



Western Washington University  
**Western CEDAR**

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Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference

2018 Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference  
(Seattle, Wash.)

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Apr 6th, 2:00 PM - 2:15 PM

## **Marine protected areas and the role of ENGOs in supporting MPA establishment within the Salish Sea**

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Jameson, Ross and Chila, Jacob, "Marine protected areas and the role of ENGOs in supporting MPA establishment within the Salish Sea" (2018). *Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference*. 569.  
<https://cedar.wwu.edu/ssec/2018ssec/allsessions/569>

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# Marine Protected Areas & Marine Spatial Planning: Challenges & opportunities for large-scale ecosystem protection & integrated management in the Salish Sea

## **Role of Environmental Non-Government Organizations (ENGOS) in MPA Establishment**

Prepared by CPAWS-BC for the Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference

# Introduction

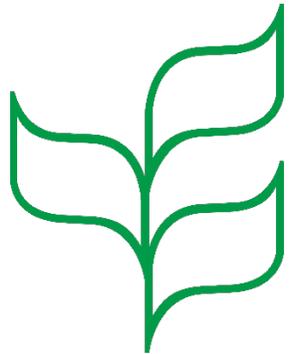
- The Salish Sea is a productive, culturally significant, bi national ecosystem.
- Provided ecosystem services since time immemorial
- Currently it is under threat from industrialization and population growth.
- 113 of nearly 3500 species are listed as either threatened, endangered, or candidates for listing.



Salish Sea – N. Maher via SeaDoc

# Global Commitment to Conservation

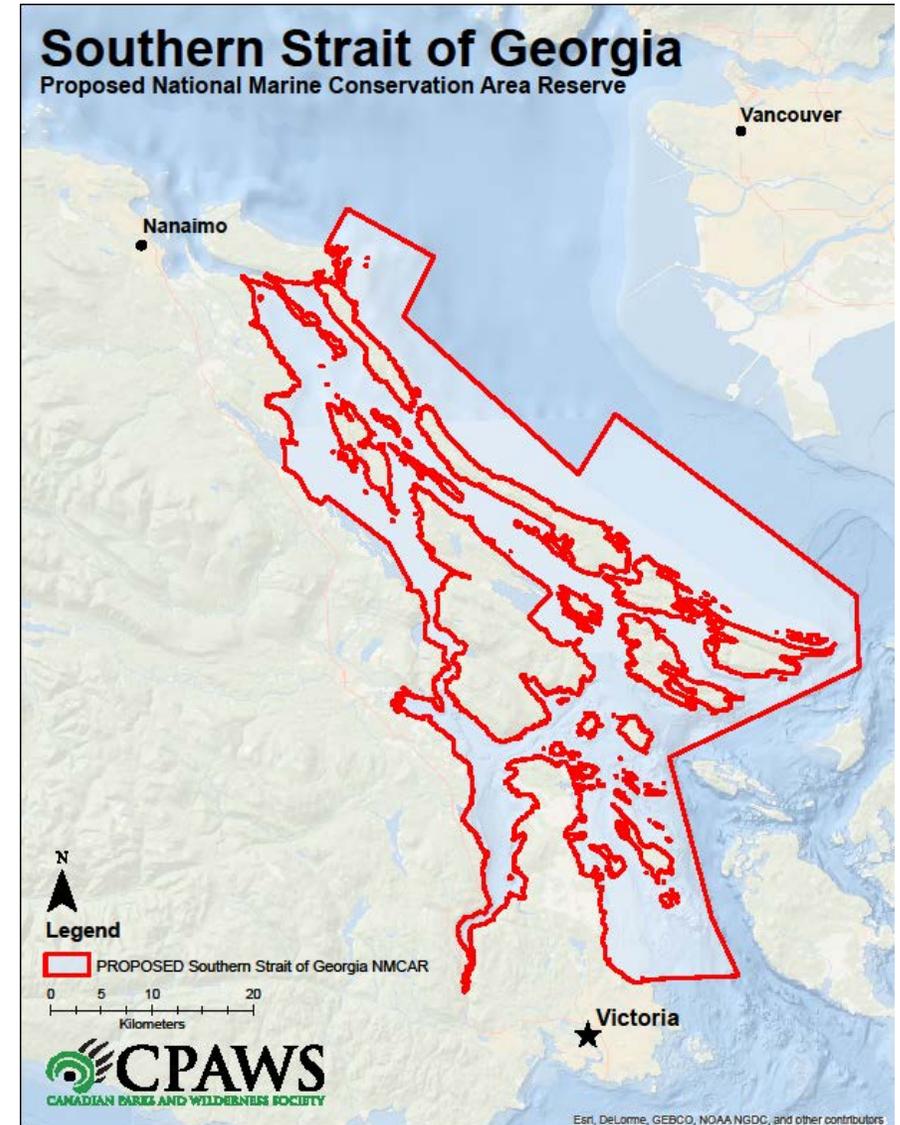
- Aichi Biodiversity Targets for 2020 ask signatories to protect at least 17% of terrestrial and 10% of marine environments.
- Canada is moving towards this goal by establishing
  - Marine Protected Areas (**MPAs**)
  - and Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (**OECMs**)



