

CLAYOQUOT BIOSPHERE TRUST
REGIONAL FORUM

Wednesday October 18, 2023
9:30-3:30
In person @ Tin Wis Best Western
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Introductions and welcoming

Present: Local attendees representing First Nations, local governments, organizations, businesses and individuals involved in environmental research, stewardship, restoration and sustainable development.

Full attendance list in appendix.

Welcome and introductions:

Opening words from Janessa, CBT Conservation Partnerships Coordinator.

Chris Seitcher, Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation: land acknowledgment and welcoming guests in to Tla-o-qui-aht territory.

Janessa: set agenda (see handout)

Part 1 of Day: Roundtable updates

Terry Dorward – IISAAK OLAM Foundation and Indigenous led Westcoast Stewardship Corridor

- West Coast IPCA Conservation Director
- Indigenous Protected Conservation Areas are a network from coast to coast- an alliance- creating alternative jobs. This Indigenous led west coast stewardship program covers an area from Sooke--→ Hesquiaht.
- Look at how we create protection measures and understand that each nation has their own sovereignty/ agreement.
- Terry is also on BOD for Redd Fish Restoration- which does restoration/ prescriptions for the land.
- WCIPCA- a program to help nations develop their own IPCA. It is Indigenous led, and upholds sovereignty, title and rites and committed to conservation.
- Also supports youth programs, eg. in the Ucluelet Nation connecting elders with youth, telling them their story about the environment and what it means to them.

Ricardo Manmohan – Nuuchanulth Youth Warriors Family

- The Young Warriors Program: capacity building with the nations for young people to connect with the land. Want to create more tribal park programs like Naaʔuu.

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Mandala Smulders; Director of Operations for Redd Fish Restoration

- local Nuu-chah-nulth Nations represented on BOD.
- They do restoration, training and employment in each nation.
- The organization is 95% grant funded- has invested 3 million into restoration on the west coast.
- Jan-March slow restoration season, more focus on training programs. Open to suggestions from people on training that can be provided to the community.
- Outreach programs: Salmon trail project with Ucluelet Aquarium, Wild Pacific Trail walks, Rain Coast Education Society field schools
- Area of improvement: we want to reach out to youth more, indigenous youth specifically.
- Challenges: permanent home for organization, housing for staff both permanent and long-term and long-term funding for organization.

Karyssa Arnet; Strawberry Isle Marine Research Society Executive Director

- SIMRS Mission: Marine Monitoring and Education
- Sea Star Stewardship Program is a citizen science monitoring program between Tofino and Ucluelet. 9th summer of SSSP ~ almost 10yrs
- Eelgrass Monitoring for Harbour Health Project, with Ucluelet Aquarium; mapping eelgrass in the Ucluelet Harbor. Supporting Toquaht Nation with mapping eelgrass in Barclay Sound.
- Build-A-Whale educational program; killer whale and marine mammal education. Visited Wild Pacific Trail, Tofino Market, BC trips- road trip to central BC, mainland and Vancouver Island visiting schools and communities with message of ocean conservation.
- Partnering with Raincoast Education Society to help with bird surveys and whale monitoring.
- Announced amalgamation with Redd Fish Restoration Society
- Challenges: capacity, funding. This opportunity to amalgamate will increase capacity for programs and take our monitoring and marine conservation to the next level.
- We will share expertise and knowledge between organizations.
- We are in the process of legal transitioning and should be officially merged by the end of year.

Liam Ragan; BC Nature Provincial Coordinator

- Focus: Important bird areas and key biodiversity areas
- Partner with Raincoast Education Society, Strawberry Isle Marine Research Society and The Caretaker Program
- Barclay Sound: highest numbers of black oystercatchers in the world, keeping tabs on this population.
- Hesquiaht harbor: surveying marbled murrelets
- Survey shorebirds in Tofino mudflats
- Survey Herring spawn
- Working with Volunteers from UVIC in Hesquiat harbor
- Want to increase monitoring and monitor sites that we know were significant in the 80s and 90s but haven't been surveyed since eg. a more comprehensive survey of herring spawn in Hesquiat harbor, Nootka banks, and a few more.

Cheryl Greengrove and Julie Masura; University of Washington, Tacoma WA

- Collect data in Clayoquot Sound, sampling in Clayoquot Sound and Barkley Sound for the last 20 years studying water properties.
- Data available on websites (the data on monitoring 2013-2015 and the heatwave data)

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- uw.edu/clayoquotsound/2013/home Will share PowerPoint
- Collaborators: Strawberry Isle Marine Research Society, Raincoast Education Society, Tlaociaht elders, Ahousaht high school
- DFO modeling group; model circulation in Clayoquot Sound (contact Laura Benuchi(Sp?))

