



First Nations-led Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCAs)

What are First Nations-led IPCAs?

First Nations-led IPCAs are places that First Nations choose to protect and lead

They protect the lands, waters, and wildlife we all depend on while respecting First Nations Rights, cultures, and ways of governing

They are recognized as a fair and effective way to protect nature and combat climate change

They share three essential elements:

- 1** Led by First Nations
- 2** Protect lands and waters for future generations
- 3** Elevate First Nations Rights and Responsibilities ¹

DID YOU KNOW?

Every \$1 invested in Indigenous-led conservation programs can generate \$2–3 of social, economic, and cultural benefits to all. ²

Marine IPCAs help rebuild fish populations and boost tourism, benefiting Canada's \$8 billion commercial fisheries and \$12 billion tourism industries ³

Indigenous Guardians are trained experts who help to protect, manage, monitor, and enforce rules in IPCAs, strengthening conservation outcomes for all.

How can IPCAs benefit all Canadians?

- Protect our oceans and resources people rely on for food, clean air, health, jobs, and the economy
- Help fight climate change by protecting places that store carbon

- Support marine economies including fisheries and tourism
- Bring First Nations, governments, and industry together to care for nature
- Support Canada's commitments to conservation, reconciliation, First Nations Rights, and climate action

How can you support IPCAs?

Attend community events to learn about the IPCA and share your thoughts

Learn about the First Nations whose territory you live on or visit

Advocate for policies that support First Nations-led conservation

Offer funding or volunteer support that helps build First Nations' capacity to care for nature

¹ Indigenous Circle of Experts. 2018. We Rise Together. https://www.icce-caec.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/PA234-ICE_Report_2018_Mar_22_web.pdf

² Indigenous Leadership Initiative, Indigenous-Led Conservation from Australia to Canada. <https://www.ilinationhood.ca/publications/backgrounder-indigenous-led-conservation-from-australia-to-canada>

³ Statistics Canada. 2024. Gross Domestic Product by sector and year. <https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/stats/maritime/tab/mar-tab1-eng.htm#table2-fna>