



XWE NAL MEWX DECLARATION  
(COAST SALISH)

WE, KNOW THE CREATOR PUT US HERE.

WE KNOW OUR CREATOR GAVE US LAWS THAT:  
GOVERN ALL OUR RELATIONSHIPS TO LIVE IN HARMONY WITH  
NATURE AND MANKIND;  
DEFINED OUR RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES;

WE HAVE THE RIGHT TO GOVERN OURSELVES AND THE RIGHT TO  
SELF-DETERMINATION.  
OUR RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES CANNOT BE ALTERED OR TAKEN  
AWAY BY ANY OTHER NATION.

WE HAVE OUR SPIRITUAL BELIEFS, OUR LANGUAGES, OUR CULTURE, AND A  
PLACE ON MOTHER EARTH WHICH PROVIDES US WITH ALL OUR NEEDS.

WE HAVE MAINTAINED OUR FREEDOM, OUR LANGUAGE AND OUR TRADITIONS  
FROM TIME IMMEMORIAL.

WE CONTINUE TO EXERCISE OUR RIGHTS, FULFILLING THE  
RESPONSIBILITIES AND OBLIGATIONS GIVEN TO US BY THE CREATOR FOR  
THE LAND UPON WHICH WE WERE PLACED.

WE, OPENLY AND PUBLICLY DECLARE AND AFFIRM TO THE PEOPLE, THE  
GOVERNMENTS OF CANADA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA:  
THAT THE XWE-NAL-MEWX HAVE HELD AND STILL HOLD ABORIGINAL  
TITLE TO ALL LANDS, WATERS AND RESOURCES WITHIN OUR  
TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES.

THAT THE XWE-NAL-MEWX HAVE NEVER REACHED ANY AGREEMENT OR  
TREATY WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA, BRITAIN AND BRITISH  
COLUMBIA CONCERNING THE OCCUPATION, SETTLEMENT, SOVEREIGNTY  
OR JURISDICTION OVER OUR LAND, EXCEPT FOR THOSE TREATIES  
ENTERED INTO WITH THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT PRIOR TO  
CONFEDERATION.

WE, DECLARE AND AFFIRM OUR INALIENABLE RIGHT OF ABORIGINAL TITLE  
AND ABORIGINAL RIGHTS TO THE LAND, THE MOUNTAINS, THE  
MINERALS, THE TREES, THE LAKES, THE RIVERS, THE STREAMS, THE  
AIR AND OTHER RESOURCES TO OUR LAND.

WE, DECLARE THAT OUR ABORIGINAL TITLE AND OUR RIGHTS HAVE EXISTED  
FROM TIME IMMEMORIAL, EXISTS AT THE PRESENT TIME AND SHALL  
EXIST FOR ALL FUTURE TIME.

WE, DECLARE UNTO OURSELVES THE SOVEREIGNTY THAT IS INHERENT IN  
OUR NATIONS.

XWE-NAL-MEWX  
(Statement of Claim)  
coast salish

We the Xwe-nal-mewx of Southern Vancouver Island and Lower West Mainland, Claim the Territory that bounds the traditional Territory of the Mutha'Lemexw, North to the Yeqw'lthtax Territory, North/East over the Waters to Qoumuhs on the mainland, across to Hope, down to Wenatchee, in what is now the state of Washington, across to Aberdeen and 250 miles out into the Pacific Ocean.

We claim all the Islands that lie within the Straits of Georgia and the Straits of Juan de Fuca: As these are our Traditional Homes of Food Gathering, for cultural and economic needs.

Attached is a map showing Aboriginal Territory of Claim for Xwe-nal-mewx Nations and:

Submitted without prejudice: the actual lines.

ALBERTA

B.C. U.S.A.

