

# PERMANENT FUNDING FOR PROTECTED AREAS

**B**udget 2021 included the largest-ever nature conservation investment in Canadian history, meant to deliver on Canada's target of protecting 25% of land and ocean by 2025, and work towards 30% by 2030. Without long-term funding, this five-year investment may not achieve these targets, effectively conserve nature, or deliver its desired benefits to Canadians. Long-term investments must prioritize Indigenous-led conservation initiatives, including Indigenous Guardians, and must respect Indigenous rights.

Protected areas are, by definition, permanent designations, but permanent protection cannot be achieved with temporary funding. The scientific evidence is clear that protected areas are effective in conserving nature when they are well-managed, not just created as lines on maps. Similarly, securing long-term cultural, economic and health benefits for communities and Indigenous Peoples requires long-term investments.



Photo: Dave Meckler

The experience of the Canada Nature Fund has demonstrated that the lack of ongoing management funding is often a barrier to the establishment of new protected areas. Indigenous, provincial, and territorial governments, and many other partners, are seeking assurances that long-term funding will be available for management and stewardship of protected areas.

Permanent funding is required to reach our targets, effectively manage terrestrial and marine protected areas, and support Indigenous-led conservation and stewardship, as well as local conservation-focused economies. This would include support for protected areas established and/or managed by the federal government as well as by Indigenous, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments, and other partners.



### Recommended Investment:

**\$1.4 billion per year in A-Base funding increasing to \$2.8 billion per year by 2030-31**

- **\$750 million per year increasing to \$1.5 billion per year by 2030-31** to support the long-term management and monitoring of terrestrial protected areas. [ECCC, PC]
- **\$650 million per year increasing to \$1.3 billion per year by 2030-31** to support long term management and monitoring of marine protected areas. [DFO, ECCC, PC]

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