



CPAWS

CANADIAN PARKS AND WILDERNESS SOCIETY
BRITISH COLUMBIA CHAPTER

ANNUAL REPORT
2017 - 2018



A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

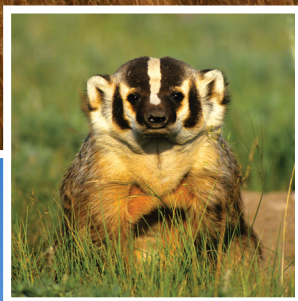
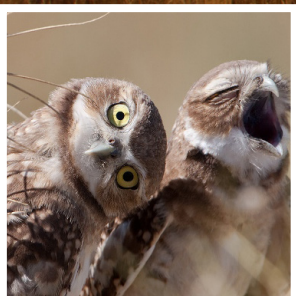
What an exciting year it's been for conservation. I know you celebrated with us when the federal government announced \$1.3 billion in funding for nature, and we are already seeing the results of this unprecedented commitment. This is an incredible opportunity to achieve real conservation gains across British Columbia, and together we can make the most of it. I am proud of all that we have accomplished this year to shelter biodiversity and nurture nature through climate change, and excited to share this report with you. Thank you for your generous support; your gifts make each of our campaigns a reality. I am looking ahead to 2019 with renewed energy and hope for BC's landscapes, seascapes, and every species that calls them home.

BRUCE PASSMORE



SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS IN THE SOUTH OKANAGAN

CPAWS-BC staff were on hand October 27, 2017 for a tri-government announcement signalling an intention to work together for a new National Park Reserve in the South Okanagan-Similkameen. After years of hard campaigning with our allies and partners in the South Okanagan, this was a day we were anticipating – and it did not disappoint. Since then, we've been working with community members and decision-makers to strengthen the case for a large, well-connected park.



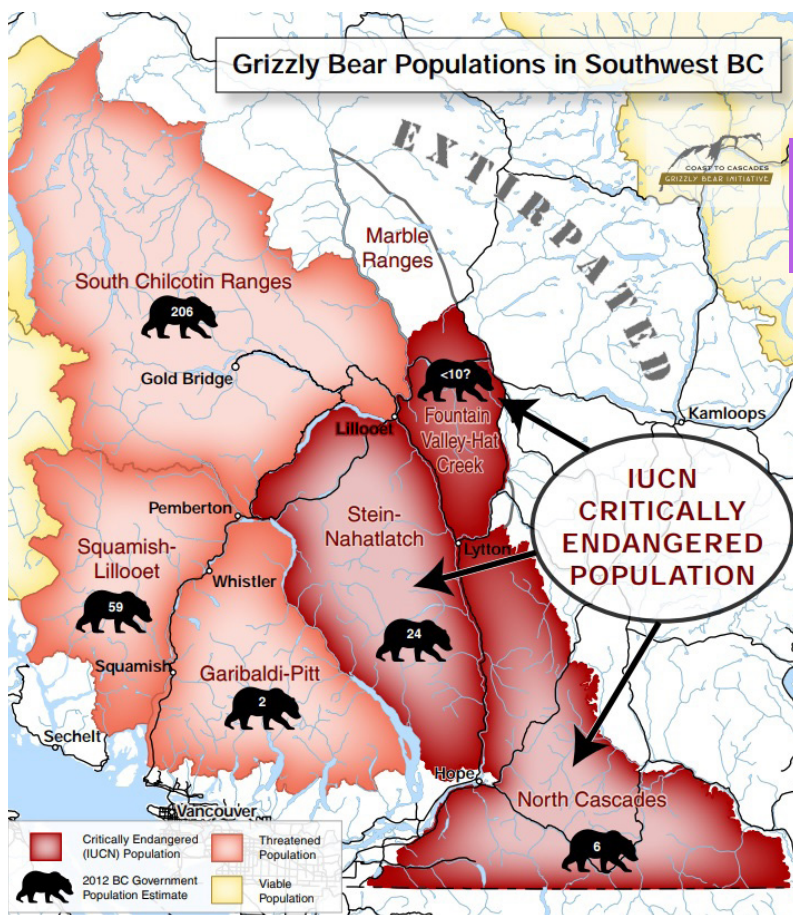
The South Okanagan-Similkameen is home to about 56 federally listed species, including critically endangered badgers and owls. The area also boasts a rare grasslands ecosystem, the most endangered ecosystem type in the world. The new National Park Reserve is our opportunity to protect a stunning array of biodiversity for generations to come.



