



Ministry of
Water, Land and
Resource Stewardship

Achieving Provincial Mandates: Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas 30% by 2030 Other Effective Conservation Measures

Discussion with Northeast Roundtable

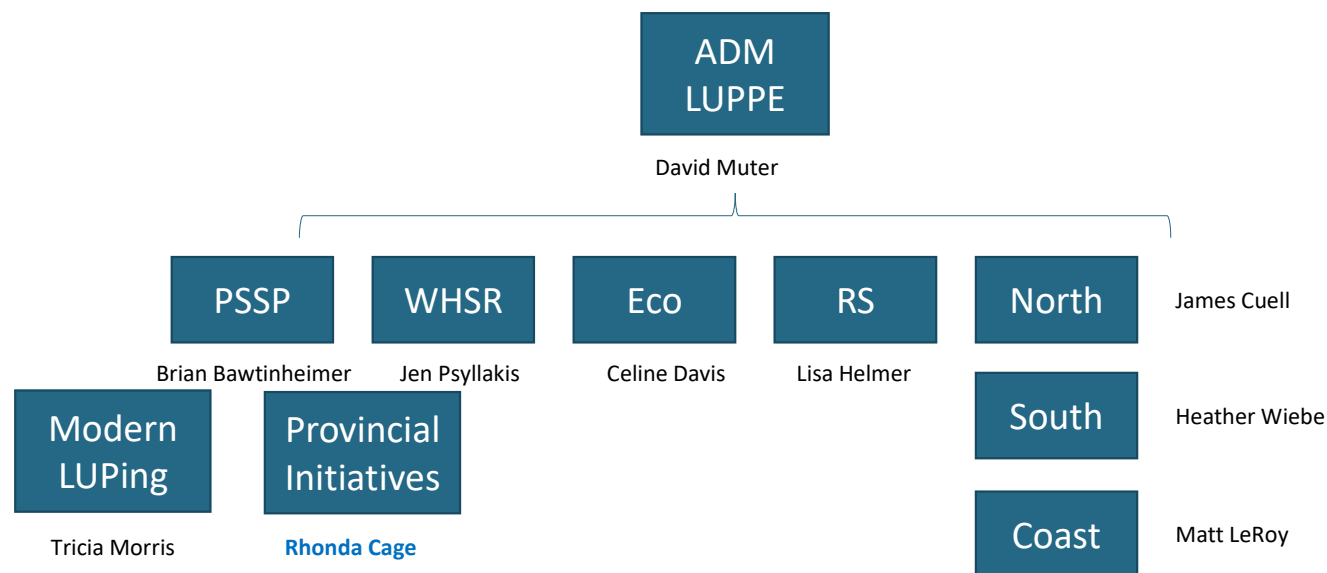
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A bit about me...

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 Provincial Stewardship Strategies and Planning
 Land Use Policy, Planning and Ecosystem Division

- Land and Resource Management
- Indigenous Relations and Co-management
- Business Improvement
- Old growth
- Ecosystem and Wildlife Management
- M-KAB Liaison
- Land use planning
- Modernized LUP

Current Mandate:
 Provincial Relationship to Indigenous-led Stewardship
 Other Effective Conservation Measures
 Pathway for 30% by 2030
 Stewardship Economics



Roadmap:

Indigenous-Led Stewardship to 30% by 2030

- Emergence of IPCAs
- Indigenous-led Stewardship today and in the future
- Pathway to 30% by 2030
- Other Effective Conservation Measures
- Developing Policy

IPCAs

- The 2018 report *We Rise Together*: *“Lands and waters where Indigenous governments have the primary role in protecting and conserving ecosystems through Indigenous laws, governance, and knowledge systems.”*
- IPCAs are not a new concept, only a “modern” expression of Indigenous-led stewardship of the lands and resources on which the communities have relied for millennia
 - Need to recognize the diversity of IPCAs - they are conservation, economic development and stewardship in many different forms.
 - In BC, Indigenous-led stewardship **initiatives date to 1984** when the first Tla-o-qui-aht Tribal Park was established.
 - The **Great Bear Rainforest** was a catalyst for the creation of the conservancy designation under the **Parks Act in 2006**.

Impressions and Reality

What IPCA can be considered to represent to provincial staff:

The Indigenous vision for stewardship for their territory, consistent with Indigenous laws and traditional or cultural values

The diversity of culture, values, and current priorities within an Indigenous community

Opportunity for provincial government staff to better understand the Indigenous values and build a relationship to explore shared interests

What provincial staff cannot assume an IPCA represents:

It's not a provincial designation or tool

The entirety of an Indigenous community's interests in stewardship, economy or conservation

A templated product or process that exclusively identifies protection or conservation goals

This is the provincial interpretation of IPCA only – to be tested
with individual Nations as required

30% by 2030

- Mandate:

Partnering with the federal government, industry, and communities, and working with Indigenous Peoples, lead the work to achieve the Nature Agreement's goals of 30% protection of BC's land base by 2030, including Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas.

