

# Integrating Protected Areas on the Scotian Shelf

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Canada





## **The Gully MPA**

**Largest submarine canyon in eastern North America**



**Northern bottlenose whale (*Hyperoodon ampullatus*)**  
**34% of 140 individuals found in the Gully at any one time**  
**Assessment Status: Endangered (2002)**

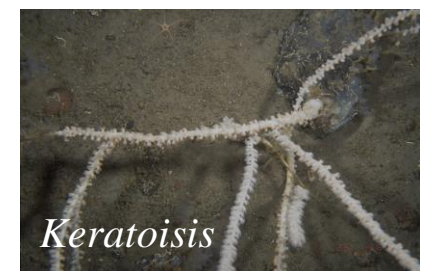
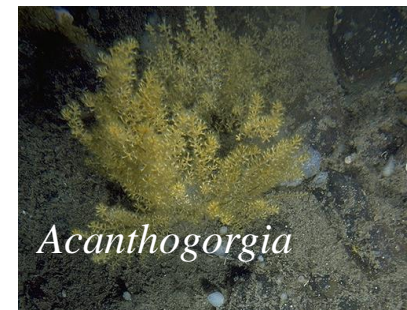
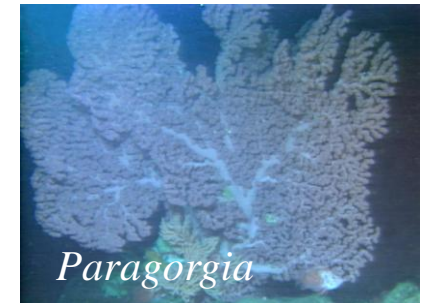
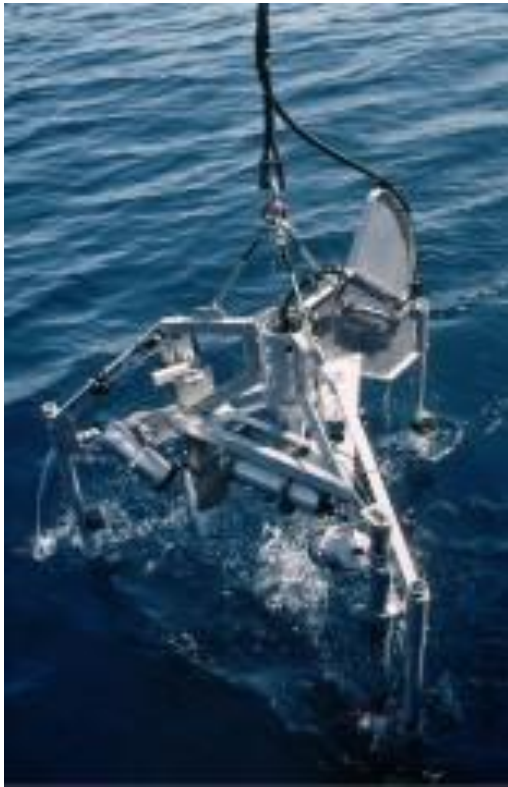


