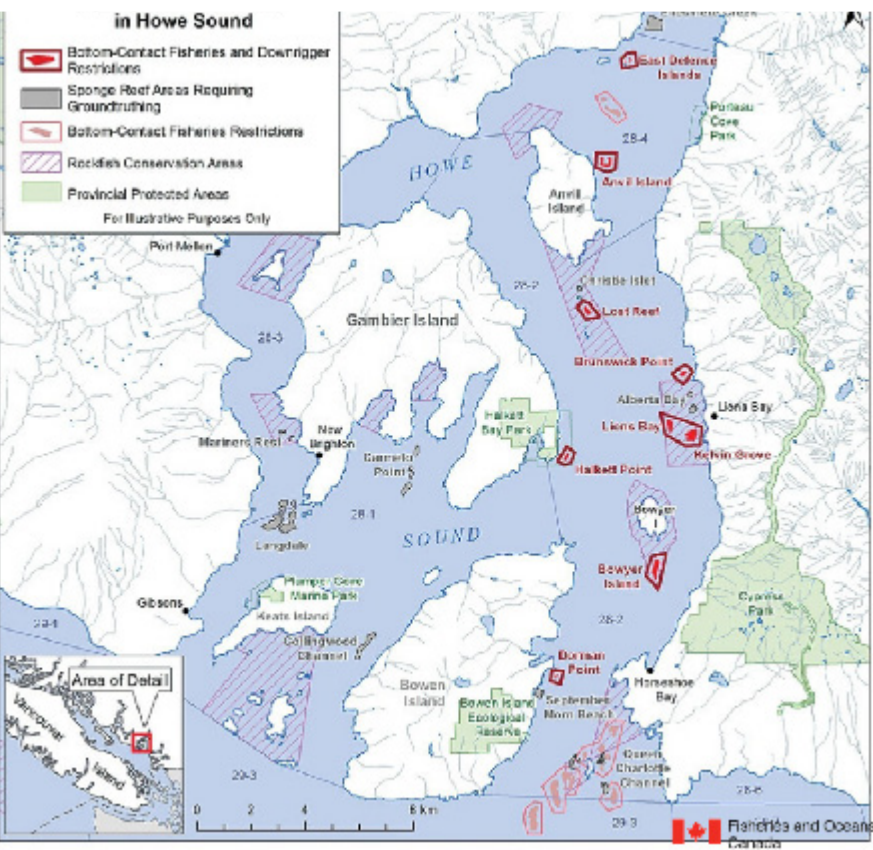
PROTECTING OCEAN LIFE IN THE DEEPSEA OASIS

80 kilometers off Vancouver Island's West Coast, amidst the dark depths of the open Pacific Ocean, unlikely hotspots of biodiversity flourish. With more than 20 hydrothermal vents and 40 seamounts, this Deepsea Oasis could become Canada's largest marine protected area and push us past the halfway mark to bold new goal of 30 percent ocean protection by 2030. This past year, CPAWS-BC has led the conservation sector in guiding the design process for this proposed MPA towards a high standard of protection for these unique ecosystems.



In March of 2019, CPAWS-BC applauded the Federal Government for adopting the Marine Protected Area Standards put forth by the National Advisory Panel. These recommendations included integrating Indigenous knowledge in MPA planning, design and management, and recognizing the role of Indigenous Peoples as full partners in all aspects of MPAs and Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs). While we are pleased to see recommendations from the report to prohibit industrial uses such as oil and gas and bottom trawling in MPAs in an effort to conserve ocean ecosystems, we are concerned that the report did not consider the impacts of other types of fishing on ecosystems and the scientific benefits of no-take areas. With your help, CPAWS will continue advocating for long-term, permanent and stable funding for MPAs, Indigenous Protected Areas and other ocean protection measures to the federal government.

IMPROVING STANDARDS FOR MARINE PROTECTED AREAS



SAFEGUARDING THE SEA OF GLASS

British Columbia's prehistoric glass sponge reefs are an international treasure. Found in Hecate Strait, Queen Charlotte Sound, the Strait of Georgia, Chatham Sound, and Howe Sound, these fragile reefs provide vital habitat and ecosystem services to a wide range of marine animals including endangered rockfish, but are very vulnerable to damage.



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We hope that in future they will form the backbone for a network of Marine Protected Areas in this region.

- March 6th, 2019

**ROSS JAMESON,
CPAWS-BC**



DEFENDING BC'S LAST GLASS SPONGE REEFS

CPAWS-BC celebrated the announcement of eight new marine refuges to protect nine newly discovered glass sponge reefs in Howe Sound earlier this year. The reefs were granted a protective buffer of 150m to protect them from bottom trawling fishing. But recent research has shown that a buffer of five kilometres or more is necessary to protect these reefs from the thick clouds of sand and mud kicked up from fishing gear, anchors or cables used in this type of fishing. So with your help, we will be calling for better protection for BC's glass sponge reefs this year.

