



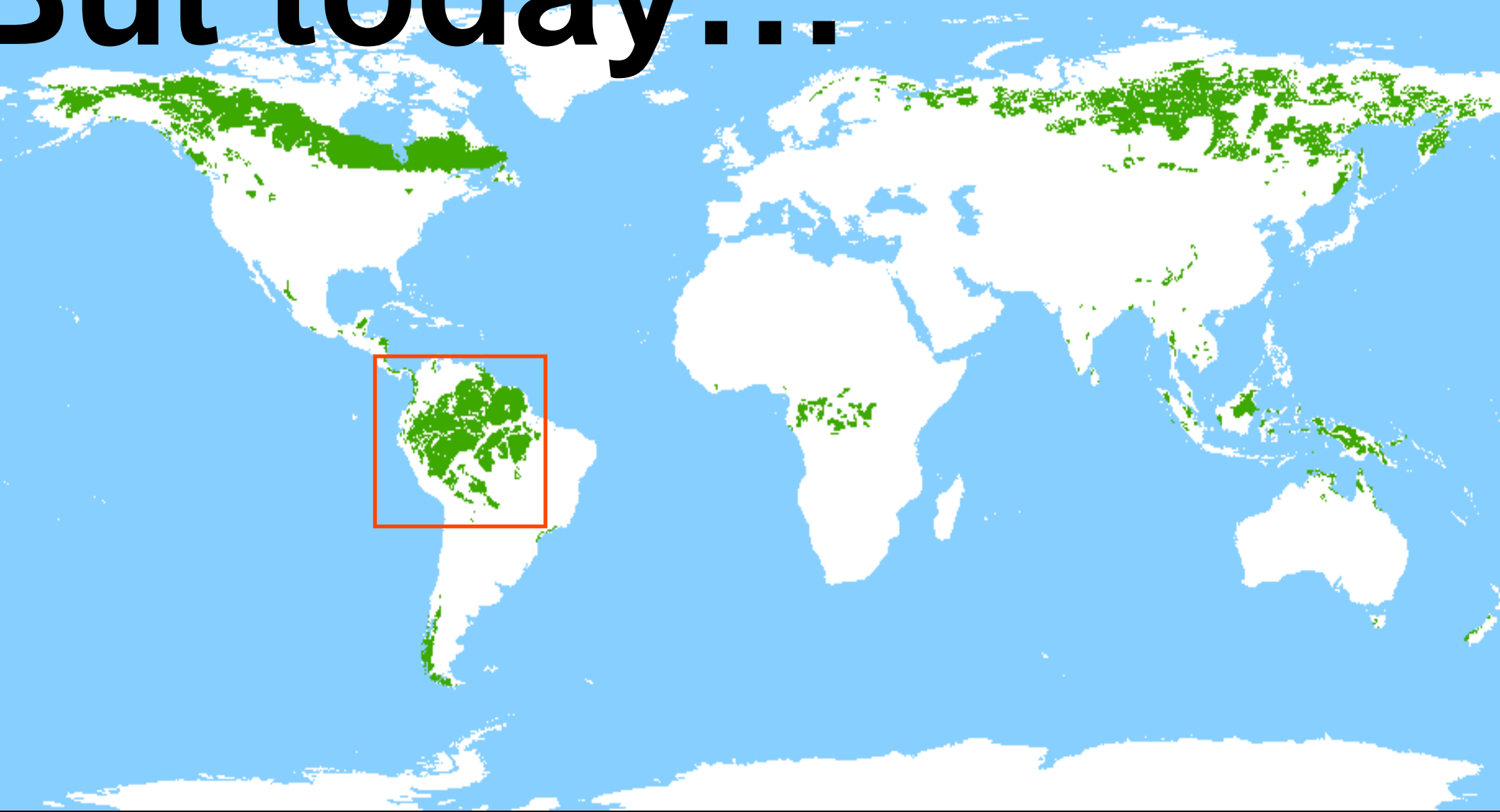
the**big**wild.org

## The Case for The Big Wild

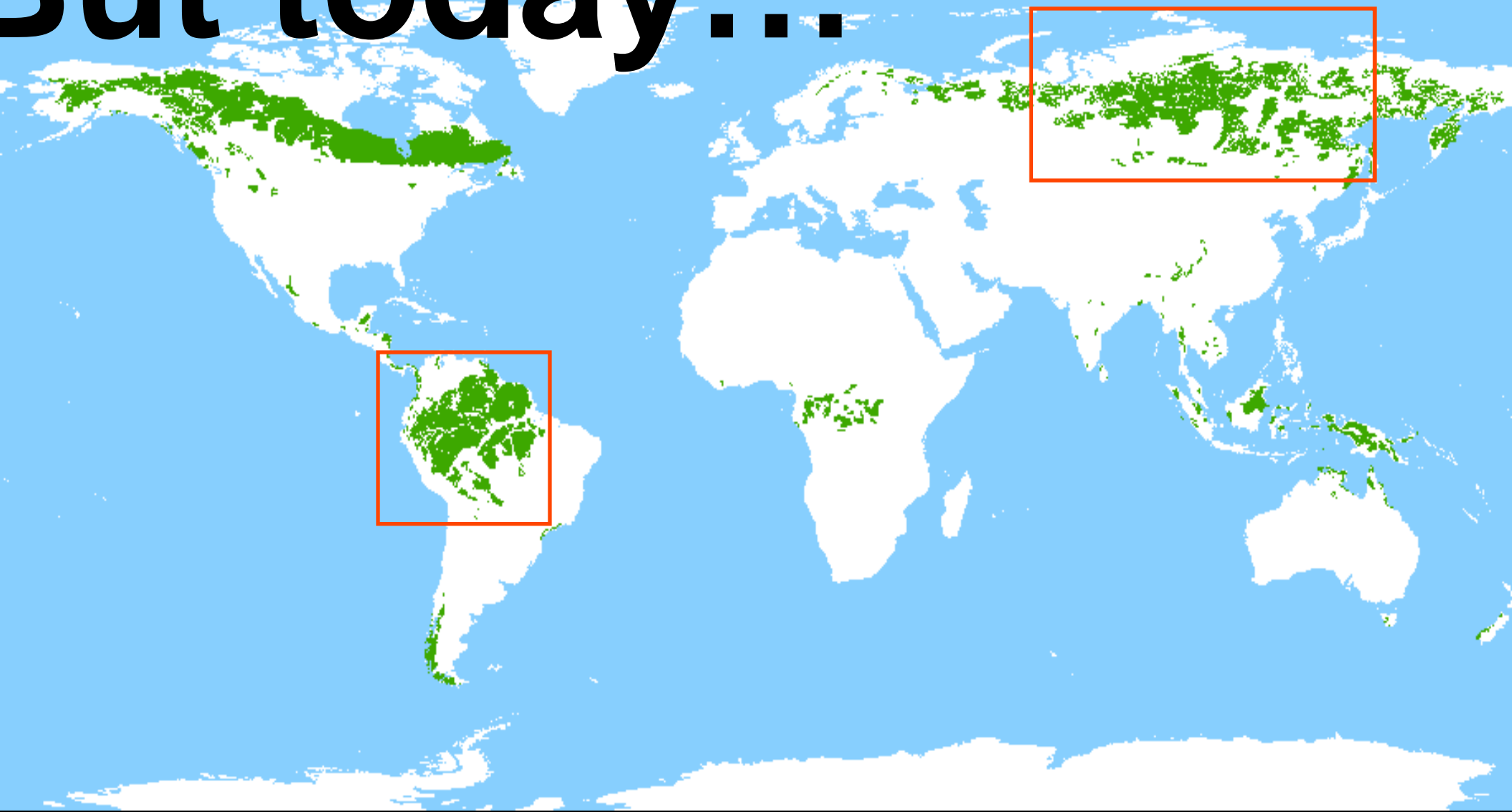
February 2008

**Long ago,  
forests were  
abundant.**

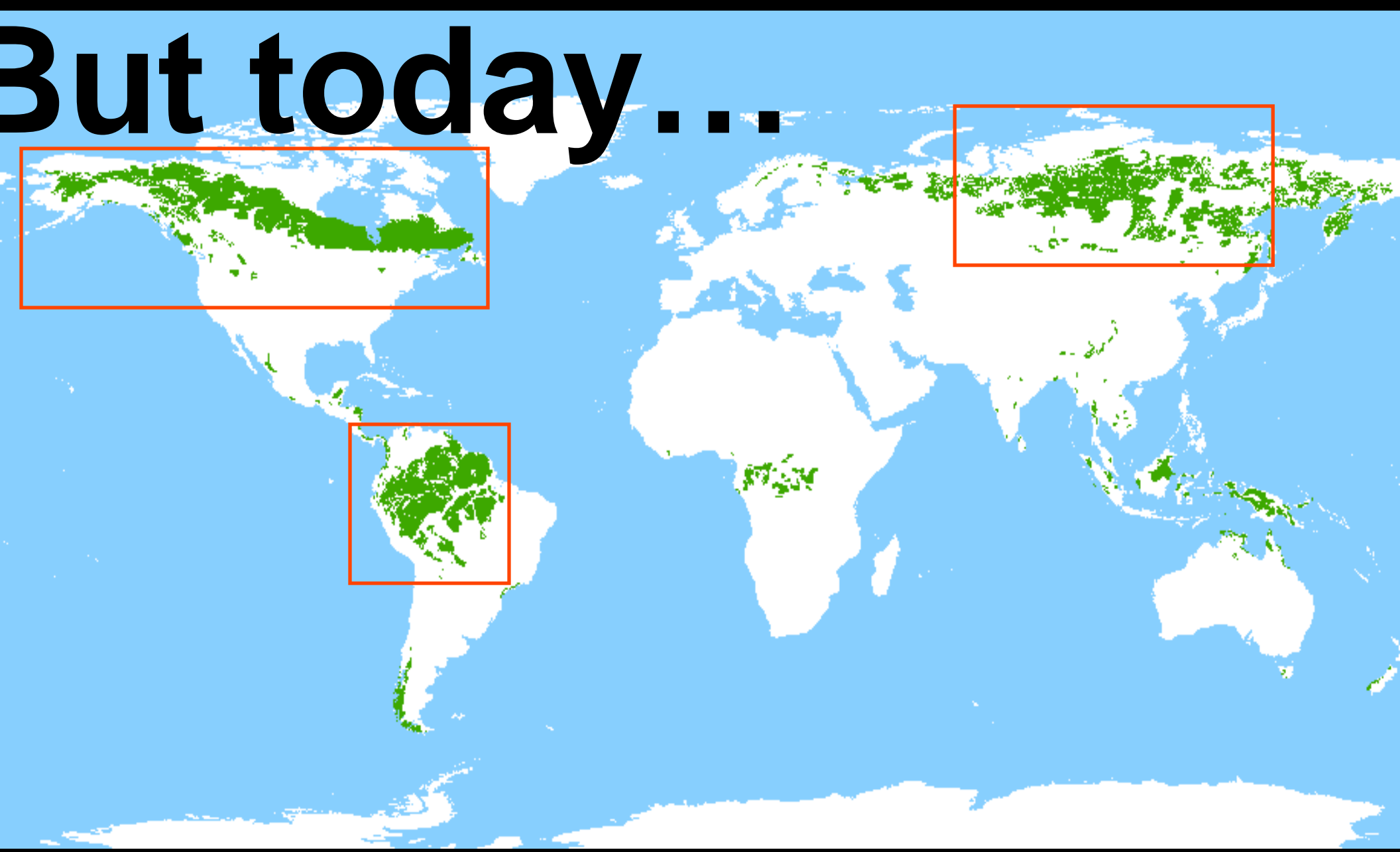
# But today...



# But today...



# But today...





**Canada is home to one of the  
last great forests.**

**Sadly, less than 10% is protected.**

**Right in our backyard is one of the most  
important antidotes to climate change.**



**20%**

**of earth's wild forests**



**20%**

**of earth's fresh water**



**24%**

**of earth's wetlands**



**30%**

**of earth's  
carbon stored on land**



**50%**

**of the global population  
of 40 species**



**80%**

**of the global population  
of 14 species**

**The big threat.**

**Industrial land use  
is a major cause  
of climate change...**

**The big threat.**

**...and we're chewing  
up our wilderness  
like there's no  
tomorrow.**

**The big risk.**


Wilderness systems will  
collapse from the **combined**  
**impact** of these assaults.

**The big risk.**

**Big tipping points...**

**Over 500 Canadian wildlife  
plant, animal and fish  
species are at risk of  
extinction. Many others  
are under threat...**





In the next **10 years**, decisions will be made that will determine the future of our wilderness.

**Will we keep it, or lose it forever?**

**The big moment.**



The big opportunity.

Canada has the **world's best chance** to protect big wilderness on a massive scale.

