

OCEANS PROTECTION PLAN

Canada's coasts and waterways are an important facet of Canadian life and culture. They are a workplace for some, a playground for others, and a source of goods, inspiration and pride for us all. The Oceans Protection Plan is the largest investment ever made to protect Canada's coasts and waterways, while growing our economy. With this \$1.5 billion national Oceans Protection Plan, future generations will continue to enjoy and benefit from this iconic part of Canada's identity the way we do now.



OBJECTIVES

- Create a world-leading marine safety system that protects Canada's waters.
- Restore and protect marine ecosystems and habitats.
- Create stronger local emergency response capacity by establishing Indigenous partnerships and by engaging coastal communities.
- Invest in oil spill cleanup research and methods to ensure that decisions taken in emergencies are evidence based.

OPP ENGAGEMENT APPROACH

Partnership and collaboration are the foundation of the Government of Canada's actions to protect our coasts. We will partner with Indigenous and coastal communities and seek their advice in a number of areas concerning the Oceans Protection Plan. Our engagement will be locally coordinated, transparent, and collaborative. It will also support reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.

WHAT IT MEANS FOR THE PACIFIC COAST

Anticipated actions to be taken in the Pacific Region following engagement with Indigenous and coastal communities

- Regional response planning initiative in northern B.C.
- New Search and Rescue life boat stations in B.C., new environmental response equipment depot near Port Hardy.
- Funding to help restore coastal ecosystems.
- Canadian Hydrographic Service to chart high profile ports and near shore areas in B.C. and to enhance services related to tides and water levels.
- Improve high-resolution tides and current models.
- Enhancement of knowledge for science-based decision making in oil spill response operations.
- Modernization and expansion of 24/7 the Canadian Coast Guard emergency response capacity.
- Emergency tow capacity expansion in B.C. waters to help the Canadian Coast Guard and others respond to marine incidents.
- Marine mammal science funding, including research into the impacts of increased shipping on marine mammals and ecosystems.
- Funding program to support small vessel removal, vessel owner education, and research to improve vessel recycling options.
- E-navigation services for Kitimat, Port of Vancouver, and Fraser River Port.
- Collect environmental data on the northern B.C. coast.
- New RADAR stations in B.C.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND PARTNERS



More information: www.canada.ca/protecting-our-coasts



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PARTNERSHIPS AND ENGAGEMENT

- **Build Indigenous partnerships in the marine safety system;** create Indigenous Coast Guard Auxiliary in B.C. and the Arctic; introduce Indigenous incident command training.
- **Develop collaborative management frameworks** with the public, Indigenous peoples and stakeholders; increase participation of Indigenous peoples, communities and women.
- **Create national public forums** for Canadians to discuss shipping safety and environmental issues.

PRESERVING ECOSYSTEMS

- **Conserve or restore marine ecosystems,** including the Coastal Restoration Fund, Marine Mammal Response and Marine Protected Area Surveillance Program.
- **Mitigate risks of shipping on marine mammals and the environment,** including underwater noise; assess potential mitigation measures; marine environmental quality assessments.
- **Assess the impacts of marine shipping on the environment.** Baseline data collection and a national cumulative effects assessment framework to evaluate cumulative impacts of shipping in key ecosystems.
- **Address abandoned and wrecked vessels** through the implementation of a national strategy that focuses on prevention and cleanup, including new legislation, improved vessel owner identification, and the creation of owner-financed funds to pay for the cleanup of vessels in the long term.

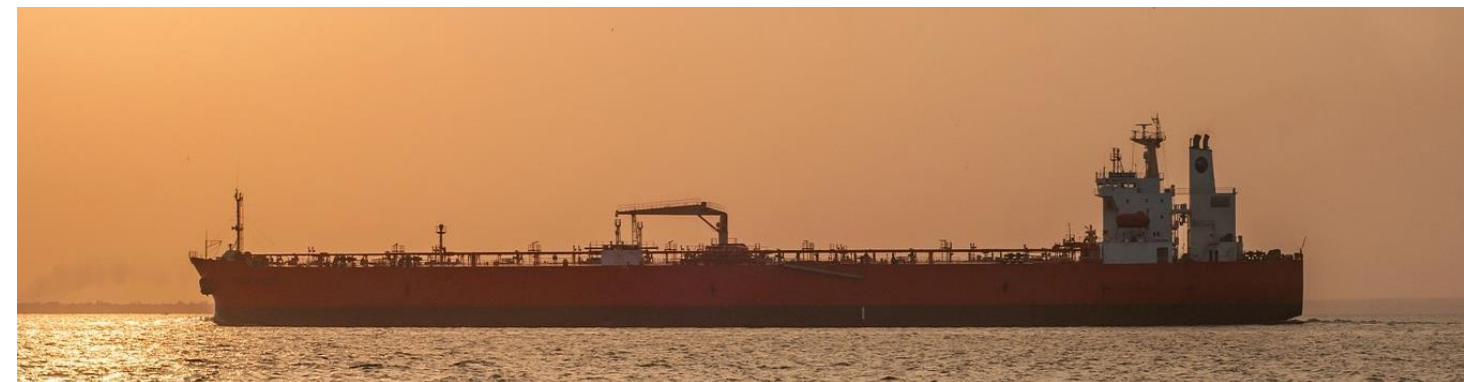
SCIENCE-BASED DECISION MAKING

- **Better understand oil spills in water.** Research how oil behaves in water; multi-partner research funding on oil-spill response technology; oil spill drift prediction.
- **Conduct research to improve measures for oil-spill response planning and clean-up.**
- **Baseline environmental data on the B.C. north coast.** Fill gaps in baseline environmental data to support emergency preparedness and response.



WORLD-LEADING MARINE SAFETY

- **Provide and share real-time marine traffic information** with local communities.
- **Collaborate on local marine traffic management,** including the establishment of speed restrictions, routing of ships, and areas to avoid.
- Formalize an ***Oil Tanker Moratorium Act*** for B.C.'s north coast.
- **Improve incident management toward seamless response** by using an incident command system; new mobile command posts; marine communications and traffic services delivery; and risk analysis of maritime search and rescue.
- **Develop response planning tailored to local needs,** with a regional response planning pilot for B.C.'s north coast.
- **Modernize legislation and regulations** to strengthen the polluter-pay principle by amending the Ship-Source Pollution Fund to include adequate compensation; amend the *Pilotage Act* and other shipping regulations.
- **Modernize hydrography and charting in key areas,** as well as near shore and high-priority ports.
- **Increase on-water presence and response capacity** by implementing Primary Environmental Response Teams; modernize the Canadian Coast Guard environmental response equipment.
- **Expand the role of the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary** to include emergency response training.
- **Invest in safety equipment and basic marine infrastructure** by including additional radar sites, new tow packages on Coast Guard vessels, and the leasing of towing vessels.
- Create a seasonal inshore **rescue boat station in the Arctic.**



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