**Convention on  
Biological Diversity**

# Southern Strait of Georgia

- Public and Political interest in MPA establishment since the 1970s
- Parks Canada and the BC government begin feasibility study of NMCAR in 2003
- NMCAR = National Marine Conservation Area Reserve



# CPAWS-BC's Role in Conservation

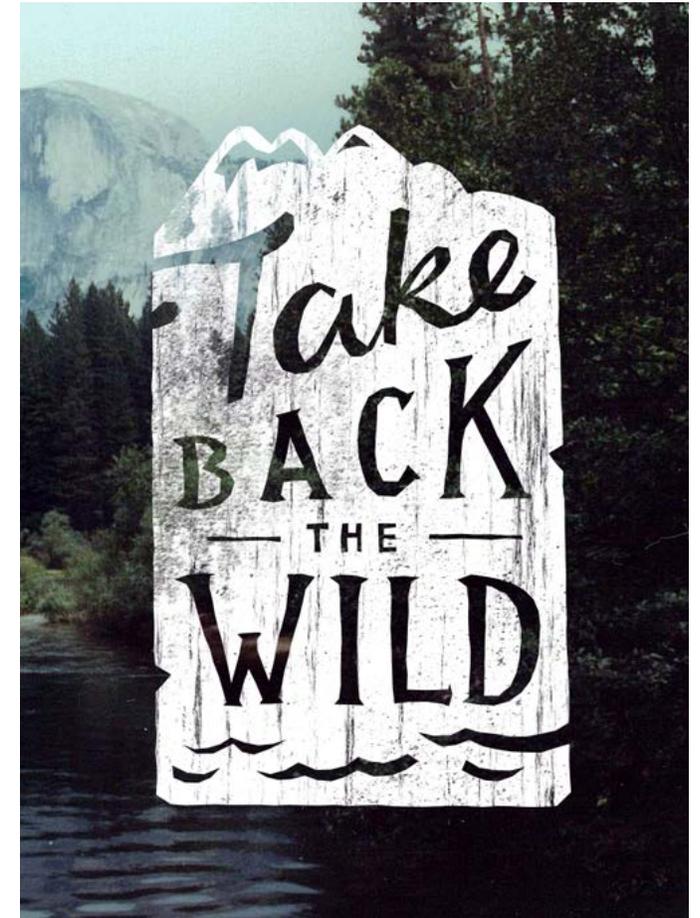
- Activate our citizens and encourage our governments
- Multiple level lobbying; bottom-up and top-down
  - Take Back the Wild – engages community members affected by conservation measures
  - Academic and in-house research and analysis
    - MARXAN – Spatial analysis tool used to locate areas of high biodiversity



**MARXAN**  
conservation solutions

# Take Back the Wild – Bottom-Up

- Outreach program that seeks to engage and empower communities being affected by MPA establishment
- Based on the concept of distributed organizing which mobilizes not only direct volunteers but also their social and professional networks
- Community Ambassadors who take the program receive a campaigners skillset:
  - Government and Media relations
  - Communications
  - Community Engagement
  - Working with First Nations



