



# Advancing Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures



## Overview

- Context
- Process to identify existing marine other effective area-based conservation measures (“other measures”)
- Next steps



## Context: Concept of “Other Measures”

- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) allows Parties to use other measures to meet targets but has not provided definition or guidance.
- DFO Minister offered to host international marine science experts workshop on other measures with the CBD in the fall; CBD guidance anticipated in 2018.
- International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) developing advice to the CBD; influenced by guidance from Canadian Council on Ecological Areas (CCEA).
- Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and the Parks Canada Agency (PCA) working to define terrestrial other measures concept through terrestrial pathway to Aichi Target 11 process.
- DFO developed and publicly released criteria to determine what counts as other measures.



## Context: CSAS Science Advice on “Other Measures”

- Oceans Program commissioned peer reviewed science advice from the Canadian Science Advisory Secretariat (CSAS) in 2015; report published in 2016.
- Identified characteristics and factors to consider when determining whether a measure is likely to provide biodiversity conservation benefits:
  - Geographic location
  - Duration of implementation
  - Size of managed area
  - Location in relation to preferred habitat
  - Management/conservation objectives
  - Habitat heterogeneity
  - Adjacent management practices
  - Full versus partial protection
  - Spatial relationships (i.e. connectivity)



## Context: DFO's Operational Guidance for "Other Measures"

- DFO considered CSAS science advice, domestic and international guidance under development
- Guidance requires a management measure to meet all five criteria:
  1. Clearly defined geographic location
  2. Conservation or stock management objectives
  3. Presence of ecological components of interest
  4. Long-term duration of implementation
  5. The ecological components of interest are effectively conserved



## Process: Identifying “Other Measures”

- Over 1,000 existing fisheries closures were inventoried; existing “other measures” were identified through rigorous assessment.
- Assessments were:
  - Conducted by regional DFO working groups (Science, Resource Management, Oceans and Species at Risk)
  - Reviewed nationally to ensure criteria applied consistently across regions
- Assessments considered:
  - Possible interactions between human activities and ecological components of interest based on best available scientific knowledge and expertise
  - Ecological risk in a nationally consistent manner across areas



## Process: Assessment Outcome

- 30 areas (0.46%) were found to meet DFO's criteria.
- 8 additional existing areas (0.61%) could potentially be adjusted to increase their biodiversity conservation benefits and thus meet criteria.
- Several additional areas (0.09%) may meet criteria and will be assessed for 2020.

Category	% coverage
1) Existing "other measures" (including Jordan Basin and Corsair/Georges Canyons)	0.46
2) Potential "other measures" (where adjustments are needed)	0.61
Subtotal	1.07
3) Further analysis required to determine if qualify as "other measures"	0.09
Total	1.16



## Next steps

- Engagement underway with Provinces, Territories, Indigenous groups and stakeholders across the country to adjust some existing closures.
- Consultation will also include new closures for 2017.
- Canadian Council of Fisheries and Aquaculture Ministers' Oceans Task Group will report to Ministers on "other measures" this Spring.
- Examining Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development (ENVI) Committee Report Recommendations including recommendation to adopt and apply IUCN definition of other measures.