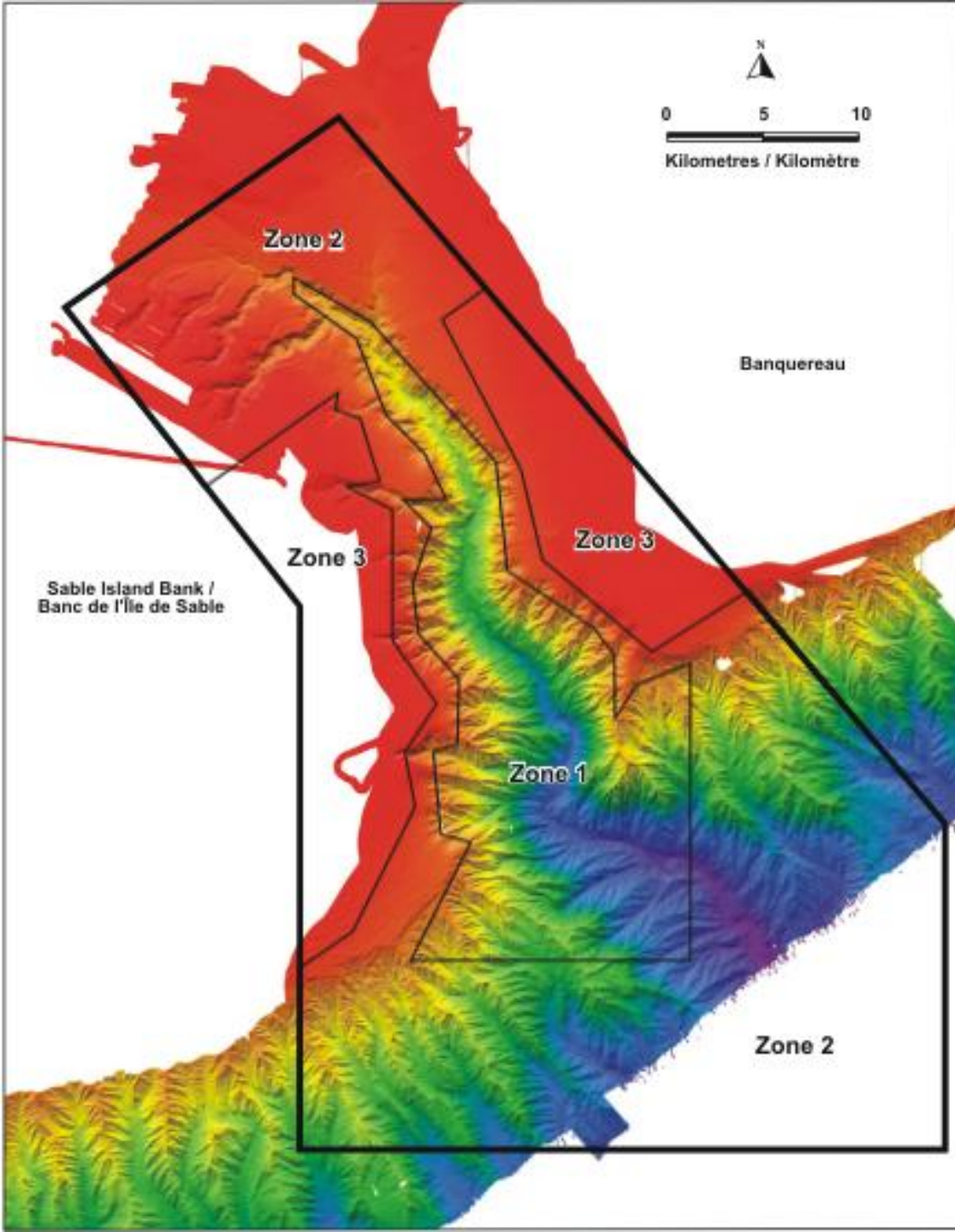
Photo: J.F. Gosselin



# Corals in the Gully

- *Campod* surveys (1998-2002)
- 14 + species





## Boundary & Zones

**Area:** 2360 km<sup>2</sup>

**Zone 1:** Highly restricted deep-water core >600m (few activities permitted)

**Zone 2:** Protection for trough, canyon sides and outer area (some fisheries allowed)

**Zone 3:** Shallow-water sandy banks <300m (compatible uses subject to stringent review)

# Managing Fisheries

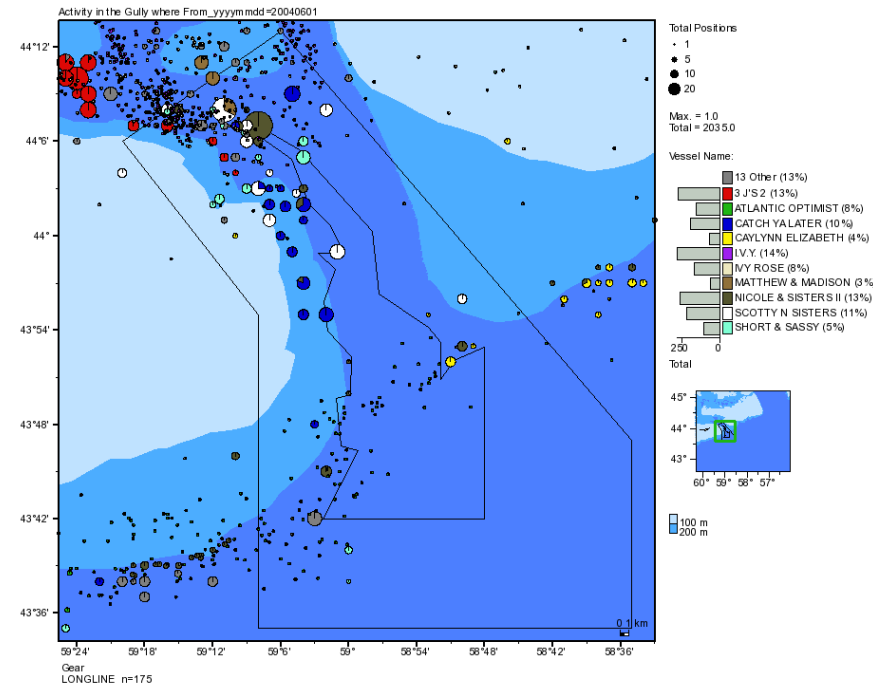


- Excepted hook & line fisheries access Zones 2 and 3 under *Fisheries Act* license conditions
- All other fisheries excluded from MPA
- Gully MPA section being added to relevant *Integrated Fishery Management Plans*
- Monitoring and reporting procedures apply
  - observers, logbooks, dockside monitors
  - surveillance (Fisheries, Navy, Coast Guard etc.)



# Compliance Monitoring System

- Compiles multiple and remote data sources
  - vessel monitoring system (hourly by satellite)
  - aerial sightings (daily in some seasons)
  - radio calls to hail in-out of port
  - vessel and observer logbooks
- Automatic detection of
  - unauthorized fishing
  - misreporting of positions and catch composition
  - loitering and data anomalies



