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7.0 EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

This chapter provides an overview of the existing socio-economic environment in offshore Newfoundland and Labrador, in relation to the Project. The offshore environment is known to support human-based activities that are undertaken for recreational, academic, or commercial purposes. This includes associated equipment and components to carry out these activities (e.g., equipment and vessels). The description of these activities applies to both the Project Area (where interaction would likely occur), and within the larger RAA to give context on the various activities that occur in offshore waters. This section also provides an overview of Indigenous communities and people who may use the offshore waters of Newfoundland and Labrador to support or sustain their traditional way of life. This can include the traditional harvesting of species that are present in, or may migrate through, offshore waters of Newfoundland and Labrador, including areas encompassed by the Project Area.

7.1 Urban and Rural Setting

Newfoundland and Labrador includes the Island of Newfoundland (111,390 km²) and Labrador (294,330 km²), located to the northwest on the Canadian mainland. The population in 2016 was 519,716, an increase of approximately one percent from 2011 (Statistics Canada 2017). Project-related activities are proposed to take place approximately between 343 and 496 km northeast of St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, and therefore will not have a large interaction with the urban and rural setting of the province aside from some interaction between PSVs and the shorebase in the St. John's region. There are no known permanent, seasonal, or temporary residences near the Project Area; the closest permanent residence is within the City of St. John's. The City of St. John's is the largest community in Newfoundland and Labrador with a population of approximately 108,860 residents. St. John's and neighbouring municipalities comprise the St. John's Metro Area with a population of approximately 178,427 representing approximately 34% of the province's population (Statistics Canada 2017). St. John's is the capital city of Newfoundland and Labrador and is an important centre for servicing and support to the oil and gas industry through St. John's Harbour (see Section 7.3.2.1). Outside St. John's, eastern Newfoundland is comprised of smaller rural communities along the coastline. These communities generally have smaller populations, with an older average age relying on industries such as fishing and tourism. Newfoundland and Labrador has the highest median age in Canada at 46 years of age, compared to the national average of 41.2 years (Statistics Canada 2017).

The oil and gas industry is an important component of the provincial economy. According to the most recent publication by the Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Finance (2018), the oil and gas industry in the province represented approximately 13.2 % of the provincial gross domestic product (GDP). This was the largest contributor in the goods-producing sector, and second largest contributor to the province. This sector also drives other industries such as construction. The fishing industry is another marine-based sector contributing to the province's GDP and which also continues to be an important from a cultural perspective. Given the importance of the fishing industry to the Province and the potential overlap of Project activities with fishing activities, the description of the existing socio-economic environment focuses primarily on commercial fisheries.

7.2 Commercial and Recreational Fisheries

Commercial fishing activity has been, and continues to be, an important cultural and economic activity that takes place in offshore Newfoundland and Labrador. As a result, the offshore marine environment contains multiple fishing operations, including associated vessels and equipment. This section describes commercial fisheries trends within offshore Newfoundland and Labrador, including current commercial fisheries within both the Project Area and RAA. There are no known Aboriginal food, social, and ceremonial fisheries in offshore Newfoundland and Labrador; but commercial communal licences have been issued to Indigenous groups within Newfoundland and Labrador and Maritime regions to conduct harvesting activity offshore for certain species. Further discussion of these commercial communal fisheries is found in Section 7.4. Aquaculture and recreational fisheries are discussed in Section 7.2.9 and 7.2.10, respectively.

