



COASTAL NATIONS

— FISHERIES —

100% INDIGENOUS OWNED

Purpose

Coastal Nations Fisheries (CNF) is a transformative fishing company on the North Pacific Coast, collectively owned by eight First Nations—Gitga’at, Gitxaala, Haida, Heiltsuk, Kitasoo Xai’xais, Metlakatla, Nuxalk and Wuikinuxv.

The eight shareholder Nations have come together to exercise their ancient inherent rights and responsibility to self-determination and self-governance. This includes breathing new life into each Nation’s jurisdiction, authorities, responsibilities and laws, as well as revitalizing and implementing their respective legal systems, customs and traditions.

Through their alliance, the Nations honour each other’s holistic and integral relationship with the marine environment. Each Nation is committed to preserving healthy ecosystems that, in turn, support their communities through sustenance, and by contributing to economic wellbeing and social, cultural and spiritual practices.





Vision

Vibrant and prosperous fisheries, sustainably harvested and managed, by our coastal shareholder Nations.

Mission

To support shareholder Nations in the revitalization and stewardship of community-based fisheries and the development of a thriving boat-to-table, Indigenous-owned and sustainably operated commercial fishing company.



What We Do

A 100% Indigenous-owned commercial fishing business, CNF is working to revive community-based fisheries and participation in coast-wide commercial fisheries for all shareholder Nations, restoring the stable livelihoods they provide for families.

Through the creation and reinvestment of commercial fishery revenue, CNF provides ongoing support and training opportunities for fishers in shareholder Nations, and helps to advance stewardship initiatives that will sustain healthy coastal ecosystems into the future.

Our Priorities

Fishing is more than a job; it's a way of life. Our priorities reflect that.



Community-Based Fisheries

Support the revitalization of community-based fisheries led by each shareholder Nation.



Support Coastal Fishers

Provide support for fishers to purchase, build or refit fishing vessels and gear, and to acquire new licences and quotas.



Create Economic Opportunities

Support the creation of new jobs and income opportunities, improving economic, social and community wellbeing in shareholder Nations.



Build Capacity Through Training

Empower and support existing and new fishers through the training, certification and business planning that is necessary for success in coastal fisheries.



Coastal Nations Commercial Fishing Company

Grow our 100% Indigenous-owned commercial fishing company and reinvest profits back into coastal communities.

Support for Coastal Fishers

Coastal Nations Fisheries is part of the implementation of the Fisheries Resources Reconciliation Agreement (FRRRA), negotiated between the eight shareholder Nations and Canada, which includes financial capacity to support the participation of shareholder Nations in coastal fisheries.

Here are some of the ways that CNF works on behalf of shareholder Nations to deliver on economic opportunities set out in the FRRRA:

Acquisition and fair distribution of licences, quota and vessels for the Coastal Nations Commercial Fishing company and community-based fishing fleets, based on the priorities of shareholder Nations.

Co-development of a loan-and-grant program with Vancity and the Native Fishing Association to facilitate Nation citizens in buying or making improvements to vessels and gear.

Work with partners, such as Vancouver Island University, Coastal Communities Network and BC Commercial Fishing Association, to deliver training and mentoring to new fishers.

“The FRRRA represents a singular opportunity for the shareholder Nations to take a central participatory role in the economics of commercial fishing, community-based fisheries access and opportunity in their territories, and a real seat at the coastal fisheries management table.”

— Paul Paterson, CEO of Coastal Nations Fisheries





Our Promise

In all aspects of our work, we make the following commitments to the Nations and their citizens, the lands and waters that sustain and support them, and to those who nourish their families from the Nations' harvest.

Conservation and Stewardship

Acknowledge our responsibility to care for the lands and waters of shareholder Nations' territories, for the sake of current and future generations.

Sustainable Fishing Practices

Balance the ecological integrity of coastal waters, the health of fish populations, and the economic prosperity of shareholder Nations.

Community Wellbeing

Honour and promote the inherent right of each Nation's citizens to benefit economically, culturally and socially from fishing in coastal waters.

Responsible Leadership

Guided by the wisdom of coastal leaders and knowledge holders, our work will always be transparent, accountable and cost-effective.

Seafood Traceability

Empower consumers to make well-informed decisions about the seafood they purchase, including where it came from and how it was caught.

Innovation and Collaboration

Seek genuine partnerships and joint ventures whenever it enhances the economic prosperity of shareholder Nations.



Connect With Us!

Visit the CNF website and sign up for our e-newsletter to learn more.



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