

FPIC and INDIGENOUS FORESTS • 2016

# Landscapes, Certification and Nationhood

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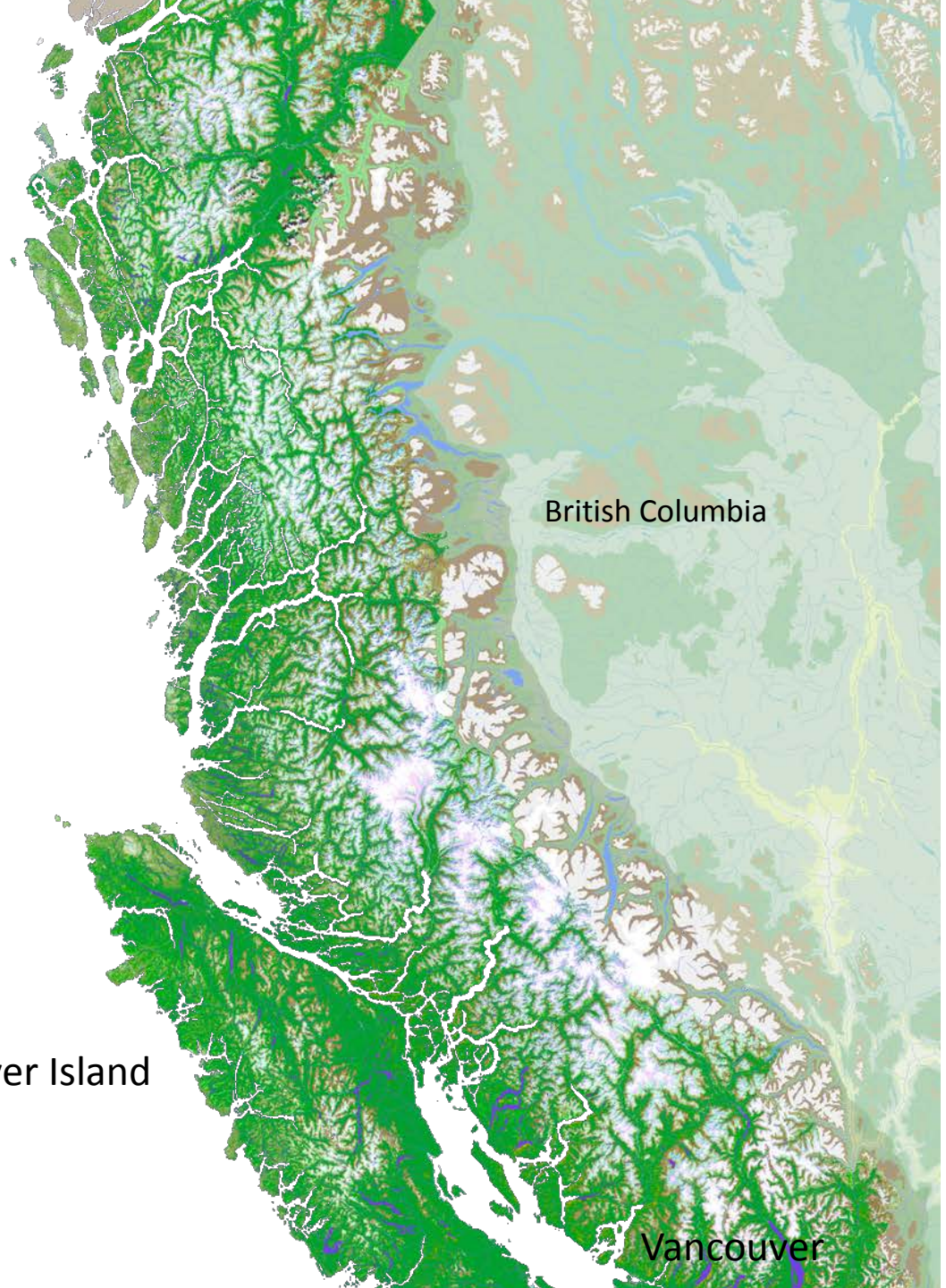


Haida Gwaii



British Columbia

Vancouver Island



Vancouver



## The Haida Nation – a brief overview.

Since contact there have been people and companies coming to Haida Gwaii to exploit all of the resources.

