

Village of Nakusp Contributes to Canada's National Conservation Network, Supporting Nature and Combating Climate Change

The Village of Nakusp, with the support of BC Nature, has registered 92 hectares of their protected natural areas in the Canadian Protected and Conserved Areas Database (CPCAD). The Canadian Protected and Conserved Areas Database tracks Canada's progress toward the target of protecting 30% of lands and waters by 2030 (30x30 commitment). The official recognition of the protected area was achieved through the national Municipal Protected Areas Program (MPAP) coordinated by Nature Canada.

Nestled between the Selkirk and Monashee Mountains along Upper Arrow Lake, Nakusp is a community of fewer than 2,000 residents in British Columbia's West Kootenay region. The protected natural areas within the Village of Nakusp registered in the Canadian Protected and Conserved Areas Database include a waterfront park, a municipal water supply area, and a conservation area within the globally recognized Central Selkirks Key Biodiversity Area.

This Key Biodiversity Area supports one of the last remaining Southern Mountain Caribou herds (*Rangifer tarandus* pop. 1), with fewer than 30 individuals representing approximately 2% of Canada's Endangered population. It also provides habitat for several other species at risk, including Whitebark Pine (*Pinus albicaulis*), Coeur d'Alene Salamander (*Plethodon idahoensis*), Grizzly Bear (*Ursus arctos*), and Wolverine (*Gulo gulo*). The region encompasses diverse ecosystems, from Interior Cedar-Hemlock forests dominated by Western Red Cedar (*Thuja plicata*) and Western Hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*) to wildlife-important hot springs, making it a critical refuge for species at risk and old-growth mountain biodiversity.

"We're pleased to see Nakusp's conservation lands recognized through this federal initiative. The Municipal Protected Areas Program underscores the meaningful impact that smaller communities can have in supporting biodiversity protection across Canada." *Nancy Flood, President, BC Nature*

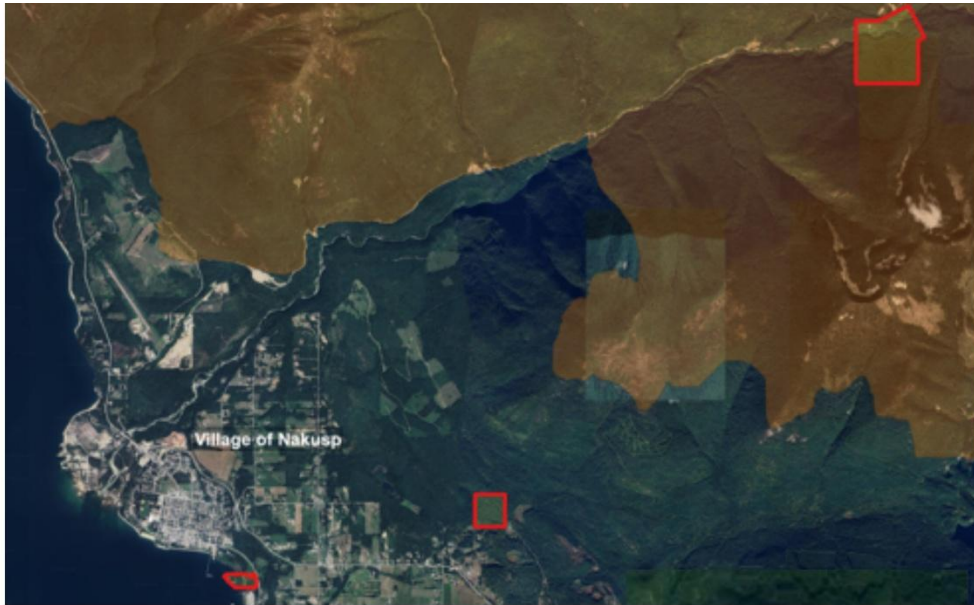
"Nature Canada is encouraged by the Village of Nakusp's leadership in securing federal recognition for its protected areas. The Municipal Protected Areas Program underscores the important role that communities play in supporting Canada's biodiversity goals. Nakusp's approach reflects a deep connection to the surrounding landscape and demonstrates how rural municipalities can lead in conserving natural areas for future generations." *Dylan Rawlyk, Organizing Manager – Nature Canada*



Quick Facts

Canada's network of protected and conserved areas is important to mitigating the impacts of climate change by protecting healthy, resilient ecosystems and contributing to the recovery of species at risk.

The registered Nakusp protected natural areas in CPCAD contain three ecologically distinct zones: old-growth forest surrounding the Nakusp Hot Springs source, inland temperate rainforest in Upper Brouse, and riparian bird habitat at Bird Island.

BC Nature is a federation of local nature clubs, representing more than 60 nature clubs throughout BC. BC Nature works to protect nature and educate naturalists, the public, and decision-makers about the natural history of British Columbia, including its biodiversity, species at risk, parks and other natural areas.



-  **Village of Nakusp**
protected areas (92 hectares)
-  **Key Biodiversity Area**
Caribou (Southern Mountain population)

Village of Nakusp
Protected Areas Supporting
Key Biodiversity Areas



