

January 23, 2020

Strathcona Regional District
Michele Babchuk, Chair
301-990 Cedar Street
Campbell River, BC
V9W 7Z8

Dear Chairperson Babchuk and Members of the Board

Re: Marine Protected Area Network Planning in the Northern Shelf Bioregion

This letter is to inform you of progress regarding an initiative to design a network of marine protected areas (MPAs) in the Northern Shelf Bioregion, and to discuss opportunities for your Strathcona Regional District engagement. The planning area extends from the middle of Vancouver Island (Quadra Island/Bute Inlet) and reaches north to the Canada – Alaska border. The region, which covers approximately 102,000 km², has been divided into four sub-regions in recognition of the unique characteristics that define them (Attachment 1).

Over the last several years, federal, provincial and participating First Nations (the “partners”) have advanced technical work to design a network of MPAs that aims to align with the vision, goals, and principles set out in the Canada-British Columbia MPA Network Strategy ([the Strategy](#)). The end product of this initiative will be the identification of regional Network Action Plan that outlines recommendations for the establishment of a protection management regime for selected environmentally important areas within the NSB. The technical planning process is anticipated to be complete in 2021 following a variety of opportunities for engagement. Implementation of the Network Action Plan will occur over time and include more detailed consultation on the implementation of individual area components that are new or have recommended management changes.

The planning initiative currently benefits from active participation of stakeholders and local governments through Ocean Advisory Committees (OACs) operating at regional and sub-regional levels. OAC members, listed in Attachment 2, are currently reviewing the first draft network design scenario, which includes a selection of existing conservation area designations (e.g., Federal MPAs, conservancies, parks and protected areas, ecological reserves, Marine Plan Partnership (MaPP) Protection Management Zones (PMZs), Rockfish Conservation Areas) and some recommendations for enhanced management or boundary adjustments to these sites, as well as new proposed sites for added protection (Attachment 3).

At this stage of the planning process we wish to assure you that no decisions have been made on new sites or proposed modifications to existing management measures within the draft MPA network design scenario. What is presented here is a preliminary draft design, based on our current assessment of ecological, cultural and economic values in the area and reflecting the range of existing conservation area designations. The feedback we receive over the coming months will be reviewed and considered in the development of a revised draft network scenario, which we hope to have ready for broader public engagement in the winter of 2021.



We are interested in discussing how we can ensure meaningful engagement with your Strathcona Regional District, as well as the communities you represent. We are open to presenting at council meetings or other relevant meetings at a mutually convenient time. We will be following up soon by phone and/or email to see if you may be interested in meeting with us to discuss this initiative further. In the meantime, additional information about the MPA Network planning process in the Northern Shelf Bioregion is available on our website (www.mpanetwork.ca), or you can contact info@mpanetwork.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Blayne".

Brigid Payne, on behalf of the MPA Network Committee
Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Charlie Short, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development
Merv Child, Nanwakolas Council
Rich Chapple, Central Coast Indigenous Resource Alliance
Trevor Russ, Council of the Haida Nation
Paul Kariya, Coastal First Nations – Great Bear Initiative
Bruce Watkinson, Gitxaala Nation
Ross Wilson, Metlakatla First Nation
Katherine Butts, Lax Kw'alaams Band
Chris Picard, Gitga'at First Nation
Chris Apps, Kitselas First Nation
Rina Gemeinhardt, Kitsumkalum First Nation

cc:

Dennis Buchanan – Oceans Advisory Committee Member
Fred Robertson – Oceans Advisory Committee Member
Heidi Soltau – Oceans Advisory Committee Member
Jim Abram – Oceans Advisory Committee Member

