

sitka foundation

The Sitka Foundation

Philanthropic Framework 2026–2031

Fall 2026



Sitka: A Mission in Motion

We all live on this small planet together. This is our home.

But the loss of biodiversity and continuing destruction of our natural environment pose an existential threat—to human populations and countless other species.

At the Sitka Foundation, we collaborate with allies to turn that tide.

A Canadian family foundation established in 2008 by Ross and Trisha Beaty, we are exclusively dedicated to the conservation of nature and the protection of biodiversity. Together, we braid talent, passion, and good ideas for the health of our planet.

What does that look like in action?

SINCE 2008

$104+
MILLION
contributed through

1013
GRANTS
awarded to

286
ORGANIZATIONS
in British Columbia (BC) since inception

From 2021 to 2026, we guided this work through three strategic granting programs.



PLACE

Nature-based security protects the places we call home.

We supported enduring, community-rooted protection of ecologically significant terrestrial and marine areas in BC.

Spotlight on Dena Kayeh Institute & Nature Conservancy of Canada

Learn more



PATHWAYS

Knowledge, data, and action protect nature and mitigate climate change.

We funded the systems, tools, and knowledge-sharing that enable long-term, evidence-based conservation outcomes.

Spotlight on Wildlife Conservation Society Canada & Environmental Law Centre

Learn more



PEOPLE

People lead conservation efforts and climate solutions to make change.

We invested in the leadership, networks, and capacities of individuals and communities driving biodiversity and climate action.

Spotlight on Ecotrust Canada & Nawalakw Community Foundation

Learn more

What does that look like in action?

IN THE LAST **5 YEARS**

39 MILLION contributed through

225 GRANTS awarded to

122 ORGANIZATIONS in BC since 2021

Now, we've set our sights on the next horizon.

A lot has changed. At times, the dichotomy between environment and economy feels insurmountable. But the management of our shared home matters. Good work is still happening. And we're launching our next five-year strategy to build resilience, drive innovation, and address systemic problems – now.



Listening, Learning, Launching

Philanthropic Framework 2026–2031

Guided by north-star principles, we enable positive change in nature.

For the last five years, we've framed our work around place, pathways, and people. With these pillars as our guide, we set out to:

- Protect strategic ecosystems and biodiversity
- Develop and encourage the use of tools grounded in knowledge, applied by engaged communities, and understood by decision-makers
- Progress biodiversity solutions
- Build, support, and grow diverse and creative communities dedicated to protecting biodiversity

In 2025, we took stock of our progress to shape the next stage of our journey.

Working with an external evaluation team, Reciprocal Consulting, we asked 195 grant partners to share feedback about our collaborative efforts since 2021. We sought authentic and robust input on our impact.

What did we hear?

93%
said Sitka's grant-making processes are mostly or very inclusive, equitable, transparent

93%
found Sitka's approach completely or mostly aligned with their needs

74%
felt Sitka significantly or very significantly advanced biodiversity protection

73%
indicated Sitka has taken steps to implement the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action

Most grant partners agreed that Sitka provides value beyond funding alone. From creating networking opportunities to serving as a thought leader, advisor, and amplifier: grant partners value Sitka's holistic approach. We're glad this work is resonating. The survey process also surfaced ways we can strengthen philanthropic practices:

- Clarify Sitka's strategic priorities, funding processes, and scope in specific areas
- Increase capacity, infrastructure, funding models, and communications
- Build on our platform as a thought leader
- Continue to support reconciliation in meaningful ways
- Strengthen impact measurement and learnings
- Expand networking and knowledge-sharing opportunities

This insight is invaluable.
It forms the basis of our next five-year philanthropic framework.

Our focus will never shift from nature.

We continue to concentrate on the protection of the environment. As we enter a new phase of grant-making, we've refreshed our framework to spark changes in the scale, duration, and themes of our work.

What does that look like heading into the future?