A scenic landscape featuring a range of rugged mountains in the background, some with patches of snow. In the middle ground, there is a dense forest of evergreen trees. In the foreground, a calm body of water reflects the scene. On the left side of the foreground, a campsite is visible with a blue tent and a red canoe on a gravelly shore.

**The big opportunity.**

**More than 90%** of Canada's  
remaining wilderness,  
oceans and freshwater are  
in the **public domain.**



The big opportunity.

Much of Canada's Big Wild  
is home to **Aboriginal**  
**people**, many of whom strongly  
support **protecting it**.

# The big opportunity.

May 16, 2007:

**1,500 highly respected  
international scientists** call for  
protection of **at least half** of  
Canada's Boreal Forest...

A person stands on a dark, rocky outcrop in the foreground, looking out over a wide, powerful waterfall. The water is white and turbulent as it cascades down a rocky ledge. The background shows a dense forest of evergreen trees covering a valley, with rolling hills in the distance under a clear sky. The overall scene is a vast, natural landscape.

**The big opportunity.**

**Our vision:** At least half of  
Canada's public land and water  
will remain forever wild...

A person stands on a dark, rocky outcrop in the foreground, looking out over a wide, powerful waterfall cascading down a valley. The background is filled with dense green forest and rolling hills under a clear sky. The overall scene is a natural, scenic landscape.

The big opportunity.

...because that's the  
**minimum needed** to preserve  
healthy ecosystems.

Forever wild. **Places like...**



# Mahanni, Northwest Territories



An aerial photograph of a river winding through a dense forest. The trees are in various stages of autumn, showing vibrant colors of red, orange, yellow, and green. The river is a deep blue color, and the overall scene is a beautiful landscape. The text "Restigouche, New Brunswick" is overlaid in white on the left side of the image.

# Restigouche, New Brunswick

# Dumoine River, Quebec





# Gwaii Haanas, British Columbia

# Caribou country, Northern Ontario

A wide-angle landscape photograph of a large body of water, likely a lake or bay, under a dramatic sky. The sky is filled with wispy, white and light blue clouds, with a soft glow of pink and orange near the horizon, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The water is calm, reflecting the colors of the sky. In the foreground, there are dark, silhouetted reeds or grasses growing out of the water. The horizon line is low, showing distant landmasses or islands. The overall mood is serene and natural.

A large buck with impressive antlers stands in a field of tall grass. The buck is the central focus, facing slightly to the left. The background is a dense forest of green trees. The lighting is bright, suggesting a sunny day.

**The big choice.**

**Together, we can protect  
big wilderness... but only if we  
choose to act now.**

# The big choice.

Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS) and Mountain Equipment Co-op have joined forces to mobilize Canadians to demonstrate their support for protection of Canada's publicly-owned wild land and water.

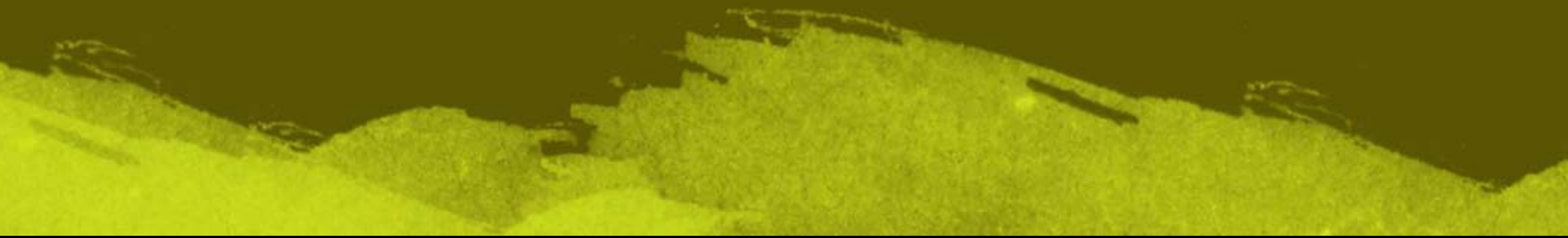


# The big choice.

Canada's wilderness and wild things  
are vital to all life on earth.

**Add your voice to protect them.**

**thebigwild.org**





This document is complimentary and is provided from the National Recreation Database by the [Lifestyle Information Network \(LIN\) www.lin.ca](http://www.lin.ca)