These areas are incredibly important for biodiversity and habitat connectivity across the broader landscape, particularly in light of anticipated pressures from a changing climate.

JESSIE COREY,
CPAWS-BC

Grizzly Bear Populations in Southwest BC



RECOVERING ENDANGERED GRIZZLY POPULATIONS

British Columbia's southwest grizzly bear populations are on the frontlines of an extinction rapidly moving north. In December, the federal government finally recognized the plight of these grizzlies with a listing under the Species At Risk Act (SARA). Along with our partners in the Coast to Cascades Grizzly Bear Initiative, we have been both working at the community level to reduce human conflict with grizzly bears, while also pushing for action on a recovery plan for threatened grizzly populations in the Coast to Cascades corridor.



What these particular grizzlies really need right now are quick actions that prioritize recovery and deliver on the commitment made by the province to improve their approach to managing the species.

JOHNNY MIKES,
COAST TO CASCADES



CARIBOU IN CRISIS

CPAWS-BC has had a tumultuous year working with federal and provincial partners and governments to protect and recover both boreal and southern mountain caribou. Throughout 2017 and 2018, we have mobilized public support for the species and engaged with our supporters in public consultation processes. Now, we're awaiting a provincial recovery plan for the species while pushing the federal government to step in under Species At Risk legislation.



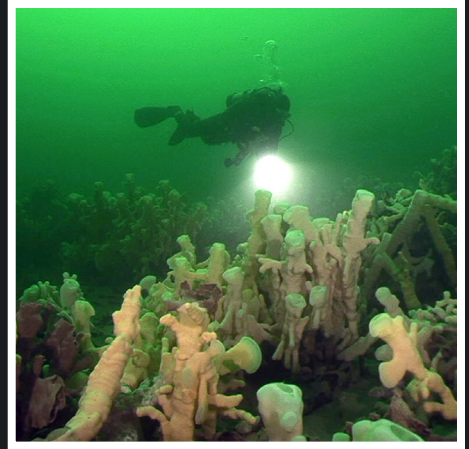
Building on a tremendous victory for glass sponge reefs in the Hecate Strait, in late 2017 BC's northern reefs were put on the consideration list for a UN World Heritage Site, recognizing the global significance of BC's reefs. Through 2017 and 2018, CPAWS-BC worked to establish fishing closures for southern reefs and is building the case for a network of marine protected areas to safeguard this rare, keystone species.

A GLOBAL WIN FOR BC'S GLASS SPONGE REEFS

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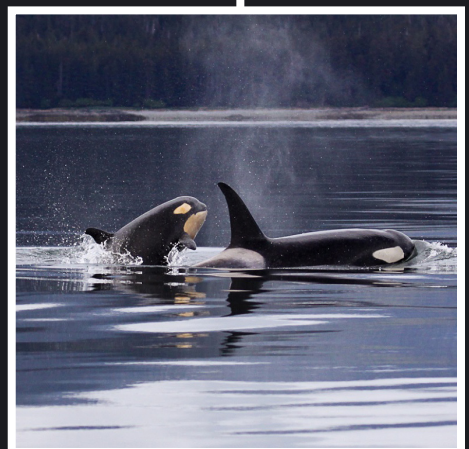
Glass sponge reefs are marine oases for many marine species on an otherwise barren, seafloor desert. Failing to protect reefs jeopardizes the health of our entire coastal ecosystem.

