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# PROTECTED & OTHER CONSERVED AREAS IN CANADA

A presentation for the ABCM Thematic  
Workshop – Montreal, Canada

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Environment & Climate Change Canada



Canada

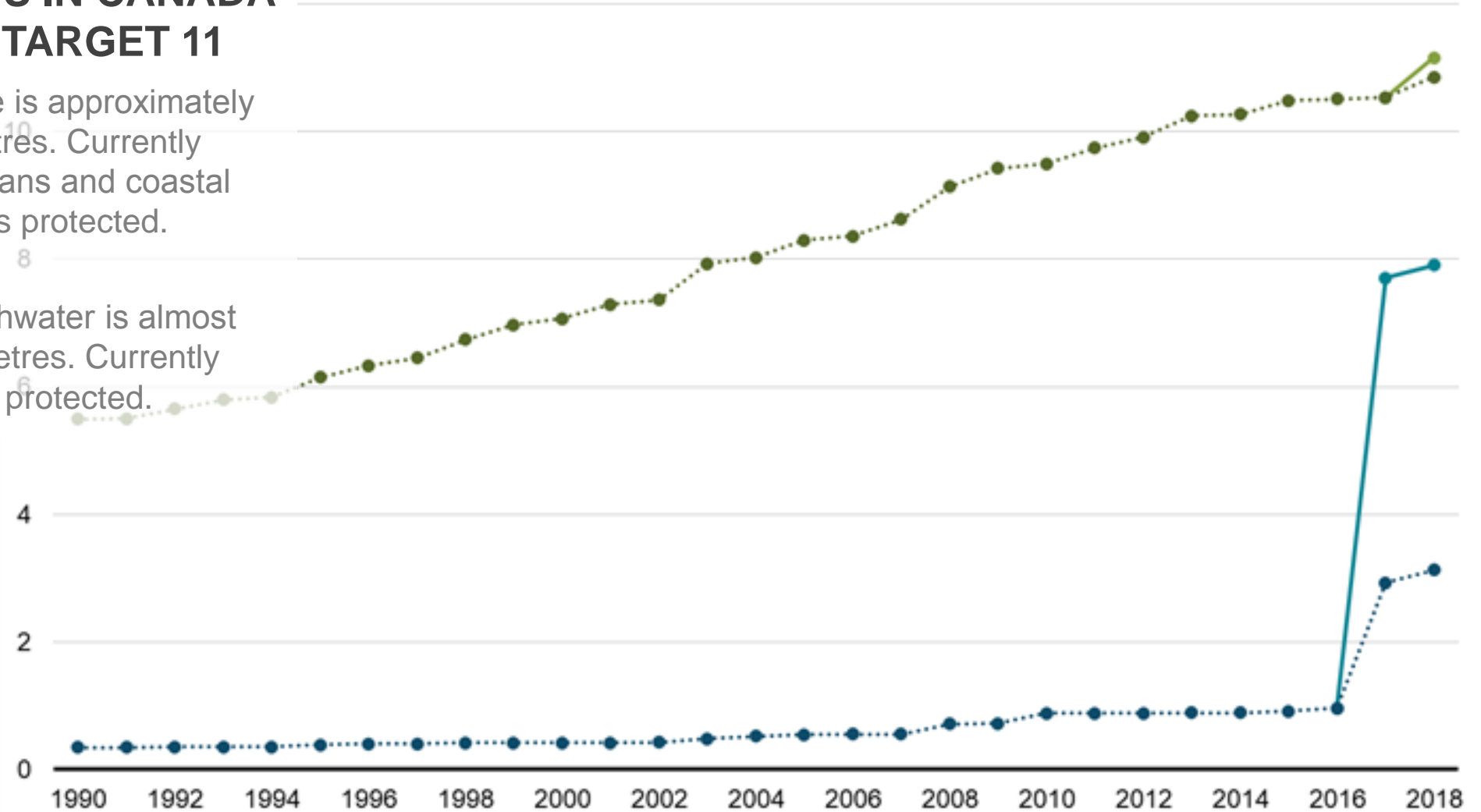
## CURRENT STATUS IN CANADA TOWARDS AICHI TARGET 11

Canada's marine estate is approximately 6 million square kilometres. Currently 13.8% of Canada's oceans and coastal areas are recognized as protected.

Canada's land and freshwater is almost 10 million square kilometres. Currently 11.8% is recognized as protected.

- Terrestrial area conserved (includes protected)
- Terrestrial area protected
- Marine area conserved (includes protected)
- Marine area protected

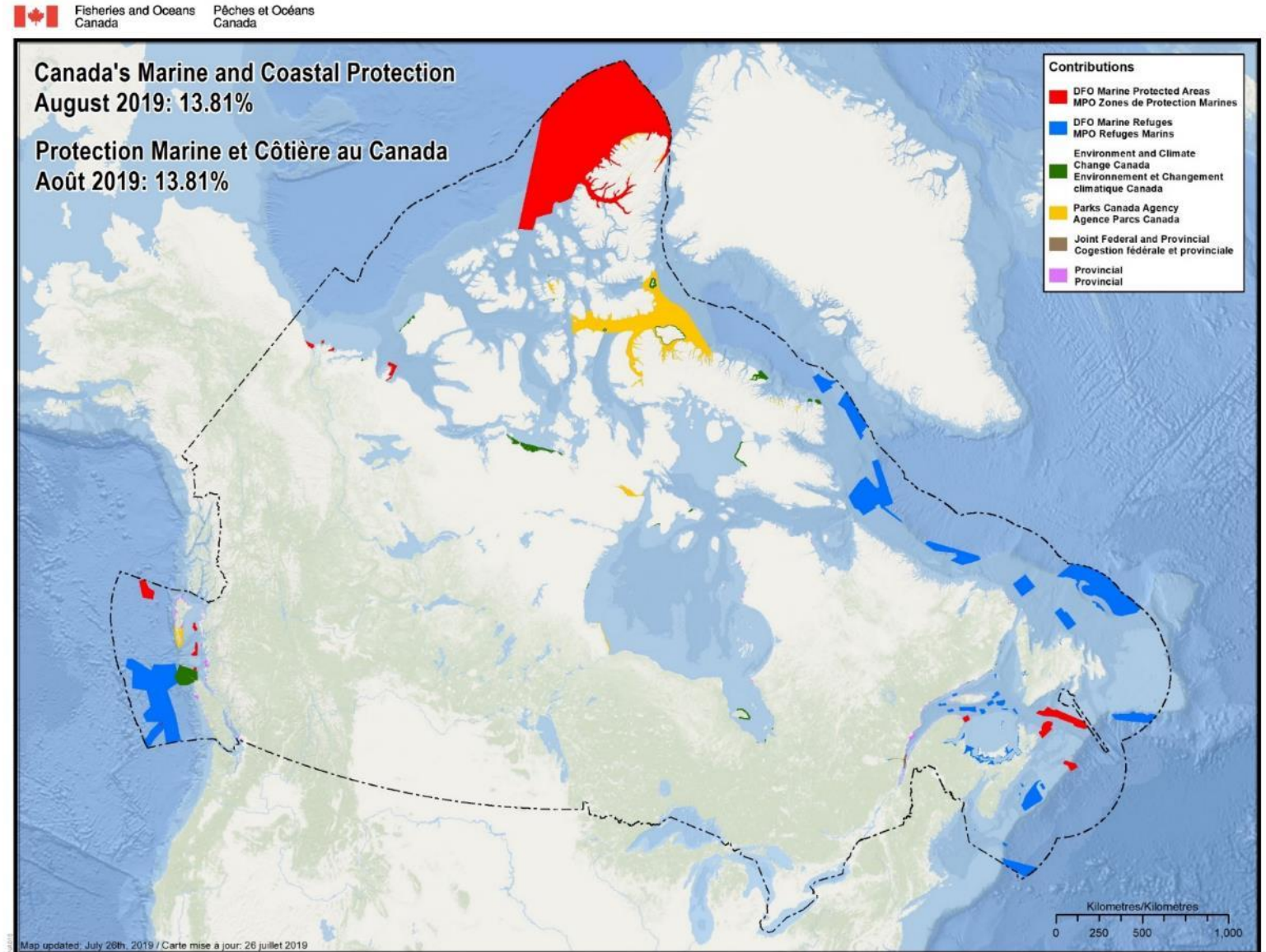
www.canada.ca/environmentalindicators



## MARINE TARGET: PROGRESS TO 10%

August 2019: Canada surpassed its marine conservation targets, conserving **13.8%** of its marine and coastal estate through a range of federal and provincial MPAs and OECMs (specifically, marine refuges).

Going forward: On April 25, 2019, Canada announced new protection standards for federal MPAs and federal marine OECMs. New federal MPAs will prohibit oil and gas activities, mining, dumping and bottom trawling. All activities in federal OECMs will continue to be assessed on a case-by-case basis to ensure that risks to the area are effectively avoided or mitigated.

