

YOUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2021 | MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

# CPAWS Ocean Report has Launched!

MPA Monitor:
Assessing Canada's
Marine Protected
Areas was released
last month! It looks at
how well protected
and well managed
Canada's Marine
Protected Areas are.
You can learn
more below!



Another successful petrel season is over!

We would like to thank everyone who reached out to us with their petrel strandings, sightings and helped with releases.

This year, we were able to rescue over 3000

Leach's Storm Petrels that became stranded.

We appreciate all the help we received!

### CPAWS ocean report shows Canada's MPAs need better protection

Currently, almost 14% of Canada's ocean is protected. The country is committed to protecting 25% by 2025 and 30% by 2030. About half of the protected areas were analysed and it was found that the majority is only weakly protected!





CPAWS is the first organization to use a ground-breaking new MPA evaluation tool, The MPA Guide, to examine 18 MPAs that make up 8.3% of Canada's ocean.

You can learn more and read the full report here:

www.cpaws.org/oceanreport

#### **Always Been Stewards**

By Stanley Oliver

As Inuit along with other Indigenous people of Canada, "we have always been stewards of the resource, we have been the caretakers of the lands and waters for 1000s of years, since time immemorial". To us; as Inuit this long-established relation and connection is nothing novel or innovative, but tremendously imperative to our way of life. Any initiative that works to protect areas for conservation and preservation; must also recognize the involvement of Indigenous people through their governments-associations and their contribution to protecting the natural ecosystems and for the sustainability of a healthy environment and in due course healthier (including mental health wellness) people.

Shortly after being re-elected as the leader of the Liberal party and defeating the Conservative Party of Canada, Prime Minister (PM) Justin Trudeau (who is a known active outdoorsman himself) the Liberal government pledged to protect 25 percent of Canada's landwhich is an area equivalent to almost 2.5 million square kilometresand 25 percent of Canada's coastal waters under the government's national jurisdiction. This is an increase over the previous established target of 17 percent for land protection and is nearly double the 12. 4 percent of Canada's land habitats. During an earlier campaign event in Ontario (2019); PM Trudeau stated "the commitment my government makes today, to protect 25 percent of our oceans/coastlines and land by 2025 is not just an ambitious target, it is a necessary target and we know that protecting and conserving nature is a key element to fighting climate change".

The Liberal Government also assured Canada's public; that it would work with all levels of governments (municipal and provincial) as well as Indigenous governments and communities to achieve this ambitious goal. In addition to this, the Liberals committed to advocating and promoting this obligation at the international level (gatherings) where countries from around the world have set a global target of 30 percent by 2030. There are some positive initiatives that

the Federal Government supported that assists in moving the compass needle in the right direction.

Two of these include i) High Arctic Marine Conservation Area: Where by the federal government and the Inuit of Nunavut announced a new partnership for the creation of the Tuvijuittuq Marine Protected Area and the completion of the long awaited Tallurtiup Imanga National Conservation Area. Together these areas cover more than 427,000 square kilometres which enables the federal government to say that Canada now protects nearly 14 percent of its marine coastal area.

A little closer to home and this province is ii) Imappivut; a plan to manage and protect Labrador Inuit interests of the coastal marine areas of Labrador. Imappivut means "our oceans" and once fully implemented (as per the Nunatsiavut Land Claims) will see the protection of 49, 690 square kilometres of coastal marine areas. Ensuring Labrador Inuit have a voice in decisions that impact habitats, species, community interests and the protection of Inuit culture and values.

Indigenous people are the eyes and ears of the North and are the first ones to feel the changes in climate and weather patterns. New and pending protected areas are supported by

Indigenous people and governments and working together can only improve stewardship for the benefit of all Canadians.



Born and raised in Labrador, Stan is an Inuit who is an avid hunter, fisher, and outdoorsman. He currently the Manager with the Labrador Office of Indigenous & Northern Skills Trades and sits on the National Indigenous Advisory Committee for the Canadian Environment Assessment Agency and others.

He will tell you his philosophy "is to create free-detailed oriented work environments, that focuses on positive collaborative partnerships with government and business with out loosing sight of grass roots concerns."

## Nature Feature: Porcupine

The North American porcupine, also known as the Canadian porcupine or common porcupine, is a large rodent.

Their bodies have a short stocky build with a small face, short legs and thick quill filled tail. Porcupines are usually dark brown and in Labrador they can be seen to be almost black, with white highlights.

In the fall they only give birth to a single baby each year called a porcupette.

Although the porcupette's quills will harden soon after birth, they rely solely on their mother during the first two weeks of their lives and continue to nurse for four months while learning to feed.



### HELP PROTECT NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR'S WILDSPACES!



#### Please consider donating and support our on-going efforts

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We are always looking for inspiring stories, photos and ideas to help us engage Canadians in nature conservation. Do you have any great stories about your experiences in nature? Pitch your ideas and content to us at

NLinfo@cpaws.org



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See you next time!