ROSS JAMESON,
CPAWS-BC



TURNING THE TIDE FOR SOUTHERN RESIDENT KILLER WHALES

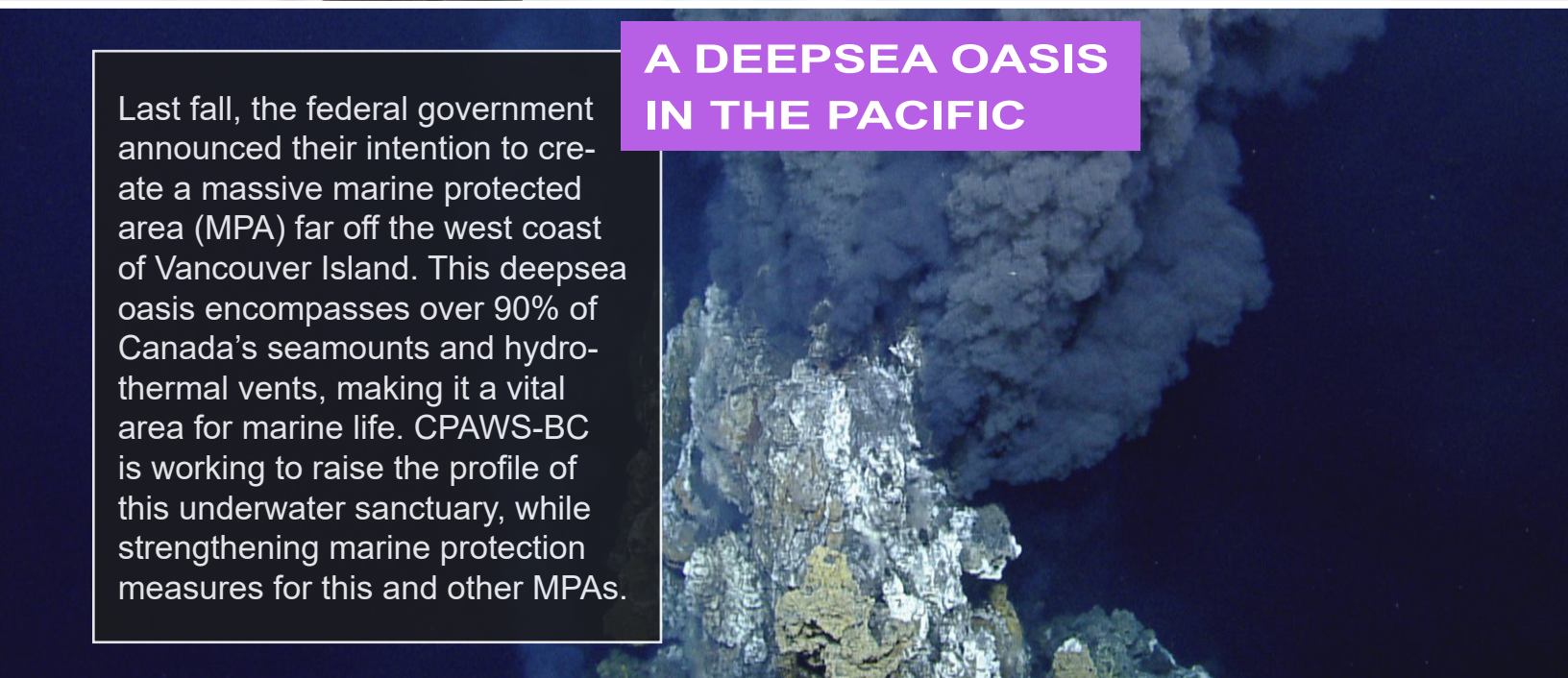
In 2017, CPAWS-BC hosted a training program for community members in the Gulf Islands as part of its efforts to mobilize local advocates to protect critical orca habitat in the Southern Strait of Georgia. Throughout 2017 and 2018, our work to protect endangered killer whales has spanned participating in government consultations to stakeholder work in region. CPAWS-BC is focusing on protecting key habitat for the whales to improve prey availability, limit noise pollution and harmful industrial activities.





