



Biodiversity Mapping for Southwest BC Workshop

November 22, 2023

Mary Winspear Centre, Sidney, BC





**Action for
Adaptation**



UBC Botanical Garden



COASTAL DOUGLAS-FIR
& ASSOCIATED ECOSYSTEMS
CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP

Territorial Acknowledgement

An aerial photograph of the town of Sidney, British Columbia, Canada. The town is situated on a peninsula or coastal area, with a large body of water (likely Sidney Harbour) to the left. The town features a mix of residential buildings, including houses and multi-story apartment complexes. There are green spaces, parks, and a marina with several boats docked. In the background, there are rolling hills and mountains under a clear blue sky. The overall scene is bright and sunny, suggesting a clear day.

The Town of Sidney is located within the traditional territory of the W_SÁNEĆ people, represented today by W_JOŁEŁP (Tsartlip), S_TÁUTW (Tsawout), W_SIKEM (Tseycum), BÓKÉĆEN (Pauquachin), and MÁLEXEŁ (Malahat) First Nations.

We acknowledge that the W_SÁNEĆ people continue to protect and care for the natural areas, plants and wildlife that have sustained them for millennia.

Goals for Today's Workshop

Why are we all here today



Share progress on the Biodiversity Atlas and learn how this work can help you.

Discuss how these mapping layers will connect to decision making that supports biodiversity.

Support planners and decision makers to strengthen the network of knowledge holders on the south west coast.



Shape of the Day

9:00	Welcome and context setting
9:50	Break
10:00	Species at risk and of cultural value mapping
11:15	Break
11:25	Ecosystem connectivity mapping – presentation and layers
12:10	Group Photo and Lunch (50 min)
1:00	Ecosystem connectivity mapping – breakout group
1:45	Environmentally Sensitive Areas Mapping
3:00	Break
3:15	Interacting with mapping platforms
4:00	Closing remarks
4:30	Social – please join us if you can