Josh Jenkins – Ucluelet Chamber of Commerce

- Ucluelet Chamber of Commerce Interested in: support & partnership with local organizations
- Environmental issues are also business issues Climate driven disasters are getting more normalized and it is becoming more important to protect the environment and help remote businesses and communities build and adapt to changing climates with resilience strategies.
- 2 projects (in launching/planning stages):
Alberni-Clayoquot economic recovery and resilience initiative: Partners: Tofino and Alberni valley chambers, tourism departments, whistler center. An inclusive regional initiative will be contacting organizations for interviews and roundtables, engaging rites holders and stakeholders to share info. Data driven report with regional solutions to disruption of our economies from Cameron Bluffs wildfires and other factor eg. increasing tourism. Set to end in Spring 2024. Ukee chamber will continue afterwards on its own in partnership with communities/ orgs.
Rural economic development and diversification: Develop a model to help other small rural remote communities be more adaptable, resilient, read certain indicators and shift with them to remain sustainable environmentally and economically. 2 yr project. Priority: help Nations/ small communities.

Gemma Macfarlane ; MHSS Stewardship Biologist

- Bring roles of stewardship and economic development into the hands of Ahousaht Nation
- Juvenile salmon beach sein monitoring in spring/summer
- Kelp monitoring alongside Redd Fish Restoration
- Salmon enhancement alongside the Tofino hatchery and MHSS hatchery in Ahousaht
- Bird monitoring
- Micro trolling and purse seining
- Early marine stage chinook study
- Kelp harvest on farm in the territory with Cascade
- River restoration monitoring with Redd Fish Restoration
- Coastal Restoration Society green crab monitoring/ removal
- Building stewardship program and capacity in Guardian Program
- Managing Hot Springs Park, Ahousaht Adventures Company, community knowledge keeper program (records and stores lang/ knowledge/ experience from Ahousaht community members). Working on signage to educate visitors in territory
- food security, create a year round approach- implement biotoxin monitoring network for shellfish monitoring, and more focused approach with bivalves- canning, smoking for year round distribution. Smokehouse in territory (on barge)- working on grant. Studying hypoxia in food fish
- Building Guardian Program Collaborating with other nations
- List: 50 paddles list (created for reconciliation talks with the province), a few pillars in this list include: language and culture, community infrastructure and housing, health, natural resource management, economic development, government recognition and accountability.
- Climate change affecting housing and food security

Ali Carrier - Toquaht Nation Marine stewardship program

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- Small team that started a few years ago
- Follow guidance from the committee - priorities identified by the Toquaht community
- Building data collection
- Partnerships important
- Kelp and eelgrass monitoring; looking at habitats for little creatures
- Partners: Redd Fish Restoration, Strawberry Isle Marine Research Society, Ucluelet Harbour Health Program with Ucluelet Aquarium
- European green crab work in Barclay Sound, switching the approach that has been used historically.
- Food security: clams, dungeness crab study. DFO juv salmon study. With partner biologists; looking at salmon at different life stages and monitoring salmon in the rivers, restoration of a few rivers on the Toquaht Nation.
- Elk, deer and ungulate monitoring in partnership with the province and surrounding nations
- There is no guardian program yet; mostly collecting data and also do patrols on territory to make sure visitors are respecting the land and rules
- Environmental Monitoring; oceanographic parameter collection like University of Washington; Eelgrass, kelp, dungee, juv. Salmon- all connected. How will climate change affect these ecosystems?
- Still developing protocols. Open to suggestions for approaches. Want to compare/ share/ work together.

Luba Reshitnyk - Hakai Institute

- Hakai is a scientific organization connecting long term research and monitoring on coastline of BC Located on Calvert Island, Central coast, and Quadra Island, Salish Sea
- Work with partners throughout West Coast Vancouver Island Study oceans to icefields and coastal landscapes. Community projects related to eDNA, sea star monitoring group, eelgrass monitoring... and more Habitat mapping related work to document changes in space and time across important marine habitats across BC. Use: drones, aerial photos... Building tools and sharing them
- Informing long term monitoring in order to understand drivers of change
- Partnered with PACRIM in the past to produce maps on change in eelgrass. Community based mapping protocols for seagrass - can share
- Mapping bull kelp and giant kelp beds on northern coast
- Developed kelpomatic - uses AI to analyze drone imagery for mapping kelp. Being used by Redd Fish and PACRIM. Developed a kelp mapping guidebook to help practitioners. Also happy to share a link to this pdf. Have a BC wide dataset of kelp through time (1984-present) and maintaining ongoing dataset.
- Working groups come together to talk about topics related to kelp (mapping/ drivers to change etc.)