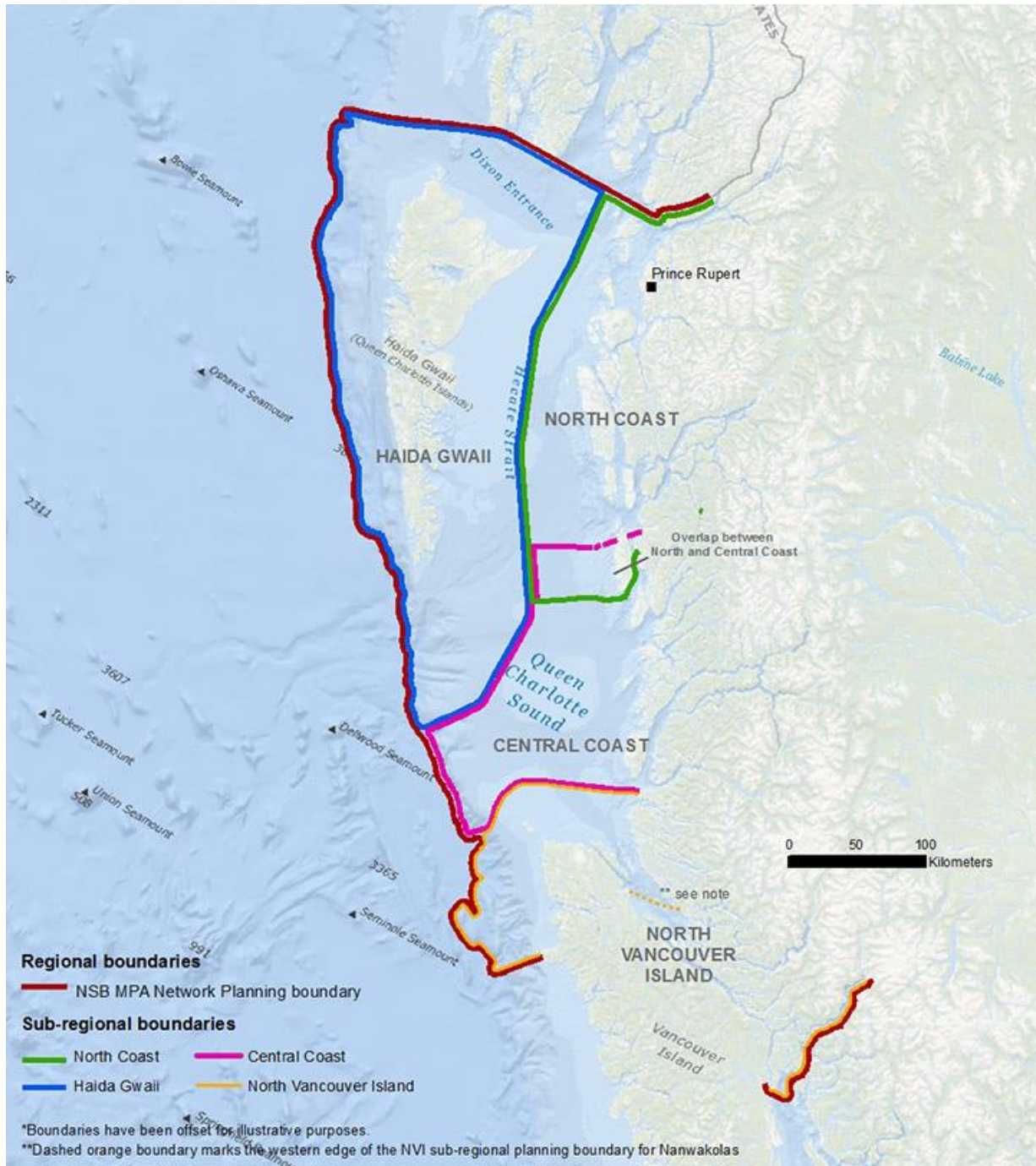
ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Map of the planning area for the Marine Protected Area (MPA) network planning process for the Northern Shelf Bioregion

Attachment 2: I/OAC membership list

Attachment 3: Map of the initial draft MPA network scenario for the Northern Shelf Bioregion, including current protected areas and other proposed draft sites

Attachment 1: Map of the planning area for the Marine Protected Area (MPA) network planning process for the Northern Shelf Bioregion



Attachment 2: I/OAC membership list

Bioregional OAC Membership List

Name	Affiliation	Sector	Member/ Alternate
Bruce Storry	N/A	Coastal forestry	Member
Brian Mose (Groundfish)	To be confirmed	Commercial Fishing	Alternate
Bruce Turriss (Groundfish)	Canadian Groundfish Research and Conservation Society	Commercial Fishing	Member
Dan Edwards	Commercial Fishing Caucus	Commercial Fishing	Alternate
Grant Dovey (Dive)	Underwater Harvesters Association	Commercial Fishing	Member
Jim McIsaac	Commercial Fishing Caucus	Commercial Fishing	Member
Mike Atkins (Dive)	Underwater Harvesters Association	Commercial Fishing	Alternate
Bill Wareham	David Suzuki Foundation	Conservation	Member
Ross Jameson	Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society	Conservation	Member
Stephanie Hewson	West Coast Environmental Law	Conservation	Alternate
Richard Opala	Marine Harvest	Finfish Aquaculture	Member
Lanna Hodgson	International Ship-Owners Alliance of Canada (ISAC)	Marine Transportation	Alternate
Robert Lewis Manning	Chamber of Shipping of BC	Marine Transportation	Member
Owen Bird	Sport Fishing Institute of British Columbia	Public Recreational Fisheries Service Provider	Member
Bryan MacLeod		Renewable Energy	Member?
Chris Sporer	Seafood Producers Association of British Columbia	Seafood Processing	Member
Rob Morley	Seafood Producers Association of British Columbia	Seafood Processing	Alternate
Darlene Winterburn	British Columbia Shellfish Growers' Association	Shellfish Aquaculture	Member
Todd Russell	British Columbia Shellfish Growers' Association & Island Scallops	Shellfish Aquaculture	Alternate
Breanne Quesnel	Spirit of the West Adventures	Tourism	Member