GWAII HAANAS NATIONAL MARINE CONSERVATION AREA RESERVE (NMCAR) AND HAIDA HERITAGE

Gwaii Haanas NMCAR and Haida Heritage Site is a treasure for wildlife and has great ecological, cultural, and spiritual importance. It's nutrient-rich waters are home to 42 species-at-risk and 20 different species of marine mammals. This past year, CPAWS-BC played an important advisory role on improving the zoning plan for Gwaii Haanas which originally protected just three percent of the marine area. Taking heed of recommendations from CPAWS-BC and other leading environmental organizations, the zoning plan was revised to protect 40 percent of the marine area from impactful human activities. We will continue to work hard with Parks Canada and the Council of the Haida Nation to implement this ground-breaking management plan.



GRIZZLY BEAR RECOVERY IN SOUTHWEST BC

Thousands of our members joined their voices with ours in support of grizzly bear recovery, specifically for the bears with populations most at risk in Southwest BC, and together we celebrated a huge victory when these bears were officially listed under the federal Species at Risk Act (SARA) as a species of Special Concern. Following this win, we worked with our partners and local First Nations to support the province in pursuing interim protective actions for these animals while management planning for grizzlies under SARA is underway, which they committed to last fall. Additionally, your support helped us deliver bear safety workshops in Pemberton and Lillooet, to complement management efforts more broadly across the region.



Grassland ecosystems, like those found in Syilx territory in the South Okanagan-Similkameen, are one of the most threatened ecosystems in Canada. For over 15 years, CPAWS-BC has worked with local communities to build the case for a National Park in the area. The area is home to dozens of federally-listed species at-risk, whose shrinking habitat is under threat from a growing population with increasing pressures on the landscape.

WORLD-CLASS PROTECTION FOR THE SOUTH OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN



NEXT STEPS FOR A NATIONAL PARK RESERVE

A nation-wide public consultation process to help create Canada's newest National Park Reserve provided Canadians a long-awaited opportunity to help secure the future for this incredible place and the wildlife that depend on these grasslands for survival. Thousands of people like you contributed expertise and support for this important biodiversity conservation initiative. This National Park Reserve will play a key role in connecting endangered grasslands between Canada and the United States, and will support species survival in an ever changing climate.



ORCA SANTUARIES FOR BC'S COAST

CPAWS-BC continued its work with community members, partners, and government officials to advance a National Marine Conservation Area Reserve in the Southern Strait of Georgia. This marine protected area would help protect orca habitat, as well as safeguard a unique ocean ecosystem teeming with life.