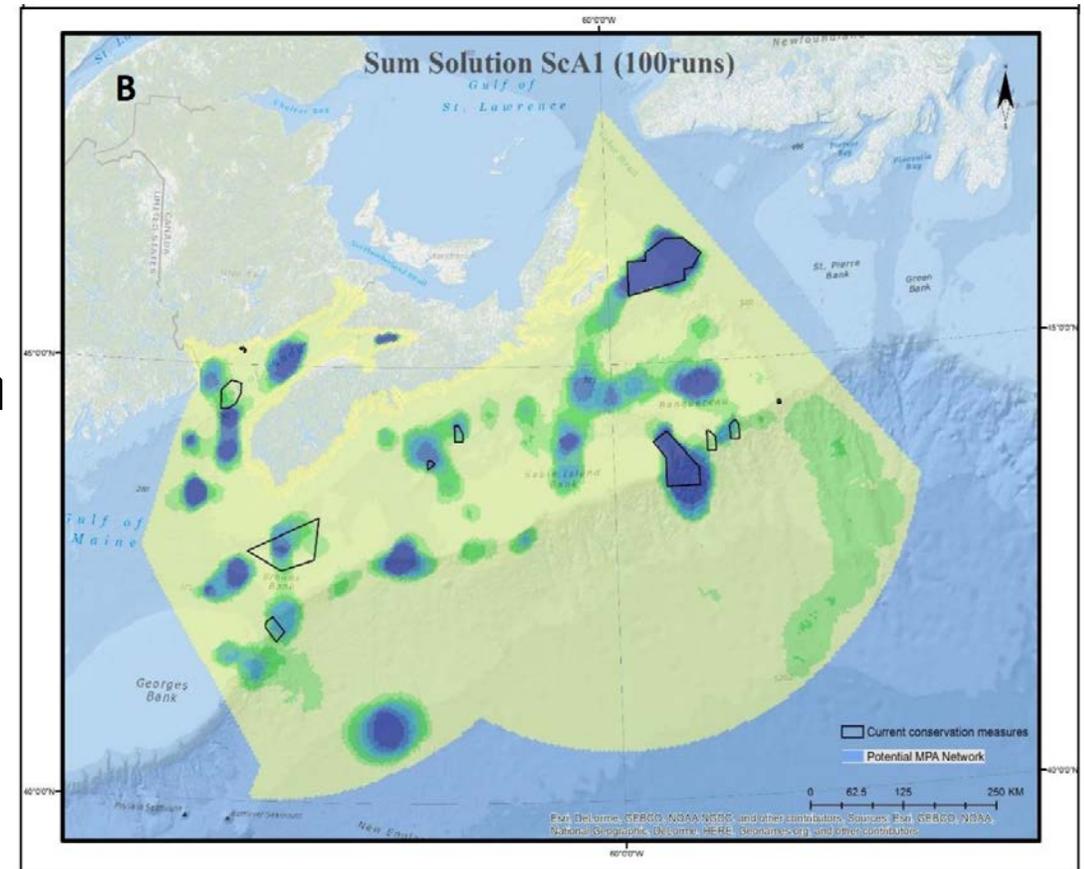
Celine Chuang

# Community Ambassadors

- Work with CPAWS-BC to create Community-Based Action Plans aligned with the conservation goals of the proposed NMCAR
- Salt Spring Island:
  - Community Ambassador engaged with organizations who support the NMCAR and got them to write letters of support for the NMCAR and general ocean conservation
- Thetis Island:
  - Started with a table at a local event, left with 80 signatures for a drafted letter
  - Interest was so great that she is running a mini Take Back the Wild