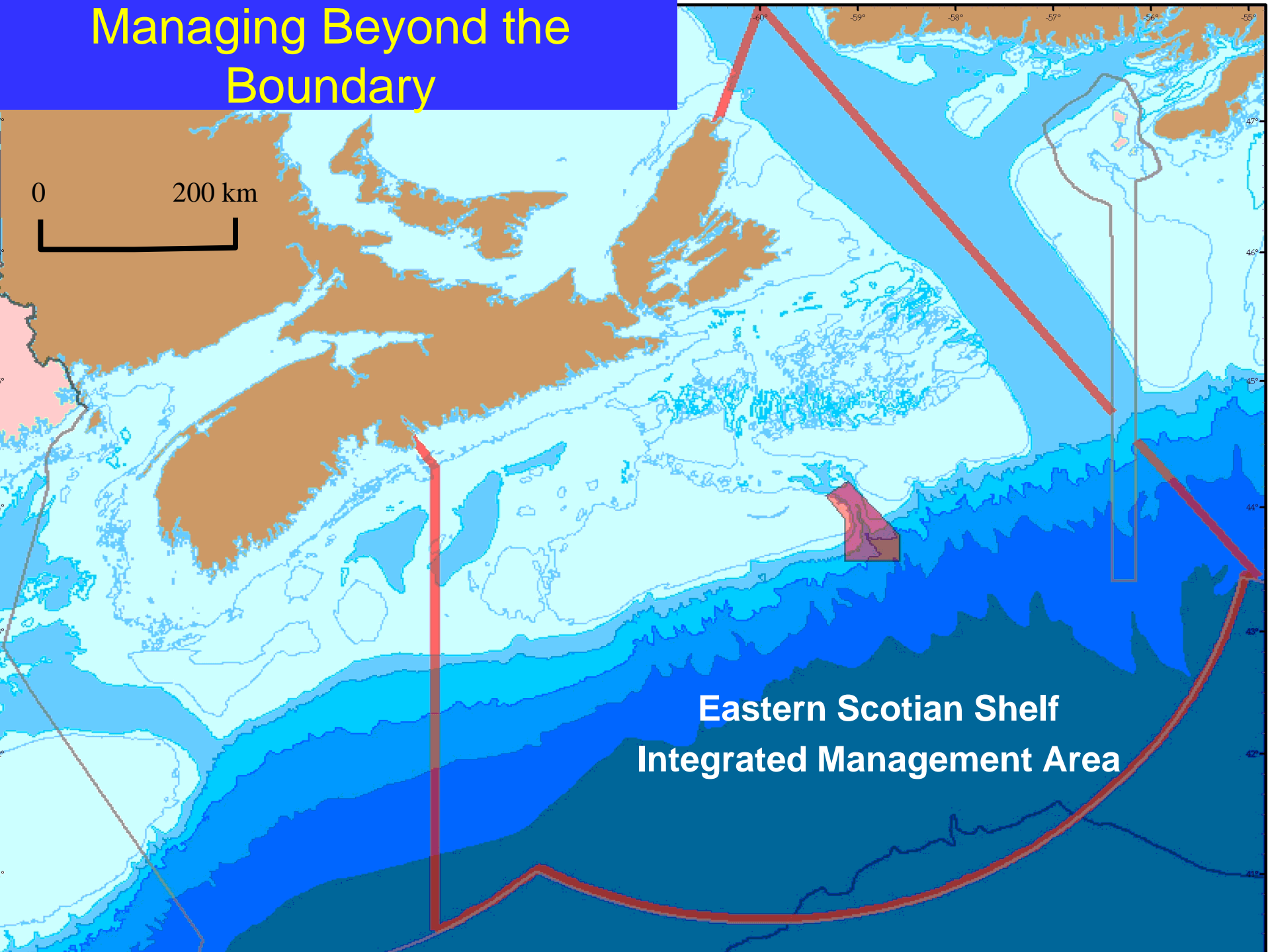


# Research Activities



- Research and monitoring are encouraged
  - emphasis on MPA understanding & evaluation
- Domestic – must submit plans for approval
  - reviewed by MPA Advisory Committee
  - approved by Minister of Fisheries and Oceans
- Foreign – consent under *Coasting Trade Act*
  - Applications now routed to MPA managers
  - proponents must comply with MPA regulation

# Managing Beyond the Boundary

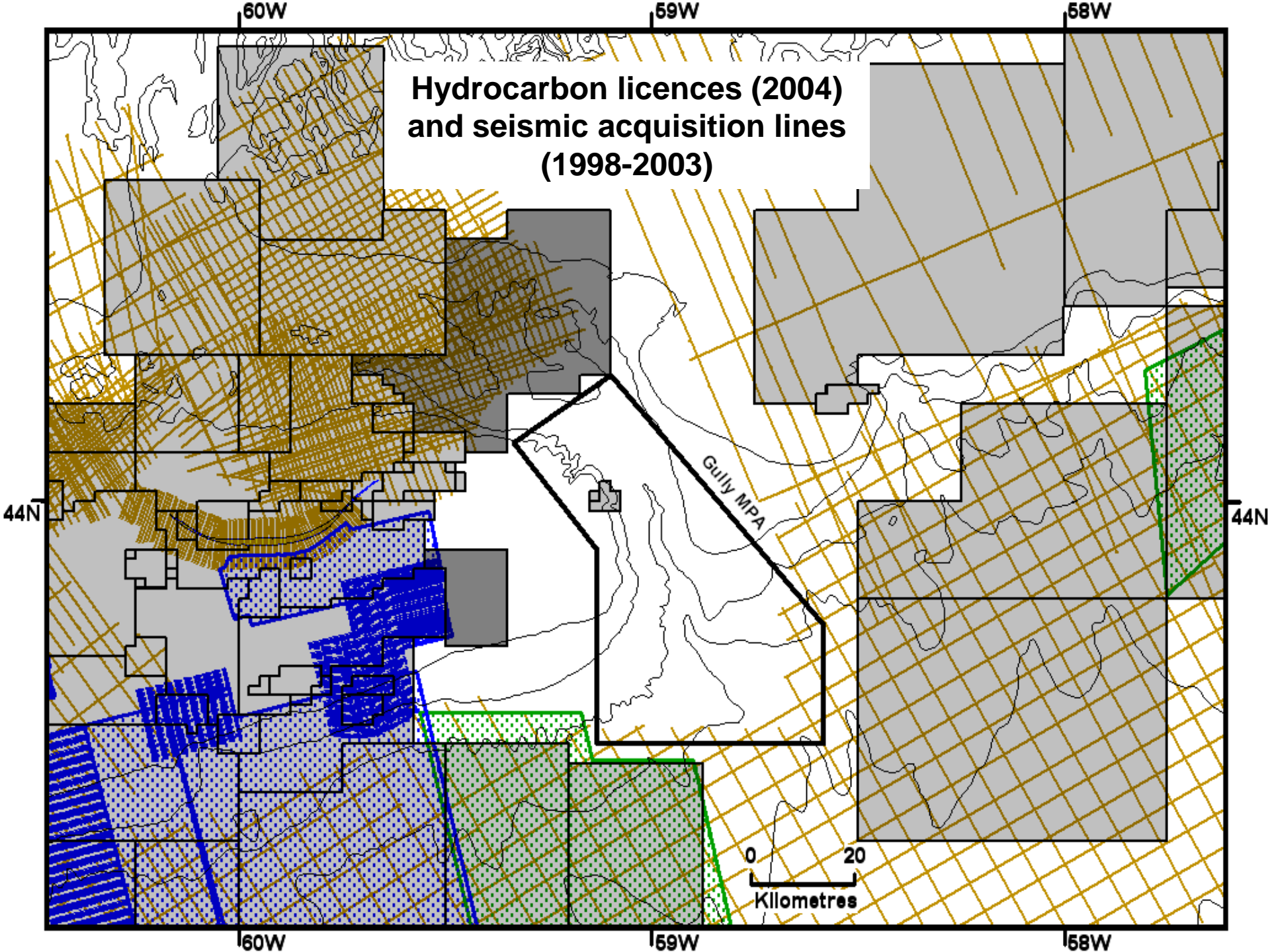


# Oil & Gas Exploration



- Prohibited in MPA by policy
- Adjacency protocols being developed
  - expanded environmental assessment
  - mitigation, monitoring and observer requirements
- National seismic guidelines apply
- Voluntary codes of conduct by industry
  - no vessel transit or aircraft in the MPA
- Collaborative research and effects monitoring