Rebecca Martone; Tula Foundation; Ocean Decade Collaborative Centre for the NE Pacific Executive Director

- Support and facilitate co-produced and collaborative solutions to challenges in NE Pacific
- Cultivate connections and exchanges to understand community priorities. Catalyze different work by identifying knowledge gaps and share stories of different ocean actions to raise awareness and better understand successes and barriers.
- Mobilize that knowledge to accelerate transformative solutions
- Bring people together in dialogue/ workshops.
- Find priorities and synthesize information.
- Connect local communities, scientists and stakeholders, nations
- Support global and regional awareness of work being done.
- Develop new tools and forums to help bring people together and come up with ways to share data,

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funding and resources

- Ocean Decade Dialogue Series- aim to connect people through this Topics: Microplastics, environmental eDNA, kelp farming... All dialogues on website: oceandecadenortheastpacific.org
- Climate ready BC seafood program- Hosted by the Tula foundation will invest 1.7million dollars in communities for marine CO2 removal, ocean acidification, hypoxia...
- Reach out with Qs to oceandecade@tula.org

Sue Valasquez - Hakai Institute Quadra Island Site

- Integrated coastal observatory project/ eDNA
- Long term biodiversity monitoring program
- Mainly fish diversity but branching out
- Network of 25 partners across Vancouver Island who sample water monthly/ and send it to Quadra lab for analysis.
- Look at fish biodiversity, and starting to look at invasive species like European Green Crab
- Public website for results Started Dec 2018
- Vargas Island, Ahous Bay, Cedar Coast and Ucluelet Aquarium was involved in the past PACRIM in Broken Group and West Coast Trail
- Want to build network and expand extent of sampling area - training video and in person training session provided
- lco.hakai.org (website←- see results)

Jennifer Yakimishyn - PACRIM Marine Ecologist

- Long-term monitoring of terrestrial and marine ecosystems and species in the park reserve
- Information is to support long term conservation in the park and focus on areas of potential restoration
- Community, First Nations and other partnerships come from using data to identify restoration priorities
- MMM- Marine Mammal Monitoring Project
Area: Tofino-->Port Renfrew
Focus on Barclay and Clayoquot region Marine Mammal surveys at Long Beach From Spring to fall
Occurrences of MM observed Similar program on West Coast Trail
Partnership with local groups: Strawberry Isle Marine Research Society and Ucluelet Nation in Marine Mammal Response.
- Salmon surveys: monitoring stream systems within the Long Beach unit and West Coast Trail, looking at Juv. salmon and adult spawner escapement numbers.
- eDNA in stream systems which haven't been surveyed in a while- historically had species and trying to use eDNA to detect any current presence
- Forge fish surveys - sandlace and surf smelt
Goal: Understanding and being able to model these populations
- Eelgrass fish and meadow monitoring on an annual basis in Barclay and Clayoquot sounds
Have collaborated regionally to help eelgrass work recently
- Drone mapping with Hakai in Clayoquot and Barclay (2018). Map and remap areas is of interest.
- Last year started canopy kelp monitoring program using MAPP protocols
- Terrestrial work:
Bird talks; sea bird monitoring, oystercatcher, shorebird monitoring within park
Invasive plant monitoring work; Resource conservation team; Human wildlife coexistence team;
Coastsmart- visitor safety folks

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Mark Maftel; Raincoast Education Society

- Shorebird work RES- 2019-2021 ran comprehensive surveys, abundance and diversity of migrating shorebirds during spring
- 2 years worked with PACRIM to coordinate efforts; surveyed mudflats in Tofino while PACRIM was surveying Long Beach
- Tracked individual birds using radio telemetry - going to start publishing papers from this work!
- Have solid understanding of how many migrating shorebirds are using the area and how they are using the habitat from this work.
- Looked at some of the ecological questions about how trends are neg or positive, trends over space- eg. moving from mudflats to beach in response to ecological pressures like disturbance-
- Collaborations: Trent University, University of Western Ontario, Environment and Climate Change Canada, Support from CBT
- Look at areas that are going to transition to key biodiversity areas to support designation of that habitat
- Barclay Sound is an important habitat for a large number of birds. Work done in the 70s and 80s and no work since then - Excited to refresh that! Get an idea of how migrating waterfowl and gulls are using Barclay Sound in the spring and how birds from Arctic are using Barclay Sound as they migrate in the fall.
- Year round survey approach? Would be amazing. Looking for funds.
- Spring 2024- with CBT support- plan a series of surveys in Hesquiaht harbor (a key herring spawn site on West Coast Vancouver Island).
- Deep network of collaborators, build surveys in the years to come!

