



Reference: 46069

July 24, 2025

[REDACTED]

Jennifer Dowd, Director-At-Large
BC Nature
1620 Mount Seymour Road
North Vancouver, British Columbia
V7G 2R9

Dear Jennifer Dowd:

Thank you for your letters dated May 7, 2025, to the administrative team supporting Honourable Minister Jagrup Brar, Minister of Mining and Critical Minerals (MCM), regarding follow up to the May 6, 2025, meeting on nature and conservation. This topic falls under the purview of the Ministry of Water, Land and Resources Stewardship (WLRS); and as Deputy Minister, I am asked to respond.

I appreciate BC Nature's commitment to mandates supporting both economic and environmental priorities, and the five actions of support in the email attachment. Several of those actions are directly aligned with work of WLRS. Here is information and links for direct follow-up with this work.

1) Partner with Conservation Organizations

In 2023, the Province announced the Conservation Financing Mechanism and an investment of \$150 million, to be matched by funds raised by the BC Parks Foundation. The BC Parks Foundation plays a key role in coordinating with other philanthropic organizations and supporting important conservation projects across the province. You can read more about the announcement here: [Made-In-B.C. Conservation Tool](#), and visit the BC Parks Foundation website: [BC Parks Foundation](#).

2) Integrate Sustainability into Permit Processes

The Province's Environmental Mitigation Policy outlines a process where environmental values are considered in well-informed, robust decision making. The Environmental

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Mitigation Policy includes a hierarchy where potential project impacts are addressed, including through restoration or off-setting if needed. Proactive conservation measures can be applied throughout the consideration of mitigation needs and opportunities. You can read more about the Environmental Mitigation Policy here: [Environmental Mitigation Policy](#).

3) Adopt Landscape-Level Planning

In June, the Province announced the initiation of land use planning projects in partnerships with Tahltan, Taku River Tlingit, Kaska Dena, Gitanyow and Nisga'a Nations. The planning processes include robust engagement with industry, stakeholders, and the public. The Province, in partnership with First Nations, will balance economic, reconciliation and environmental priorities: [land use planning news release](#). For information about the specific projects and others land use planning underway across the province, visit: <https://planninginpartnership.ca/>.

4) Promote Local and Indigenous-Led Conservation Initiatives and Establish a Sustainability Advisory Panel

The Province supports First Nations and their Guardians programs, including linking the important data gathered through their stewardship and monitoring work to collaborative stewardship and provincial decision-making. Here are links to [Collaborative Stewardship](#) and [collaborative work with First Nations Guardians](#).

Thank you for reaching out and seeking opportunities where BC Nature can contribute to the important work the province is undertaking to build prosperity, centred on the pillars of economic growth, reconciliation and conservation. These conversations benefit British Columbians across the province.

Sincerely,



Lori Halls
Deputy Minister

pc: Honourable Jagmeet Brar, Minister of Mining and Critical Minerals