Central Coast OAC Membership List

Name	Affiliation	Sector	Member/ Alternate
Tyson Berkenstock	BC Timber Sales	Coastal Forestry	Alternate
Warren Wartig	TBD	Coastal Forestry	Member
Brian Mose (Groundfish)	To be confirmed	Commercial Fishing	Joint Alternate
David Boyes (Groundfish)	To be confirmed	Commercial Fishing	Member
Geoff Krause (Dive)	Pacific Urchin Harvesters Association, the Pacific Sea Cucumber Harvesters Association & Underwater Harvesters Association	Commercial Fishing	Member
Greg Thomas (Herring)	To be confirmed	Commercial Fishing	Joint Alternate
Ian Bryce (Tuna)	To be confirmed	Commercial Fishing	Joint Alternate
Jim Mclsaac	Commercial Fishing Caucus	Commercial Fishing	Alternate
Kim Olsen	Commercial Fishing Caucus	Commercial Fishing	Member
Mike Atkins (Dive)	Underwater Harvesters Association	Commercial Fishing	Joint Alternate
Scott Benton	Wilderness Tourism Association	Commercial Tourism	Member
Linda Nowlan	West Coast Environmental Law	Conservation	Member
Vanessa Minke-Martin	Pacific Wild	Conservation	Member
Richard Opala	Marine Harvest	Finfish Aquaculture	Member
Robert Lewis Manning	Chamber of Shipping of BC	Marine Transportation	Member
Lauren Eckert	University of Victoria	Other Interests - Youth	Member
Nick Heath	Outdoor Recreation Council of BC	Public Recreation	Member
Emilie Piry (on leave)	Good Hope Cannery	Recreational Fishery Service Providers	Alternate
Sid Keay	Duncanby Fishing Lodge	Recreational Fishery Service Providers	Member
Todd Russell	Island Scallops Ltd.	Shellfish Aquaculture	Member

Haida Gwaii IAC Membership List

Name	Affiliation	Expertise	Member/ Alternate
Grant Dovey	Underwater Harvesters Association	Commercial Fishing	Member
Jim McIsaac	Commercial Fishing Caucus	Commercial Fishing	Member
Lindsey Doerkson	N/A	Commercial Fishing	Member
Scott Wallace	David Suzuki Foundation	Conservation; Marine Sciences	Member
Captain Gold	N/A	Haida Marine Knowledge	Member
Michael McGuire	N/A – formerly of the Pacific Pilotage Authority	Haida Marine Knowledge; Transportation	Member
Leandre Vigneault	N/A – self-employed biologist and marine tourism operator	Islands Public; Marine Tourism	Member
Doug Daugert	Sport Fishing Advisory Board	Recreational Fishing	Member
John McCulloch	Langara Fishing Adventures & Sport Fishing Institute	Recreational Fishing	Member

North Coast OAC Membership List

Name	Organization	Sector	Member/ Alternate
Mike Viveiros	BC Timber Sales	Coastal Forestry	Member
Stephen Hales		Coastal Forestry	Alternate
Brewster Woodburn (Groundfish)	To be confirmed	Commercial Fishing	Member
Dan Edwards	Commercial Fishing Caucus	Commercial Fishing	Member
Gary Krause (Groundfish)	To be confirmed	Commercial Fishing	Joint Alternate
Geoff Krause (Dive)	Pacific Urchin Harvesters Association, the Pacific Sea Cucumber Harvesters Association & Underwater Harvesters Association	Commercial Fishing	Member
Greg Thomas (Herring)	To be confirmed	Commercial Fishing	Joint Alternate
Henry Clifton	Commercial Fishing Caucus	Commercial Fishing	Alternate
Mike Atkins (Dive)	Underwater Harvesters Association	Commercial Fishing	Alternate