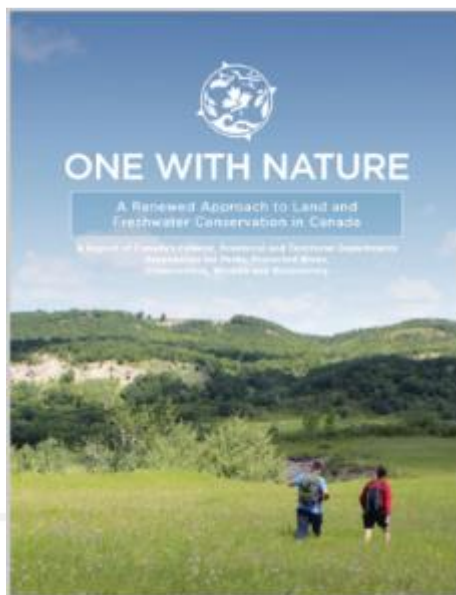




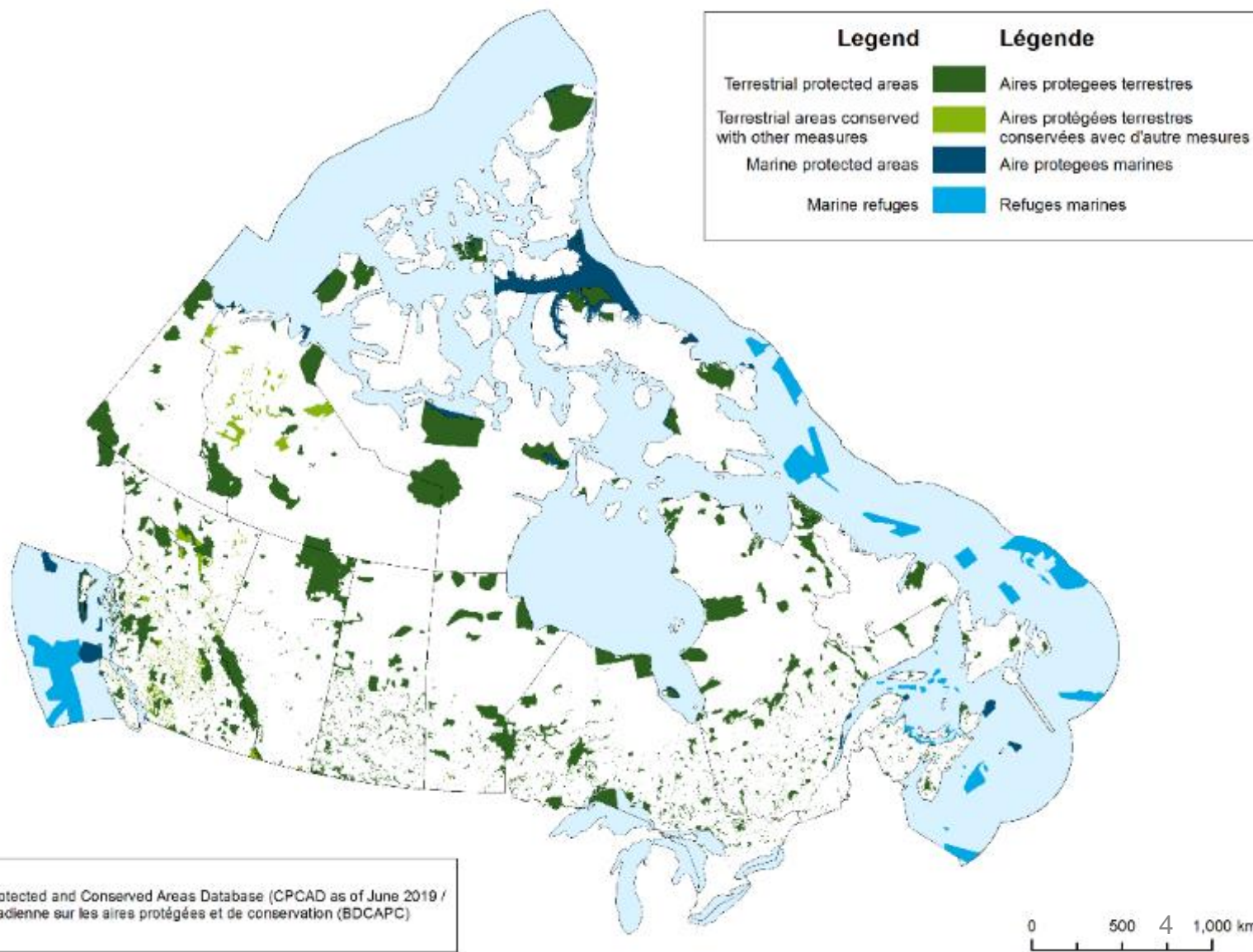
## TERRESTRIAL TARGET: PROGRESS TO 17%

On April 11, 2016, Canada creating a working group of national and sub-national governments to develop a plan to make progress towards Aichi Target 11.

Since 2016 Canada has added approximately 130,000 square kilometres (an area roughly equivalent to the area of Greece and now recognizes **11.8%** as protected.



### TERRESTRIAL AND MARINE AREA-BASED CONSERVATION MEASURES MESURES DE CONSERVATION EFFICACES PAR ZONE TERRESTRES ET MARINES



Source:  
- Canadian Protected and Conserved Areas Database (CPCAD as of June 2019 /  
Base de données canadienne sur les aires protégées et de conservation (BDCAPC)  
en date de juin 2019

# PROTECTED AND CONSERVED AREAS IN TERMS OF CONTRIBUTION TO THE TARGET

	Marine and Coastal	Terrestrial and Freshwater
ABCM Total	793,906 km <sup>2</sup>	1,173,914 km <sup>2</sup>
OECM Total	283,365 km <sup>2</sup>	77,066 km <sup>2</sup>
OECM Percentage of Total	36%	7%

## Other Effective Conservation Measures

*“a geographically defined area other than a Protected Area, which is governed and managed in ways that achieve positive and sustained long-term outcomes for the in situ conservation of biodiversity, with associated ecosystem functions and services and where applicable, cultural, spiritual, socio-economic, and other locally relevant values”*

**= Stewardship?**

Some examples of other effective area-based conservation measures

## **ABCM-OECM CASE STUDIES**

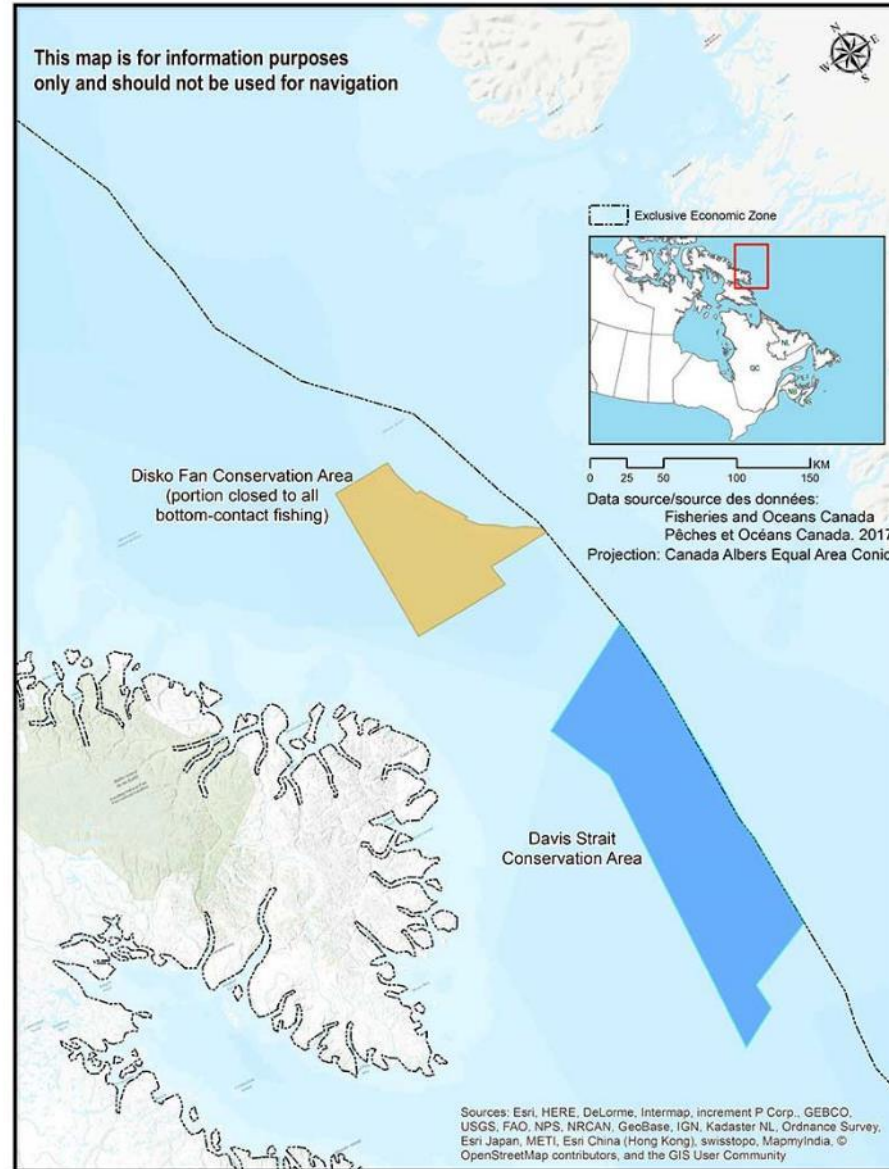
## MARINE OECM: DISKO FAN

The Disko Fan Conservation Area is home to populations of Narwhal and globally unique large Gorgonian corals.

Two commercial fisheries operate in the region (Greenland halibut and northern shrimp)

Approximately 7,485 km<sup>2</sup> (0.13% coverage).

Conservation Objectives: Minimize impacts on winter food source and overwintering habitat for narwhal; and conserve coral concentrations.