Coffee Break —

Saya Masso; Tlaocquiaht Tribal Parks

- A lot of people want to do their research in this territory
- Nation helps with research protocol for university students and thesis work
- In return also receives data and helps determine research question in relation to interests of the Nation
- Looking at collaborating with Redd Fish to have an email to receive some of this information.
- Work with the nations so that they are seeing the datasets at the end.

Jonquil Crosby - Ucluelet First Nation Manager of Fisheries and Wildlife Lands Department

- Other departments: cultural language + heritage (focus on land, and archeological surveys)... Field work and monitoring in marine, terrestrial and freshwater
- Lean on collaborative relationships: Strawberry Isle Marine Research Society, Redd Fish Restoration, PACRIM, WildSafe BC, Ucluelet Aquarium
- Jonquil's focus: herring spawn, kelp monitoring, crab trapping, MM monitoring (arial offshore flights 2x a month), Marine Mammal Response, Bird and bat monitoring focusing on species at risk
- Indigenous led stewardship: youth working with elders to create a video on landscape connectivity
- Would like to collaborate on training because of low capacity. Let's hold group training events!

Barb Beasley -Association of Wetlands Stewards for Clayoquot and Barclay Sounds

- Working on SPLAT since 2000
- Redd Fish helped build corridors on highway
- Protecting wetland habitats
- Swan lake (4ha wetland- 500m off highway 4) completely dry in July!! This has only ever happened in

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Sept before

- Wetlands are important for landscapes for providing places where water can accumulate and slow down; they feed water into our communities...
- Culverts being used by mink, martin and racoons- who also eat the frogs and salamanders
- Pioneers in BC (along with Jonquil) looking at wildlife corridors for animals
- Work with Toquaht to figure out what to do there and other nations lands too
- Work with Huu-ay-aht Nation in Barclay sound- important connections to be made around the ideas of landscape connectivity (even if it's a small species and a small distance)
- It's about more than frogs and salamanders- other species too, especially water drying up with climate change.

Marcie Callewaert-John - Cedar Coast Field Station

- juv. Salmon monitoring and sea lice counts
- Restarting our eDNA work with Hakai
- In the past have helped Strawberry Isle Marine Research Society with sea star surveys, kelp monitoring, microplastic and returning fish
- Youth education programs with visiting schools Hosted University field work
- Student led place-based research projects
- Visit station for time in nature Warriors program
- Lab space and researcher cabin in use right now
- Filling board positions in the coming months

Josh Temple - Coastal Restoration Society Executive Director

- Synopsis: formed fall 2018, goal: support indigenous, municipal and federal government and agencies and communities in resource stewardship and conservation goals from somewhat of an industrial perspective
- Balance ecology and economy in territories
- How can we take widespread environmental initiatives into an economic perspective and create career pathways and economic opportunities in the environmental field and in STEM and admin roles?
- How can we take colonial/ industrial experience and apply that to a new approach between ecology and economy?
- Fundamental aims: offset some of those footprints from large-scale colonial industries and bring it to a more traditional balance
- The way we do that is prioritize indigenous communities in all employment contracts and partnerships Very successful because of strong cultural tie to traditional stewardship roles in nations
- Increasing safety and good training/ capacity building to even the playing field for employees Creating frameworks to help people engage in an environmental economy
- Created a thriving wage policy - Pay comparable wages to the other industries that we are trying to offset
- Challenges: continuity of funding and lack of support for an industry that relies on a lack of economic contribution

KC - Youth leader with the Tlaouquiaht Warriors and Bryson George from UFN

- Everything we do, we do our best to bring it back to the community immediately. eg. keeping our culture songs alive and sharing knowledge with elders and nation

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- Learning about traditional medicines
- The Clam garden rebuilding
- Snorkel harvesting program (taught by bottom dwellers) to provide for the community
- Building a clam garden in April 2023
- 7 Nuuchalnuth nations now in the program
- Other nations in the province (eg Lil'wat Nation) are taking it up
- Helping with kelp monitoring on Diana Island
- Local community based workshops for foods and medicines
- Exchanges to inspiring places for youth, so they can share knowledge
- Safe place where people can fail and shine
- Women's programs are starting in the communities

Mike Davis - Econ Consulting Forester

- Toquaht Nation and Barkley Community Forest
- Huge period of change in forestry industry
- Values around forestry and forest management have changed - massively over harvested in the past
- Order around marbled murrelet conservation - dictating habitat targets
- Strategic reviews
- Old growth polygons set aside to remain unlogged
- Went from how much can we harvest to what do we need to conserve
- Management plan for the Barkley community forest is being updated - designing a reserve network

Bruce Greig - Director of Community Planning for District of Ucluelet

- Things for the future, collaborating regionally- we need to work on how we are managing growth collectively and the impacts of it. What is the carrying capacity as there is more demand for growth and visitation?
- Ucluelet inlet and stewardship of the inlet
- Eelgrass mapping- Bruce would like to connect to hear more on eelgrass mapping in the Ucluelet harbor. OCP bylaw included environmental development parameter areas that have 'teeth' - it's a step forward but we need to refine them.
- Better terms of ref for biologists on site doing assessments for development

Lunch

Roundtable cont.