Robert Hauknes (Groundfish)	To be confirmed	Commercial Fishing	Joint Alternate
Scott Benton	Wilderness Tourism Association	Commercial Tourism	Member
Kevin Smith	Wilderness Tourism Association	Commercial Tourism	Member
Hussein Alidina	WWF-Canada	Conservation	Member
Kilian Stehfest	David Suzuki Foundation	Conservation	Member
Benafshaw Dashti	Kitimat Stikine RD	Local Government	Member
Karl Bergman	Skeena-Queen Charlotte RD (Mainland)	Local Government	Member
Ted Pellegrino	Kitimat Stikine RD	Local Government	Alternate
Hermann Meuter	North Coast Cetacean Society	Marine Research Institute	Member
Janie Wray	North Coast Cetacean Society	Marine Research Institute	Alternate
Jack Smith	Port of Prince Rupert	Marine Transportation	Alternate
Jason Scherr	Port of Prince Rupert	Marine Transportation	Member
Caitlin Birdsall	Ocean Wise	Other interests - Research and marine monitoring	Alternate (on leave)
Karina Dracott	Ocean Wise	Other interests - Research and marine monitoring	Member
Peter Christensen	N/A	Public Recreation	Member
Yvonne Christensen	N/A	Public Recreation	Alternate
David Lewis	Sport Fishing Advisory Board	Public Recreational Fishing	Joint Alternate
Ken Franzen	Sport Fishing Advisory Board	Public Recreational Fishing	Joint Alternate
Urs Thomas	Sport Fishing Advisory Board	Public Recreational Fishing	Member
Albert Hummel	Sport Fishing Advisory Board	Public Recreational Fishing	Alternate
Jason Bowers	Sport Fishing Advisory Board	Recreational Fishing Service Provider	Member
Craig Smith	Canfisco	Seafood Processing	Alternate
Lori Wilson	Canfisco	Seafood Processing	Member
Brian Zingzett	Coastal Shellfish	Shellfish Aquaculture	Member
Michael Uehara	Coastal Shellfish	Shellfish Aquaculture	Alternate

North Vancouver Island OAC Membership List

Name	Affiliation	Sector	Member/ Alternate
Richard Snowdon	Spirit of the West Adventures	Commercial Tourism	Member
Mike Kelly		Recreational Fishing Services Providers	Member
Jeremy Maynard		Recreational Fishing Services Providers	Alternate
Chuck Ashcroft	Sport Fishing Advisory Board	Public Recreational Fishing	Member
Greg Vance	Winter Harbour Recreational Fisher	Public Recreational Fishing	Alternate
Bruce Storry	N/A	Coastal Forestry	Member
Tyson Berkenstock		Coastal Forestry	Alternate
Dan Edwards	Commercial Fishing Causcus	Commercial Fishing	Member
Lance Underwood	Currently Unknown	Commercial Fishing	Alternate
Dave Renwall (Groundfish)	To be confirmed	Commercial Fishing	Member
David Boyes (Groundfish)	To be confirmed	Commercial Fishing	Alternate
Geoff Krause (Dive)	Pacific Urchin Harvesters Association, Pacific Sea Cucumber Harvesters Association & Underwater Harvesters Association	Commercial Fishing	Member
Mike Atkins (Dive)	Underwater Harvesters Association	Commercial Fishing	Joint Alternate
Ian Bryce (Tuna)	To be confirmed	Commercial Fishing	Joint Alternate
Bill Wareham	David Suzuki Foundation	Conservation	Member
Will Soltau	No affiliation	Conservation	Alternate
Ross Jameson	Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society	Conservation	Member
Marie Fournier	Cetus Society	Conservation	Alternate
Richard Opala	Marine Harvest	Finfish Aquaculture	Member
Jim Abram	Strathcona Regional District	Local Government	Member
Dennis Buchanan	Regional District of Mt Waddington	Local Government	Alternate
Mayor Hank Bood	District of Port Hardy	Local Government	Member

Fred Robertson	District of Port Hardy	Local Government	Alternate
Todd Russell	Island Scallops Ltd.	Shellfish Aquaculture	Member
Nick Heath	Outdoor Recreation Council of B.C.	Public Recreation	Member
Robert Lewis Manning	Chamber of Shipping of BC	Marine Transportation	Member

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Attachment 3: Map of the initial draft MPA network scenario for the Northern Shelf Bioregion, including current protected areas and other proposed draft sites

