

## FINANCING NATURE PROTECTION AND RECOVERY IN CANADA

program to bring the loss of areas of high biodiversity importance, including ecosystems of high ecological integrity, close to zero by 2030 (Target 1).

**Recommended Investment:**  
**\$3 million over six years [ECCC, PC]**

### Contact

David Browne – davidb@cwf-fcf.org

### Endowment fund to strengthen private land conservation sector

The land trust sector plays an important role in implementing the KMGBF's goals and the protection of land in the most threatened areas of Canada. The Green Budget Coalition recommends establishing a Canada Conservation Endowment Fund, modelled on the Canada Cultural Investment Fund<sup>104</sup> or the Green Municipalities Fund, to strengthen the private land conservation sector by providing long-term financial stability for land trusts and other organizations that hold conserved private land in perpetuity. Such a fund would help meet KMGBF Targets 1, 3, and 4 and propel the acquisition and effective stewardship of protected lands.<sup>105</sup>

**Recommended Investment:**  
**\$300 million over three years, that would be matched 1:1 by private sources. [ECCC]**

### Contact

Renata Woodward – info@acoc.ca

<sup>104</sup> The Canada Cultural Investment Fund (CCIF) encourages private sector investment, partnership, and sound business practices to help arts and heritage organizations be better rooted and recognized in their communities through Endowment Incentives.

<sup>105</sup> Canada's land trust sector has shown its ability to conserve and steward lands effectively. A 2019 revision of the Canadian Land Trust Standards & Practices has seen renewed support and endorsement to build the sector's long-term success and capacity. Similar to the culture sector, the land trust community must exist organizationally – it must have long-term offices, legal expertise, communications, education, and outreach to successfully steward protected lands and acquire more lands while combating the impacts of climate change and the immediate threat of biodiversity loss.

### Conserving Canada's ocean

Marine protected area (MPA) network planning and marine spatial planning (MSP) are essential tools to implement Target 1 of the KMGBF for coasts and oceans. Target 1 seeks to “[e]nsure that all areas are under participatory, integrated and biodiversity inclusive spatial planning and/or effective management processes addressing land-and sea-use change” and aims to stop the loss of areas of high ecological importance and integrity.

If the current serious declines in ocean biodiversity are to be halted and reversed, it is critical that Marine Protected Area networks are the first priority in any spatial planning initiatives. MSP can enhance the performance of MPA networks by ensuring that the management of any marine uses outside of MPAs is complementary to the conservation objectives, thereby supporting connectivity between MPAs and providing for buffer zones around MPAs.

### Marine protected area network planning

The Government of Canada has committed to completing marine protected area (MPA) networks in five priority marine bioregions though none have yet been completed. By ensuring ecological connectivity between protected areas, MPA networks amplify conservation benefits and more effectively address climate impacts by allowing species to move between sites while remaining protected. MPA network planning processes in BC's Northern Shelf Bioregion and the Scotian Shelf-Bay of Fundy region are furthest ahead, but there remains considerable work to do and significant funding will be needed to support successful implementation. MPA network planning is an integrated and inclusive process that requires considerable investment to ensure effective stakeholder engagement, science support, and capacity building and engagement of partner organizations, including other federal agencies, Indigenous, provincial and territorial governments.

**Recommended Investment:**  
**\$160 million over five years to complete MPA network planning processes already underway and to start MPA network planning in four additional bioregions by 2030. [DFO, PC, ECCC]**