# Annex 1 – Existing “Other Measures”

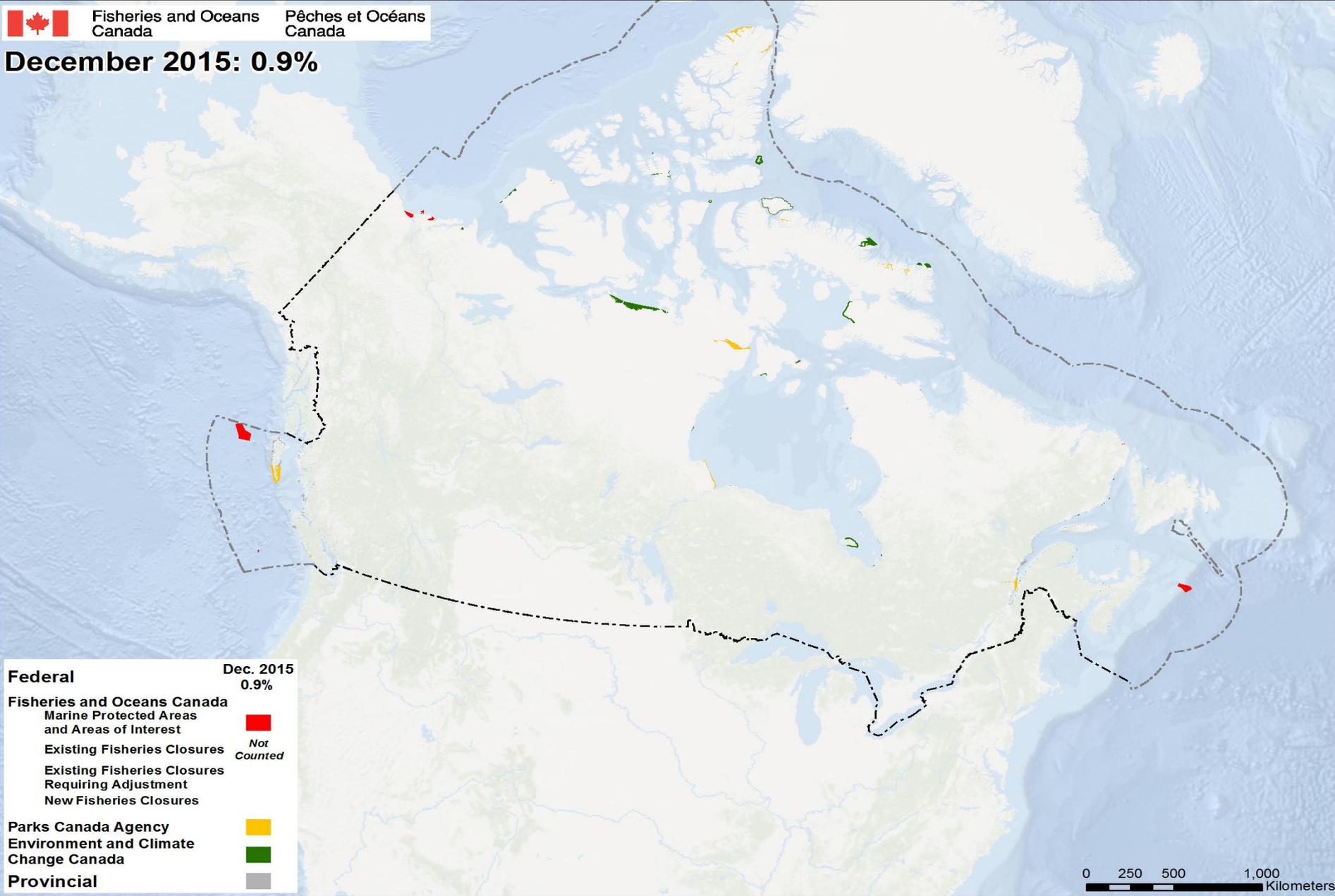


## Existing “Other Measures” (0.36%)

Region	Location	Percentage
<b>Newfoundland and Labrador</b>	30 Coral Closure	0.18
	Bay of Islands Salmon Migration closure	<0.01
	7 Lobster closed areas	<0.01
<b>Maritimes</b>	6 SBA Policy Closures (Northeast Channel Coral Conservation Area; Lophelia Coral Conservation Area, Emerald Basin and Sambro Bank Sponge Conservation Areas, Jordan Basin, Corsair and Georges Canyons)	0.17
<b>Quebec</b>	Otter trawl fishing prohibited in Saguenay River	<0.01
	Les Demoiselles nursery (Plaisance Bay), Magdalen Islands	<0.01
	Magdalen Islands Lagoons	<0.01
<b>Pacific</b>	9 Strait of Georgia Sponge Reef Closures	<0.01
<b>Gulf</b>	3 Scallop Buffer Zones (SFA 21, 22, 24)	0.10



December 2015: 0.9%



**Federal** Dec. 2015  
0.9%

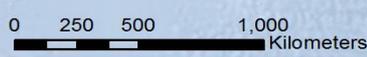
**Fisheries and Oceans Canada**

- Marine Protected Areas and Areas of Interest ■
- Existing Fisheries Closures *Not Counted*
- Existing Fisheries Closures Requiring Adjustment
- New Fisheries Closures