Setting the Context



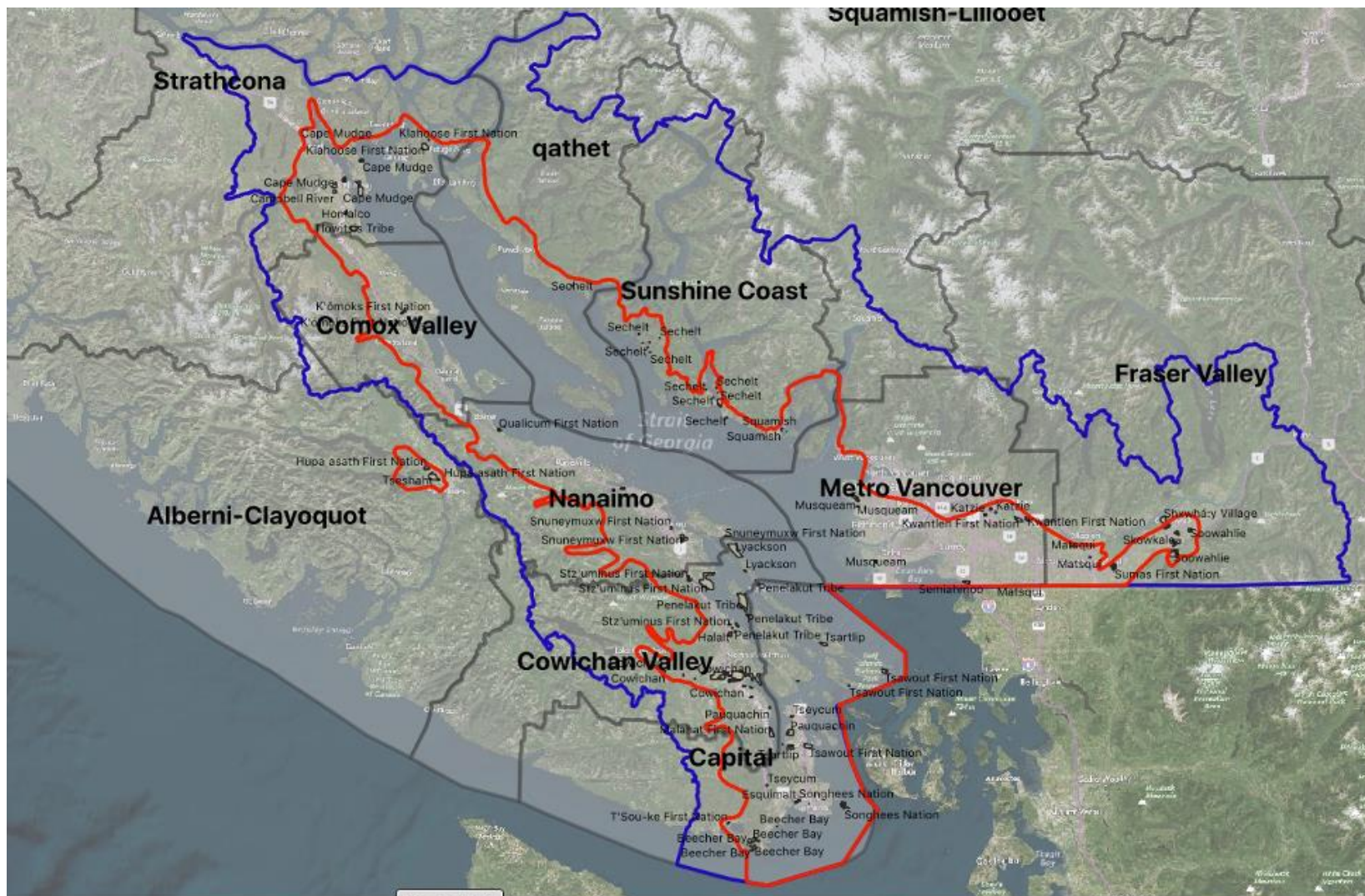
What is Action for Adaptation ?

Purpose: To develop decision-making and policy support tools for local governments and First Nations on BC's southwest coast to support actions for climate adaptation and biodiversity conservation.

Deliverables:

- **Resilient Networks** – strengthen relationships and connections across the region.
- **Biodiversity Atlas** - one atlas platform that can be viewed online or downloaded.
- **Guidance and Policy** - to help planners use the Atlas to further climate adaptation and biodiversity conservation.

Where is the Project Area?