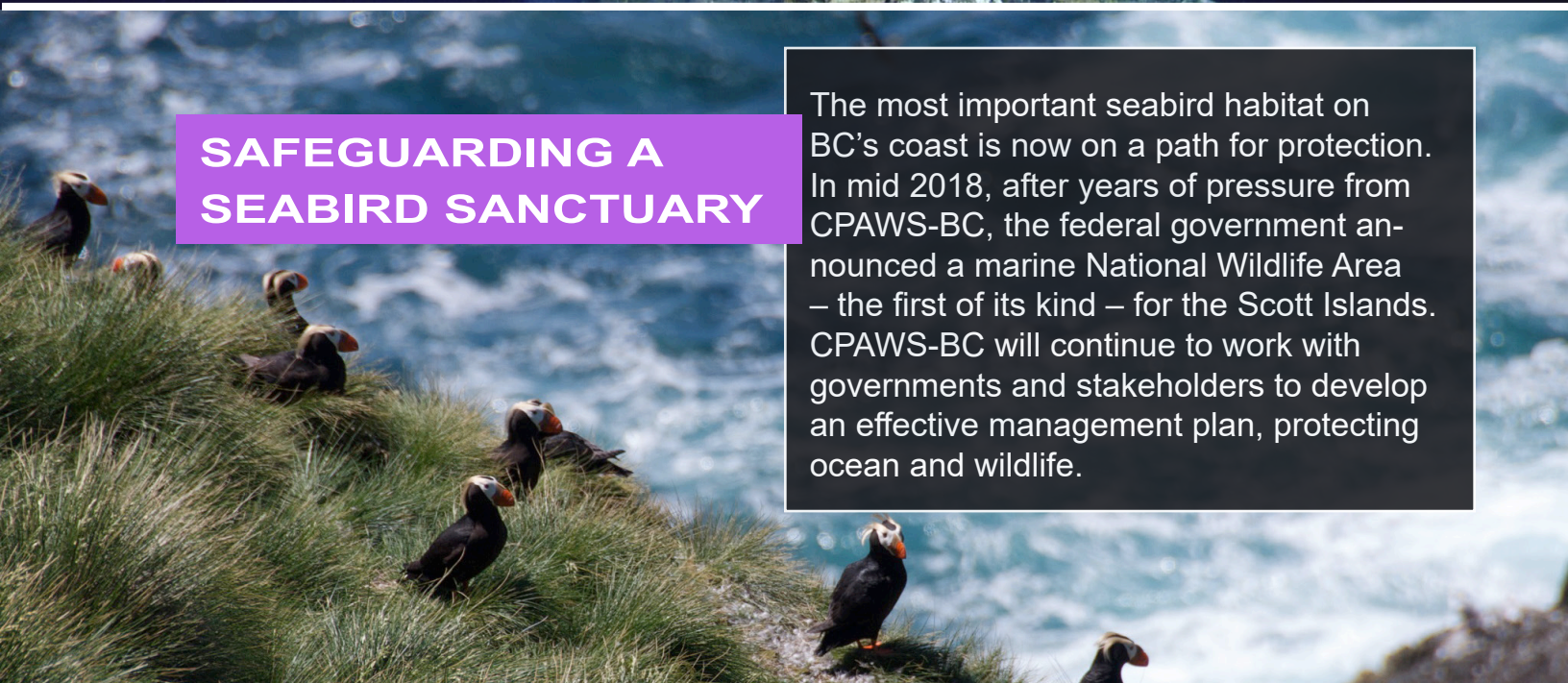
STANDING UP FOR BC'S PROVINCIAL PARKS

In summer 2017 and winter 2018, CPAWS-BC hosted province-wide days of action to boost support for BC's strained and underfunded parks. Along with hundreds of supporters, we're strengthening stewardship and putting pressure on the provincial government to give parks a raise in the next budget.



A DEEPSEA OASIS IN THE PACIFIC

Last fall, the federal government announced their intention to create a massive marine protected area (MPA) far off the west coast of Vancouver Island. This deepsea oasis encompasses over 90% of Canada's seamounts and hydrothermal vents, making it a vital area for marine life. CPAWS-BC is working to raise the profile of this underwater sanctuary, while strengthening marine protection measures for this and other MPAs.