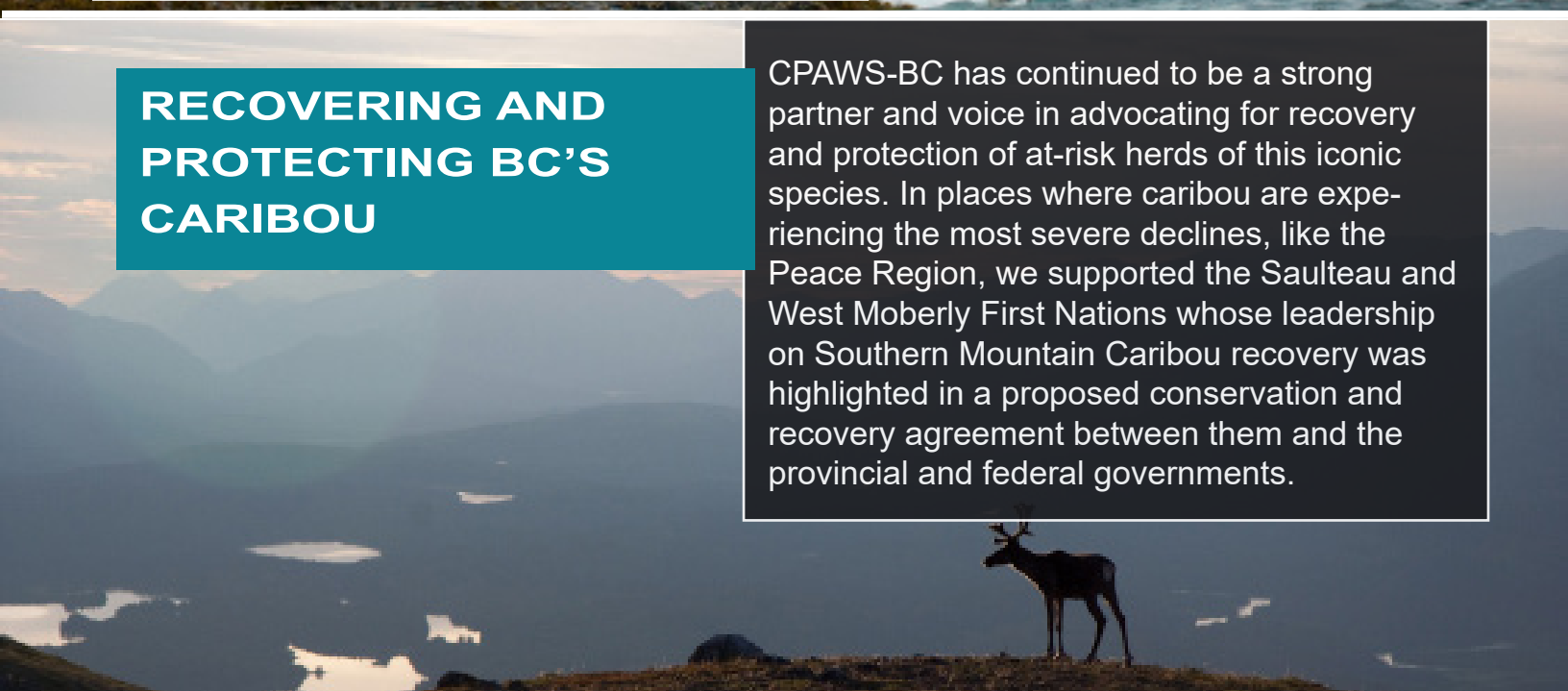


PROTECTING THE GREAT BEAR SEA

The Northern Shelf Bioregion encompasses the Great Bear Sea and beyond along the North Coast of BC. Industrial activities and fragmented protection measures pose serious threats to these coastal ecosystems. Your support has allowed CPAWS-BC to take a seat at the table, providing feedback on an MPA Network draft zoning plan that would support protection of key habitat, species, culturally, and economically important areas. We will continue to advocate for strong protections for thousands of species including fishes, seabirds, and marine mammals that call the Northern Shelf Bioregion home.

RECOVERING AND PROTECTING BC'S CARIBOU

CPAWS-BC has continued to be a strong partner and voice in advocating for recovery and protection of at-risk herds of this iconic species. In places where caribou are experiencing the most severe declines, like the Peace Region, we supported the Saulteau and West Moberly First Nations whose leadership on Southern Mountain Caribou recovery was highlighted in a proposed conservation and recovery agreement between them and the provincial and federal governments.



DEFENDING BC'S PROVINCIAL PARKS

Over the last year, your support has helped us save Tetrahedron Provincial Park from losing its Class A Park status and has grown the reach of our coalition advocacy efforts to put an end to logging and potential mining in a small unprotected patch of land between Manning and Skagit Valley Provincial Parks. We continue to push for better funding and staffing resources for our underfunded parks system, to ensure a high-level of ecological integrity as well as visitor safety



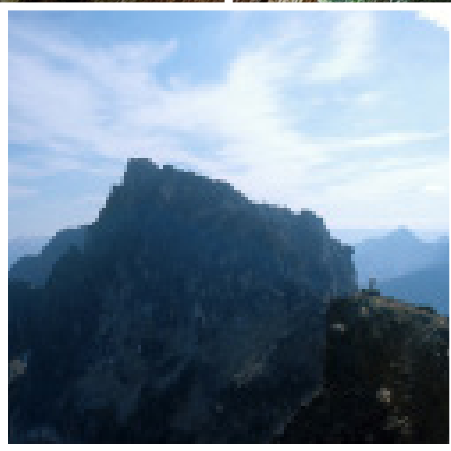
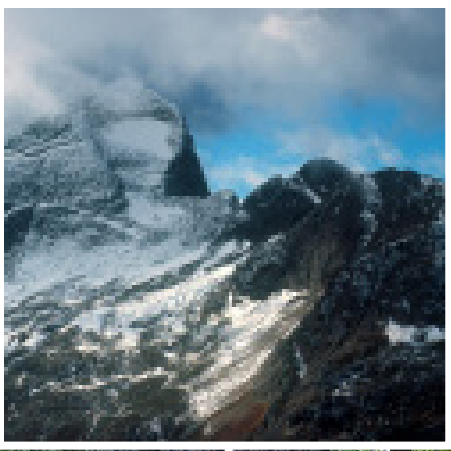
It's reassuring that our government is prioritizing conservation at this critical time for protecting biodiversity across the province.