This experience is one that most Indigenous nations in Canada and around the world are very aware of, and unfortunately, used to.

Fortunately, that experience was not to last and in 1974 the Haida Nation decided to change the story with the forming of the [Council of the Haida Nation](#). The CHN is the political body which represents all Haida citizens.

CHN is directed by citizens through an annual [House of Assembly](#). The HoA is the law-making body for the Nation and sets policy for the Nation. The elected representatives of the Nation then carry out those policy directives.

The decision to change the way business was being done, specifically in the forests, was brought to the HoA, debated and this set the stage for change.

[Haida Gwaii](#) : [Council of the Haida Nation](#) : [House of Assembly](#) : [Citizens](#) : [Change](#)

Haida Gwaii pre-contact





## Logging like there's no tomorrow.

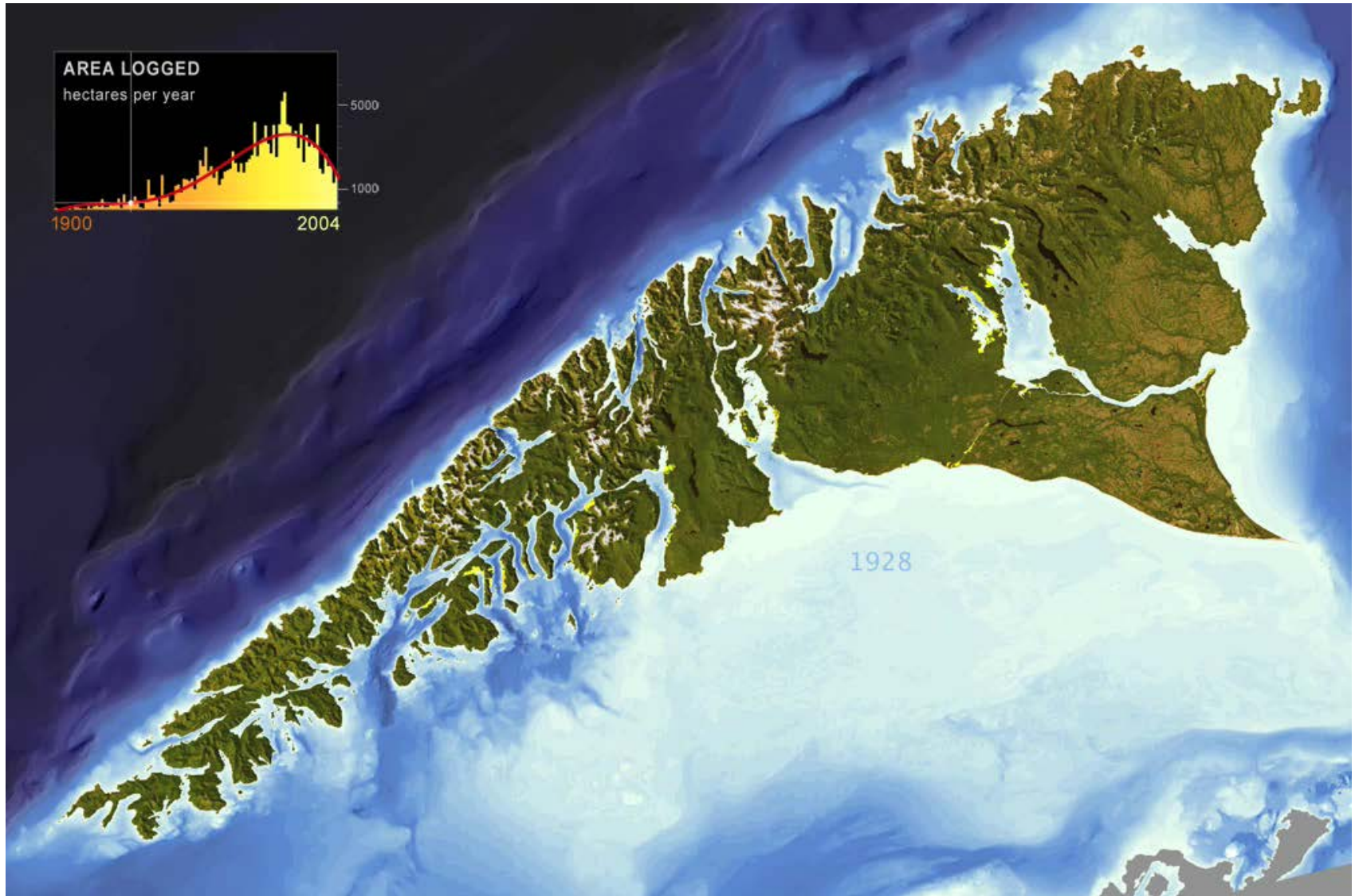
In the early 1970s, corporations like MacMillan Bloedel got serious about logging on the Islands.

