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WE ARE OCEAN PEOPLE: INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP IN MARINE CONSERVATION

CINDY BOYKO & 'AULANI WILHELM, GUEST EDITORS

Acknowledgments

This special issue of *Parks Stewardship Forum* was created under the direction of an Indigenous Editorial Team with a vision to offer space to Indigenous knowledge-holders to tell their stories and share perspectives about the ocean and its coastal areas, connecting wisdom of the Ancestors to the promise of the future. The goal has been to share this wealth of understanding and foresight with people everywhere, putting the richness of Indigenous wisdom into service worldwide. Toward that end, the special issue is positioned as a contribution to the fifth International Marine Protected Areas Congress (IMPAC5) in February 2023, which is being hosted in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, by and on the Traditional Territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations.

We have many people to thank for helping bring the special issue into being. First and foremost, the publishers thank the Indigenous Editorial Team and all the Indigenous contributors (and their collaborators) who have brought this offering into being. The members of the Indigenous Editorial Team are: Guest Editor Cindy Boyko (Haida), Guest Editor 'Aulani Wilhelm (Kanaka 'Ōiwi), and Team Members Carley Duckmanton, Kalani Quiocho (Kanaka 'Ōiwi), and Nadine Spence (Ahousaht). The Editorial Team was supported by Allison Fleischer and Pauline Livingstone of Parks Canada, and by Emily Dekker-Fiala of the George Wright Society.

The Editorial Team is thankful to deities and guardians ('aumakua); to the ancestral lands and waters and Ancestors.

Members of the Indigenous Editorial Team add these individual thanks:

Cindy Boyko

I am one of the team guiding this issue bringing voices to acknowledge the importance of protecting our oceans. I would like to say a big Haawa to Ernie Gladstone for putting my name forward to work on this project. I personally would like to acknowledge the team I worked with, Nadine, Kalani, 'Aulani, Carley, and Dave Harmon. It's been a pleasure to join with and work together on a project that brings us all in harmony on what it means to truly protect and identify with the ocean and which acknowledges Indigenous voices from all over the world. I want to appreciate the people who contributed stories to share in this issue, I raise my hands to you. Haawa.



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‘A‘ohe pau ka ‘ike i ka hālau ho‘okahi
Not all knowledge is found in one house

Kui ‘ia ka lei moku e Kanaloa
The islands are strung together like lei by the Ocean —The Ocean unites humanity

I ulu no ka lālā i ke kumu
The branches grow because of the trunk — Without our ancestors we would not be here