Juvenile narwhal in Milne Inlet near Pond Inlet, Nunavut. © Marianne Marcoux



Northern shrimp among bubblegum coral (Paragorgia arborea). © DFO

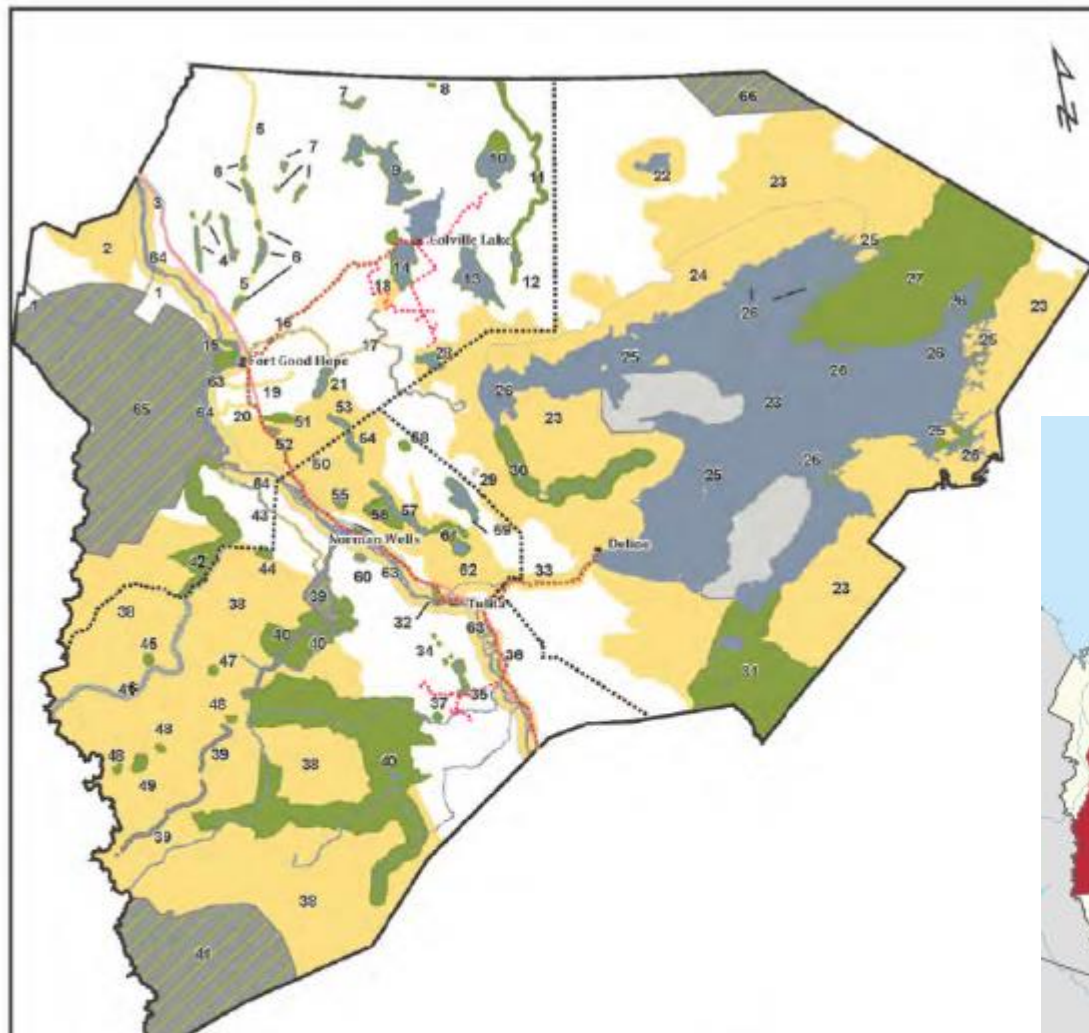


## TERRESTRIAL OECD: CONSERVATION ZONES

Sahtu Land Use Plan Conservation Zones are significant traditional, cultural, heritage and ecological areas in which specified land uses are prohibited.

Conservation zones in the Sahtu Land Use Plan comprise 30,384km<sup>2</sup>

The prohibited land uses in Conservation Zones are mineral exploration and development, oil and gas exploration and development, quarrying, power development, and commercial forestry.

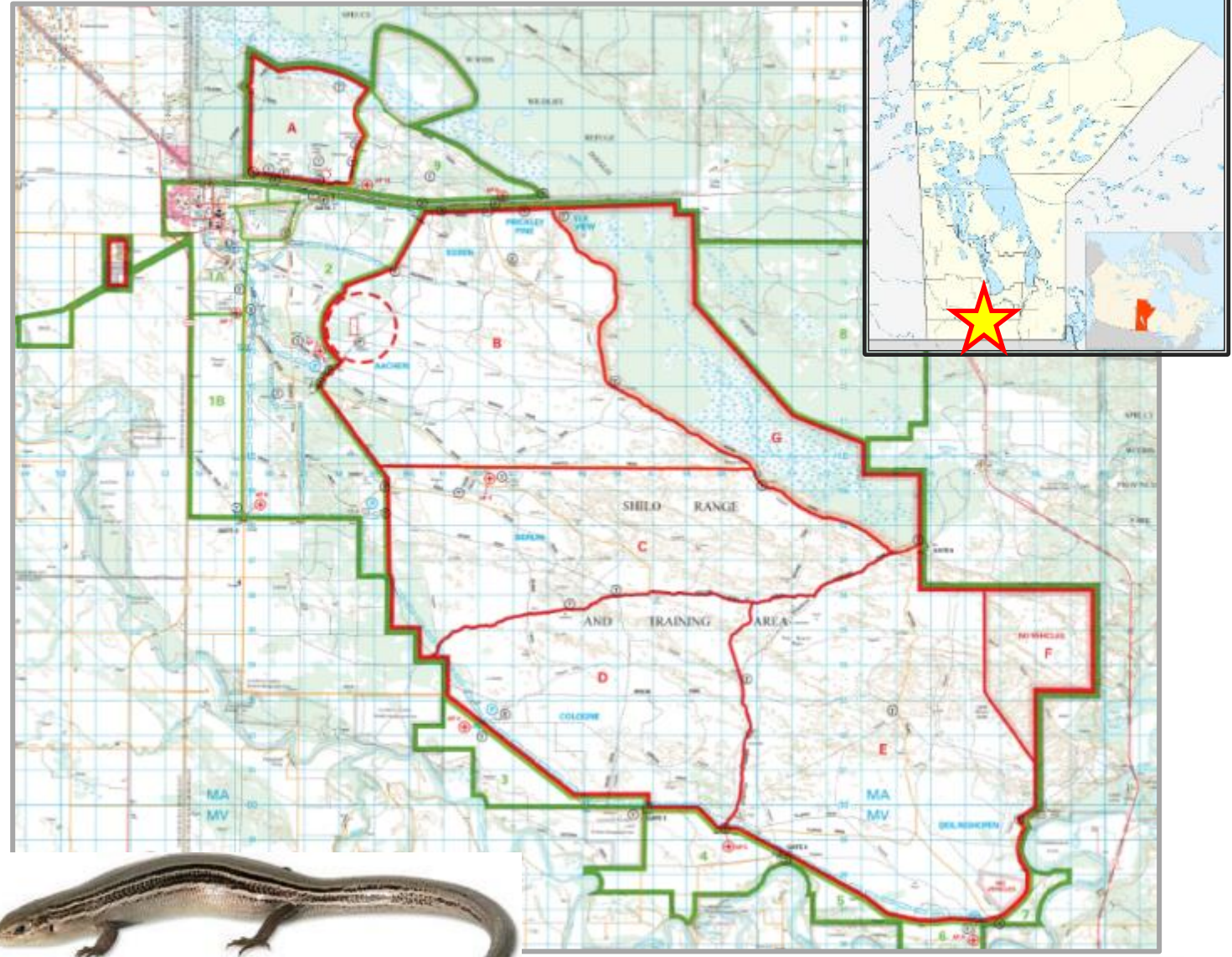




## TERRESTRIAL OECM: CFB SHILO

About 211 km<sup>2</sup> of CFB Shilo are natural habitats that support native plants and other wildlife. Activities on the base create a disturbance regime suitable for species adapted to bison as a keystone species.

The Department of National Defence has developed and maintains an environmental protection plan and a Shilo Environmental Advisory Committee was established in 1974.



Potential opportunities for future establishment and recognition of ABCM

# **FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES**



## THE CANADIAN CONTEXT: LAND OWNERSHIP

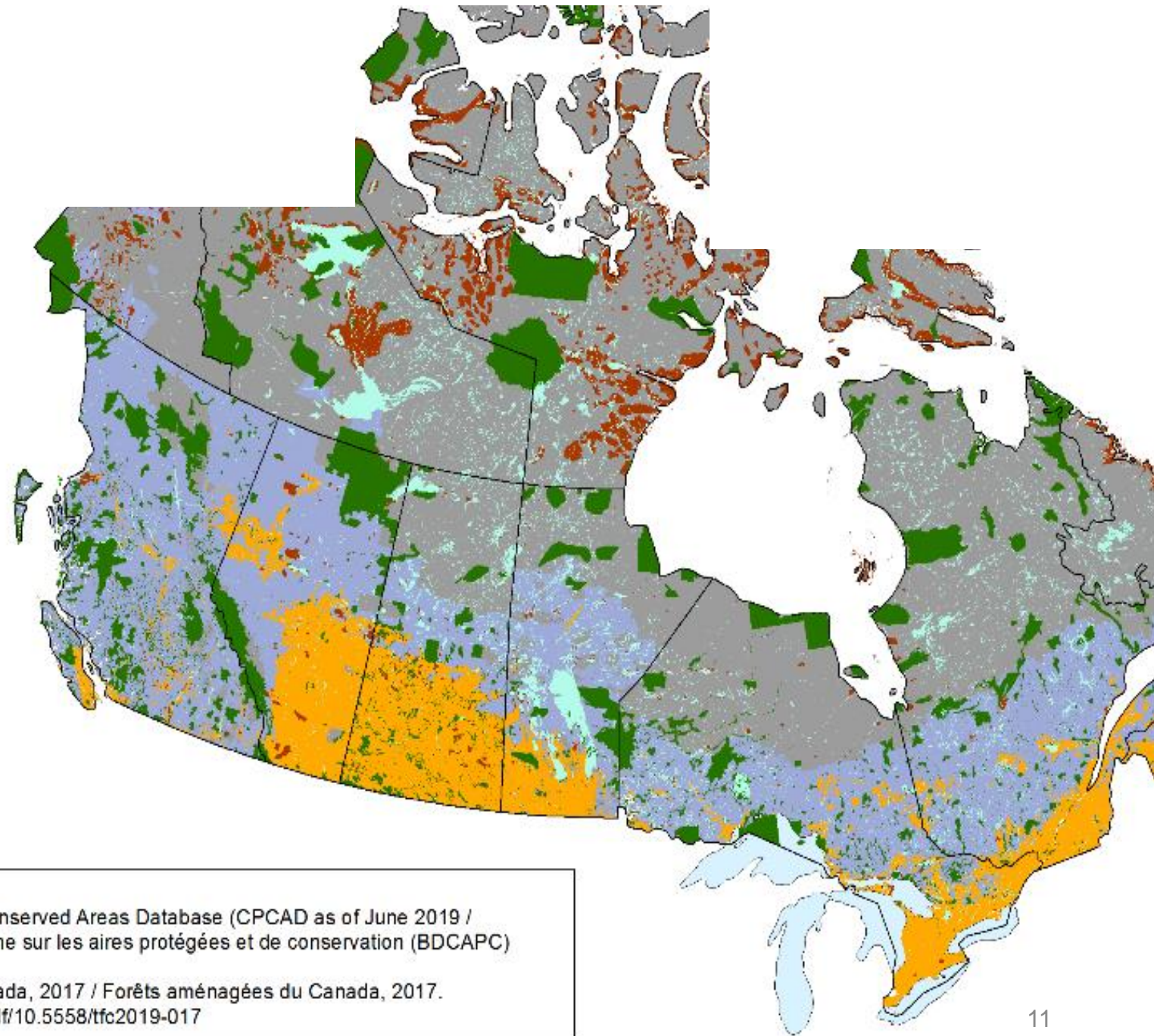
Terrestrial and freshwater with the highest frequency of species at risk and rare habitats are largely privately owned.