At one time the AAC reached nearly **3 million cubic metres per year**. That cut coupled with a forest policy that considered the liquidation of old growth sound practice, would have seen the end of not only the ecological diversity of Haida Gwaii, but also any hope of a sustainable economy for communities based on forestry.





# Hectares logged from 1900 – 2004



## A Defining Moment – Athlii Gwaii

In 1985 the Haida Nation took a stand by enforcing [Haida law](#) at [Athlii Gwaii](#), also known as Lyell Island.

That stand gave notice to the Crown and the rest of the world that the way business was being conducted on the Islands was changing and following that action ... it did.







## The work since 1985

The stand at Athlii Gwaii ushered in a new era.

Since 1985, the Haida Nation and the other communities of Haida Gwaii have worked together to further the vision of protecting the land and ocean to build an economy based on the sustainable use of resources.

That relationship has taken the form of collaborating with people and organizations – in 1996, the [Islands Community Sustainability Initiative](#) was formed to address the rate of logging, and in 2006, [Islands Spirit Rising](#), challenged the BC government and their lack of commitment to implement the [Haida Gwaii Land Use Plan](#).

Both initiatives were cross-cultural collaborations.

## Gwaii Haanas – 1993

From the negotiations that followed Athlii Gwaii, the [Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve and Haida Heritage Site](#) was born.

The area encompasses 1470 square kilometres of land and is protected under Haida and Crown laws. It is managed by the [Archipelago Management Board](#), which is 50/50, Haida and federal government. The Board is consensus based.

The protected area is growing and we are in the planning stages of protecting the ocean surrounding Gwaii Haanas.

It is the only area in the world, protected from mountain top to sea bottom,



**1993**

Gwaii Haanas National  
Park Reserve and  
Haida Heritage Site



## From there to here

The work to change the way business is done on Haida Gwaii has been a long series of political actions by Haida and Island residents, community initiatives and inter-community negotiations.

It's been about talking to each other and finding ground that we all stand on.

In 1900, the Islands had been expropriated by the Crown and the Haida Nation was relegated to Indian Reserves.

Our story is one of getting the land and sea back to the rightful stewards.

