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Marine Coordination Team  
Marine Planning Process for the North Pacific Coast  
By email

14 October 2014

Attn: Marine Coordination Team, MaPP

The David Suzuki Foundation is among the many stakeholders calling for and supporting integrated marine management planning for the North Pacific Coast. For the past several years, we have supported the efforts by First Nations and the Province of British Columbia, via the Marine Planning Partnership (MaPP) for the North Pacific Coast, to develop sub-regional marine management plans and a regional framework based on the principles of ecosystem-based management.

The MaPP plans and documents we have seen to date are a progressive step towards the realization of ecosystem based management. As part of the marine conservation sector, we have consistently participated in stakeholder meetings and provided detailed feedback at sub-regional and regional process tables to add our perspectives and management preferences to the plans.

Throughout the MaPP process we have made significant compromises in the interest of completion and implementation of these plans, and to build trust and consensus among stakeholders. Other sectors have also spent considerable time and effort presenting their interests and perspectives to the table for consideration. The final planning documents that we have seen reflect a collaborative approach, rather than the interests of any single sector. We believe that this provides a strong foundation for the approval and implementation of the plans.

Provided that the plans have not fundamentally changed since our last review, we look forward to seeing a formal ratification of the entire MaPP planning package, which reflects and applies the collaboratively-developed ecosystem-based management framework.

We also strongly encourage you to make an allocation of appropriate resources in the next provincial budget that will ensure implementation of MaPP plans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay Ritchlin".

Jay Ritchlin  
Director General, Western Canada