The majority of Canada's forests and northern lands are administered by sub-national governments.

Indigenous governments have ownership over significant tracts of land, especially in northern Canada.

***“Conservation is the slow and laborious unfolding of a new relationship between people and land.”***

Aldo Leopold, 1940

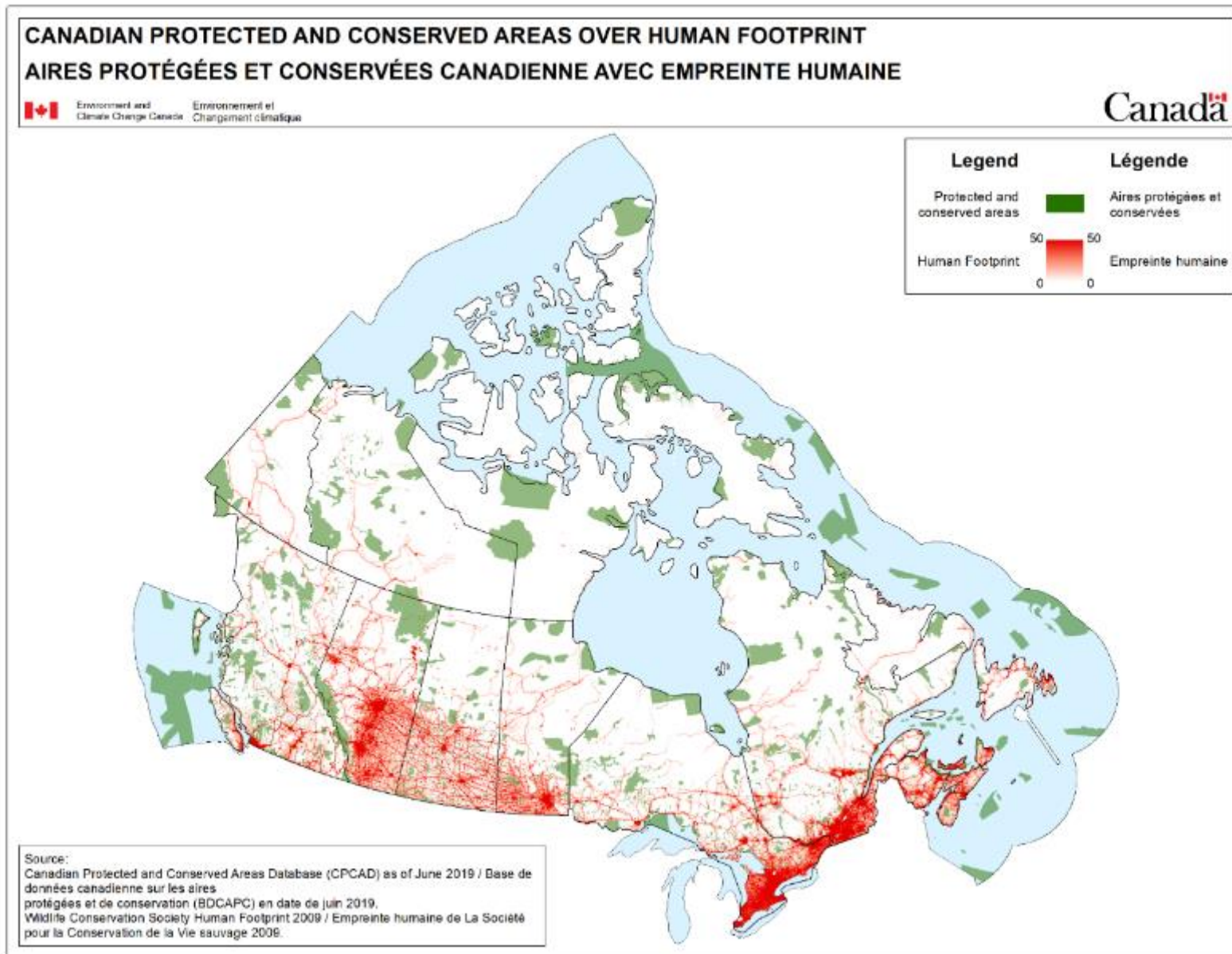
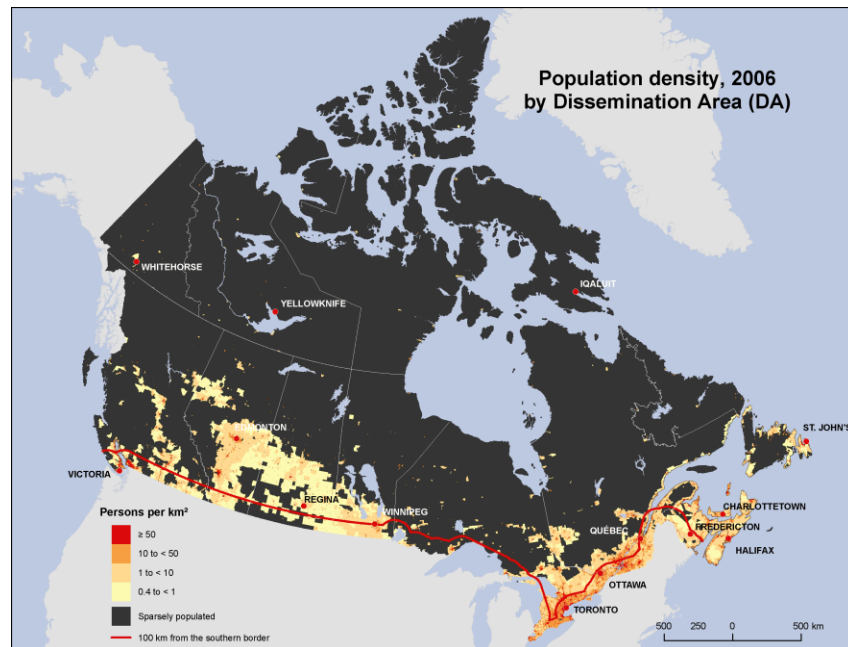


Canadian Protected and Conserved Areas Database (CPCAD as of June 2019 /  
Base de données canadienne sur les aires protégées et de conservation (BDCAPC)  
en date de juin 2019  
Forest Management in Canada, 2017 / Forêts aménagées du Canada, 2017.  
<https://pubs.cif-ifc.org/doi/pdf/10.5558/tfc2019-017>



# THE CANADIAN CONTEXT: ANTHROPOGENIC FOOTPRINT

38 million people live in Canada, 90% within 100 kilometres of the border with the USA.



# RARE SPECIES

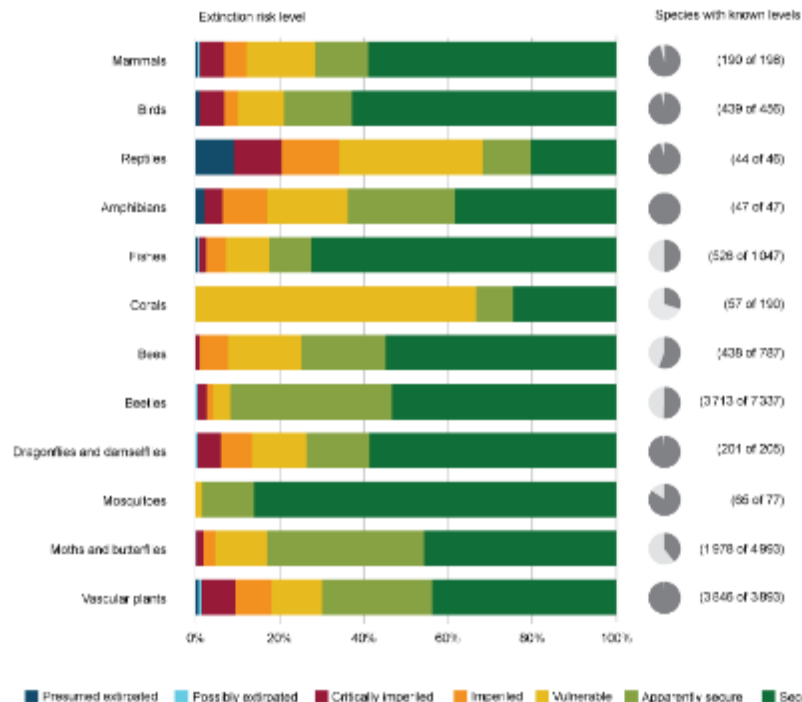
Species in Canada were assessed in 2015

80% are ranked as secure.

10% are vulnerable.