## Indian Reserves

1,600 hectares = ■

0.16 %

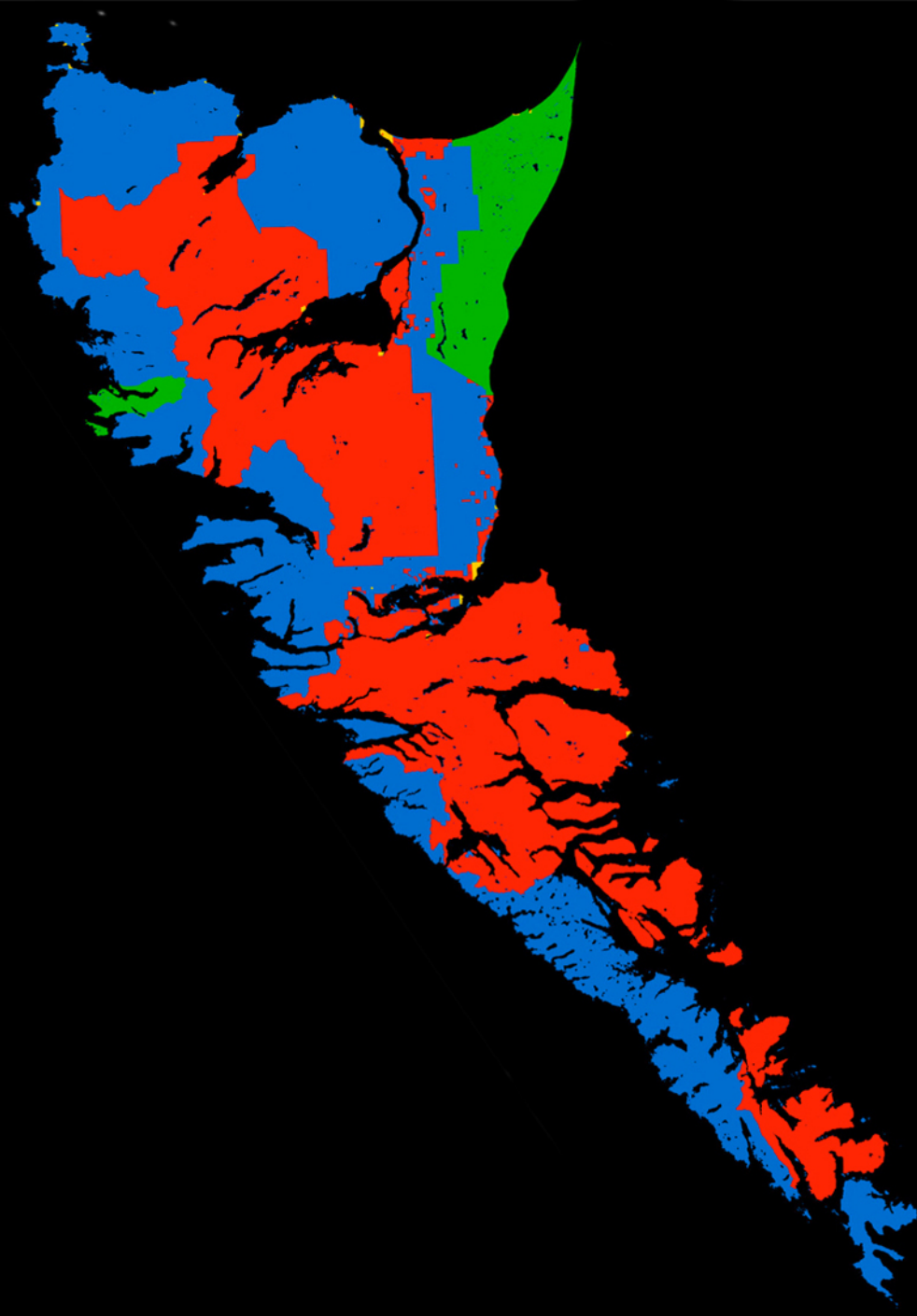


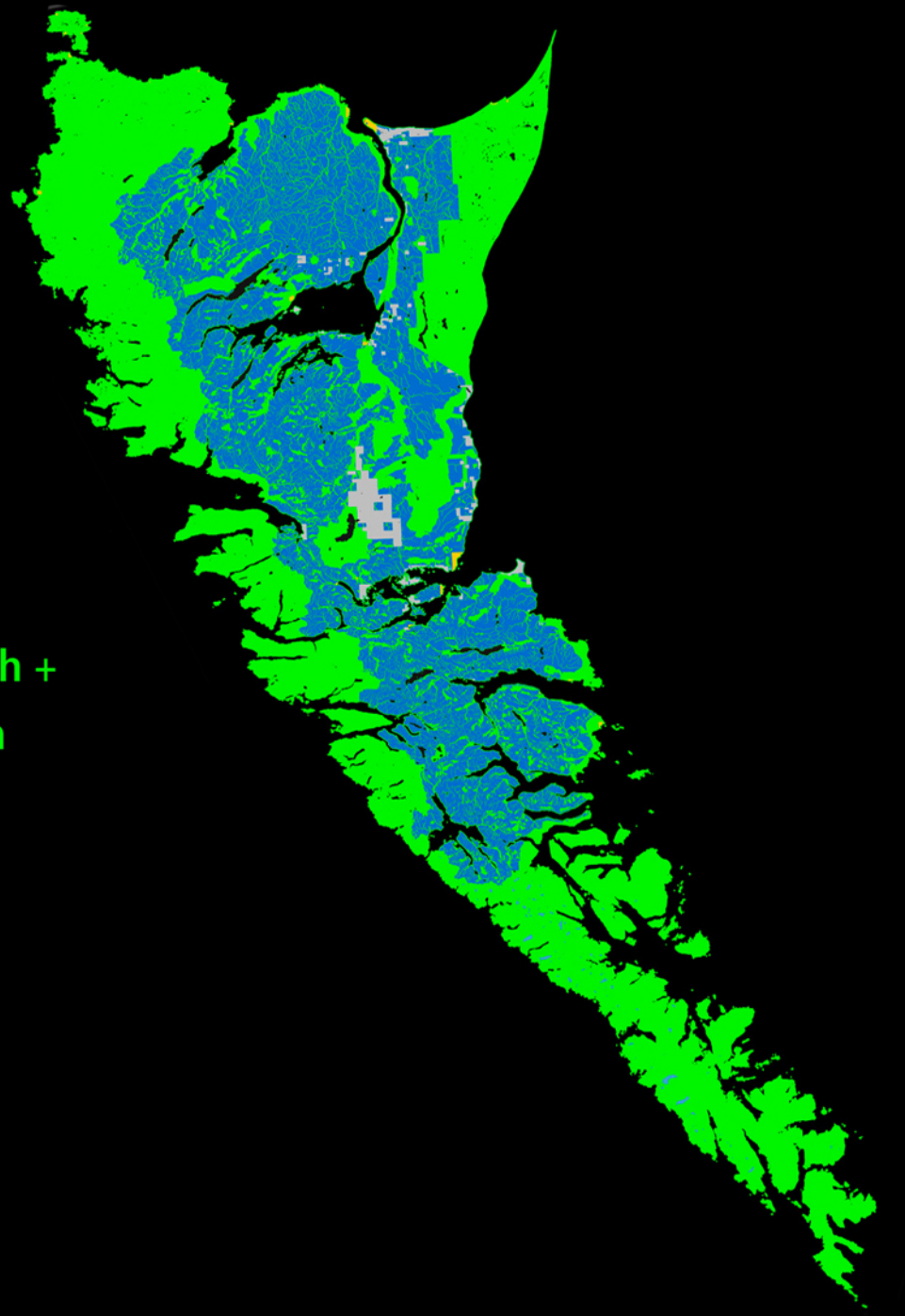
1980

Major forest tenures

Timber Supply Area

Provincial parks





2010

Land Use Plan

Protected + Old Growth +  
Cedar + Bird + Riparian

EBM Forestry

Private

# Kunsta'aa guu – Kunst'aayah Reconciliation Protocol

In December 2009, the Kunsta'aa guu – Kunst'aayah Reconciliation Protocol was signed with the province of BC.

The agreement respects the differing views regarding the sovereignty, title, ownership and jurisdiction over Haida Gwaii and agree to take a more respectful approach to resources management which includes eco-system based management.

Today we are implementing sections of that agreement.

- Haida Gwaii Management Council was formed (AAC set at 900,000)
- carbon offset and resource revenue sharing
- forest tenures and other economic opportunities
- enhancement of socio-economic well being



