

SEPTEMBER  
— 15 to 23

# PRECIPICE

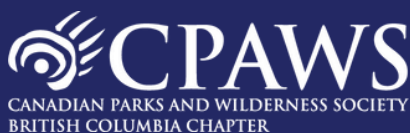
Changing the Course of the  
Extinction Crisis in BC

Alternatives Gallery  
1659 Venables Street

## MEDIA KIT 2023

[www.OnThePrecipice.ca](http://www.OnThePrecipice.ca)

Presented by CPAWS-BC



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# Precipice: Changing the Course of the Extinction Crisis in BC



Precipice is a convening space for critical conversations about what people living in BC can do to ensure our children's futures. We're living through an extinction crisis – forest fires, floods and droughts. But we can't lose hope.

**Tori Ball**  
**Terrestrial Conservation Manager**

***Precipice* is an art exhibition that tells stories of biodiversity loss and hope in British Columbia.** Working in mixed mediums, seven BC-based artists will compel you to mourn, understand and ultimately protect the lands and waters of Canada's most biodiverse province.

From September 15-23, 2023 *Precipice* is more than an art exhibit. It's a gathering place where artists, biologists and activists will teach, play and host conversations about biodiversity with the community.

*Precipice* features work by Cherry Archer, Nell Burns, Adea Chung, Grace Lee, Jessie Recalma, Sarah Ronald, and Clare Wilkening and is curated by Rachael Ashe.



# Biodiversity loss and hope

The world is facing a biodiversity crisis.

BC is one of Canada's most biodiverse provinces, yet it's home to more than 1807 animals, fungi, lichen and plants at risk of disappearing. Habitat loss and fragmentation, natural resource extraction, invasive species, climate change and pollution continue to threaten wildlife in BC and around the world. BC has more federally listed species at risk than any other province.

Local old-growth forests, wetlands and grasslands are under threat from unchecked logging, mining and urban development. Not only does this threaten nature, it increases impacts of floods and wildfires, and lack of security for the future of clean air and water.

Eyes are on BC to protect our last remaining large, intact natural land and seascapes, and the plants and animals that depend on them. Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCAs) are a path forward to advance reconciliation and support biodiversity.

Together, we can halt biodiversity loss and advance Indigenous-led conservation by protecting 30% of land and waters by 2030.

## **Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society - British Columbia**

CPAWS-BC defends public lands and the ocean. We work with Indigenous, provincial and federal governments with the goal of creating large protected and interconnected areas: places that can nurse nature through climate change and shelter plants and animals forever. Visit: [cpawsbc.org](http://cpawsbc.org)



# FACT SHEET

**1807** animals, fungi, lichen and plants in BC today are **at risk of disappearing** due to habitat loss and fragmentation, natural resource extraction, invasive species, climate change and pollution. BC has more federally listed species at risk than any other province.

**15.5%** BC's lands and waters currently protected.

**4.1%** additional land the province currently counts towards its conservation targets as **other effective conservation measures** and do not meet Canadian criteria for biodiversity protection.

**30%** of land and waters protected by 2030 is needed to halt and reverse biodiversity loss. Committed to by Canada and BC, the target is likely the **minimum of what's needed to safeguard biodiversity**. Up to 50% of lands and waters may need to be conserved to foster biodiversity and healthy ecosystems.

## Sources

1) Alana R. Westwood, Sarah P. Otto, Arne Mooers, Chris Darimont, Karen E. Hodges, Chris Johnson, Brian M. Starzomski, Cole Burton, Kai M.A. Chan, Marco Festa-Bianchet, Shaun Fluker, Sumeet Gulati, Aerin L. Jacob, Dan Kraus, Tara G. Martin, Wendy J. Palen, John D. Reynolds, and Jeannette Whitton. 2019. Protecting biodiversity in British Columbia: Recommendations for developing species at risk legislation. FACETS. 4(1): 136-160. B.C. Conservation Data Centre. 2023. BC Species and Ecosystems Explorer: BC Red and Blue, and SARA listings. B.C. Ministry of Environment. Available: <https://a100.gov.bc.ca/pub/eswp/> (accessed Aug 1, 2023)

2) Canadian Protected and Conserved Areas Database, 2023. Government of Canada. Available: <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/national-wildlife-areas/protected-conserved-areas-database.html> (accessed Aug 1, 2023)

3) An Honest Accounting: Improving BC's approach to claiming other conserved areas. Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society -British Columbia and Ecojustice, 2022. Available: <https://cpawsbc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/22-02-04-OECM-report-%C6%92-reduced-1.pdf>

4) IPCC, 2022: Summary for Policymakers [H.-O. Pörtner, D.C. Roberts, E.S. Poloczanska, K. Mintenbeck, M. Tignor, A. Alegría, M. Craig, S. Langsdorf, S. Lösschke, V. Möller, A. Okem (eds.)]. In: Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. Contribution of Working Group II to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [H.-O. Pörtner, D.C. Roberts, M. Tignor, E.S. Poloczanska, K. Mintenbeck, A. Alegría, M. Craig, S. Langsdorf, S. Lösschke, V. Möller, A. Okem, B. Rama (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK and New York, NY, USA, pp. 3-33, doi:10.1017/9781009325844.001.

