

BC MÉTIS FEDERATION CONSERVATION JUNE 2024

HATS OFF FOR TRAILS

Kelowna, BC Trails Day at
Mission Creek Greenway
Regional Park

MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

MPA's and why we
need them

WORLD OCEANS DAY

'Sweeping the Shores'
shoreline cleanup at
Neck Point Park, Nanaimo

FAMILY JAMBOREE

Peace Region Métis Community
event in Charlie Lake, BC

THE AQUA AGENDA

New episodes, featuring guest
speaker Jasmine Lee



Coastal
Water Protectors



BC Métis
FEDERATION





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HATS OFF FOR TRAILS

CELEBRATING
BC TRAILS





The Department of Conservation with the BC Métis Federation set up an informative and engaging booth at the 'Hats Off for Trails' event held in Kelowna at Mission Creek Greenway Regional Park. This event, part of the BC Trails Days celebrations, provided an excellent opportunity for the department to connect with the community and share their ongoing conservation efforts. The booth featured a variety of educational materials, interactive displays, and friendly staff ready to answer questions about local conservation initiatives and the importance of protecting BC's diverse ecosystems.

By networking with like-minded groups, the department was able to exchange ideas, share resources, and explore collaborative opportunities that would enhance their conservation projects. The positive feedback and high level of engagement from the public underscored the community's growing interest in environmental stewardship and the Métis Federation's pivotal role in leading these efforts. Overall, the event was a resounding success, further cementing the department's commitment to preserving BC's natural heritage and fostering a sustainable future for generations to come.



Coastal
Water Protectors



BC Métis
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MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

WHAT IS AN MPA?

An MPA, or Marine Protected Area, is a designated section of the ocean where human activities are regulated to protect marine ecosystems and biodiversity. These areas help conserve marine life, habitats, and resources, promoting sustainable use and environmental health.

WHY AN MPA?

MPAs protect critical habitats and species, helping to preserve biodiversity and maintain healthy ecosystems.

MARINE PROTECTED AREAS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

MPA'S IN BC

There are currently 14 *Ocean's Act* Marine Protected Areas in Canada. Out of those 14, British Columbia has four in place, comprising over 350,000 km² or approximately 6% of Canada's marine and coastal areas.

| MPA | SIZE IN KM ² |
|--|-------------------------|
| Endeavour Hydrothermal Vents | 97 |
| Hecate Strait/Queen Charlotte Sound Glass Sponge Reefs | 2,410 |
| SḠáan Kínghlas-Bowie Seamount | 6,103 |
| Tang.ḡwan - ḡačxwiqak | 133,017 |

SWEEPING THE SHORES FOR WORLD OCEAN DAY





On June 8th, the Department of Conservation with the BC Métis Federation traveled to Nanaimo to host a 'Sweeping the Shores' shoreline cleanup for World Oceans Day at Neck Point Park. This event saw over 30 registered participants who came together to make a tangible difference in protecting the local marine environment. The department's presence underscored their commitment to conservation and proactive approach to community-led environmental initiatives.

Members of the BC Métis Federation traveled from neighboring communities, including Black Creek and Campbell River, to join the cleanup efforts. Their participation highlighted the unity and dedication of the Métis community.

The volunteers, equipped with gloves, bags, and a shared sense of purpose, diligently combed the shores of Neck Point Park, removing debris and litter that threatened the natural habitat. The event not only resulted in a cleaner shoreline but also raised awareness about the impact of pollution on marine life and the importance of community involvement in conservation.