Red boundary

Primary project area –
CDFmm and CWHxm1 – dry
lowland forest

Blue boundary

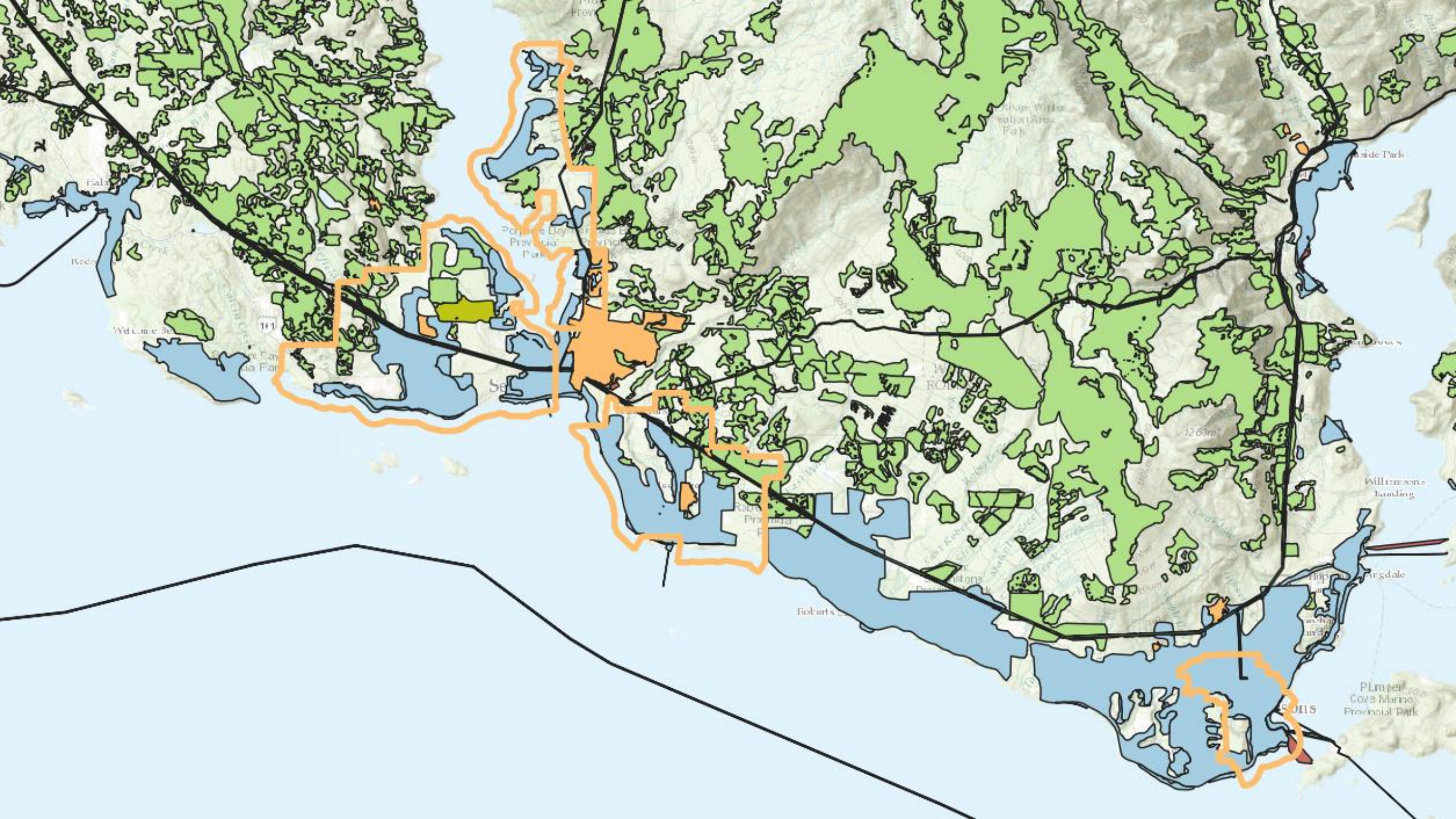
Secondary project area –
captures the watersheds that
feed into the CDFmm and
CWHxm1