# NATURE SOLUTIONS

## Nature is in Crisis

Our lives are deeply connected to nature. From the clean air we breathe to the natural spaces we seek for our physical and mental health - **we depend on Nature**. Nature gives us nourishing food and drinking water. Whole communities' culture, livelihoods and thriving economies rely on healthy lands and waters.

Unchecked natural resource extraction like road building, commercial fishing or logging can damage and destroy critical habitats. Ecosystem disturbance can also fragment or disrupt connected migration routes and advance the rate of biodiversity loss.

Once species are gone, they risk being lost forever.

## Nature-based Solutions

Protecting large, remaining intact areas of Nature is our best hope to **halt and reverse biodiversity loss**.

Safeguarding rare and important hotspots for species at risk is just the start. BC needs to protect **large and interconnected habitats** so wildlife can adapt and thrive in a changing world.

Together, we can protect nature now and forever. **Indigenous-led conservation** helps to advance reconciliation while building on generations of wisdom to effectively manage and protect Nature. Dozens of Indigenous Protected and Conserved areas (IPCAs) are already underway and could help BC and Canada meet their conservation goals on the path to 30% lands and water protection by 2030, and beyond.



# Conservation Highlights

December  
2022

## BC COMMITS TO 30X30

The Government of BC committed to protecting 30% of land by 2030 and advancing IPCAs making BC the second province in Canada to make this commitment.

January  
2023

## NEW MEASURES TO PROTECT OLD GROWTH

New forest policy changes announced by Premier David Eby and Minister of Forests signal hope that forest management in BC will prioritize Indigenous values, ecosystem health, and biodiversity.

## HISTORIC LAND STEWARDSHIP AGREEMENT

Blueberry River First Nations and BC create new partnership agreement to uphold Treaty 8 rights and protect lands and waters within Suunéch'ii Kéch'iige, "The Place Where Happiness Dwells".

February  
2023

## MPA NETWORK ENDORSED

First Nations, federal and provincial partners announce the endorsement of the Marine Protected Area (MPA) Network Action Plan for the Great Bear Sea (Northern Shelf Bioregion) at the 5th International Marine Protected Area Congress (IMPAC5).

August  
2023

## BC COASTAL MARINE STRATEGY

The Government of BC released a "What We Heard Report", which summarizes more than 900 public feedback submissions on the Coastal Marine Strategy Policy Intentions Paper.

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## PROGRAM & EVENTS

**Friday, September 15**

6-9 PM Opening Night

**Saturday, September 16**

10-4 PM Natural Wonders

**Sunday, September 17**

10-2 PM Family Day (All Ages!)

11:30-12:30 PM Art Workshop

**Tuesday, September 19**

6-7:30 PM Marine Pollution Panel

**Wednesday, September 20**

6-8:30 PM Curator's Craft Social

**Thursday, September 21**

6-8 PM Conservation Panel

**Saturday, September 23**


11-2 PM BC Culture Days x

Ceramic Art Workshop



More info: [ontheprecipice.ca](http://ontheprecipice.ca)

Presented by CPAWS-BC

 **CPAWS**  
CANADIAN PARKS AND WILDERNESS SOCIETY  
BRITISH COLUMBIA CHAPTER

# Precipice: Featured Artists



Let the artwork in Precipice teach us, cause us to reflect, and ultimately, to take action before it's too late.

**Rachel Ashe**  
*Precipice Curator*



Rachel Ashe



Cherry Archer



Nell Burns



Adea Chung



Grace Lee



Jessie Recalma



Sarah Ronald



Clare Wilkening

[More artist info](#)

[www.ontheprecipice.ca](http://www.ontheprecipice.ca)



# MEDIA CENTRE

Download shareable social media graphics, customize copy and more.



Learn more about workshops, speaker evenings and more



Download the *Precipice* brand kit and style guide.



## Recent News

- Report on the Budget 2024 Consultation *Legislative Assembly of BC*
- [Conservation in B.C. could get a \\$1.2 billion boost](#) *The Narwhal*
- [BC's parks have suffered from chronic underfunding](#) *The Province*
- [BC makes 'significant progress' in conserving nature](#) *NS News*
- [BC budget a mixed bag on climate](#) *National Observer*
- [Great Bear Sea: vast new marine zone a 'mindset shift' for conservation](#) *The Guardian*

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