INTERIOR SALISH

WENATCHEE

INTERIOR

HOMATHKQ LILLOOET

ELEM

NOKSAC

SHISH

PUGET SOUND SALISH

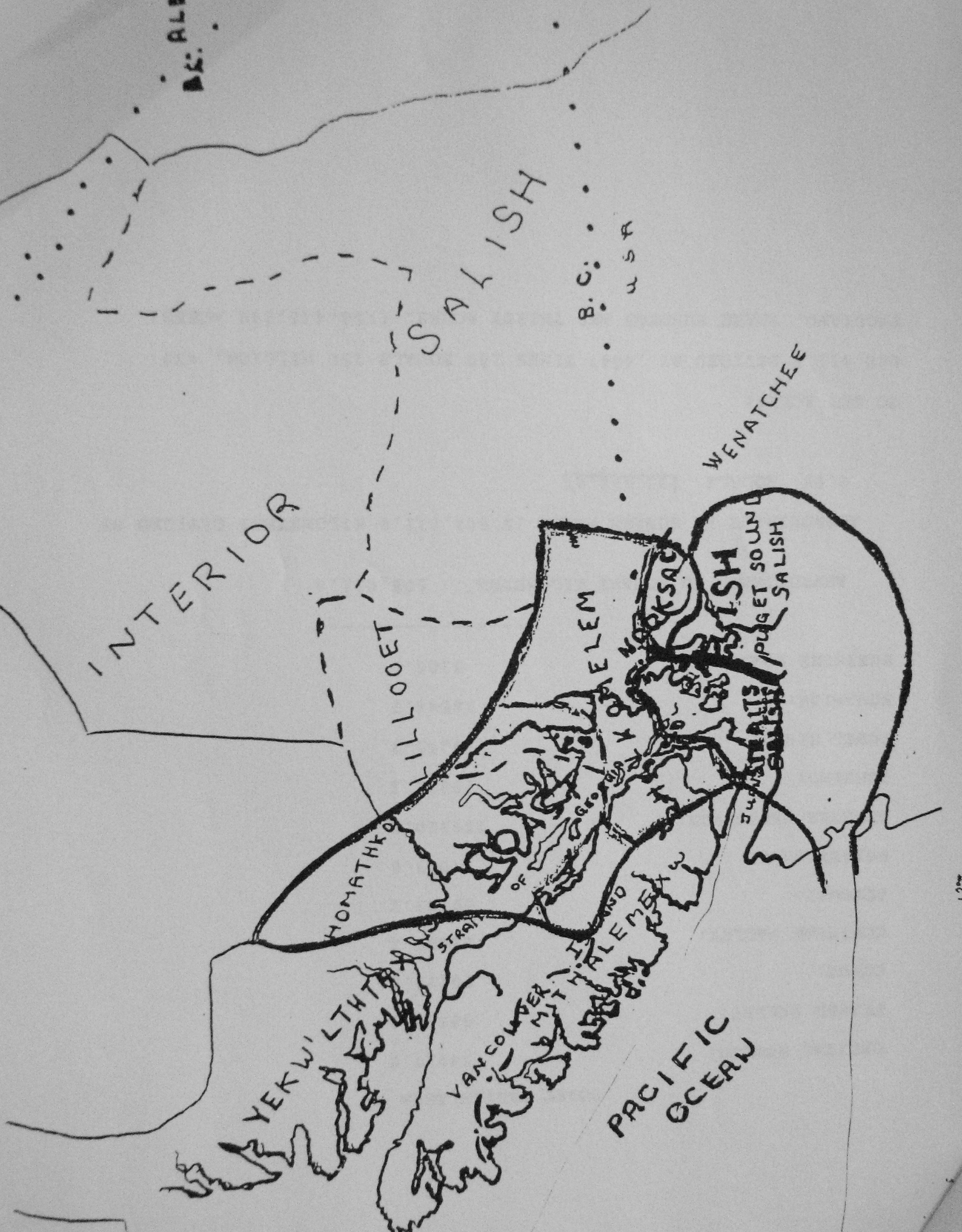
EMWALIS

YEKWILTHA

VANCOUVER

ISLAND

PACIFIC OCEAN



COAST SALISH AREA

CAPITAL REGION:	38237.0
FRASER VALLEY:	68669.4
COMOX:	28298.8
COWICHAN VALLEY:	25499.2
DEWDNEY:	59339.2
FRASER/CHEAM	57599.0
GREATER VANCOUVER:	269360.2
NANAIMO:	16802.3
POWEL RIVER:	9355.7
SQUAMISH:	26544.2
SUNSHINE COAST:	9106.8

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APPROXIMATE IN SQUARE KILOMETRE      608,811.8

APPROXIMATE IN SQUARE MILES IS 608,811.8 KILOMETRES DIVIDED BY  
2.59    EQUALS    235,062.47

TO GET ACRES:

608,811.8 DIVIDED BY .4047 TIMES 100 EQUALS 150 MILLION, 435  
THOUSAND, THREE HUNDRED AND THIRTY ACRES. (150,435,330 ACRES)