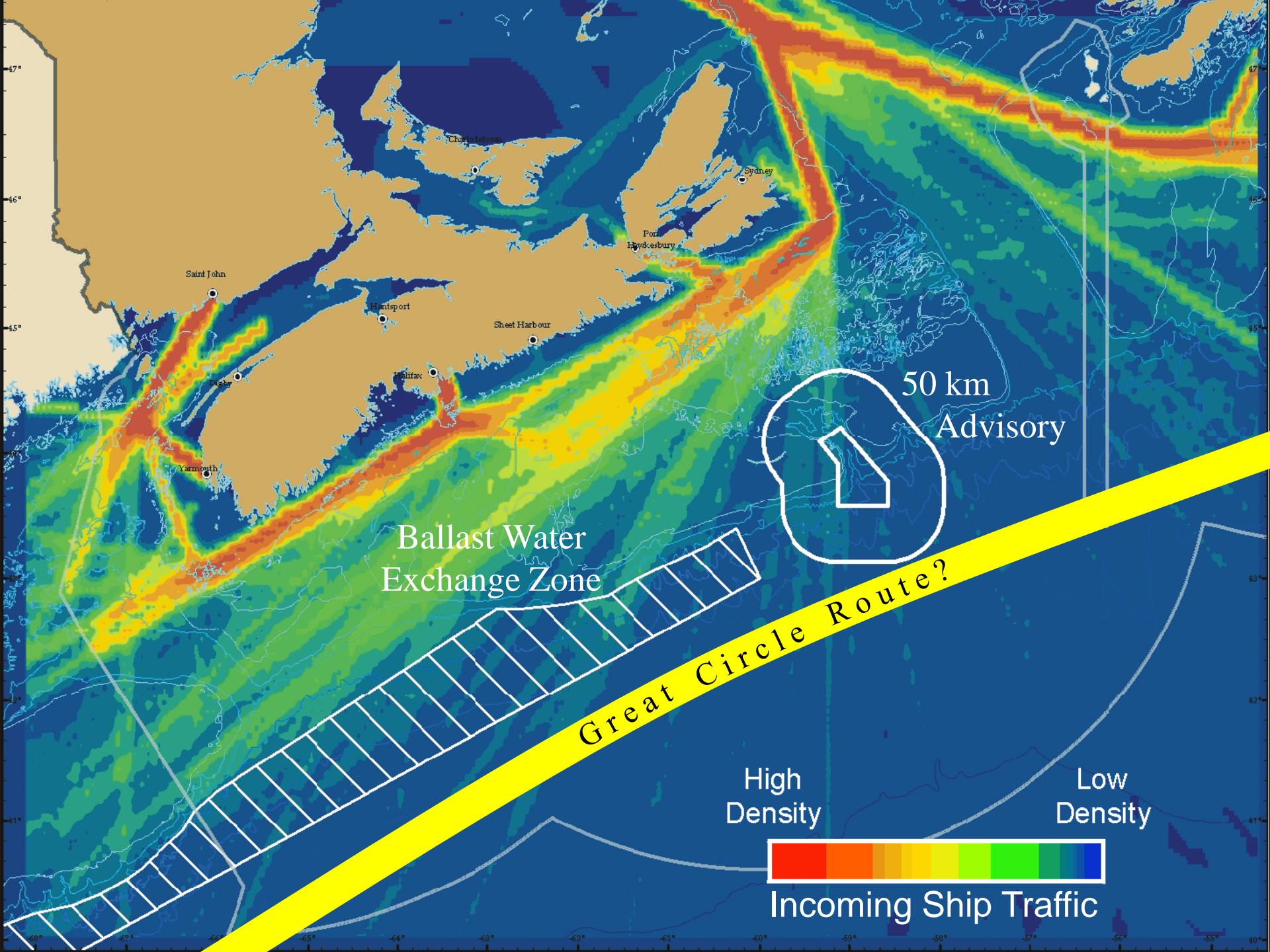




# Marine Transportation



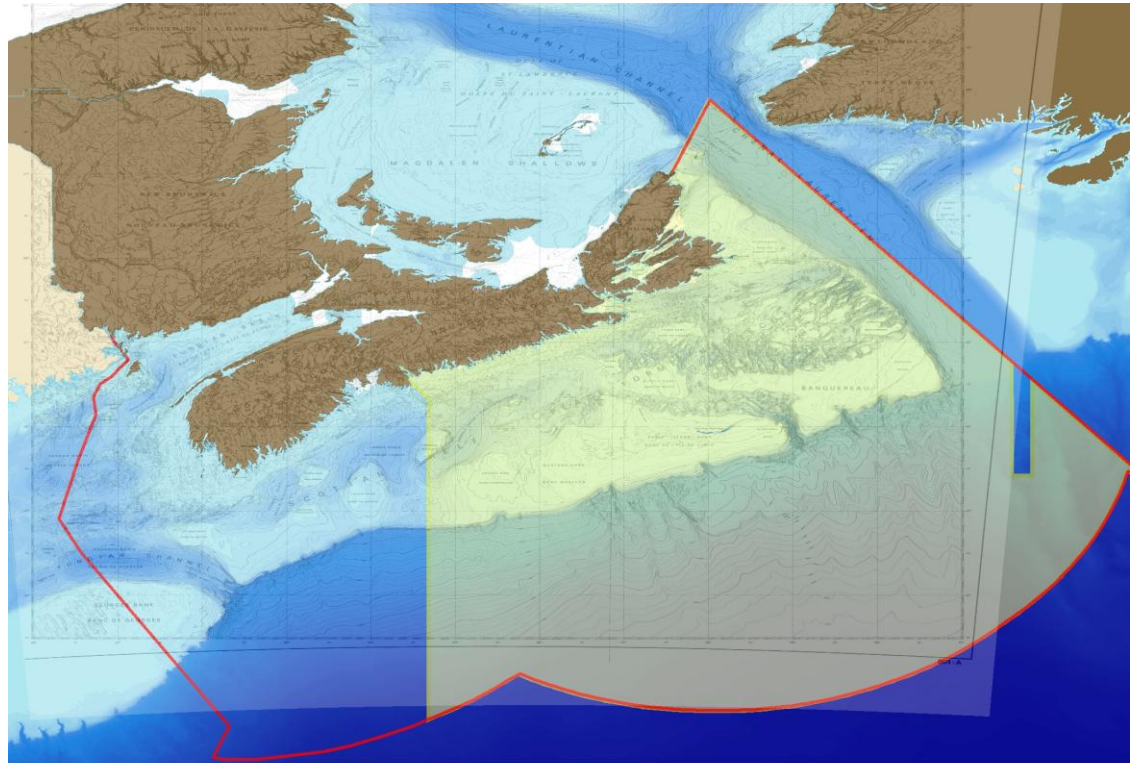
- Navigation rights excepted
  - must comply with Canadian *Shipping Act* &
  - International Maritime Organization requirements
- Chart updates
  - boundary added to paper and digital products
- Coast Guard *Notice to Mariners*
  - Guidelines: avoidance, mammals, discharges
- Ballast water exchange zones
  - New regulations accommodate the Gully