7.2.1 Approach and Key Information Sources

7.2.1.1 Regulatory Bodies

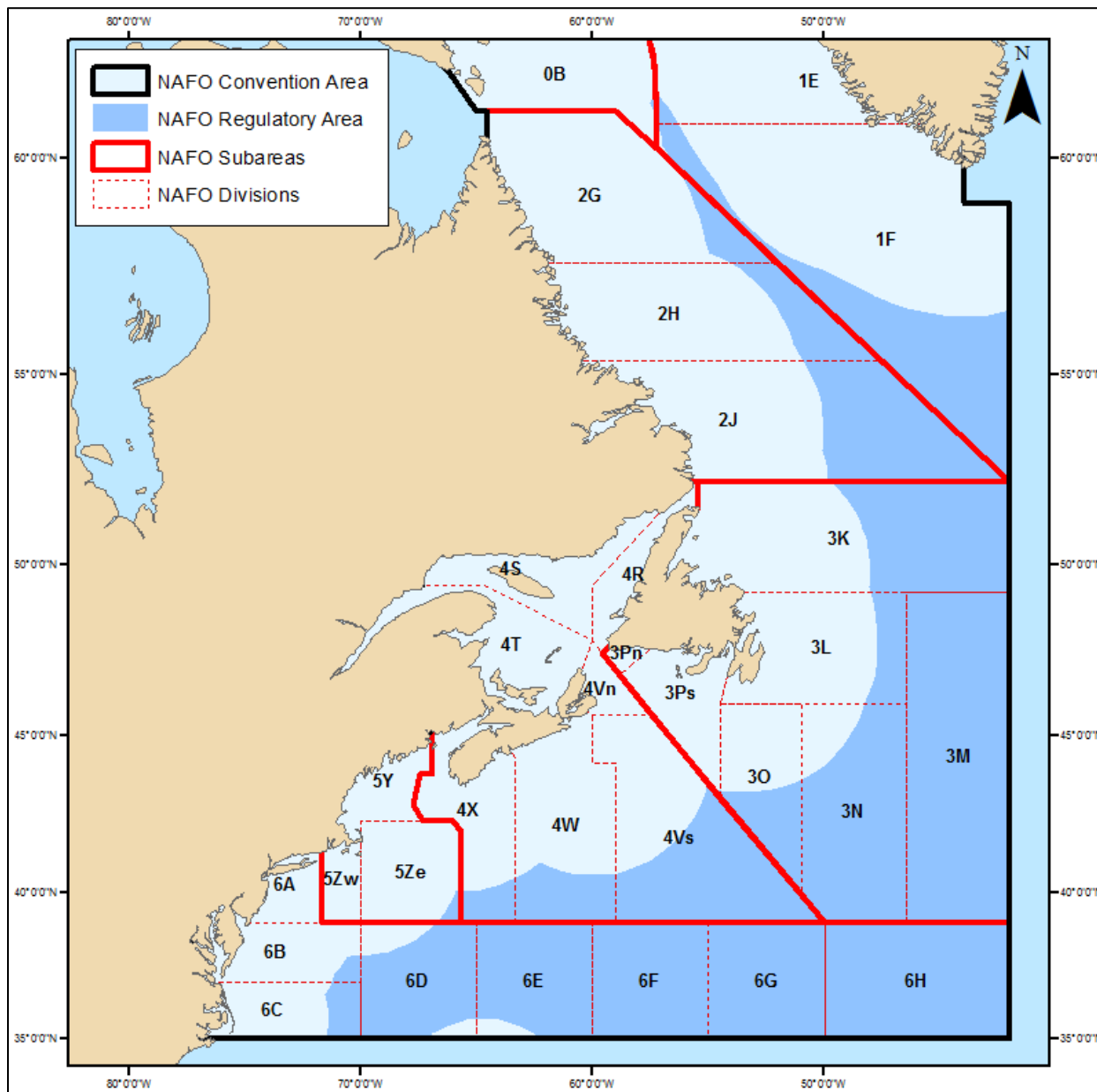
There are two regulatory bodies that govern commercial fishing activity offshore Newfoundland and Labrador, both within and outside the 200 nm Canadian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). The Government of Canada (through DFO) maintains jurisdiction over commercial fish species within Canada's 200 nm EEZ and all sedentary species that occur across the extent of Canada's continental shelf. DFO uses a quota and licence system for the majority of species fished within Newfoundland and Labrador waters, whereby a total allowable catch (TAC) is set for a species, and then licences are issued accordingly. These licences are issued by both Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) Division and Subdivision, as well as individual species management area (e.g., Shrimp Fishing Area [SFA], Crab Management Area [CMA]).

Outside of the EEZ, NAFO holds jurisdiction over commercial fishing activity for several species and manages the conservation of other environmental features like corals and sponges. NAFO will set TACs for the species it manages in its jurisdiction, and then issue quotas to multiple member nations (including Canada) who take part in international fishing activity in this area. This all occurs within NAFOs Regulatory Area (NRA), which is an area of approximately 2,707,895 km² and spans adjacent to the EEZs of Greenland, Canada, France (St. Pierre et Miquelon), and the United States. Figure 7.1 illustrates both DFO and NAFO regulated waters in eastern Canada.