Coastal Water Protectors



Coastal Water Protectors





THE AQUA

AGENDA

Podcast

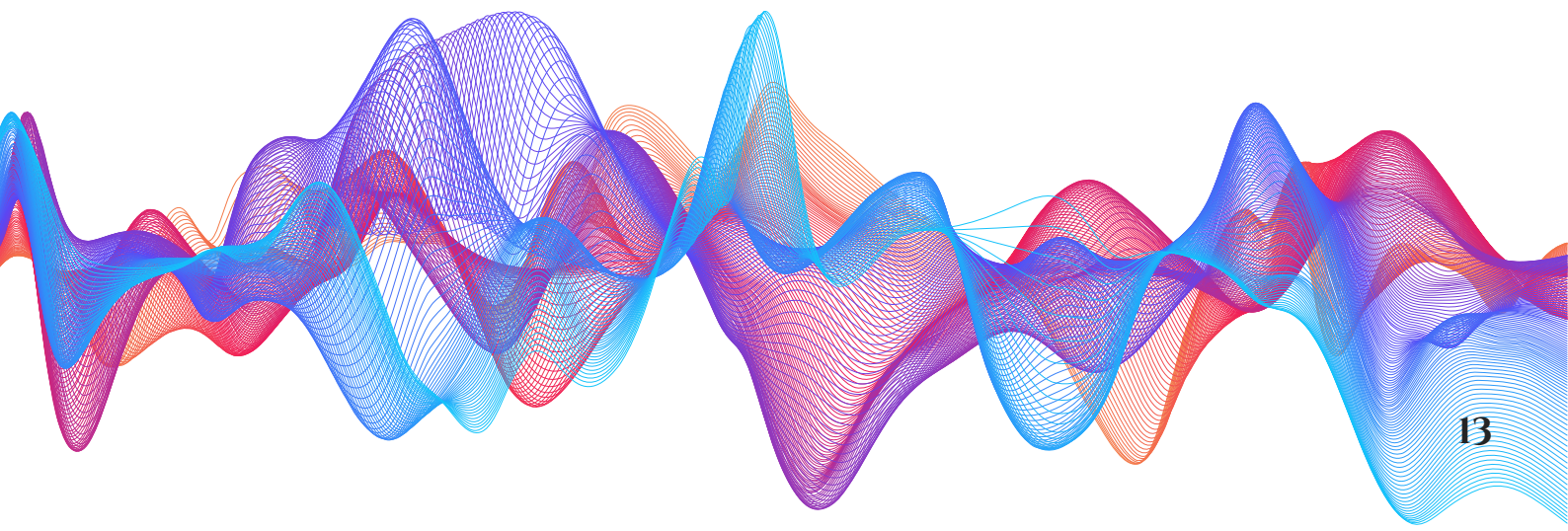
THE PODCAST IS A GREAT WAY FOR OUR MEMBERS AND INTERESTED PUBLIC TO STAY UP TO DATE WITH CONSERVATION RELATED TOPICS IN THE PROVINCE.

- Angel Fisher, Director of Conservation

The Conservation Department proudly released two new episodes of the Aqua Agenda podcast, continuing its mission to educate and engage listeners on critical conservation topics. On June 14th, the episode titled "From the Depths to the Mic" was released. This episode took listeners on a vocal journey with hosts Angel Fisher, Zia Yazdani, and Tanner Oswald, who shared their personal stories of how they became involved with conservation efforts and the BC Métis Federation. Their narratives highlighted the diverse paths and motivations that led them to their roles, offering inspiration and insight into the passion and dedication driving the conservation team.

Following this, the June 28th episode titled "Deep Dive with Jasmine Lee - Exploring Kelp Conservation" provided an in-depth discussion on kelp conservation. Jasmine Lee, shared her journey into kelp conservation and discussed the pressing issues surrounding kelp loss and the efforts towards kelp reforestation. The episode shed light on the ecological importance of kelp forests, the challenges they face, and the innovative solutions being implemented to restore these vital underwater ecosystems. Lee's expertise and passion provided listeners with a deeper understanding of the significance of kelp and the urgency of conservation efforts.

The Aqua Agenda continues to feature new episodes on a bi-weekly basis, offering a platform for discussions on a wide range of conservation topics. Accessible on Spotify and Amazon Music, the podcast aims to reach a broad audience, spreading awareness and fostering a community of environmentally conscious listeners. Through engaging stories, expert interviews, and in-depth explorations, the Aqua Agenda serves as an invaluable resource for anyone interested in the health and sustainability of our marine and coastal environments.





FAMILY JAMBOREE

CHARLIE LAKE, BC

The Department of Conservation attended the Peace Region Métis Community Family Jamboree, held in Charlie Lake, BC. This vibrant event provided an excellent opportunity for the department to engage with community members in meaningful discussions about local conservation issues and initiatives. The team enjoyed the chance to connect with the community, sharing insights and gathering valuable feedback on their ongoing projects.

In addition to the discussions, the department distributed spill kits to promote environmental safety and preparedness among attendees. The event also featured local talent, adding a festive and celebratory atmosphere. The participation of the Department of Conservation helped to reinforce the importance of environmental stewardship within the Métis community and highlighted their commitment to protecting the natural heritage of the Peace Region.

“ATTENDING THE FAMILY JAMBOREE IN FORT ST. JOHN WAS A UNIQUE EXPERIENCE, SHOWCASING LOCAL TALENT AND A STRONG COMMUNITY SPIRIT. WHILE SMALLER THEN CITY EVENTS, THE WARM HOSPITALITY MADE IT WORTHWHILE. WE APPRECIATE CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY AND SHARING OUR CONSERVATION EFFORTS, SUPPORTING LOCAL INITIATIVES FOR SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT.”

- Zia Yazdani, Conservation Manager