- What counts:

- **Protected area:** The CBD defines a protected area as: **“A geographically defined area which is designated or regulated and managed to achieve specific conservation objectives”** (CBD Article 2). IUCN has a more detailed definition: **“A clearly defined geographical space, recognised, dedicated and managed, through legal or other effective means, to achieve the long-term conservation of nature with associated ecosystem services and cultural values”**
- **OECM:** **“A geographically defined area other than a Protected Area, which is governed and managed in ways that achieve positive and sustained long-term outcomes for the in-situ conservation of biodiversity with associated ecosystem functions and services and where applicable, cultural, spiritual, socio-economic, and other locally relevant values”.** (CBD, 2018)

30% by 2030

- Early days - Strategy questions:
 - Is 30% a cap?
 - Relationship to the rest of the land base
 - Will it be representational across the province?
 - What is considered for new protected or conserved areas? Ecological, recreational, cultural?
 - Criteria or priorities for areas? SAR, old growth, connectivity?
 - Baseline data, conservation information needs to inform choices?
 - Can LUP respond in time?



OECMs – the work ahead

- Develop a one-year work plan to address the basics of OECMs – diversity of teams
- Determine an engagement approach with First Nations to develop a made-in-BC approach to understanding and recognizing OECMs.
- Explore in more detail IUCN information and advice on what an OECM is and is not.
- Build assessment tools
- Public engagement and education on “what are OECMs”
- Understand core functions and responsibilities for maintaining reporting.
- Identify any legal or regulatory issues.

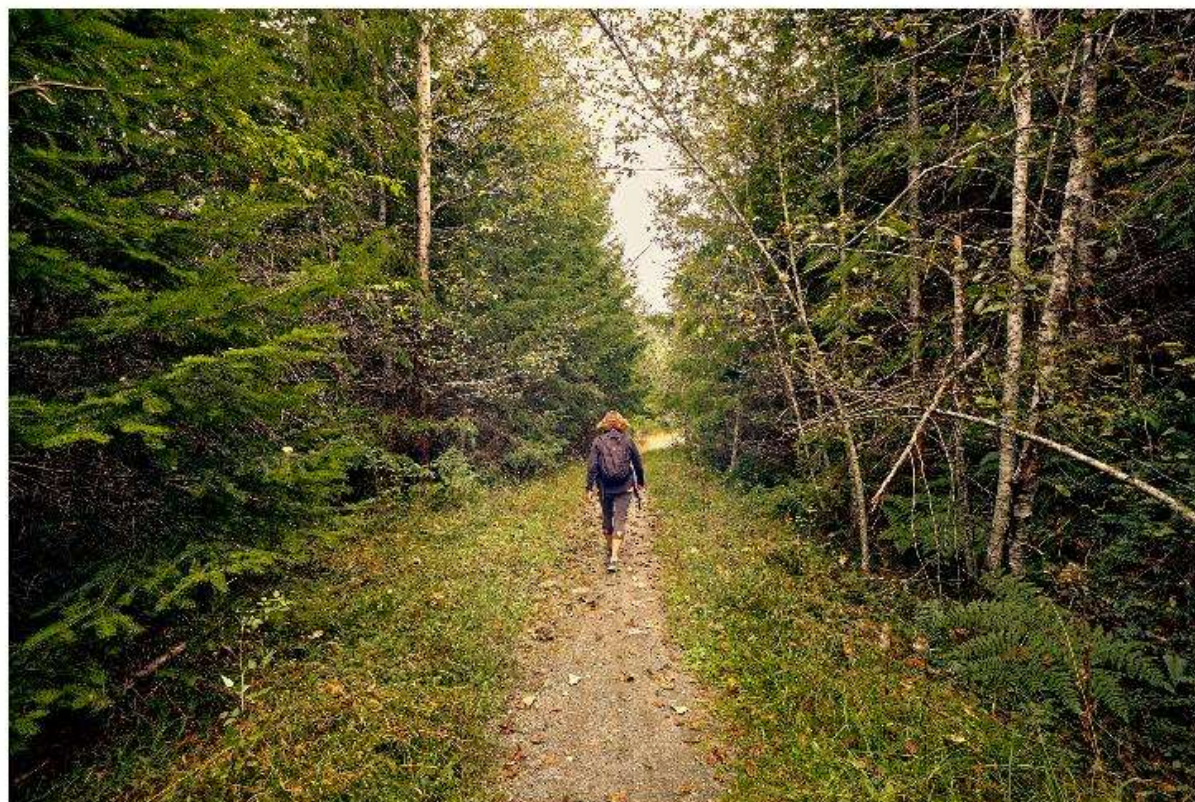
Modernized Land Use Planning



- Minister's mandate letters since 2017
- Initial key goals: Reconciliation; Conflict reduction
- Budget: \$7.8M annually.
- Mix of active and inactive projects. Most active in the North
- High expectations: LUP is the preferred way to resolving IPCAs, 30% by 2030

LUP Future

- Addressing: Reconciliation, shared stewardship and economic interests for all BC communities
- First Nation and territory approach vs. historic sub-regional units
- New policy questions: 30% x 2030; LUP and IPCAs; etc.
- New resources needed



Discussion

What are the linkages between this work and the MWAC?

What role can MWAC play in any of these work areas?

What next steps are possible?