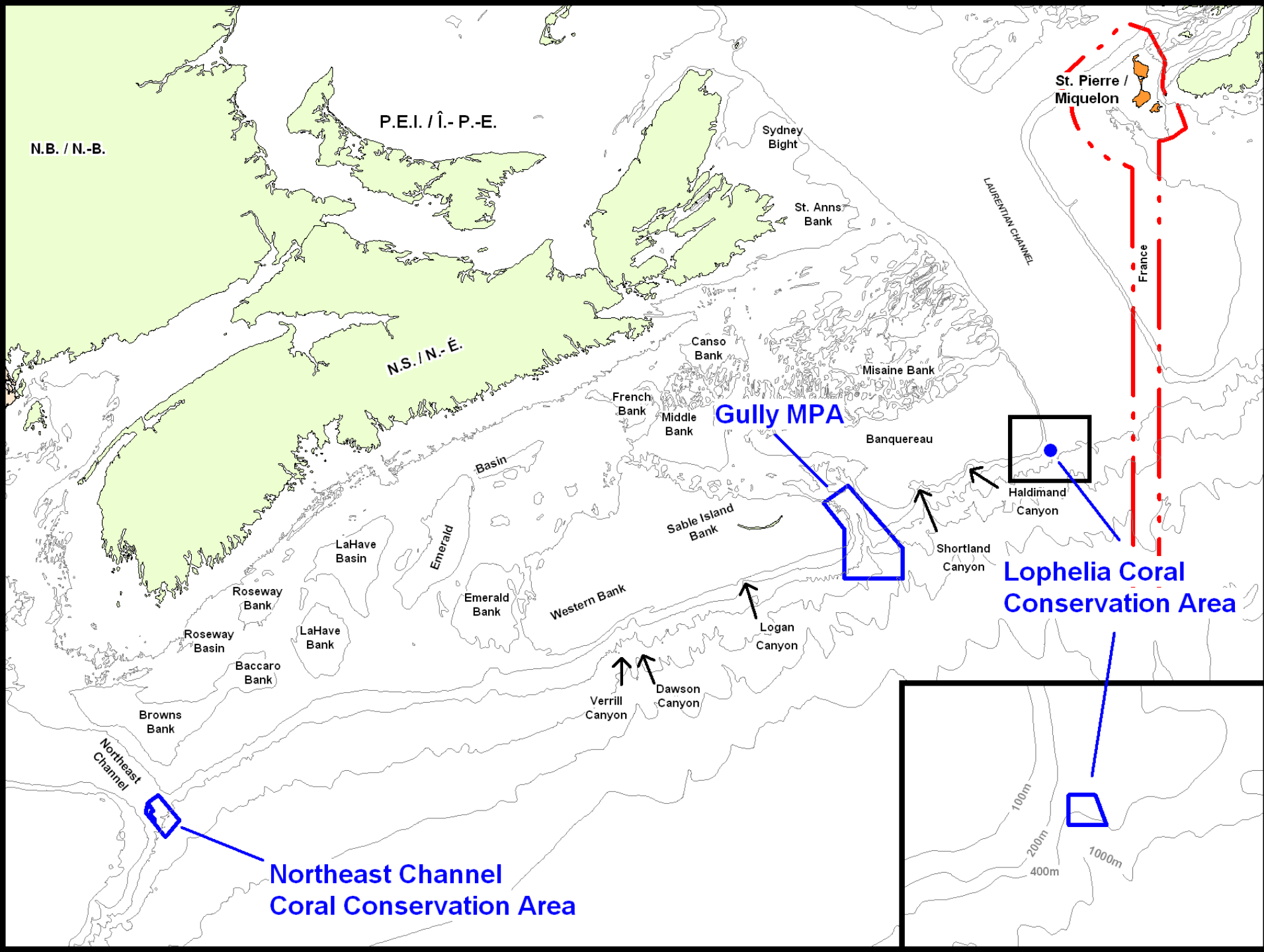




# The Eastern Scotian Shelf Integrated Management (ESSIM) Initiative

- First integrated ocean management initiative with an offshore focus under the *Oceans Act*
- Addressing multiple ocean uses and jurisdictions, increasing space competition, and need for an ecosystem approach
- A collaborative process to develop and implement an integrated ocean management plan





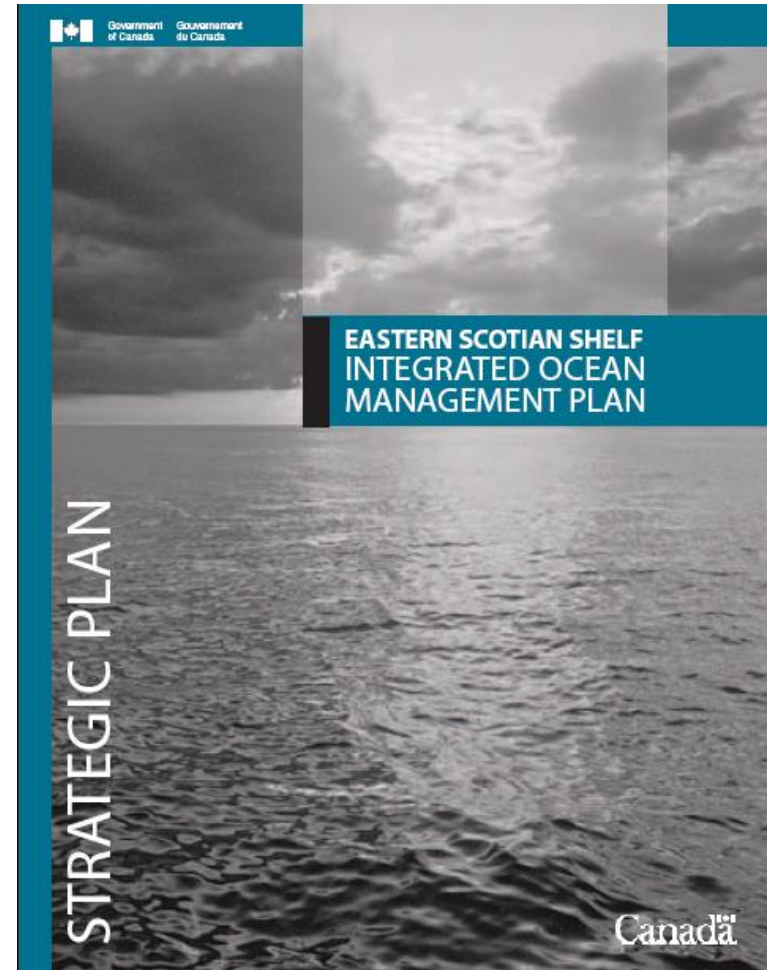
# Legislative & Policy Context

- *Oceans Act* provides legal basis (DFO lead agency)
- *Canada's Oceans Strategy* affirms integrated management as a priority
- *National Integrated Management Policy and Operational Framework* provides guidance
- *Oceans Action Plan (2004-06) & Health of the Oceans Program (2007-12)* support implementation
- Reflects our international commitments



# The ESSIM Plan

- Strategic level, objectives-based plan for sustainability on the Eastern Scotian Shelf
- Building on, improving and coordinating existing management jurisdictions and responsibilities
- Linking sector-based planning and decision making to an overarching set of objectives, strategies, actions and outcomes



*...a shared commitment to work together for our ocean and our future...*

# Goals of the plan

## **Collaborative governance and integrated management**

- Capacity among stakeholders.
- Knowledge to support integrated management.
- Effective governance structures and processes.