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Source: NAFO 2016

Figure 7.1 Fisheries Management Areas

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EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT
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7.2.1.2 Information Sources and Availability

The Northwest Atlantic Ocean is divided into a series of NAFO Divisions / Subdivisions for the purposes of managing fisheries resources, which are further subdivided into associated NAFO Unit Areas. NAFO Divisions are divided into numbers from 0-6 (e.g., Division 3); the specific NAFO Subdivision is indicated by a letter after the Division number (e.g., 3L), and the Unit Area is identified by a lowercase letter (e.g., 3Li). The Project Area and RAA overlap with multiple NAFO Unit Areas, and the combination of data from key areas surrounding the Project Area is used to describe these regions. The key NAFO Division and Unit Areas associated with the Project Area and RAA are shown in Table 7.1.

Table 7.1 Key NAFO Divisions and Unit Areas that Overlap the Project Area and RAA

EA Study Area	NAFO Divisions	NAFO Unit Areas
Project Area	3KLM	3Kg, 3Kk, 3Ld, 3Ma
RAA	2J+3KLMNO	All Unit Areas within these Divisions

The analysis of domestic commercial fishing activity was done primarily using data provided by DFO on commercial fish landings information, from 2012 to 2016 (the most recent year available at the time of writing). This includes data on landings numbers, provided in terms of weight landed (kg) and value landed (Canadian dollars), and also includes other variables such as gear type, and month of harvest. While these landings are described in kilograms, for the purposes of this EIS, they will be presented in metric tonnes (t). The landed value of commercial fisheries in the data that are provided by DFO are described as the catch “at the wharf” when it is sold. Therefore, it does not represent indirect or induced economic benefits, including any value-added processes for fish products. To indicate activity and absolute or relative abundance, harvested weight is considered to be the most useful measure for year-to-year comparison. Value of the harvest may vary annually with species, negotiated prices, changes in exchange rates and fluctuating market conditions.

Along with datasets for domestic weight and value of commercial harvesting activity, DFO also provides georeferenced datasets that are used to illustrate domestic commercial fish harvesting locations in offshore Newfoundland and Labrador. These datasets help provide a general indication of fishing activity for defined geographic areas. For offshore Newfoundland and Labrador, these areas are defined in a series of 6-x-4- nautical mile grid squares that cover offshore Newfoundland and Labrador, including areas overlapped by the Project Area. These geo-referenced data are used to plot past harvesting locations and identify areas where fishing occurs over multiple years, and include variables such as species, gear type, and month when harvesting occurs. At the time of writing, these data were available up to 2016.

Because domestic commercial fish harvesting data are reported on a NAFO Division and Unit Area basis, they do not correspond precisely with the defined Project Area for this EIS. To be inclusive, commercial fishing activities are therefore described in the following sections for NAFO Unit Areas that are within or that overlap in part with the Project Area and larger surrounding RAA.

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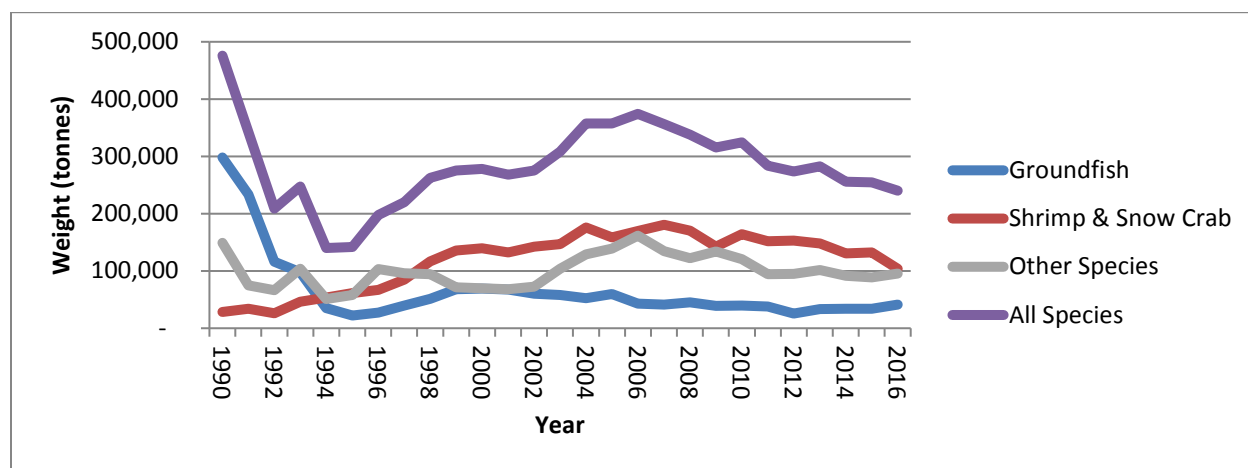
Outside of the EEZ, data on international harvesting activity were obtained using the STATLANT 21A and 21B datasets from NAFO. These datasets present harvesting information in metric tonnes and are available up to 2017. This information captures information on harvesting activities for both Canadian and non-Canadian vessels actively fishing outside the EEZ and within the NRA.

