

IMAGINE if your conservation investment could go directly to protecting the lives of wild animals, now and forever.



**RAINCOAST**  
CONSERVATION FOUNDATION



... An innovative approach to end commercial trophy hunting and protect Canada's wildlife legacy in the land of the Spirit Bear.

## Saving bears and wolves in Canada's Great Bear Rainforest

For over a decade, the Raincoast Conservation Foundation has secured protection for coastal grizzlies, wolves and other vulnerable species. In 2005, our supporters helped us purchase a vast hunting territory and end commercial trophy hunting in an area three times the size of Yellowstone National Park. We now want to build on that success.

### Threats to bears and wolves

For tomorrow's children to see wild bears and wolves in coastal British Columbia, bold new conservation efforts are required. Coastal bears face numerous threats to their survival, including habitat loss,



... a declining supply of salmon, and trophy hunting.

While some progress has been made on protecting bear habitat, declines in salmon stocks are likely reducing the number of new cubs. On top of this, the threat from trophy hunting continues through much of the Great Bear Rainforest, even in the new protected areas.



IMAGINE *being part of a novel solution to a problem that years of campaigning have never overcome.*

This is more than just an ecological issue. It's also an ethical issue. Hunting these magnificent animals for entertainment and profit is wrong.

### **Our past accomplishments**

*The lives that our supporters have already saved*

Raincoast has a track record with big projects and ideas. Understanding the constraints of the political landscape – which offers little hope for stopping trophy hunting – we pioneered a new approach to saving bears and wolves from hunters with high-powered rifles.

In an unprecedented move that garnered worldwide attention, we purchased an exclusive 24,700 km<sup>2</sup> hunting license in 2005 for \$1.3 million. Our purchase ended commercial trophy hunting over this huge region. Grizzlies, wolves, and black bears were no longer targets for commercial trophy hunters throughout much of British Columbia's central coast.

It has now been five years since our acquisition, and we have seen river valleys come alive with bears and wolves. The renewed presence of these animals has also spurred commercial wildlife viewing and local business opportunities.

Throughout this vast area, people armed only with cameras can find grizzlies feeding on spring sedges or wolf pups playing in tidal mud flats. The apprehensions of the past – when fears that the next set of watchful eyes were behind a hunting scope – are now gone.



Purchasing this tenure and ending the commercial trophy hunt would not have been accomplished without an outpouring of support from individuals, community groups, families, business leaders and others. The success of this initiative has reinforced our long-term objective to acquire *additional* commercial hunting rights on the BC coast. Our next accomplishment hinges on this same kind of broad-based support. We are thrilled to announce the next step in our plan.

## Acquiring the spirit bear hunting territory

Recently, Raincoast began negotiations to acquire a hunting territory like no other – the primary place in the world where spirit bears (a white coloured black bear) roam. Despite a restriction on killing spirit bears, trophy hunting of black bears – that carry the recessive gene that causes the white coat – is allowed. Our purchase will not only protect one of the rarest bears in the world, it will also safeguard the genetically unique rainforest wolves we have studied for a decade. This new 3,500 km<sup>2</sup> license lies next to our existing hunting tenure,

providing important connectivity between these refuges.

In June 2010, we secured an agreement to purchase this ‘spirit bear’ hunting tenure. We only have a few months to raise the necessary funds. With your help we can take this historic step.



### Hunting license acquisitions on the BC coast

Raincoast’s existing 24,700 km<sup>2</sup> hunting territory is in green.

We have a purchase agreement for the 3,500 km<sup>2</sup> spirit bear territory shown in yellow.

Raincoast’s ownership of these two territories will end the commercial trophy hunting of bears and wolves in over 28,000 km<sup>2</sup> of the BC coast.

The estimated size of the tenures includes only land area.





IMAGINE *if you could save the life of a grizzly, a coastal wolf, or the parent of a spirit bear.*

Photo credits in order of appearance: Mark Carwardine, Klaus Pommerenke, Klaus Pommerenke, Chris Darimont, Misty MacDuffee, Kevin Smith/Maple Leaf Adventures, Mark Carwardine.

## Financial objectives

Raincoast's goal is to raise \$370,000 to own this hunting territory by June 2011. A down payment of \$30,000 was made in July 2010.

Critical to the long-term success of any venture are the resources to undertake its annual operations. As such, we have a separate fundraising goal for commitments to annual operating costs. Our annual expense to manage and operate our territories, maintain legal obligations, pursue other buyouts, promote the local

benefits from wildlife conservation and monitor 'our' bear populations is \$75,000 per year.

## Acquisition costs

Purchase	\$320,000
Associated campaign costs	\$ 50,000
	<hr/>
	\$370,000

## Annual operating costs

Annual operations and monitoring	\$75,000
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## *Please Support this Opportunity Today!*

We are asking supporters to consider a five-year gift to the campaign and Raincoast's ongoing commitment to ending commercial trophy hunting on BC's coast.

Please be assured that we appreciate whatever level of financial commitment you are able to make. We know you will support this campaign to the best of your ability, just as you have demonstrated exceptional support of Raincoast and the protection of BC's wildlife in the past.

Please contact me at any time to discuss your conservation investment plans.

Best,

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