We will strategically invest in conservation leaders, practitioners, and channels that drive real solutions to environmental problems. Sitka's capital will continue to positively impact change to the land and the water in BC and beyond.



One five-year framework, bold goals for lasting impact

By 2031, we hope to see healthier air, water, soil, and biodiversity here in BC, and across Western Canada, as a step towards a healthier planet.

What does that look like in action?

In five years, we want protected areas to cover more of Canada; grown through collaboration between Indigenous, provincial, and federal governments. In our vision, these areas will be well funded and supported by policies and practices that reinforce abundant biodiversity and a resilient climate. This vision also seeks to empower humans as key drivers and beneficiaries of our investments. It is, afterall, people who will truly benefit from driving even more sustainable change across communities and civic spaces. We picture a world in which ecosystems are valued, constituents are engaged, and nature is integrated within economic decisions.

To get there, we need a new framework.

The philosophy that underpinned our work from 2021 to 2026 remains front and centre. Our philanthropic framework for 2026 to 2031 continues current commitments. It remains grounded on the belief that people are critical to making pathways that protect and manage places in a lasting, inclusive way.

We will execute philanthropic activity by strategically investing in conservation leaders, practitioners, and pathways that drive real solutions to environmental problems.

Sitka Foundation's
Philanthropic Framework
2026-2031

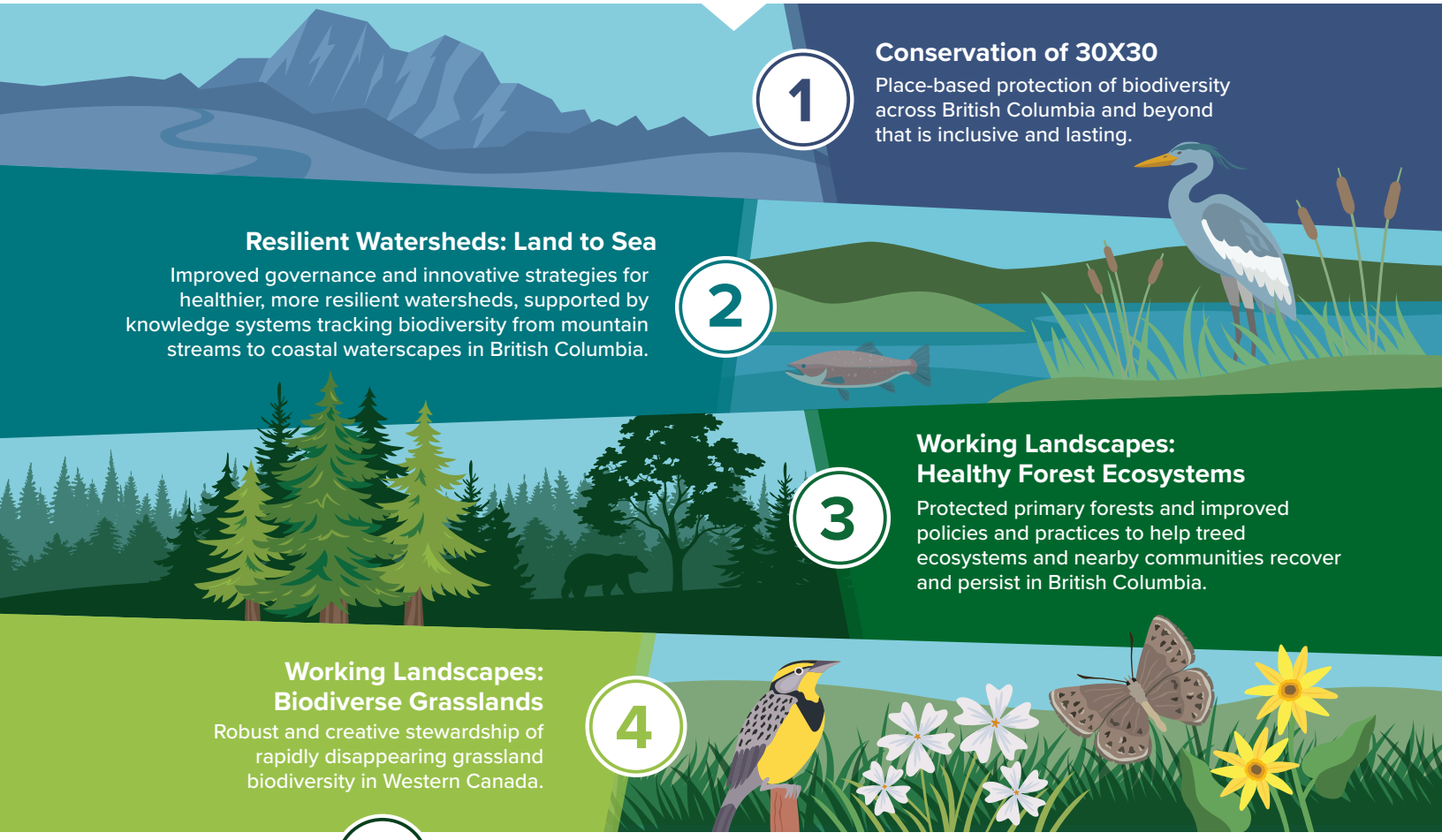
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Mission and Strategy