While DFO and NAFO commercial fisheries datasets are the primary sources that are used to describe commercial fishing activity in the vicinity of the Project, other additional sources have been used to help further discuss commercial fishing in offshore Newfoundland and Labrador. These include DFO species management plans, DFO and NAFO quota and stock status reports, and other research reports and studies, such as those of the Canadian Science Advisory Secretariat of DFO.

7.2.2 Historic Overview of Domestic Commercial Fisheries

Fish harvesting in Newfoundland and Labrador has been an important activity, both culturally and economically, since the Island was colonized. Fishing remains a large industry within Newfoundland and Labrador. During the 20th century, most harvesting activity in the offshore waters of the province was primarily focused on groundfish, with Atlantic cod as the target species. With the collapse of several groundfish stocks in 1992, including Atlantic cod, a moratorium on cod, American plaice, and other groundfish species was declared. Moratoria for some of these species remain and have not been removed from all areas. With this sudden shift in the commercial fishing industry, shellfish species like northern shrimp and snow crab became, and still are, the primary species harvested in offshore Newfoundland and Labrador. However, due to the shift and rapid rate of harvesting for these species, some areas have since also been placed under moratoria for harvesting of shrimp and crab (Section 7.2.7).

The historic quantity of fish landings in Newfoundland and Labrador from 1990 to 2016 (the most recent year available) from DFO are shown in Figure 7.2. The trends presented from the figure underline the changes in commercial fisheries since the collapse of groundfish stocks in the 1990s.