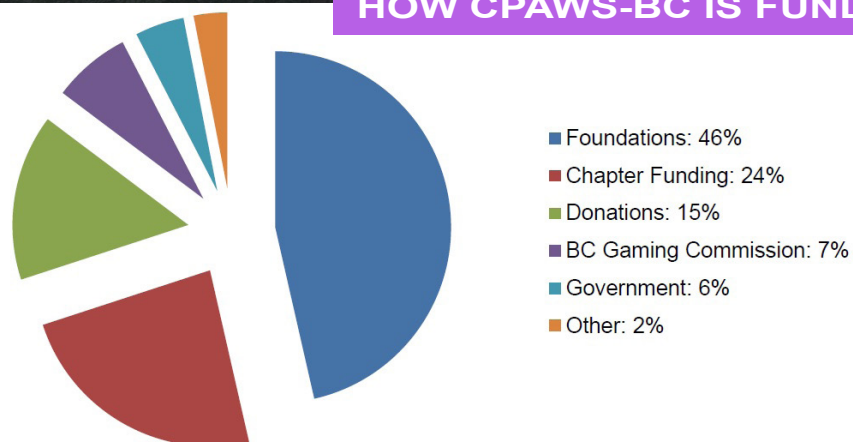
SAFEGUARDING A SEABIRD SANCTUARY

The most important seabird habitat on BC's coast is now on a path for protection. In mid 2018, after years of pressure from CPAWS-BC, the federal government announced a marine National Wildlife Area – the first of its kind – for the Scott Islands. CPAWS-BC will continue to work with governments and stakeholders to develop an effective management plan, protecting ocean and wildlife.

FINANCIAL WELLBEING

	2018	2017
ASSETS		
Current		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	1,320,978	1,034,661
Accounts Receivable	15,656	168,267
Prepaid Expenses	13,141	8,862
Investments - Restricted	96,000	96,000
Capital Assets	8,102	8,102
	1,453,877	1,317,755
LIABILITIES		
Current		
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	42,785	51,402
Deferred Revenue	1,078,212	968,608
Deferred Capital Contributions	8,090	9,953
	1,129,087	1,029,963
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	174,790	155,957
Internally Restricted Endowment Fund	150,000	-
Internally Restricted	-	131,835
	324,790	287,729
	\$1,453,877	\$1,317,755

HOW CPAWS-BC IS FUNDED



YOUR GIFTS AT WORK

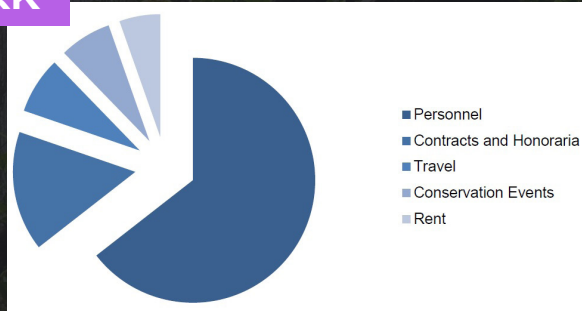
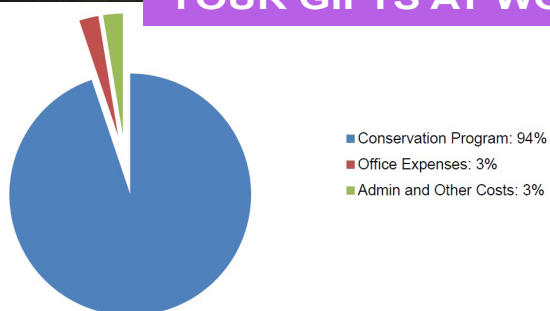




IMAGE CREDITS

Page 1 (cover): All images - A. S. Wright

Page 2: A. S. Wright

Page 3: Top image (grasslands sunset) - Tori Ball; bottom image (leaders from Okanagan Nation Alliance, federal and provincial governments) - Tori Ball; far left image (burrowing owls) - Ron Dudley; centre left image (badger) - Oregon State Department of Wildlife; centre right image (trail marker) - Tori Ball; far right image (mountain goats) - Jason Puddifoot

Page 4: Middle left image (caribou) - Ted Simonett; right image (grizzly bears) - Jeremy Williams; bottom image (mountain caribou) - Wayne Sawchuk

Page 5: Top image (diver at Defense Island sponge reef) - Neil McDaniel; top middle image (glass sponge reef) - Kim Conway; lower middle image (orca) - Cory Lagasse; bottom image (orca with calf) - open source image

Page 6: Top image (parks advocates) - Tori Ball; middle image (hydrothermal vent) - Ocean Exploration Trust; bottom image (Scott Islands puffins) - Sabine Jessen

Page 7: A. S. Wright

Page 8: A. S. Wright