## **Sustainable human use**

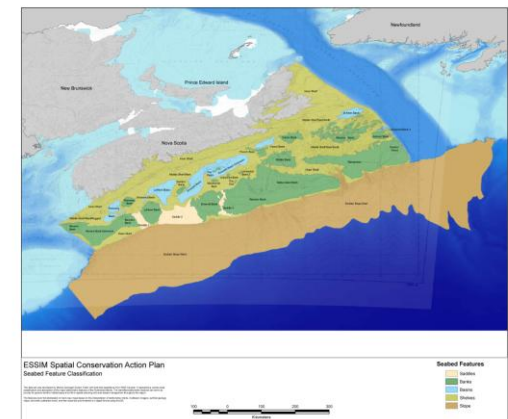
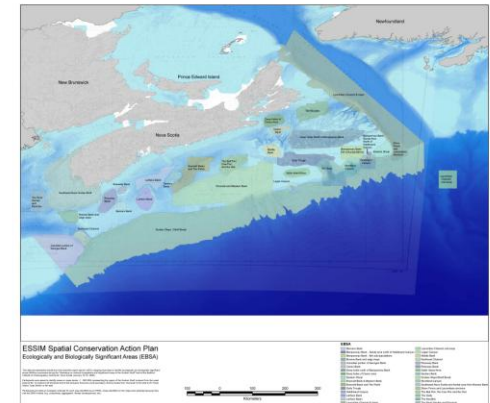
- Ecologically sustainable use of ocean space and resources.
- Sustainable communities and economic well-being.

## **Healthy ecosystems**

- Resilient and productive ecosystems, with diverse habitats, communities, species and populations.
- Strong marine environmental quality supports ecosystem functioning.

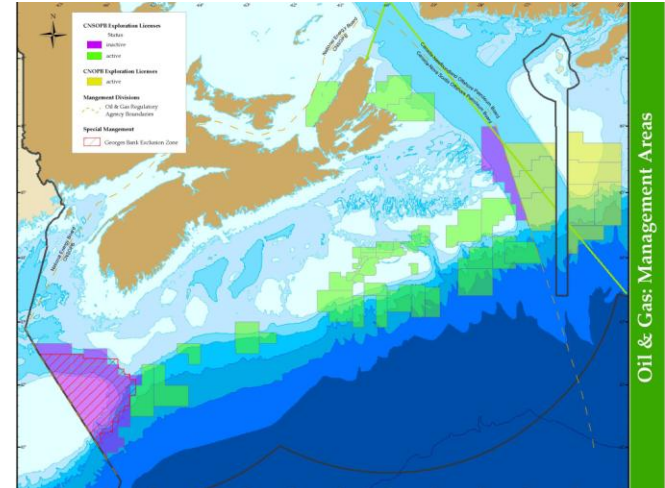
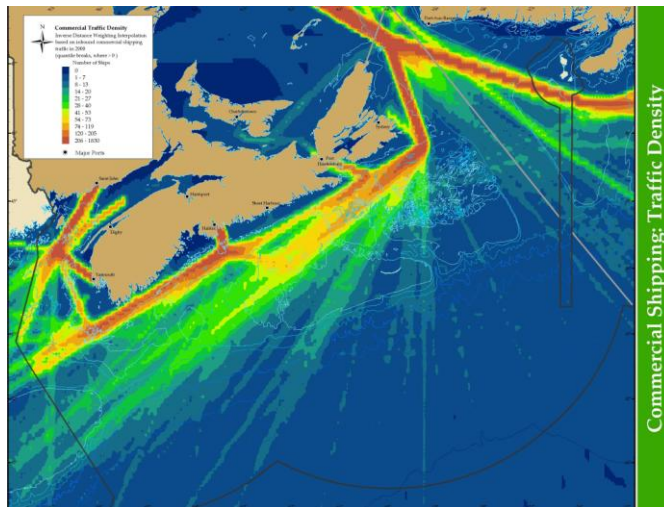
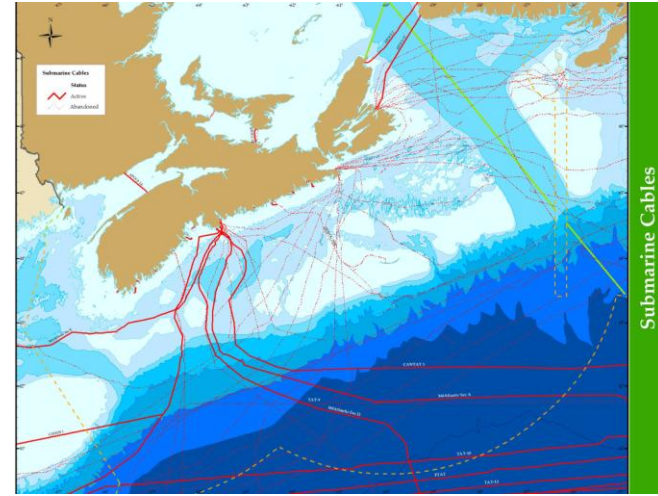
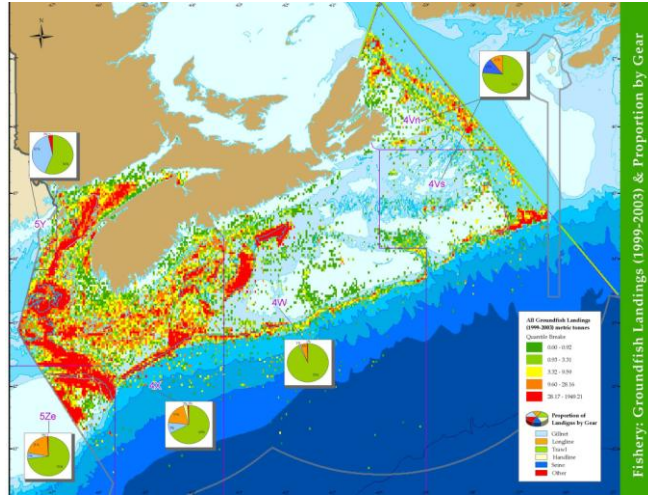
# Spatial conservation action plan

- **Share knowledge** among stakeholders about the concept and practice of spatial conservation planning, areas that are currently managed for conservation purposes, and areas that have been identified as having conservation value.
- **Assess the contribution** of existing management areas and **identify gaps** in conservation efforts.
- **Identify and build agreement on** areas of conservation priority and make recommendations for action.
- **Steward** the implementation of recommendations (including interim protection options).