# MARXAN – Top-Down

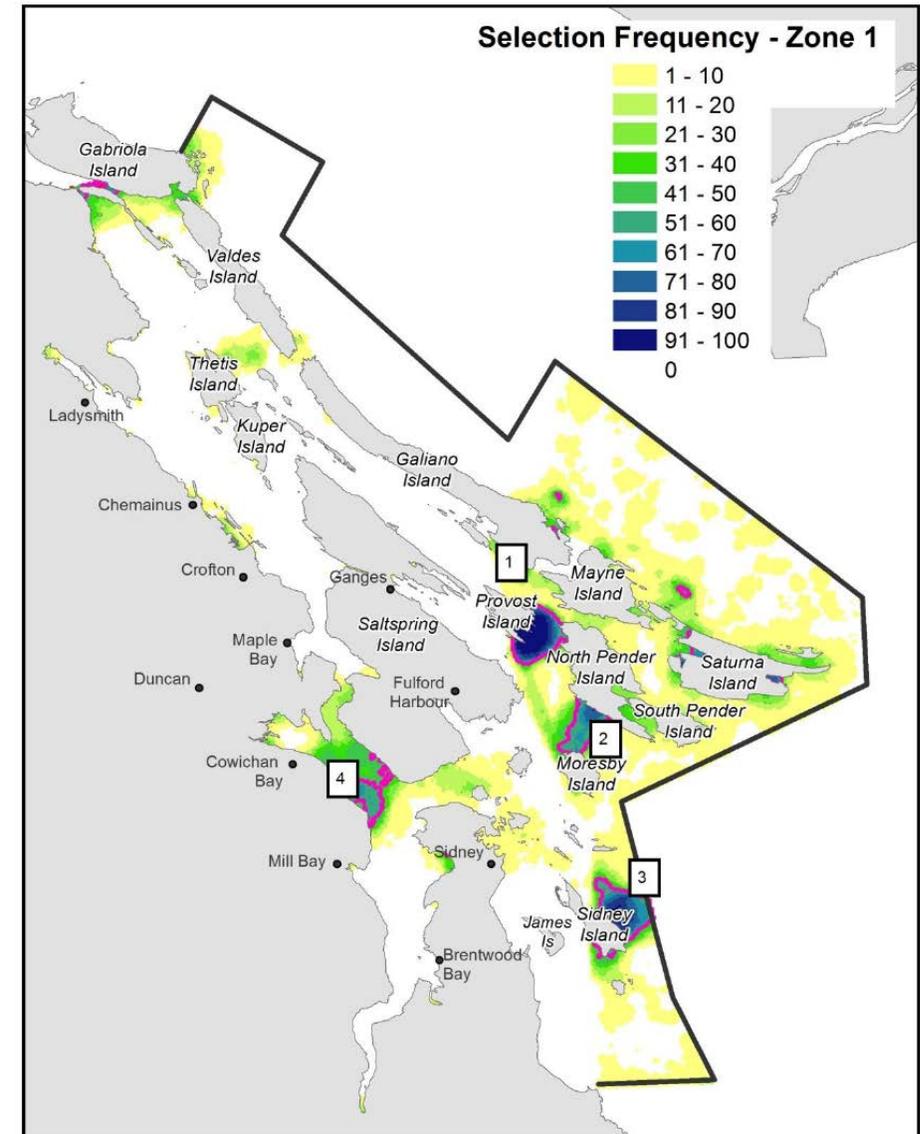
- A decision support tool used in evidence-based decision making
- Solves a minimum-set problem by capturing the minimum representation required to meet preset ecological targets/goals while simultaneously minimizing costs.
- Being used by Canada's DFO to inform their Marine Protected Area Networks



Adrian Gerhartz Abraham

# MARXAN in the Southern Strait of Georgia

- In 2012 and 2016 CPAWS-BC commissioned MARXAN analyses of the SSoG.
- Offers insight on areas of concentrated ecological values.
- Output is not a polished park proposal, rather represents ecologically significant areas which create minimal conflict with human-use.



Norma Serra-Sogas, MSc Dr.  
Rosaline Canessa

# Conclusion

- ENGOs play an important role in community outreach and empowerment.
- Through Take Back the Wild CPAWS-BC creates active citizens who lobby on behalf of their communities.
- With our in-house and academic research and analysis we can influence decision makers through the MPA stakeholder engagement process.

thanks