- February 7th, 2019

**TORI BALL,
CPAWS-BC**

SHELTERING BIODIVERSITY THROUGH NEW PROTECTED AREAS

CPAWS-BC remained focused on creating new protected areas in BC, helping Canada reach its International Biodiversity Targets for 2020 while supporting the well-being and livelihoods of our communities. We have been supporting our provincial government to become a global leader in protecting nature, increasing support for and implementation of Indigenous-led conservation initiatives across the province, and safeguarding habitat for species at risk.



FINANCIAL WELLBEING

Assets

Current

Cash and cash equivalents (note 4)	\$ 829,831	\$ 1,320,978
Accounts receivable	177,422	15,656
Marketable securities	157,542	0
Prepaid expenses	8,383	13,141

1,173,178 1,349,775

Investments - Restricted (note 5)

Investments - Restricted (note 5)	96,000	96,000
Capital Assets (note 6)	4,760	8,102

\$ 1,273,938 \$ 1,453,877

Liabilities

Current

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 99,841	\$ 42,785
Deferred revenue (note 7)	680,995	1,078,212
Current portion of capital lease obligation	1,080	0

781,916 1,120,997

Deferred Capital Contributions (note 8)

Deferred Capital Contributions (note 8)	4,760	8,090
Obligation Under Capital Lease	4,060	0

790,736 1,129,087

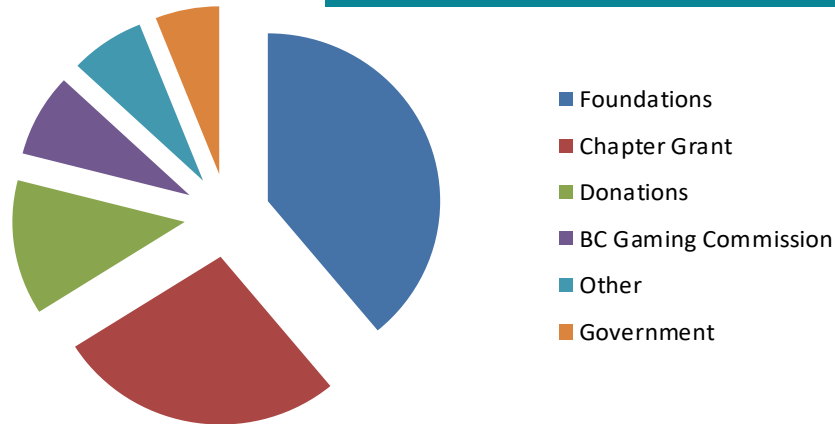
Net Assets

Unrestricted	182,164	174,790
Internally Restricted	301,038	150,000

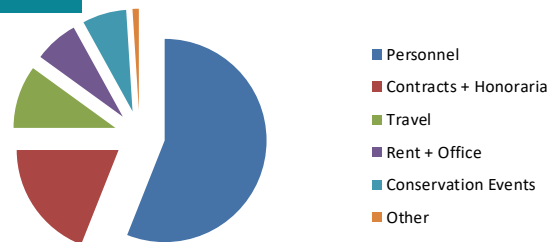
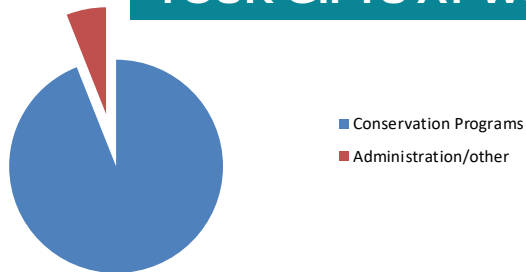
483,202 324,790

\$ 1,273,938 \$ 1,453,877

HOW CPAWS-BC IS FUNDED



YOUR GIFTS AT WORK



Full Financial Statement: www.cpawsbc.org/financial-picture



THANK YOU

We are grateful to the generous foundations and funders who contributed to our work to defend nature.