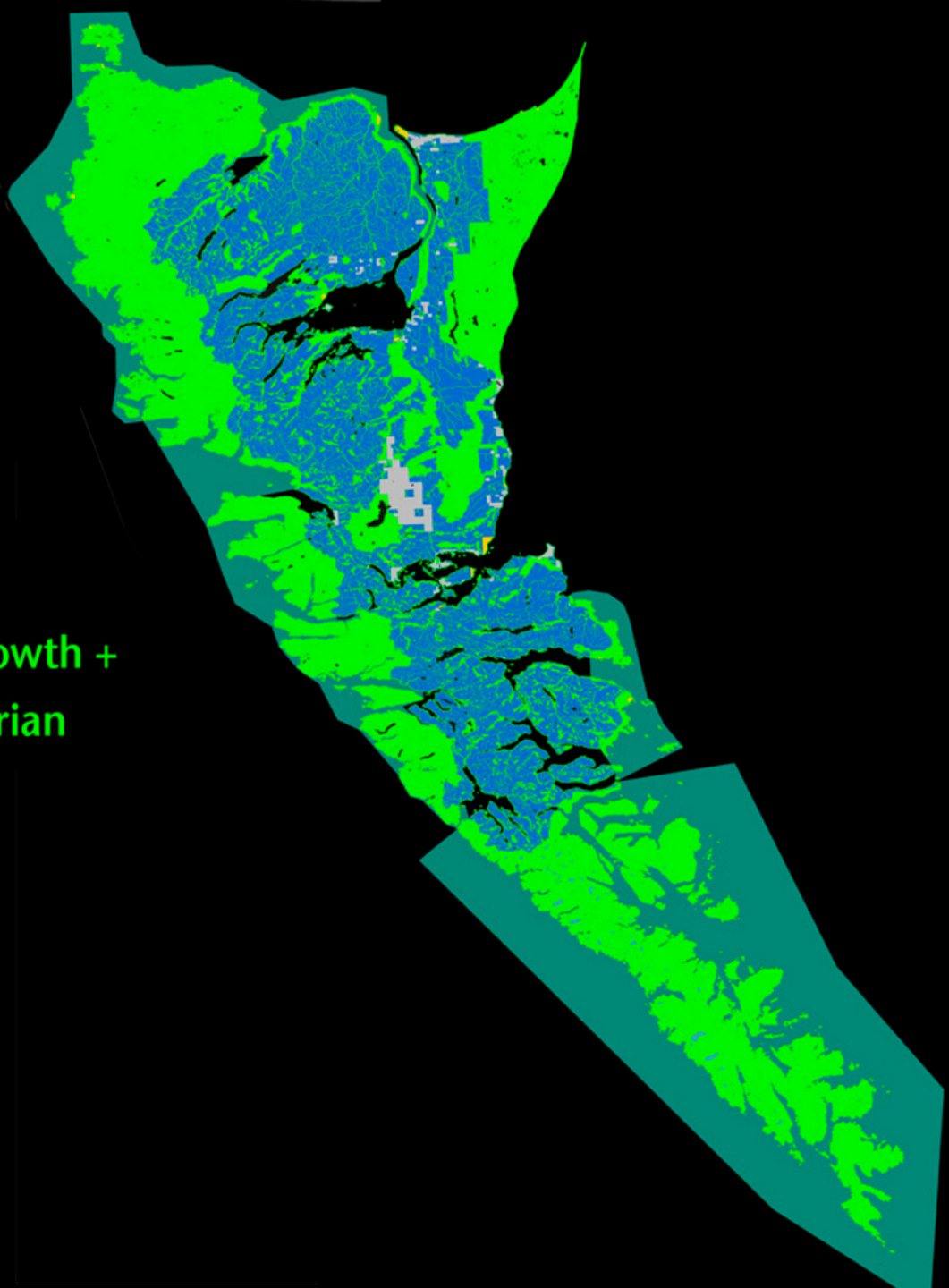
2010

Land Use Plan

Protected + Old Growth +

Cedar + Bird + Riparian

+ Marine





## Better together

To get to where we are today the people of Haida Gwaii developed a culture of **working together** – when we're not fighting with each other – to move the interests of all of us forward.

Those interests are based on a shared sense of place and the **responsibility** for all of us to protect and care for the land and sea.

The Council of the Haida Nation has worked hard to forge good relationships with our neighbours and this has benefitted all of us.

We continue to work with, and push the Crown to reconcile our differences – and those of other nations– so that we can build a new relationship based on mutual respect and the recognition of our sovereignty.