10% are imperiled

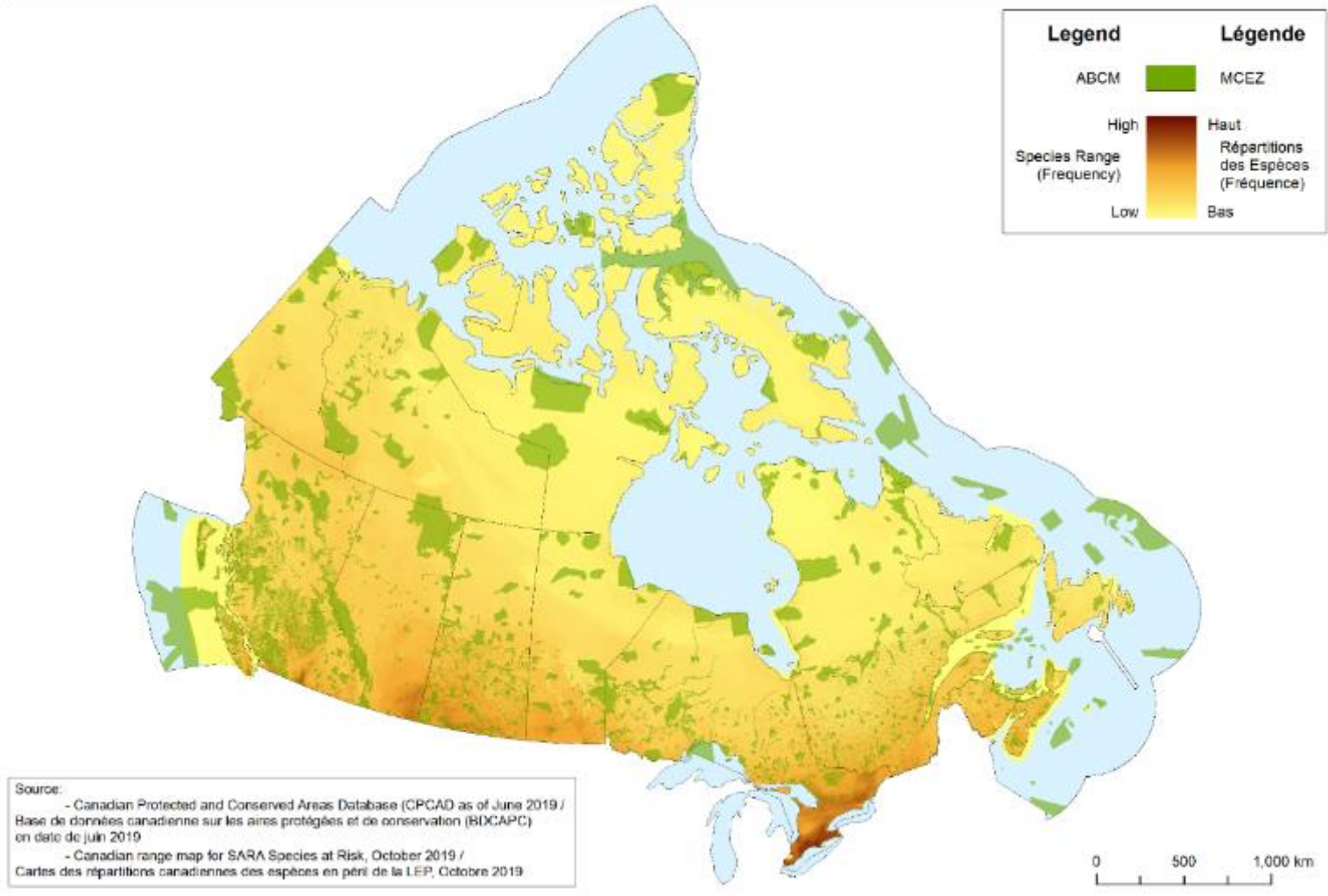
Less than 1% or 125 species are presumed extirpated (no longer found in Canada)



## FREQUENCY OF SPECIES AT RISK RANGES WITHIN ABCM'S FRÉQUENCE DES RÉPARTITIONS DES ESPÈCES SAUVAGE EN PÉRIL DANS LES MCEZ

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## ECOLOGICAL REPRESENTATION

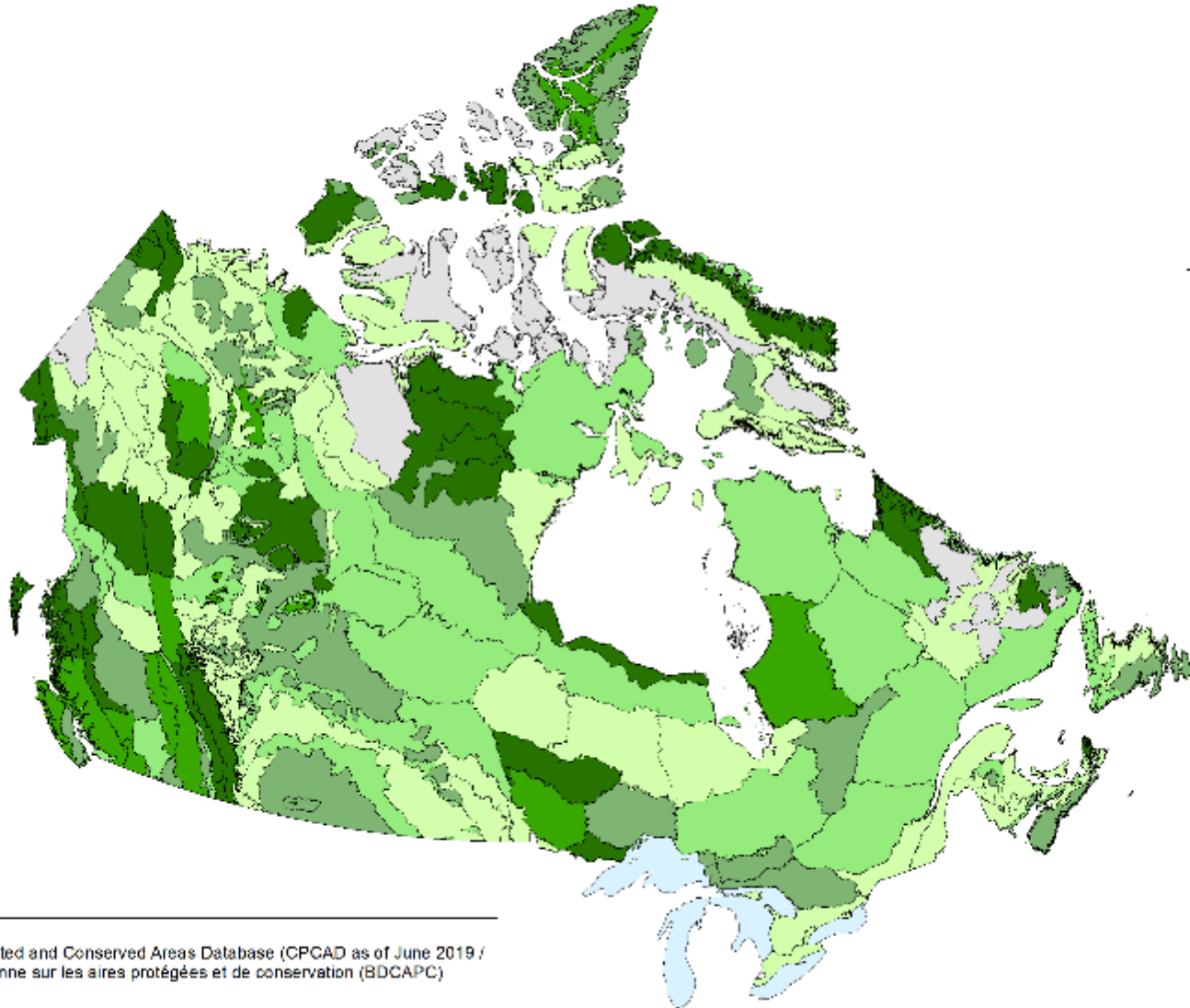
Canada recently refined its ecological database to allow reporting by ecoregion (instead of ecozone). Many terrestrial ecosystems have achieved 30% protection.

### PERCENTAGE OF TERRESTRIAL ABCM BY ECOREGIONS (2019) POURCENTAGE DE MCEZ TERRESTRES PAR ÉCORÉGIONS (2019)

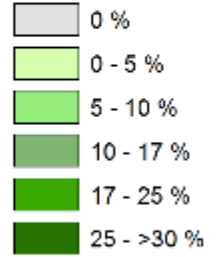
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#### Legend / Légende



#### Source:

- Canadian Protected and Conserved Areas Database (CPCAD as of June 2019 /  
Base de données canadienne sur les aires protégées et de conservation (BDCAPC)  
en date de juin 2019

- Canadian Terrestrial Ecological Framework (CTEF) 2019 /  
Cadre écologique terrestre canadienne (CTEC) 2019