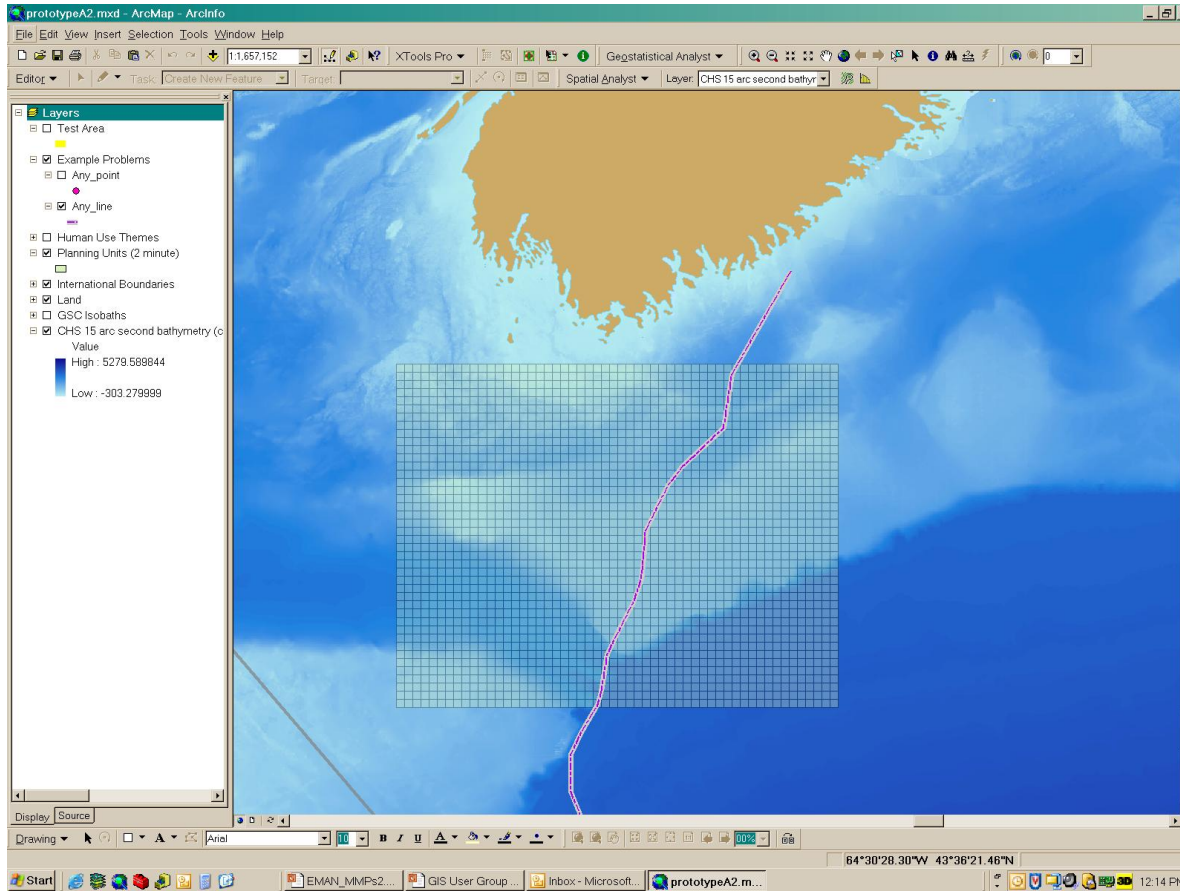




# Multiple use planning

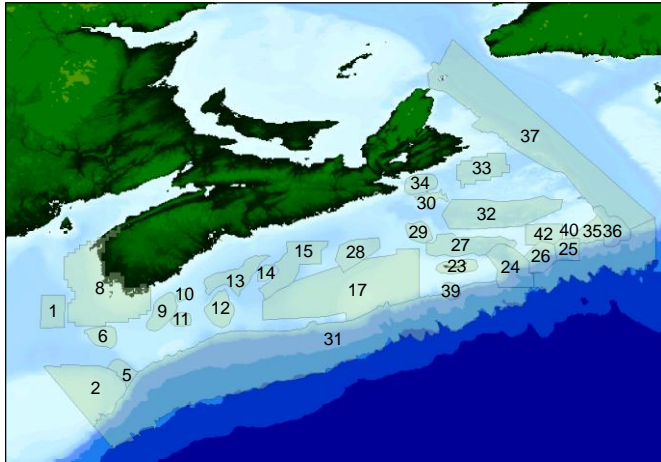


# GIS decision support (“GISMO”)

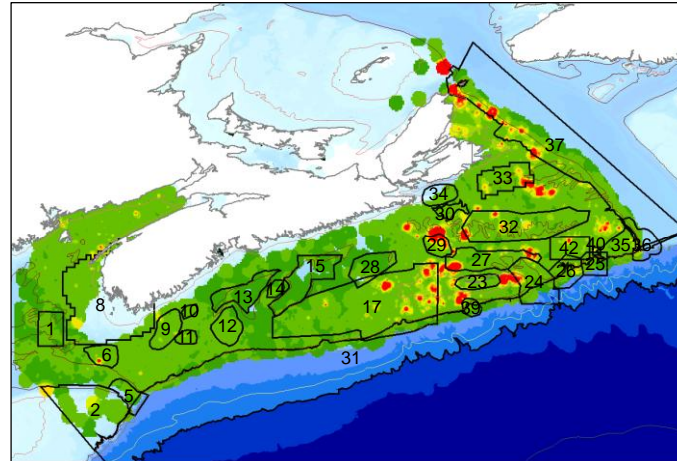




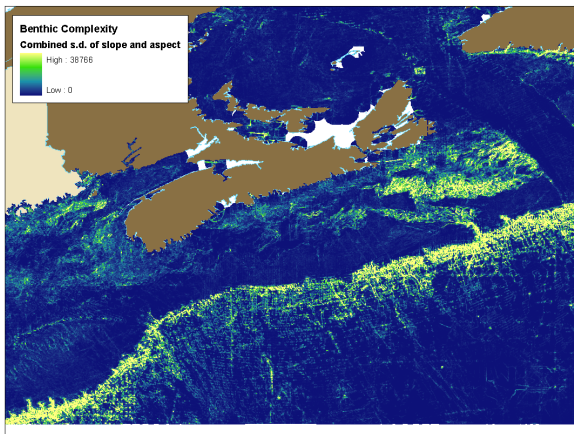
# MPA network planning



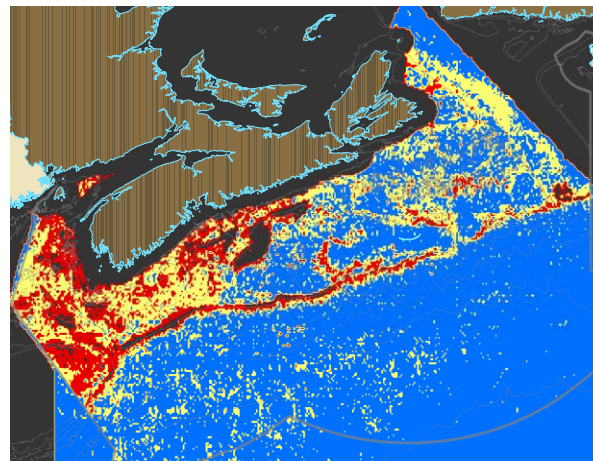
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= 1 “ecological”  
network (initially 6-  
10 candidate sites)  
and 1-2 new  
Oceans Act “Areas  
of Interest” this  
year

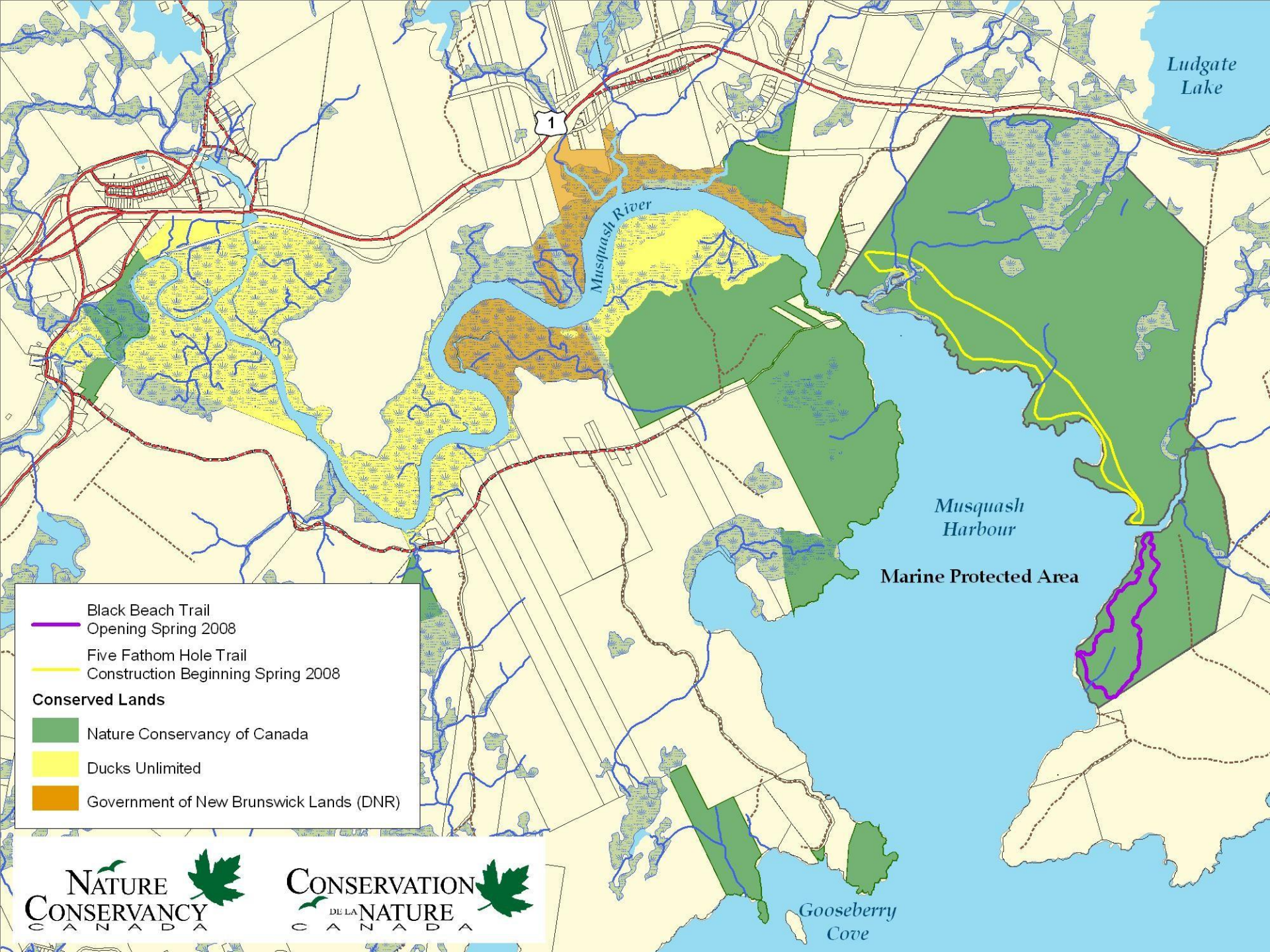


# Some Lessons for Integration

- Collaborate and integrate whenever possible
  - use vessels and aircraft of opportunity
  - employ other laws and management frameworks
  - learn by doing; build protocols with experience
- Get the word out widely, listen and respond
  - Target educational materials and outreach through customary sector networks
  - Provide interpretation and at-sea direction for user groups. (“What does it mean for me?”)
- Employ non-regulatory & voluntary measures
  - Operator guidelines (e.g., avoidance)
  - Interagency arrangements and agreements
  - Industry stewardship & codes of practice







Ludgate  
Lake

Musquash  
River

Musquash  
Harbour

Marine Protected Area

Gooseberry  
Cove

- Black Beach Trail
- Opening Spring 2008
- Five Fathom Hole Trail
- Construction Beginning Spring 2008
- Conserved Lands**
- Nature Conservancy of Canada
- Ducks Unlimited
- Government of New Brunswick Lands (DNR)

NATURE  
CONSERVANCY  
CANADA

CONSERVATION  
DE LA NATURE  
CANADA