Rebecca Hurwitz - Clayoquot Biosphere Trust Executive Director

- Working with Environment and Climate Change Canada to support Biosphere Regions across Canada - Last 2 years supported stewardship and restoration projects
- 5th vital signs report coming out in a few weeks! Nov 9th release. New sections in the report on truth and reconciliation
- Upcoming Biosphere Center: permanent home for research, education and training initiatives in the region
- In the final stages of fundraising for the Biosphere Center
- Funding from federal and provincial government so that we don't take funding away from our granting, programs or community

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- Plan: construction by late 2024 into building in 2025/26
- Classroom and teaching spaces, office spaces, culinary spaces, space for others organizations

Nicole Gerbrandt - West Coast Nest and Education Tourism Initiative at CBT

- Work with many organizations, businesses and individuals to deliver educational programming to local and visiting learners
- Website and social media platforms
- Host career exploration workshops for youth and visiting youth (high school) and interpretation and communication workshops for youth
- Workshops in response to businesses/ organizations that say youth may have deep knowledge of flora and fauna but need to improve communication skills in this digital age
- Resources available in response to teachers requesting more curriculum based on the work being done in this area
- StoryMaps Project- In partnership with Royal Roads University
- Hosting a StoryMaps collection- a digital platform for sharing your work
- Worked with knowledge holders and experts to support curriculum based out of these story maps that teachers can use and then take it into the field with experts (eg. Strawberry Isle Marine Research Society Sea Star Surveys and Red Fish Restoration Kelp Mapping)
- Seeking funding to do another 3 years of the StoryMap project; Each StoryMap is linked to a youth led interview series

Bob Hansen - Wild Safe BC

- *See attached summary-
- There is an upcoming coexistence network meeting, brings together folks from the region that are interested in wildlife coexistence

Kayla Lucas - Hesquiaht First Nation, working with Ha'oom Fisheries Society Research Technician & Capacity Building Coordinator

- Bring knowledge and workshops to the community, youth is a big target
- Seafood harvesting workshops with the youth
- DFO in 2018 to address the lack of crab access in the CDA; Exploratory phase just wrapped up in Feb of this year; Now indexing sites for each nation will be chose by managers to be surveyed 3x a year; Surveys are good in some areas and not great in others
- Working with UVIC PHD student Analyzing hydroacoustic and ROV data
- Paper with DFO groundfish scientists, looking at modeling density of yelloweyed and halibut in and outside of the CDA
- Will present to the board of 5 nations leadership when it's available
- Dockside monitoring: data informs nations, DFO, timings and encounter rate in your fishery
- Escapement swims and walks in partnership with other organizations and nations- will continue with these- contracted by DFO conducted in 5 nations territories rivers in area 25
- Rebuilding plans: Ha'oom, West Coast Aquatic and 5 nations will be holding knowledge talks on federal salmon rebuilding plans
- Hydroacoustic tech and beach and purse seining to monitor the outmigration of sockeye and chinook
- Tranquil creek rotary screw trap- enumerate Juv. salmon leaving Tranquil- installed in March this year- will be in place during peak outmigration and will be reinstalled next year.
- Training to communities- potential for partnerships all around

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Dennis Hetu - Toquaht Nation Lands and Resource Department

- Here in gratitude towards CBT
- 2022/23- Community based carving school that the Nation put together for youth but open to everyone
- Hoping to do it again this year

End of roundtable updates- Part 2 of Day: Discussion

Topic: Shared interests in training opportunities/ opportunities for youth

Future courses and certifications; what expertise is missing within the region?

