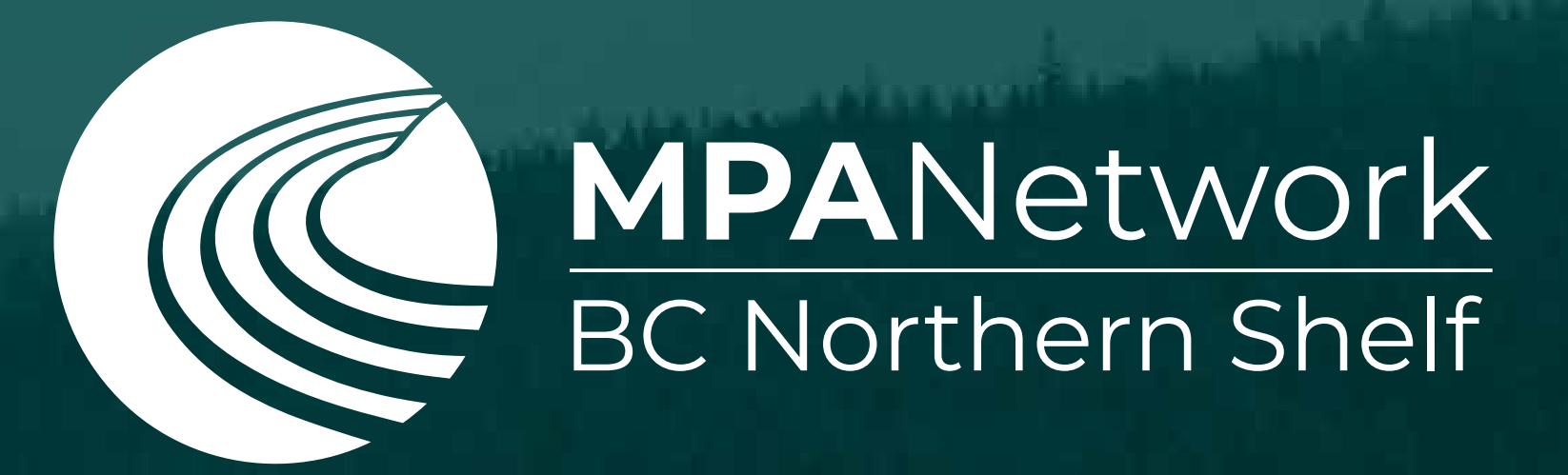


MPA NETWORK VISION



An ecologically comprehensive, resilient and representative network of marine protected areas that protects the biological diversity and health of the marine environment for present and future generations

Photo credit: Barb Dinning

Network governance partners

The draft Network Action Plan was collaboratively developed through a trilateral partnership between the governments of 17 First Nations, Canada, and British Columbia, as a blueprint to guide implementation of a network of marine protected areas in the Northern Shelf Bioregion. First Nation Partners include: Gitga'at, Gitxaala, Haisla, Kitselas, Kitsumkalum, Metlakatla, Heiltsuk, Kitasoo/Xai'xais, Nuxalk, Wuikinuxv, Da'naxda'xw Awaetlala, Mamalilikulla, K'ómoks, Kwiah, Tlowitsis, and Wei Wai Kum First Nations; and the Council of the Haida Nation.

The vision for the MPA Network for the Northern Shelf was adopted by the MPA Network partners from the Canada – British Columbia Marine Protected Area Network Strategy (2014)



Photo credit: Barb Dinning



Photo credit: Caroline Butler

Advisory Processes supporting the MPA Network development

Science Advisory Committee

The Science Advisory Committee provides expert scientific and technical guidance and feedback. Membership was established through a nomination process to bring knowledge and experience in a range of topics relevant to MPA network planning (e.g., coastal ecology, fisheries science, anthropology, economics). SAC membership draws primarily from academia, but also includes scientists from Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO). The scientific advice received from the SAC supplements contributions from DFO's Canadian Science Advisory Secretariat (CSAS), which also provided key inputs to the network design.

Stakeholder Advisory Committees

Stakeholder advisory committees are the primary means of engaging local community members, resource users and stakeholders to ensure that regional and local perspectives are incorporated into the Network design. Four sub-regional and a bioregional into the MPA network design advisory committee were established to facilitate information exchange and provide opportunities for stakeholders to give feedback on the technical inputs and resultant outputs of the network planning process.