The Sitka Foundation is a Canadian family foundation that invests in nature to support planetary health. We fund the leaders and initiatives driving innovative and durable biodiversity solutions.

Our success and impact relies on partnerships throughout philanthropic, civil society, and Indigenous and community organizations. Together, we aim to support the diversity of life that we all depend upon to survive.

Current Funding Programs



1 Conservation of 30X30
Place-based protection of biodiversity across British Columbia and beyond that is inclusive and lasting.

2 Resilient Watersheds: Land to Sea
Improved governance and innovative strategies for healthier, more resilient watersheds, supported by knowledge systems tracking biodiversity from mountain streams to coastal waterscapes in British Columbia.

3 Working Landscapes: Healthy Forest Ecosystems
Protected primary forests and improved policies and practices to help treed ecosystems and nearby communities recover and persist in British Columbia.

4 Working Landscapes: Biodiverse Grasslands
Robust and creative stewardship of rapidly disappearing grassland biodiversity in Western Canada.

5 Catalyzing Change for Nature: Systems and Champions
Support, elevate, and care for communities, Indigenous leaders, storytellers, young conservation practitioners, and other agents of change to protect biodiversity and broaden public understanding and support of the importance of a healthy natural world.

We are a charity that uses many tools and builds relationships to solve the biggest issues of our time. Currently focused on Western Canada, with funding aligned across these programs. More information about us and our granting programs is available on our website.

www.sitkafoundation.org



Change and Hope

Redoubling our efforts in this crucial calling

Of the nine boundaries underpinning systems on Earth, seven have breached planetary limits. All show serious and increasing deterioration.[1]

At the same time, local, regional, and global institutions—as well as tools and financing for nature—are more vulnerable, and less resilient, than we believe they can be.

This is where we come in.

At Sitka, we are ramping up our efforts to preserve the environment, stem the loss of biodiversity, and protect that species that can't speak for themselves. Deeply committed to safeguarding nature's inspirational magic and beauty, we will protect, preserve and promote it while focusing on our values.

Our values

COLLABORATIVE
We build relationships and work inclusively to make progress

CATALYTIC
We stay nimble and lead responsibly to create momentum

COURAGEOUS
We blend creativity with pragmatism to find solutions

Grounded in these principles, our refreshed philanthropic framework will guide Sitka's efforts for the next five years. And we are honoured to walk and work with you on the road ahead.

If you'd like to learn more, reach out: info@sitkafoundation.org

[1] *Potsdam Institute's Planetary Health Check 2025: A Scientific Assessment of the State of the Planet*