- Warrior Program/ Bryson-George- Interest in introducing food training, to allow youth to learn how to harvest food. Something easy to introduce them to it and build their confidence. Also provides as training in food sovereignty.
- Redd Fish Restoration/ Mandala- Looking around this room, I realize how many experts there are in this community, some that are maybe going to retire someday. It would be valuable to put on a course for training for youth from these experts, eg. Jenn, Barb, Mark, Jonquil... on environment, food sovereignty, bird ID etc. Like an environmental certificate program. For example, a 3 day course where you bring experts together and offer it to different communities youth in Ahousaht and Ucluelet Secondary School.
- CBT/ Janessa- question about opportunities for training/ courses over the winter mentioned by Redd Fish in roundtable talks.
- Redd Fish Restoration/ Mandala—Something Redd Fish is getting funding for, working on programs/ training but none are scheduled yet. For eg. chainsaw course, SVOP, were done in the past. Can look into doing before March.
- CBT/ Janessa- What courses more specifically are people interested in having in the community through the year?
- Cedar Coast restoration/ Marcie- WFA 40/80hr. Warrior Program- would also be interested in WFA.
- Redd Fish/ Mandala- we might do a swift water rescue course, if anyone is interested. PACRIM/ Jenn- Parcs would also be interested.
- Ucluelet Nation/ Jonquil- We need a regional communication network. How do we get this communication across to everyone?
- West Coast Nest/ Nicole- pass it along to the NEST! We can distribute.
- CBT/ Janessa- would be happy to send information out from the CBT, let us know if you're thinking of a course and we can email blast.
- Coastal Restoration Society/ Josh- Knowledge holders have created a foundational curriculum that blends indigenous community and knowledge values with the foundations to get into restoration and conservation; Available to any indigenous community member; Technical and occupational health and safety training Intake coming up next spring for this; Barriers in training: takes time to get basic certs. for the job. CRS overcomes this by paying individuals during training; Other organizations should support wage subsidies while individuals are being trained.
- West Coast IPCA/ Terry- Connected to campus of Vancouver Island University - Run cohorts for nations that want to develop their own IPCA; Looking at supporting 4 other IPCAs through the country; We are able to hold programs for young people, west coast IPCA ambassadors program, helping indigenous youth find a voice, strengthen their voice in the community as part of building their nation, eg. graphic arts, traditional storytelling, they were on the radio the other day; Young Warriors come to the

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innovation center to be part of some programs Will be opening next June; Let's get together and talk about potential programs

- Association of Wetland Stewards for Clayoquot and Barkley Sound/ Jerry- Years ago we talked about volunteer opportunities and a forum to share those opportunities. Does anything for that exist now?
- CBT/ Rebecca- A leadership program by CBT created a Facebook group called PACRIM connect to share these opportunities. Reach out to CBT if you are unable to join this Facebook group.
- PACRIM/ Jenn- would it be possible for each organization to be connected by an email blast from the CBT and be notified when someone wants to share something within this group?

Actionable item: central way to have communication dispersed to the group.

- CBT/ Janessa- CBT has all of the emails from this event, happy to try this!
- Toquaht Nation/ Dennis- interested in industry based certifications and the value of these for individuals and communities.
- NEST/ Nicole- try to connect with youth and see how that can connect to future opportunities.
- CBT/ Janessa- Training and certification is a great way to have youth be more involved in this sector

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Topic: Addressing capacity challenges in environmental stewardship Attracting and maintaining the workers required to achieve regional goals

- Redd Fish Restoration/ Mandala- we attract a lot of young working professionals and one of the biggest hurdles and barriers for them staying long-term is there is no sustainable housing. We don't have a long term home and we are also renting our office space.
How do you pay staff well enough to afford rent or buying a home as a non-profit relying on grants? We aim to provide employment to the nations on whose territory we are working, so we bring people from wherever they are living and have to put them up in hotels. It would be nice to have a space for professionals or people coming from the nation to stay while they work.
- Coastal Restoration Society/ Josh- The way we are able to pay thriving wages is by advocating to govt/industry funding partners. Organizations like Ecocanada will subsidize wages if you can't get to that thriving wage threshold.
- Cedar Coast Field Station/ Marcie- The knowledge needed to apply for those grants and get those subsidies are beyond some groups. If there are some grant writing skills/ training opportunities that can be shared that would be very helpful.
- Warrior Program- CBT grant training workshop & staff helped some of the warriors to fund their projects.
- CBT/ Rebecca- If there is a need we can provide training on grant writing. We know that visiting instructor housing is a need, there will be two 1 bedroom units in the Biosphere Center but that's not much. We will also be providing training for how to chair meetings and participatory process training in the near future as well.

Topic: Collaborative projects, funding coordination and data sovereignty
Identify areas of shared interest in the region; how can we work together in a good way?