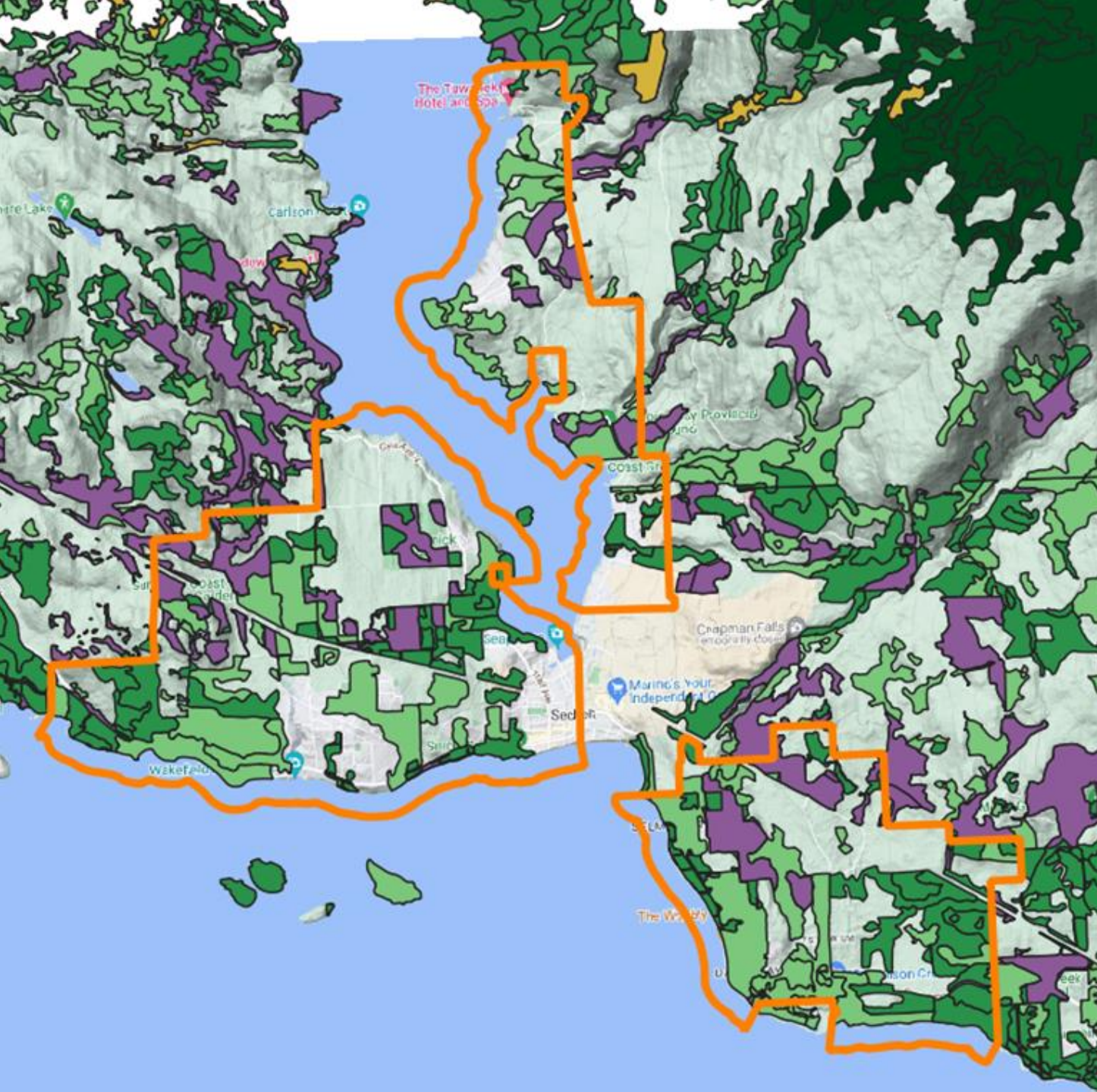
Why are we here today?

- Rapidly changing landscape driven by human migration, economics and climate change.
- <1% of CDFmm old growth remaining
- Highest number of species and ecosystems at risks within a biogeoclimatic zone in BC.
- The fragmentation of habitat could prevent natural migration.
- Culturally valuable species are being lost from known harvest areas.
- Harming the natural environment harms us as we are part of the ecosystem.
- Our planning and decision making today will impact on the health of our future generations.