MOF  
YOU've taken  
EVERYTHING  
BUT THE  
KITCHEN SINK

1+1=3  
MoF = History

THIS IS A VOTE  
OF  
NO-CONFIDENCE

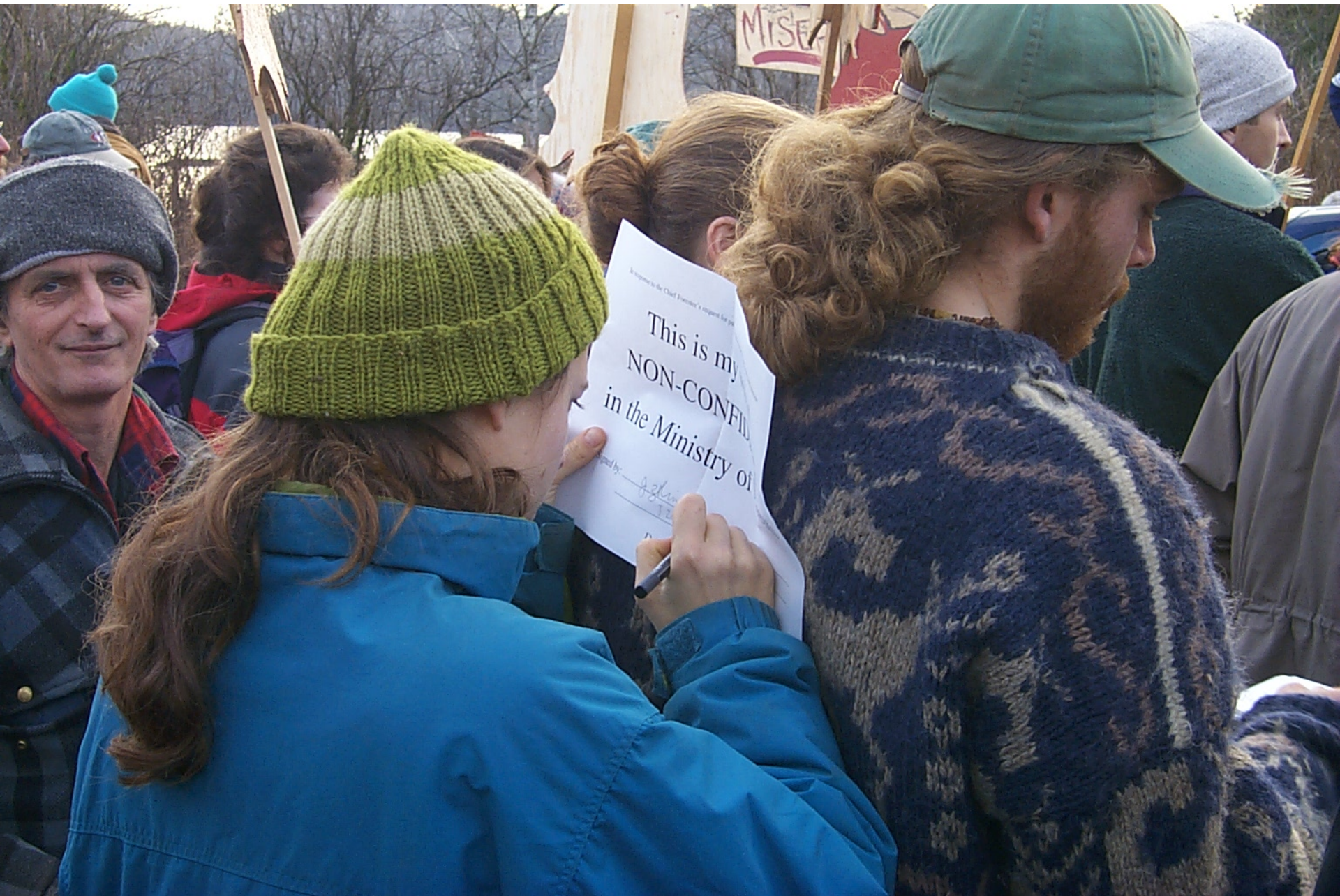
MOF  
DUH

GOVERNMENT  
SO...

SUSTAINABLE  
ECONOMY



MOF = History









**Haawa! Haaw'a!  
Thank You!**