

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: February 3, 2024

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Revolutionizing Trip Planning for Coastal Paddlers and Boaters

British Columbia, Canada – <u>BC Marine Trails</u> (BCMT), a non-profit dedicated to sustainable coastal recreation, is excited to unveil its <u>new and improved coastal site map</u>, designed to enhance trip planning for paddlers, boaters, and outdoor enthusiasts exploring British Columbia's coastline. Whether you're a seasoned kayaker or planning your first marine adventure, this update makes navigating the BC coast easier, more informative, and more interactive than ever before.

The BC Marine Trails map boasts over 1400 campsites, launch sites, and more — collaborating with First Nations to direct recreationists to approved sites within their territories, linking to Indigenous guidelines, stewardship fees, and visitor requirements. Our long-term goal is to ensure this map aligns with the management priorities of all 74 Coastal First Nations.

"Your favorite trip planning tool just got a whole lot better," says Sam Cutcliffe, Stewardship & Communications Coordinator at BC Marine Trails. "We've taken everything that users love about the BCMT map and made it even more user-friendly and powerful. The new Site Condition Reporting feature allows paddlers to view and contribute real-time updates on campsite conditions, empowering recreationists to have a positive impact on the coastal sites they visit."

What's New?

1. Sleek, User-Friendly Interface

A cleaner interface with more content — find exactly what you need for your next trip, now with an intuitive scrolling sidebar that replaces the old site pop-up. Explore site details, First Nations information, and multiple photos – finally! In addition, the map is now functional on mobile devices!

2. Site Condition Reporting - Now Live on the Member Map

For the first time, users can view real-time Site Condition Reports submitted by fellow paddlers. Marked by orange pins, these reports provide crucial information on campsite conditions, environmental concerns, and photos to help you make informed decisions before heading out.

3. Advanced Trip Planning Tools

- Site Selection Tool: Define a radius, draw a line, or mark a polygon to identify all BCMT sites within a chosen distance, then export data to Google Earth, KML, or GPX files for use on GPS devices.
- Route Measuring Tool: Plan your expedition with ease by measuring distances, recording headings, and exporting planned routes.
- Custom Print Feature: Print detailed maps with your selected features to bring along for offline navigation.

This upgrade reflects BC Marine Trails' ongoing mission to support responsible recreation, respect Indigenous Territories, and empower paddlers with the best tools for safe and informed exploration.

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BC Marine Trails map

Helpful document: Who is BC Marine Trails?

BC Marine Trails media kit