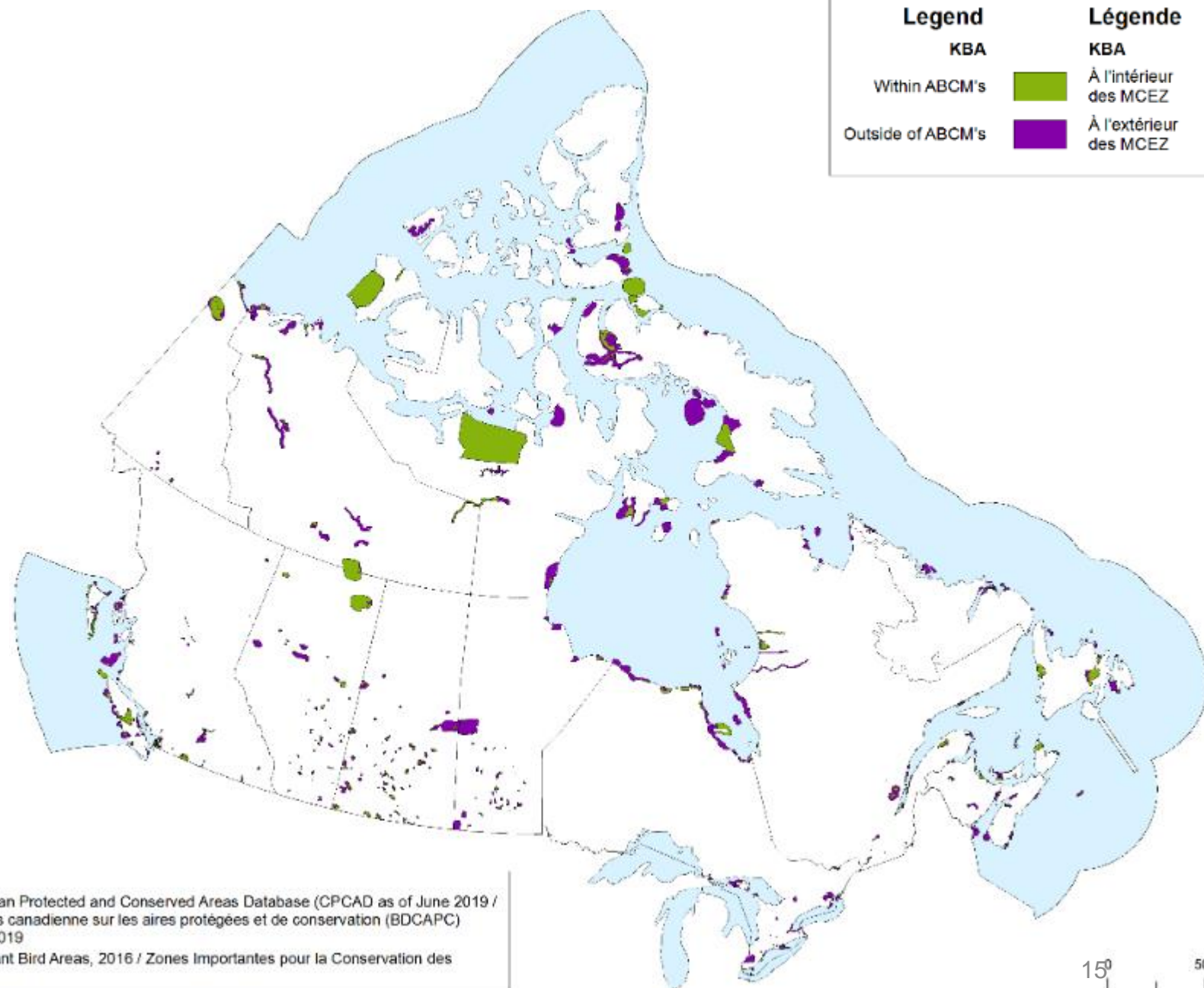
0 500 1 1,000 km



## AREAS OF IMPORTANCE TO BIODIVERSITY (TERRESTRIAL)

Presently 45% of all Key Biodiversity Areas in Canada are found within protected and other conserved areas.

Eleven percent of Canadian protected and other conserved areas protect 181,961km<sup>2</sup> of Key Biodiversity Areas.



## CARBON STORAGE WITHIN ABCM

## LE STOCKAGE DU CARBONE DANS LES MCEZ



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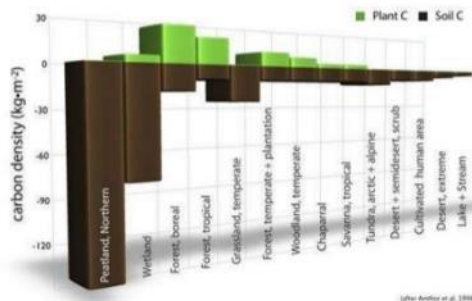
# CARBON STORAGE AND SEQUESTRATION

Canadian landscapes, particularly wetlands and peatlands store a significant amount of the global soil organic carbon.

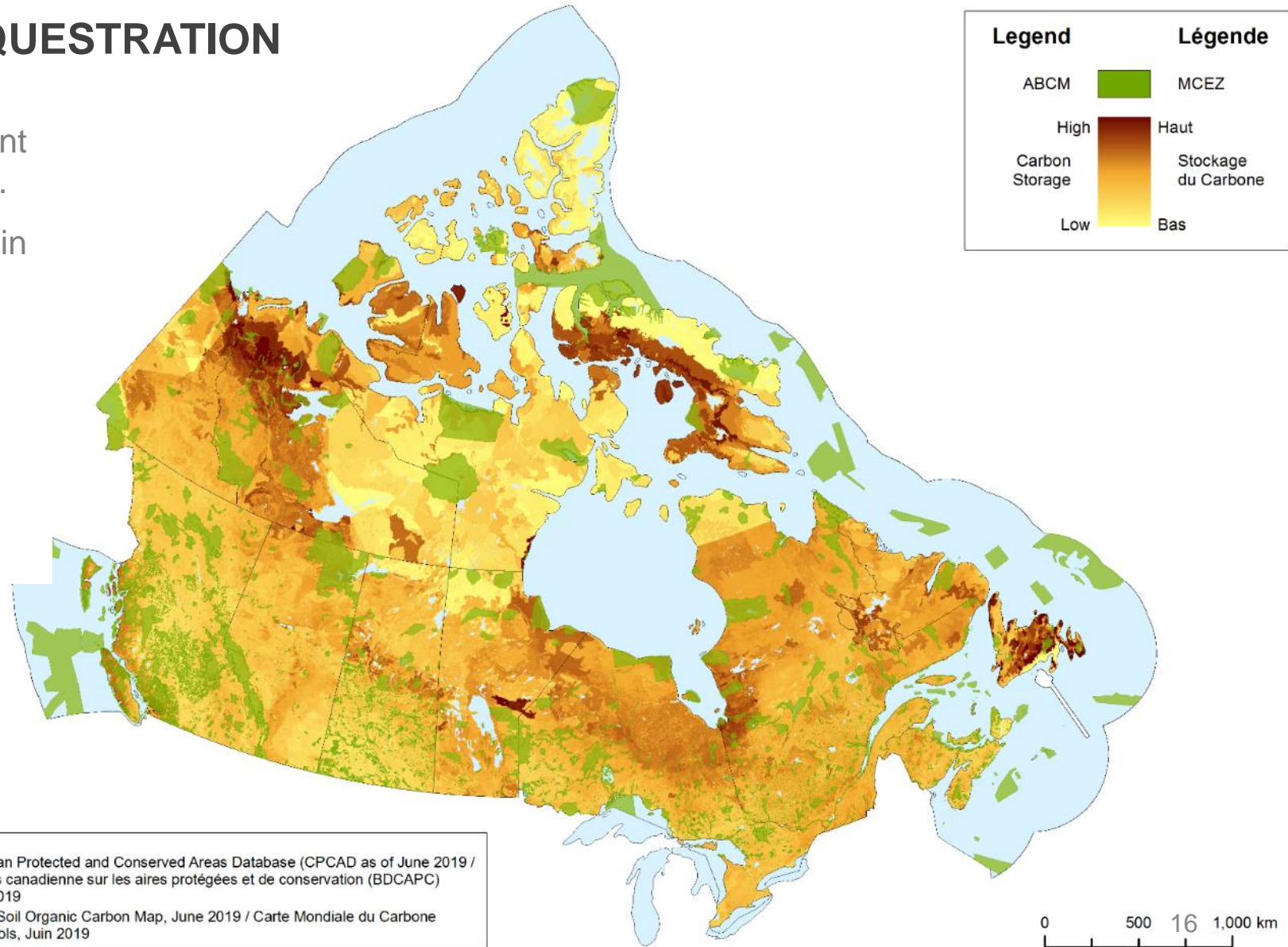
Further, forested landscapes in Canada in particular can be carbon sinks and, at times, carbon sources depending on natural disturbances such as fire.

Canada's forests were a net source of emissions in 2016 - total net emissions from Canada's managed forests were about 78 million tonnes).

### Peatland and wetlands store the majority of the global soil organic carbon



(after Amthor et al. 1998)



Source:

- Canadian Protected and Conserved Areas Database (CPCAD as of June 2019 / Base de données canadienne sur les aires protégées et de conservation (BDCAPC) en date de juin 2019

- Global Soil Organic Carbon Map, June 2019 / Carte Mondiale du Carbone Organique des Sols, Juin 2019



## BIOSPHERE RESERVES, RAMSAR SITES AND MORE

Five of Canada's 18 Biosphere Reserves have the majority of their area within a protected or other conserved area (28%).