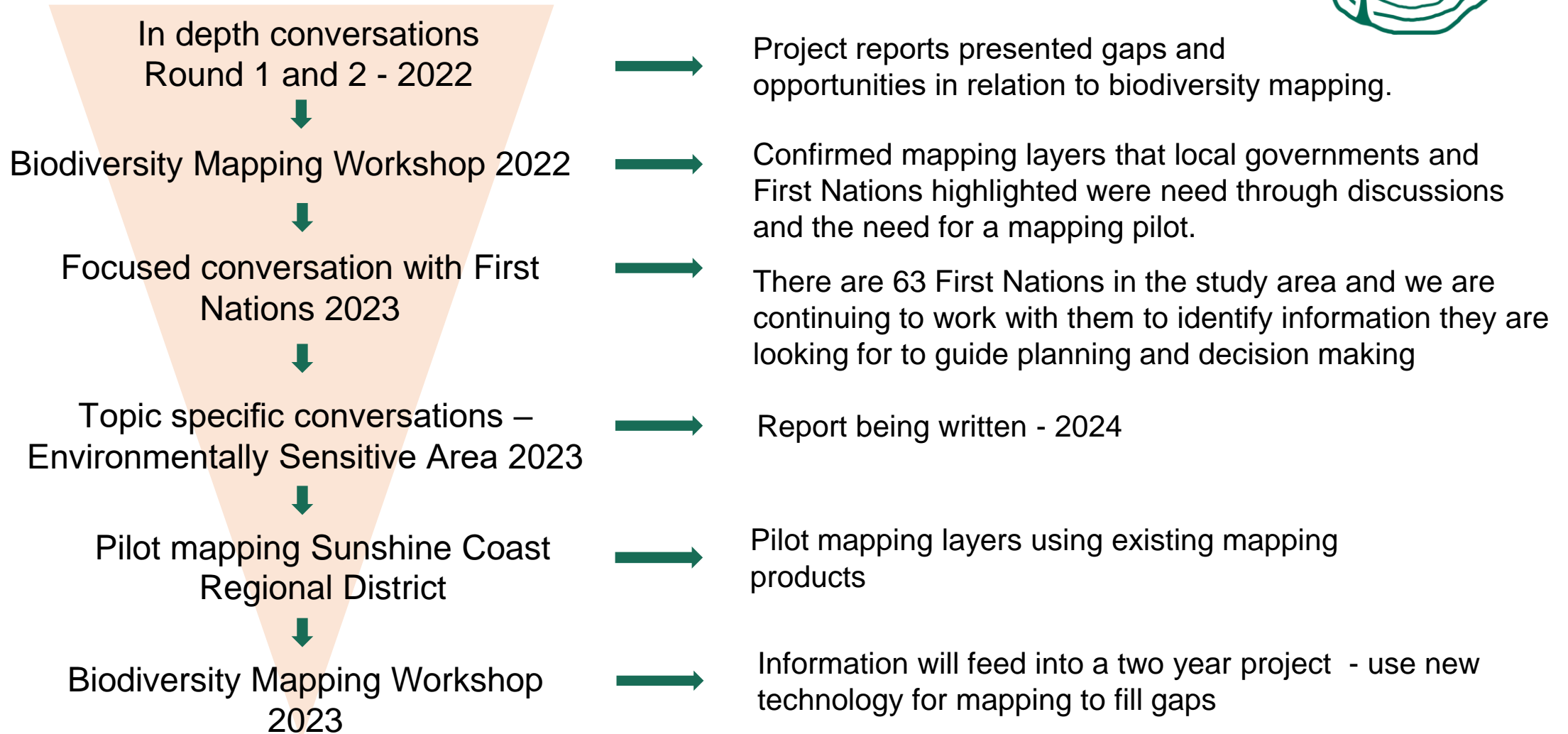




Older Forest

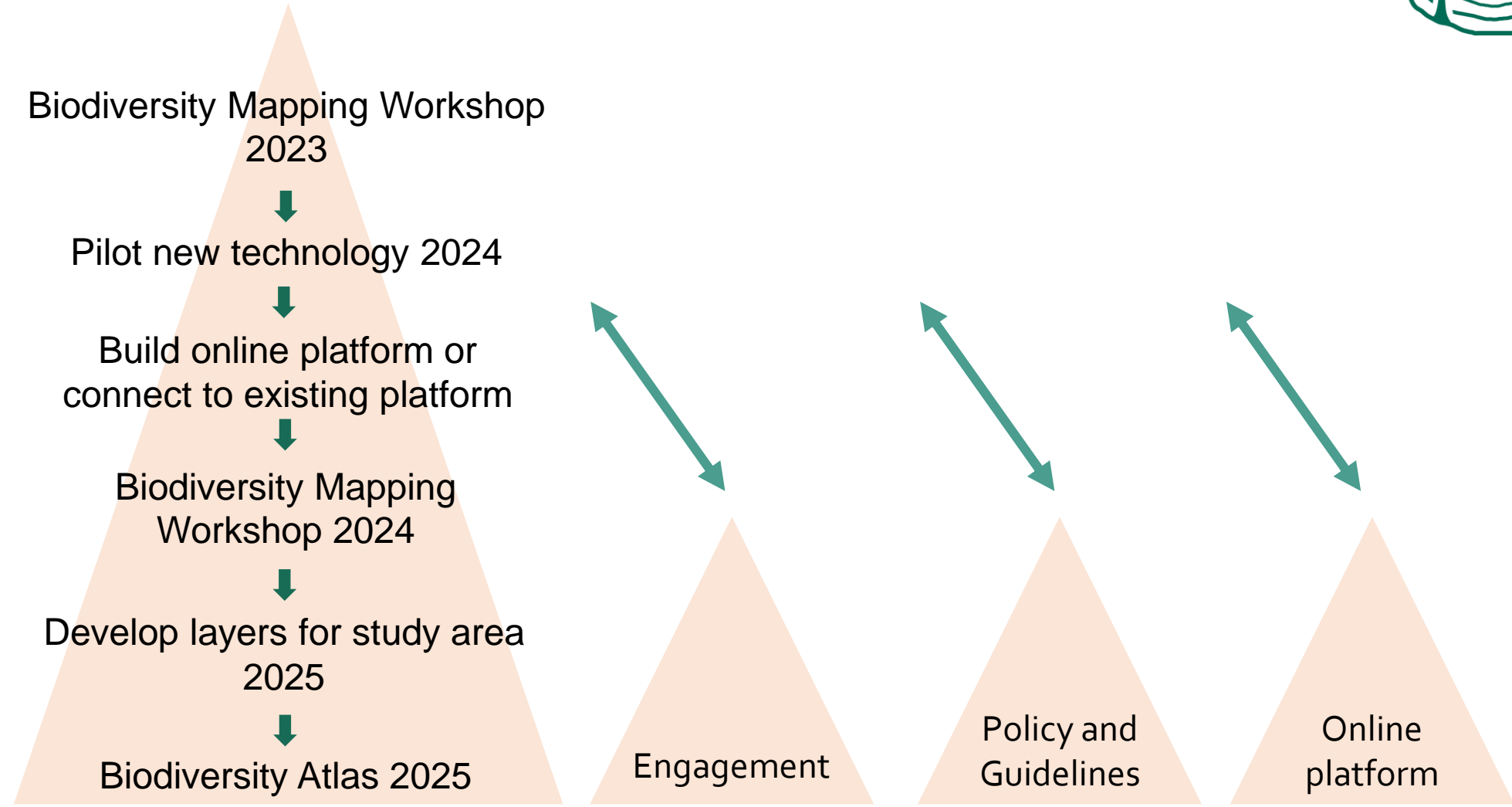
- Forest 80 years or older
- Forest identified by the old growth strategic review as recruitment forest

How did we get here?





Where are we going?



What have we heard ?

- Scale.
- Regularly updated.
- Planners will use all available data.
- Its difficult to know what mapping is available.
- Mapping are always a patchwork of ages and quality.
- Mapping of species and ecosystems at risk is difficult due to lack of data.
- We need to take into consideration climate change.
- Indigenous stewardship has shaped the land as we are part of the ecosystem.



Photo by Habitat Acquisition Trust

Biodiversity Atlas Mapping Layers



We heard that the mapping layers you think would improve your decision making in relation to the natural environment are;

- Land cover mapping and change
- **Environmentally Sensitive Areas**
- **Species at risk and of cultural value**
- **Ecosystem connectivity**
- Terrestrial Carbon
- Hydrologically sensitive ecosystems



Photo by Heritage Forest