- Econ Consulting/ Mike- For the Barkley Community Forest we are working on we are creating a new management plan and where our reserve might work. We are interested in ways to work together on this.
- Strawberry Isle Marine Research Society/ Karyssa- On the funding and collaboration end of things, SIMRS is going through some big changes because of previous capacity issues. We found that this amalgamation is the best way forward to continue to profit our programs. In general, as a small organization, collaboration has always been key for us. For eg. collaborating on funding proposals, helping each other do the grant applications not just the letters of support. Co-application to different funding groups, and figuring out which organizations should go after the funding so we aren't competing with each other, and instead supporting and collaborating better. More open communications about funding sources and applications would help with this.
- BC Nature/ Liam- One of my other hats is on the Board of Rockpoint Birders in Victoria. Made up of multiple organizations, often we need someone for the same role. Instead of all looking to hire a part-

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time employee, we hired one person for the same role for all of our organizations- eliminating any competition for hires and using our funding more efficiently.

- Ucluelet Chamber of Commerce/ Josh- The Chamber can provide a grant writing workshop. We have been wanting to add workshops that will help business and non-profits.
- PACRIM/ Jenn- Could also share grants on the email (CBTs joint email list that was suggested earlier). Also, just something to think about when you're asking for letter of support for grants- think ahead of time when asking for them, we want to give them but it takes time.
- MHSS/ Gemma- All of our projects are collaborative, we couldn't do it without other help. In terms of data sovereignty, our approach is if someone is interested in doing research in the territory we ask that they go through a protocol. This gives them an opportunity to tell us what they are interested in and opens up an opportunity for dialogue for us to share what the Nation is interested in as well. It's a helpful process for us to see how we can work together on collaborative projects in research within the territory. The end goal is an understanding of data sovereignty where data is co-owned. 9/10 times this isn't a problem with researchers.
- Association of Wetland Stewards for Clayoquot and Barkley Sound/ Barb- We've only ever got anything done because we have collaborated with some other agency. Sometimes it was fluke, where we did a presentation with someone from the ministry of transportation present. A lot of it is picking up the phone to make those connections, those phone calls. I do tend to reach out to the CBT a lot and the Nations.
Maybe we should have a speed dating event- let's get to know each other!
- Toquaht Nation/ Ali- As a follow up to Gemma and Barb. Collaboration, especially regarding all these funding applications would be great, as we receive a lot of different requests for different projects and letters of support but have a low capacity. We are interested in meaningful collaborations and developing protocols for the nation to get what they want from research, like the one MHSS has. A lot of First Nations groups have funding and materials, it could be a great way to increase capacity for everyone if we could be working together!
- Ucluelet Nation/ Jonquil- I agree with what's been said about data sovereignty. It also helps the Nations, to come to the table when we are in government to government discussions, or between Nations, to have that information to present. And when we are at such a low capacity but we know that research is being done. To bring that information to our leadership as well so they can have meaningful discussions is very important.
- Strawberry Isle Marine Research Society/ Karyssa- I liked what Barb was saying about the sharing of resources, a gap that could be filled through better equipment sharing and resource sharing and having a hub for this, knowing what's out there. That way we don't have to keep repurchasing the same equipment. Communication between us when we aren't in these meetings is important. Something similar to the Chamber of Commerce with an email blast- with your announcement (volunteer, workshop, need of equipment, collabs ...). Hub for all of that communication will help us keep these conversations going and not repeat them with multiple people.

CLAYOQUOT BIOSPHERE TRUST
REGIONAL FORUM

Wednesday October 18, 2023
9:30-3:30

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- PACRIM/ Jenn- Something Saya had said is having a clearing house where all of the data is stored. Hakai institute is able to manage the metadata and have that online for folks. Having something like that, potential ways of storing our data and making it available would be great.
- MHSS/ Gemma- That could be a CBT thing to do.
An organization on east side of island, Integrated Marine Animal Monitoring Group (IMOG) they do equip and field gear rentals. Will also send research protocol to Ali.
- CBT/ Rebecca- It sounds like there is a need for more technology to connect us. In the interim, there is a Ucluelet district email connect (societies@ucluelet.ca). We can also set up a meeting for Nations to share their protocols around data sharing.
- Association of Wetland Stewards for Clayoquot and Barkley Sound/ Jerry- I believe a meeting between Nations on protocols and research already happened some 15 years ago with UVIC. It's on the CBT website and still exists as a resource on the research page. Not sure if it needs to be updated or not.
- CBT/ Colin- We did host a Salmon Roundtable, a smaller version, and pilot idea- sharing data within organizations participating in that table. Where we created an inventory of what datasets are out there and put it into a shared spreadsheet. We also talked about issues around data sovereignty, is it sensitive and who has access to this data?
- Coastal Restoration Society/ Josh- As part of the community hub for restoration economy opening in March 2024 in Port Alberi, CRS will be offering equipment rentals, loans, community resources, grant writing and other workshops.