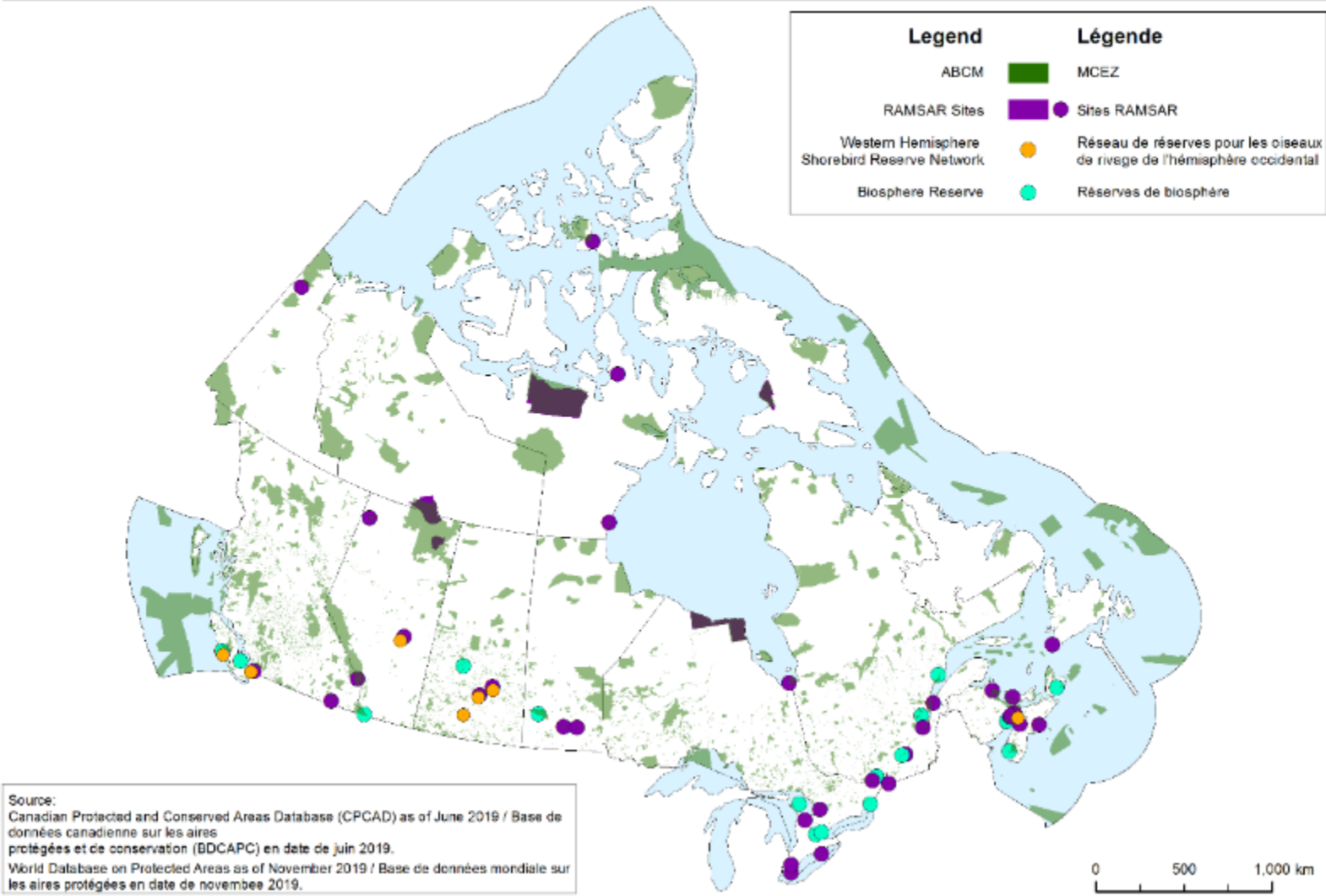
Twenty of Canada's 37 Ramsar wetlands of international importance have the majority of their area within a protected or other conserved area (54%).

Six of Canada's 7 Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network (WHSRN) sites have the majority of their area within a protected or other conserved area (86%).

### ABCM WITH BIOSPHERE RESERVES, RAMSAR SITES, AND WESTERN HEMISPHERE SHOREBIRD RESERVE NETWORK MCEZ AVEC LES RÉSERVES DE BIOSPHERE, SITES RAMSAR, ET RÉSEAU DE RÉSERVES POUR LES OISEAUX DE RIVAGE DE L'HÉMISSPHÈRE OCCIDENTAL

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Mainstreaming biodiversity and the connection with ABCM

# **CONSIDERATIONS**

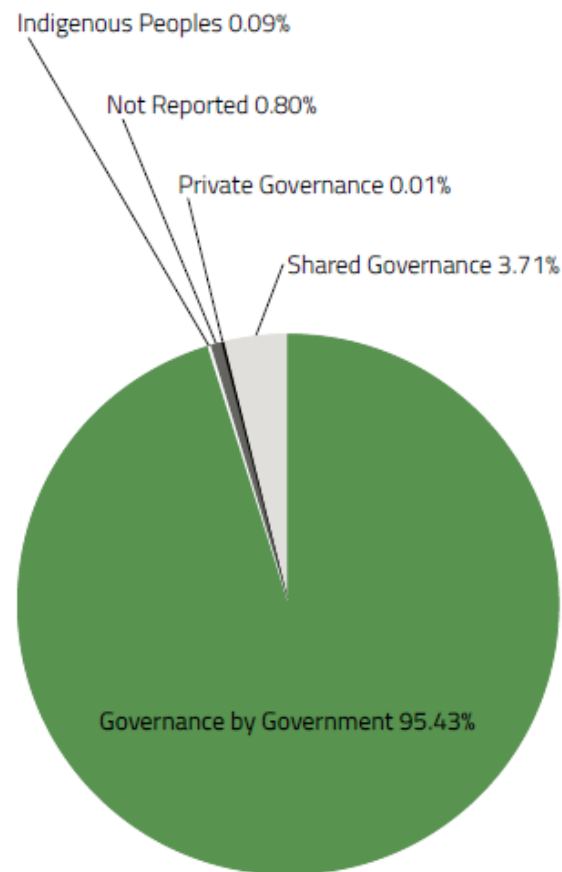
## A BALANCED ABCM PORTFOLIO COULD INCLUDE MORE STEWARDSHIP AREAS

Stewardship is the careful and responsible management biodiversity.

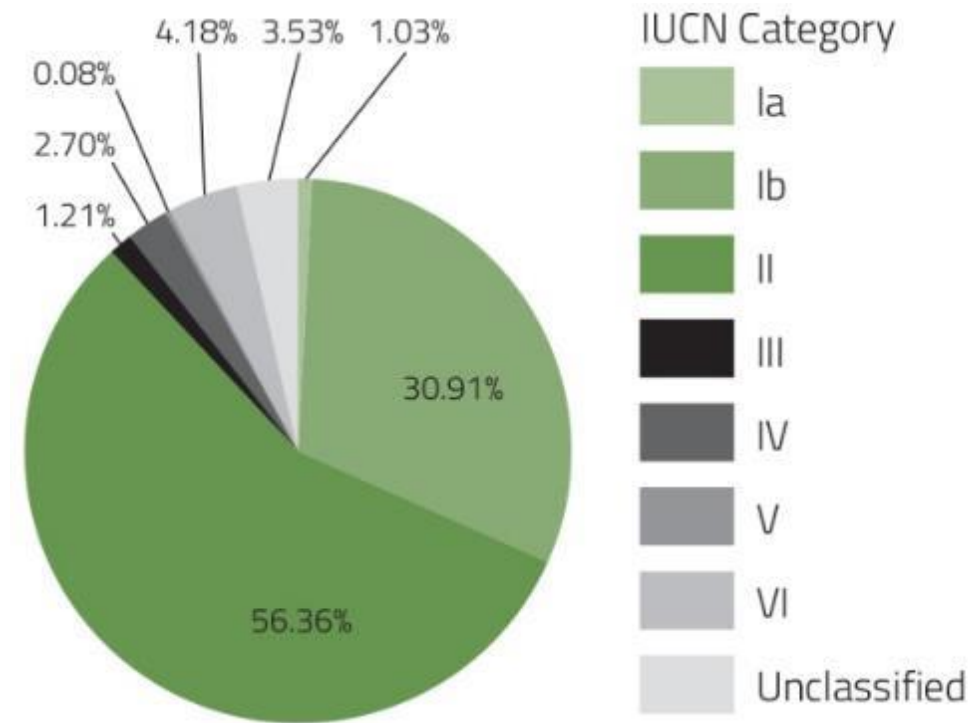
Regulated protected areas are one part of the portfolio of future Canadian investments vis à vis ABCM.

Well managed forests, grasslands and oceans can achieve the effective conservation of biological diversity.

These stewardship areas may be an important area for growth in Canada vis à vis ABCM.



Proportion of Canada's protected areas by governance type (2015) – terrestrial and marine

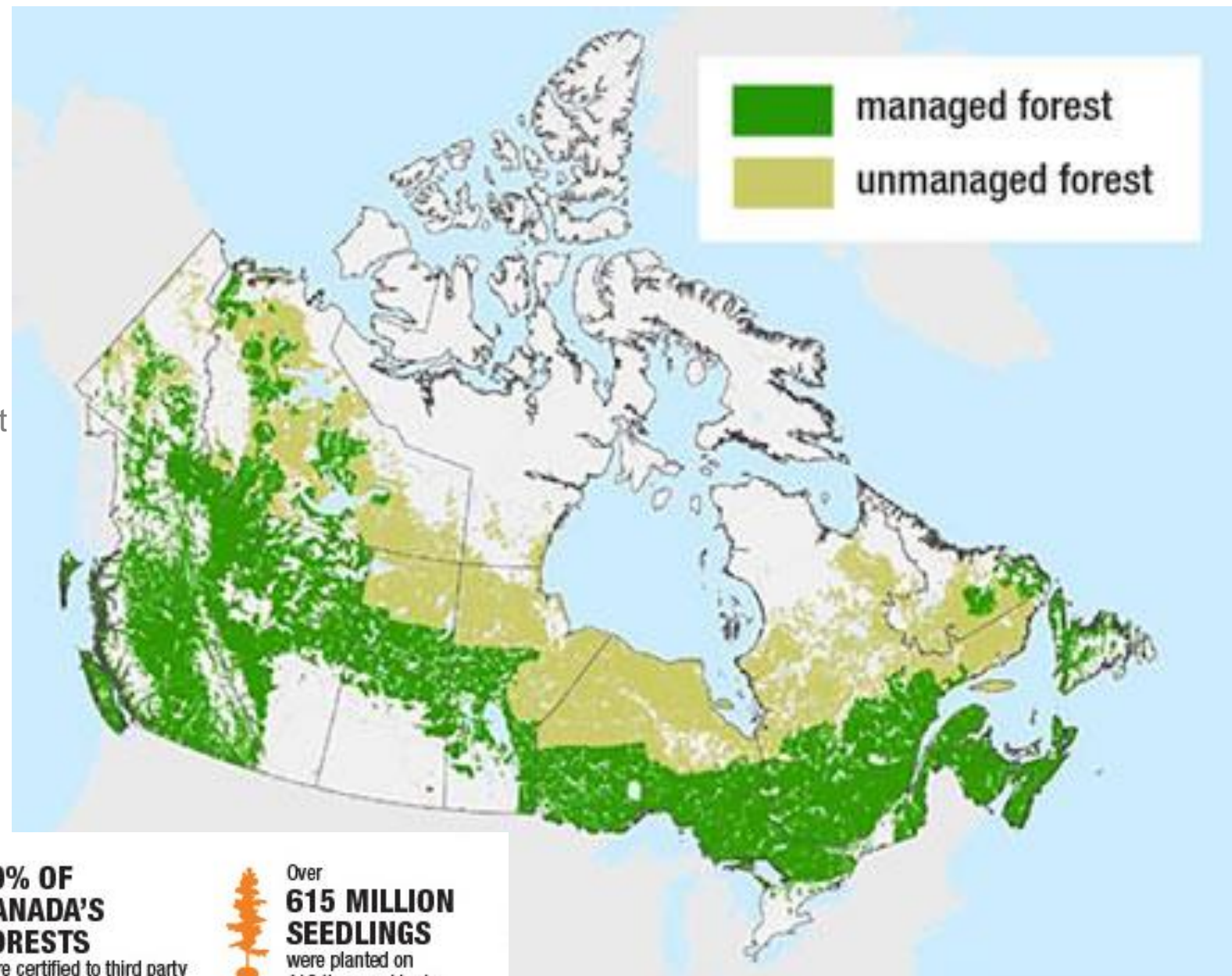


Canadian protected areas (terrestrial and marine) by International Union for the Conservation of Nature management category (2015)

## THE CANADIAN CONTEXT: MANAGED FORESTS

95% of Canada's managed forests are certified to third-party standards of sustainable forest management.