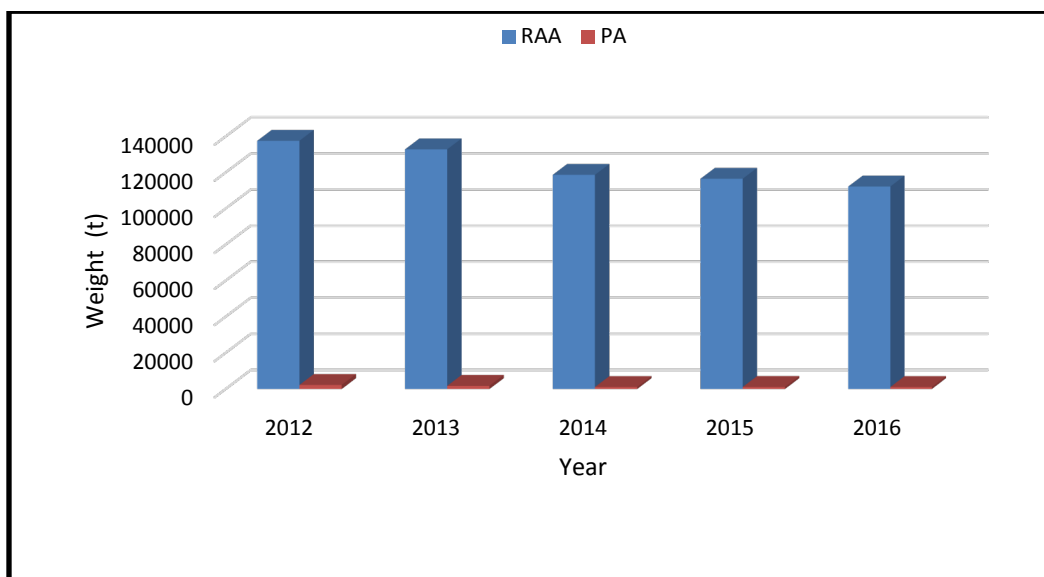


Source: DFO 2018a

Figure 7.2 Historic Overview of Commercial Fishing in Newfoundland and Labrador

7.2.3 Current Domestic Fisheries

Current domestic fisheries are managed by DFO, which regulates and monitors commercial fishing activity for species under Canada’s jurisdiction, including sedentary species outside of the 200 nm EEZ. Commercial fishing information for NAFO Divisions 3KLMNO from 2012 to 2016 are discussed below in detail. These data were the most recent available at the time of writing. Due to DFO privacy and confidentiality policies, a large portion of commercial fishing information regarding landings weight and value of species has been suppressed to protect the identity of fish harvesters and their enterprises. As a result, a large portion of the data available pertains to the main fisheries being undertaken offshore, that have multiple harvesters and large landings, such that information on weight and value for smaller fisheries, such as pelagic species, cannot be accurately presented. Using the data available, Figures 7.3 and 7.4 illustrate the level of fishing activity for both weight and value that has taken place in the Project Area and RAA from 2012 to 2016. Total landings within the RAA changed from 137,600 t in 2012 to 112,206 t in 2016. Within the Project Area, the total landings changed from 2,272 t in 2012 to 1,114 t in 2016. Landed value in the RAA changed from \$357,038,457 in 2012 to \$411,915,331 in 2016. In the Project Area, the value changed from \$6,313,232 in 2012 to \$4,169,574 in 2016. This change in value could be related to a number of different factors, including changes in global market demand and supply, which can influence prices of certain species. Other factors such as changes in landings from year to year could also affect the price of a certain species, thus affecting the overall value of landings annually. Changes in landings values could be related to species distributions in certain areas, changes in TACs and quotas for certain species on an annual basis (Section 7.2.7), implementation of fisheries closure areas, or other external factors.



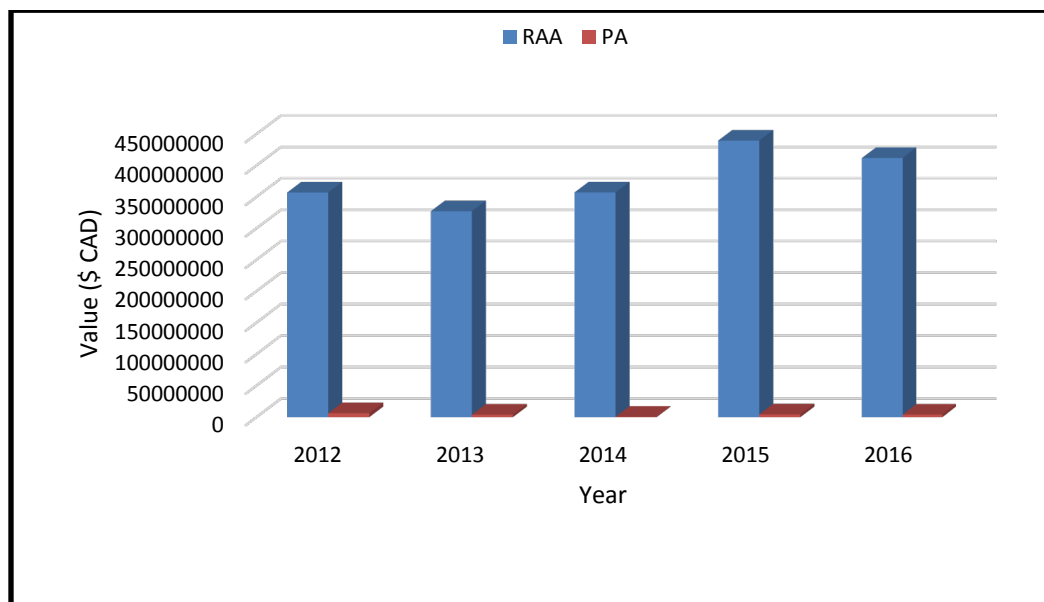
Source: DFO 2018b

Figure 7.3 Quantity of Harvest by Year, Project Area and RAA, All Species, 2012 to 2016

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EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

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Source: DFO 2018b

Figure 7.4 Value of Harvest by Year, Project Area and RAA, All Species, 2012 to 2016

The following sections describe commercial fishing activity in both the Unit Areas that overlap with the Project Area, and the NAFO Divisions that make up the larger RAA.