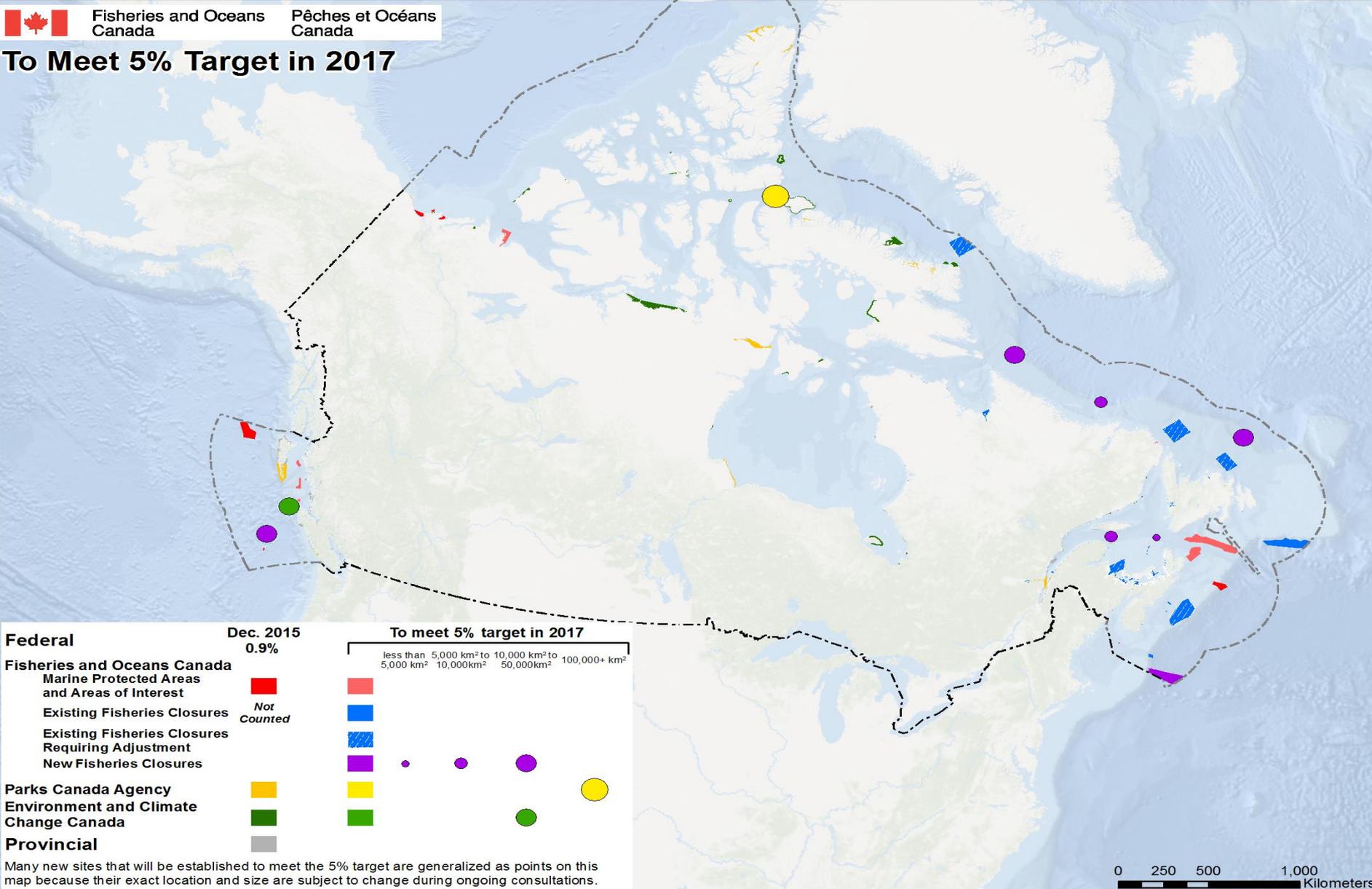
**Parks Canada Agency** ■

**Environment and Climate Change Canada** ■

**Provincial** ■



# To Meet 5% Target in 2017



Many new sites that will be established to meet the 5% target are generalized as points on this map because their exact location and size are subject to change during ongoing consultations.