

WE ARE OCEAN PEOPLE: INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP IN MARINE CONSERVATION
CINDY BOYKO & 'AULANI WILHELM, GUEST EDITORS

indigo dreams



Raechel Wastesicoot (Mein-gun Kwe)
Kanyen'kehà:ka from Tyendinaga Mohawk Territory

Chase Wastesicoot
Swampy Cree from Tataskweyak Cree Nation

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The first time my toes touched salty water, my hands clasped yours tightly. I felt like I was returning to the place where I was born. The cold, dark waters of the Atlantic brushed up against my shins, sending an electric current through my body and out through my fingers, weaved within yours—much larger.

We are bonded by so much, but our love for these deep blue tides is one that we share with our ancestors. Both of our families come from waters fresh, but the power of water knows no borders. From land to sea, we have touched so many parts of this land. Water connects us—from the lakes to tributaries to oceans—and this connection we feel between each other and our kin.

Back on land, we create from memories we hold from our time out by sea. These creations keep the water in mind, with deep indigo hues, while incorporating elements from the land: antler, quills, fur, cotton, and more. Each piece plays to a specific memory of water and, through that memory, we are reminded of its importance to our ancestors, to us, and to our future kin.

In the following pages, we present the Indigo Dreams Collection, in six movements:

1. **shore**, 2021, Raechel Bonomo and Chase Wastesicoot—mixed media (antler, indigo dye, glass beads, metal)
2. **distance**, 2021, Raechel Bonomo and Chase Wastesicoot—mixed media (antler, caribou fur indigo dye, cotton, glass beads, metal)
3. **crescendo**, 2021, Raechel Bonomo and Chase Wastesicoot—mixed media (antler, acrylic paint, indigo dye, porcupine quills, glass beads, metal)
4. **meeting**, 2021, Raechel Bonomo and Chase Wastesicoot—mixed media (antler, crystal, glass beads, indigo dye, cotton, metal)
5. **depth**, 2021, Raechel Bonomo and Chase Wastesicoot—mixed media (antler, leather, cotton, indigo dye, glass beads, metal)
6. **currents**, 2021, Raechel Bonomo and Chase Wastesicoot—mixed media (antler, leather, cotton, indigo dye, glass beads, metal)

MORE INFORMATION

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shore





distance





crescendo





meeting





depth





currents





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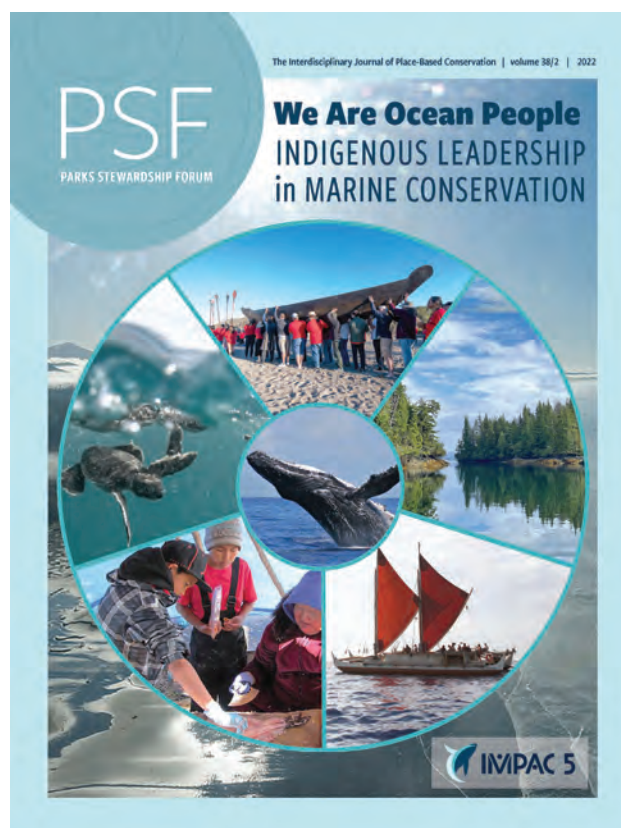
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On the cover of this issue

CIRCLE DESIGN, clockwise from top:

- Northern Chumash ceremony | [ROBERT SCHWEMMER](#)
- Haida Gwaii | [CINDY BOYKO](#)
- The Polynesian Voyaging Society's voyaging canoe Hōkūle'a | [NOAA](#)
- Elder teaching youths, northern Alaska | [US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE](#)
- Baby Honu (sea turtles), Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument | [NOAA](#)
- Center: Humpback whale, Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument | [NOAA](#)

Background: Pacific Rim National Park Reserve | [PARKS CANADA](#)