

DECLARATION OF FIRST NATIONS OF THE NORTH PACIFIC COAST

Turning Point Conference, Vancouver

June 13, 2000

PREAMBLE

The North Pacific Coast is a rich, varied and fragile part of the natural world. The connection of land and sea with people has given rise to our ancient Northwest cultures.

We recognize this life source is under threat live never before and that all people must be held accountable.

This united declaration is the foundation for protecting and restoring our culture and the natural world.

We are the ones that will live with the consequences of any actions that take place in our territories.

DECLARATION

We declare our life source is vital to the sustenance and livelihood of our culture and ur very existence as a people.

The First Nations of the North Pacific inherit the responsibility to protect and restore our lands, water and air for future generations.

We commit ourselves:

- To making decisions that ensure the well-being of our lands and waters.
- To preserving and renewing our territories and cultures through our tradition, knowledge and authority.
- To be honest with each other and respectful of all life.

We will support each other and work together as the original people of the North Pacific Coast, standing together to fulfil these commitments.

Signed by the following First Nations and Councils, this 13th day of June 2000.

Haisla

Kitkatla

Nuxalk

Hartley Bay

Laz Kw'alaams

Oweekeno

Heiltsuk

Old Massett

Skidegate

Kitasoo

Metlakatla

Council of the Haida Nation

Tsimshian Tribal Council

Witnessed by:

Simon Lucas, BC Aboriginal Fisheries Commission
 Miles Richardson, Chief Treaty Commissioner, BC Treaty Commission
 Xení Gwet'in
 Edward John, Grand Chief, First Nations Summit
 Chris Cook, Native Brotherhood