91% of Canada's managed forests have long-term management plans in place that have biodiversity considerations.



**49% OF  
CANADA'S  
FORESTS**

were certified to third party  
standards of sustainable  
forest management. (2017)



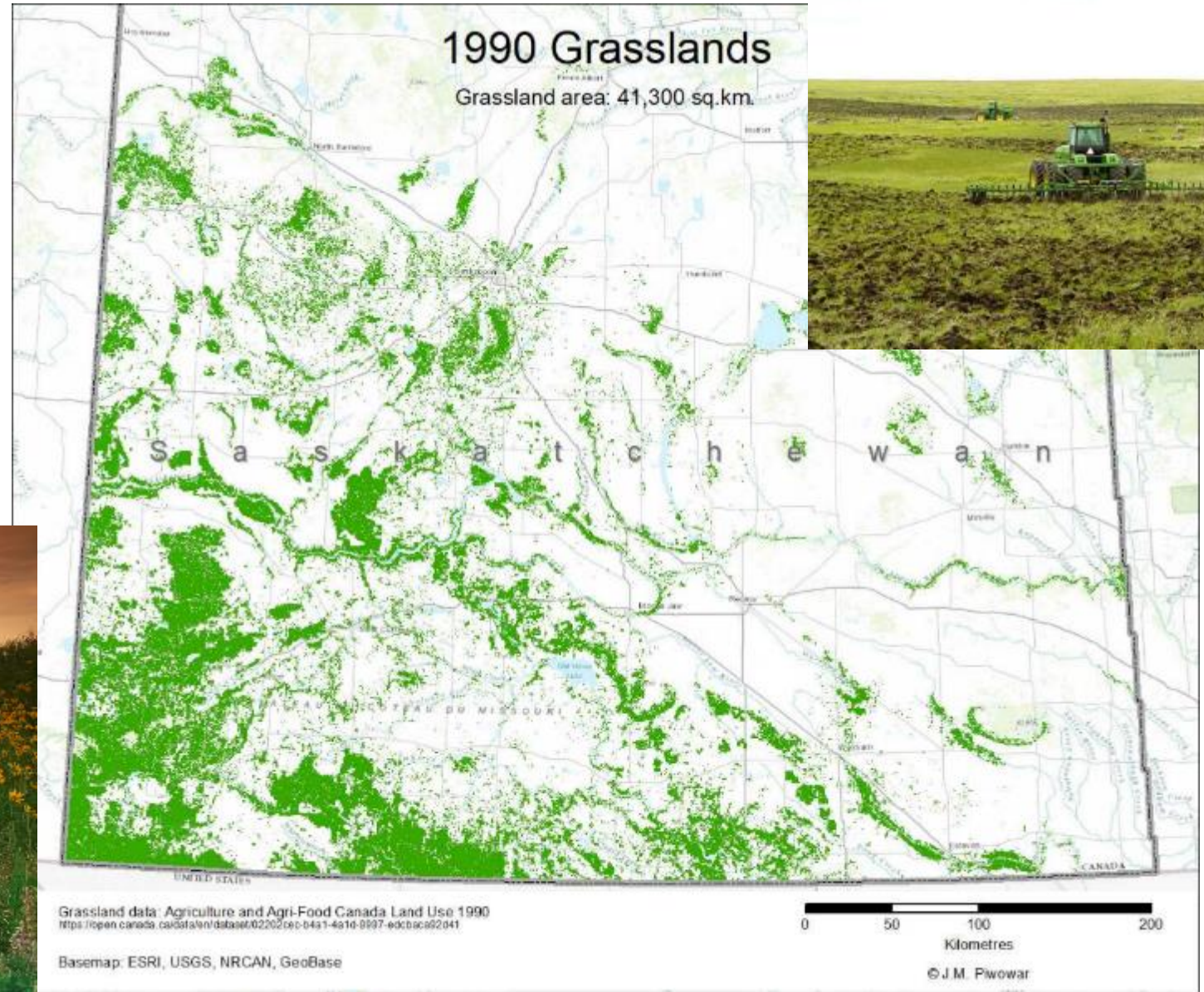
Over  
**615 MILLION  
SEEDLINGS**

were planted on  
410 thousand ha in  
Canada's forests. (2016)



## THE CANADIAN CONTEXT: NATIVE GRASSLAND

In the remaining native grasslands in Canada a market incentive could be provided to producers (ranchers) who are grazing cattle on native grasslands by certifying their product as sustainable or 'biodiversity friendly' and returning a cash premium to ranchers for their product.

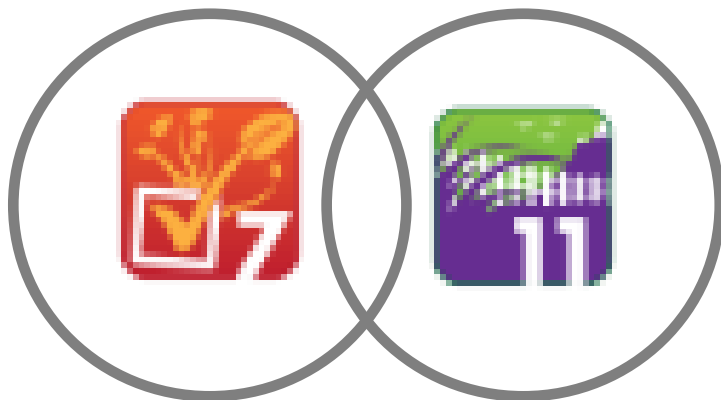


# THE FUTURE FOR PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION

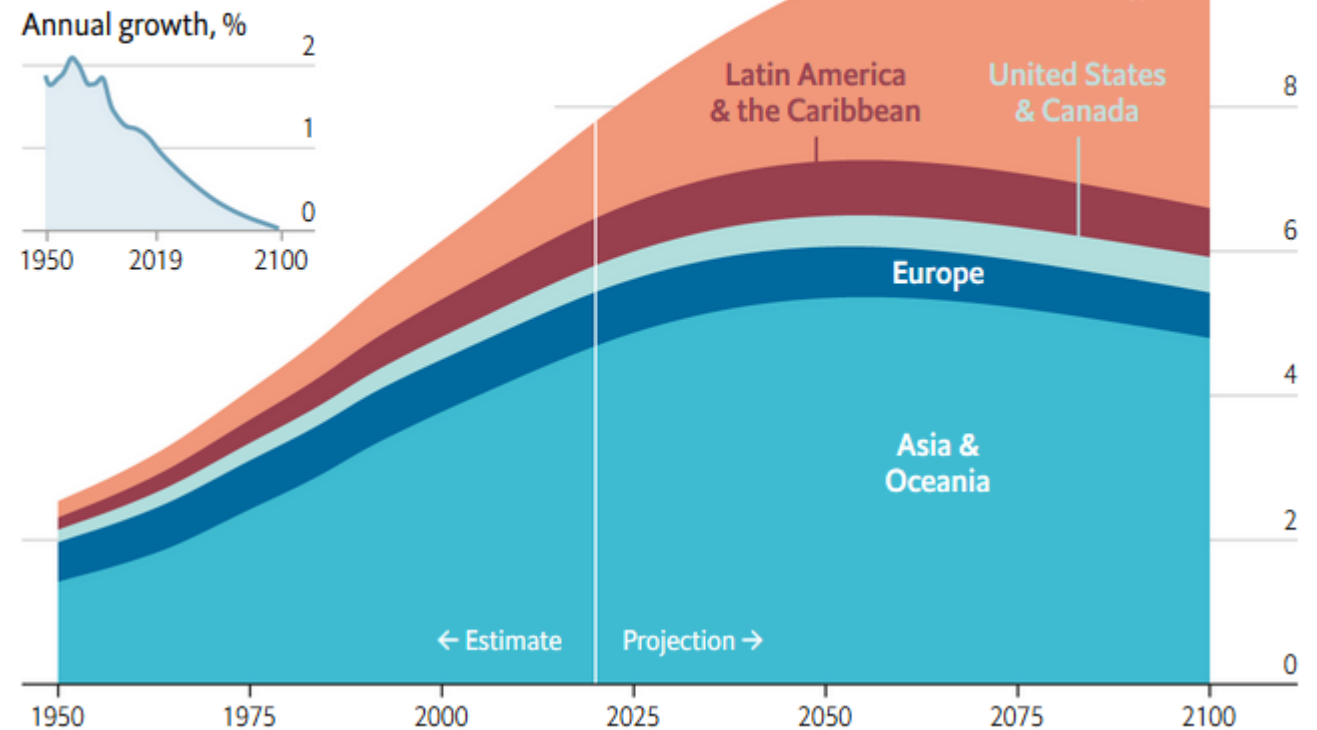
Category 1 and 2 protected areas are a significant part of the Canadian ABCM portfolio of conservation investments.

Stewardship areas – Category V and VI and OECM – will be part of a balanced portfolio of conservation investments in the future.

Stewarded ... Secured



Global population projections, by region, bn



# THANK YOU

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