Topic: climate adaptation action plans Checking in on where we are at as a region

- PACRIM/ Jenn- in 2017 a group that works tri-nationally in US, Canada and Mexico did a rapid adaptation assessment tool on climate change vulnerability in the marine environment. It's online and available, I can share the website linked to that as well. There is an open forum where people will post different projects they have done to address environmental adaptation.
- Warrior Program- One way to address climate change is through food sovereignty, our clam gardens will allow us to grow and harvest our own food for 10 years. We are also building clam gardens on the Big tree Trail and near Ucluelet.
- Association of Wetland Stewards for Clayoquot and Barkley Sound/ Gerry- A lot of times we have these meetings and then we go back into our different directions. It's important to find ways we can build on this discussion. When you have a lot of likeminded people in the room you have to continue that momentum The government will jump on it if they see it working here. Especially when it comes to climate change, thinking about future generations and our roles and responsibilities here I think it's important we continue on with these ideas we have.
- Redd Fish/ Mandala- Collaborations and forums like this, might help reduce the burden on the nation for eg. all the requests for letters of support they receive.

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- Coastal Restoration Society/ Josh- Indigenous perspective do things with the mindset of 7 generations. We should shift our perspective from being reactive to being proactive. It also merits taking a harder look at some of the projects that we traditionally built and asking ourselves, do they have a place in the future? Start thinking with a little more of a lens into that perspective. Look at how that's going to look in Clayoquot Sound and how we can prepare the future generations for what is to come.
- Association of Wetland Stewards for Clayoquot and Barkley Sound/ Jerry- It's important to think of the future but we still have to be responsible for the present. For eg. Municipal building codes, local transportation issues, growing your food locally there are lots of local things we can do that help us mitigate climate change now.
- Association of Wetland Stewards for Clayoquot and Barkley Sound/ Barb- I just want to commend Mike and Bruce for being here, because a lot of what we do for climate change is what we do with the land and with the forest cover. If you are ever curious, or there are any questions you have about any of the research we do, please reach out to us.
- Econ Consulting/ Mike- Thanks Barb. I think a lot of the things we see across our landscape is an expanse of 40-50 year old systems totally devoid of habitat and timber value. The model for silviculture- which is funded by the province- is created around timber development. We haven't got to a point where we do things for other values. Part of that, is engaging the province as well.
- Director of Community Planning for Ucluelet/ Bruce- I also appreciate the comment Barb. Municipal perspective, it hits every department. If we have better information we can probe do a better job of protecting that area. How that information is gathered, I'm going to turn to the CBT to say there's a role there.
- CBT/ Rebecca- Water conservation is at the front of our mind. With the building of our new biosphere center, we are dealing with the living building challenge. We are listening to that invitation to do more at a regional scale to connect organizations/ communities. If you have follow ups on any of that please reach out to anyone on our team, that's at the front of mind to all of us on the CBT.

Closing remarks

Janessa: close of meeting, requested survey to be completed for feedback and thank everyone for attending.

Regional Forum
October 18th 2023
Participant list



Terry Dorward	Kylee Tom	Janessa Dornstauder
Nellie Atleo	Bob Hansen	Mark Maftai
Barb Beasley	Ricardo Manmohan	Sue Velazquez
Bryson George	Kaylyn Kwasnecha	Luba Reshitnyk
Jess Hutchinson	Cass Hale	Romney McPhie
Abby Sparling	Dennis Hetu	Rebecca Martone
Isabel Simons	Bruce Greig	Cheryl Greengrove
Lucas Carlson	Jennifer Yakimishyn	Sandy Gulston
D'Arcy Cyre	Marcie Callewaert	Spencer Binda
Connor James	Mark Sawyer	Josh Temple
Edward Mack	Jonquil Crosby	Ali Carrier
Savanah McCarthy	KC Hale	Emily (?)
Hayden Seitcher	Nicky Ling	Sean Lindsay
Chris Seitcher	Audrey Adelinet	Hutton Noth
Brooke Wood	Kyle Adams	Olga Nassinovskaia
Erika Goldt	Rebecca Hurwitz	Toni Buston
Marianne Paquette	Nicole Gerbrandt	Saya Masso
Mike Davis	Josh Jenkins	Gerry Schreiber
Rhys Jenson	Gemma Macfarlane	
Karyssa Arnett	Mandala Smulders	
Sophie Vanderbank	Sarah Butterworth	
Naas?i ?awatin	Liam Ragan	
Emily Fulton	Kayla Lucas	
Sam Schaerer	Colin Robinson	