



INDIGENOUS PROTECTED AND CONSERVED AREA DECLARATION

We, the leadership and people of the Mamalilikulla First Nation (“the Nation”), being the holders of Aboriginal rights and title in our unceded traditional lands, seas and skies, do hereby declare the Gwaxdlala/Nalaxdlala (Lull Bay/Hoeya Sound), as shown in the attached map, as an Indigenous Protected and Conserved Area (IPCA).

This Declaration is made in accordance with the Nation’s concepts, values, principles, laws and inherent stewardship responsibilities for the lands, seas and skies and the natural resources in our traditional territory, including the responsibility to follow the law of Aweenak’ola (we are one with the land, sea and sky and supernatural Ones).

This Declaration is made in accordance with Section 35 of Canada’s Constitution Act respecting the inherent rights of aboriginal peoples, and reinforced in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, with specific reference to Articles 26(1-3), Article 29(1), and Article 32(1) respecting the Nation’s right to ownership, control over use, conservation and protection, and setting of development priorities for its traditional lands, territories and resources.

This Declaration confirms the Nation’s commitment to restoring and maintaining the ecological health and natural balance of the lands, seas and skies and the natural resources within the IPCA for sustainable cultural, traditional and economic uses for the benefit of the Mamalilikulla people and the communities with whom we have ongoing, respectful and developing relationships.

This Declaration confirms the Nation’s intent to ensure long-term planning and management of the IPCA for continued cultural, social, educational, and economic benefit, reinforcing our stewardship responsibilities for the lands, seas and skies. Our stewardship in the IPCA will reflect key requirements of:

- ◆ Restoring and maintaining our connection to the lands, seas and skies and natural, cultural, and spiritual resources in the IPCA
- ◆ Applying our language, stories, songs and dances, and place names to the IPCA
- ◆ Protecting and managing the IPCA’s cultural and archaeological resources
- ◆ Protecting, conserving and restoring the IPCA’s significant marine habitats and culturally important marine species
- ◆ Conserving and restoring the IPCA’s watersheds, keystone cultural species and habitats
- ◆ Generating long term funding for governance capacity.

This Declaration demonstrates the Nation’s commitment to advancing reconciliation with Canada and British Columbia and their implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in a meaningful way.

This Declaration reflects the Nation’s offer to assist Canada and British Columbia in achieving their targets for land and marine protection and conservation.

This Declaration is made Without Prejudice to the Nation’s existing and future Aboriginal rights and title interests and claims, and potential reconciliation agreements, and to existing management, planning or revenue sharing agreements and partnerships with Canada and British Columbia, resource corporations, non-government organizations, and other First Nations. The Nation intends to continue to honour these commitments.

This Declaration reflects the Nation’s intent to work with Canada and British Columbia to review and affirm existing tenures and other authorizations they have issued for the use of the lands, waters and natural resources within the IPCA.

This Declaration calls on Canada and British Columbia to begin to fulfil good faith negotiations with the Nation for co-governance of the IPCA, including joint decision-making in planning, ongoing management, research, monitoring, enforcement and restoration.

This Declaration calls on Canada and British Columbia to begin to fulfil good faith negotiations with the Nation to establish interim measures to prevent issuance of tenures and other authorizations for uses and activities during these negotiations that may be inconsistent with the Nation’s stewardship requirements.

Signed on November 29, 2021, by:

<p>Nah Kah Pun Kyim (Amos Dawson) Hereditary Chief</p>	<p>Sixw’ akola (Jake Smith) Hereditary Chief</p>
<p>Walas (Richard Sumner) Hereditary Chief</p>	<p>Nah Kah Pun Si Tih Lis (Robert Mountain) Hereditary Chief</p>
<p>Dzah Kah Lahss (Tom Puglas) Hereditary Chief</p>	
<p>Winidi (John Powell) Elected Chief Councillor</p>	<p>Kwankwanxwaligedzi-wakas (Chief Robert Joseph) Witness</p>

Map of Gwaxdlala/Nalaxdlala (Lull Bay/Hoeya Sound) IPCA