Arc'teryx
BC Gaming Commission
Brainerd Foundation
Conservation Alliance
Eco-Canada

MEC

Moore Foundation

Patagonia

Pew Charitable Trust

Sitka Foundation

T-Gear

West Coast Wills & Estates Law Corporation

Wilburforce

UNAC-Green Spaces

Vancouver Foundation

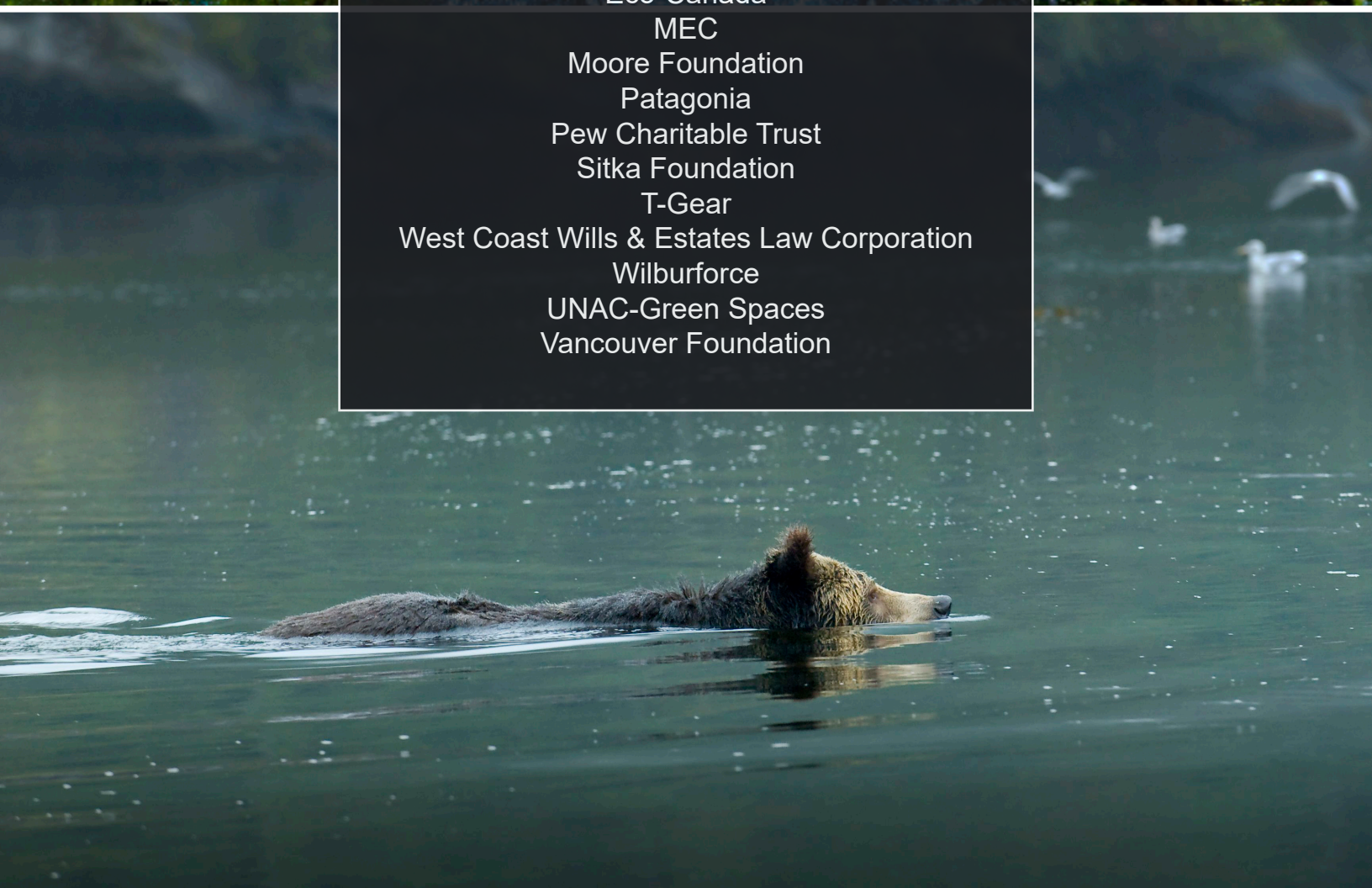


IMAGE CREDITS

Page 1 (cover): A. S. Wright

Page 2: A. S. Wright

Page 3: Ocean Networks Canada (all images)

Page 4: Top left image (map) - Fisheries and Oceans Canada; middle left image (sponges) - Kim Conway; middle right and bottom images (sponges) - Neil McDaniel

Page 5: Top image (Gwaii Haanas) - Duane Fuerter; bottom image (bear) - A. S. Wright

Page 6: Background image (grasslands) - Graham Osborne

Page 7: Top image (orca) - Susanne Davies; middle image (sea lions) - A. S. Wright; bottom image (caribou) - Wayne Sawchuk

Page 8: Background image (forest) - A.S. Wright; left top and bottom images (mountains in Manning and Cathedral Provincial Parks) - Matt Gunn; left middle images (logging truck in Elk Valley and public meeting on the Sunshine Coast) - Tori Ball

Page 9: A. S. Wright

Page 10: A. S. Wright (all images)