7.2.3.1 Domestic Fishing within the Project Area

Within the Project Area, domestic commercial fishing activity appears to be focused primarily on groundfish species, along with northern shrimp and snow crab. As discussed in Chapter 11 (shown on Figure 11.1), the Project Area falls within a marine refuge area which is closed to all bottom contact fishing activities. There were ten species fished commercially within the Project Area between 2012 and 2016: Greenland halibut, redfish, grey sole / witch flounder, Atlantic halibut, American plaice, rough-head grenadier, Atlantic cod, skate, snow crab and northern shrimp. Tables 7.2 and 7.3 illustrate the publicly available data for landings weight and value, in order to help distinguish the more valuable fisheries occurring within the Project Area. Greenland halibut accounts for approximately 67% of the landed weight and 76% of the landed value of commercial fish catch within the Project Area between 2012 and 2016. Northern shrimp and snow crab are the next most valuable fisheries, followed by the remaining ground fish species, which account for less than 1% of the total landed weight and landed value.

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Table 7.2 Domestic Offshore Harvest by Species within the Project Area, 2012 to 2016, Annual Weight (t)

Species	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total	Percent of Total Weight
Turbot / Greenland Halibut	1,261.0	926.5	911.9	842.1	1,036.2	4,977.7	67.2
Northern Shrimp	944.8	771.0	130.3	222.1	77.9	2,146.1	29.0
Crab, Queen / Snow	51.8	69.1	73.2	72.2	-	266.2	3.6
Redfish	6.9	1.8	0.6	0.5	-	9.8	0.1
Grenadier, Roughhead	7.5	-	-	-	-	7.5	0.1
Greysole / Witch	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	N/A
Halibut – Atlantic	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	N/A
Skate	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	N/A
American Plaice	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	N/A
Cod, Atlantic	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	N/A

Table 7.3 Domestic Offshore Harvest by Species within the Project Area, 2012 to 2016, Annual Value (\$)

Species	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total	Percent of total value
Turbot / Greenland Halibut	4,507,222	2,725,425	2,669,388	3,181,622	3,924,696	17,008,354	76
Northern Shrimp	1,576,014	1,049,265	343,366	861,857	244,879	4,075,380	18
Crab, Queen / Snow	222,522	299,375	377,533	393,239	0	1,292,669	6
Redfish	5,443	1,244	487	339	0	7,512	0
Grenadier, Roughhead	2,031	0	0	0	0	2,031	0
Greysole / Witch	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Halibut – Atlantic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Skate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
American Plaice	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cod, Atlantic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

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7.2.3.2 Domestic Fishing within the RAA

Commercial fishing within the RAA takes into account a much larger area than the Project Area. As the RAA encompasses entire NAFO Subdivisions, it includes commercial harvesting activity taking place from the shoreline, out to the 200 nm EEZ.

Tables 7.4 and 7.5 illustrate the 15 species that had the highest landings in both weight and value recorded within the RAA. Similar to the Project Area, snow crab, northern shrimp, and Greenland halibut are important fisheries within the RAA and throughout offshore Newfoundland and Labrador, accounting for 89.6% of the total weight and 95% of the total value caught within the RAA between 2012 and 2016. Pelagic species such as capelin and herring are also among the top 15 harvested species. These fisheries are executed primarily in the inshore and nearshore areas around Newfoundland and Labrador and not within the Project Area itself.

Table 7.4 Offshore Harvest by Species within the RAA, 2012 to 2016, Annual Weight (t)

Species	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total	Percent of Total Weight
Northern Shrimp	70,801.51	61,981.9	50,721.9	47,778.4	31,391.4	262,675.1	39.8
Crab, Queen / Snow	42,660.86	42,659.6	43,066.9	42,386.1	38,857.4	209,630.8	31.8
Capelin	22,045.67	23,151.6	22,915.7	24,468.3	26,707.5	119,288.8	18.1
Cod, Atlantic	3,094.67	3,945.9	4,362.2	4,167.8	9,679.9	25,250.4	3.8
Turbot / Greenland Halibut	5,064.12	4,979.4	3,322.4	2,644.8	2,757.4	18,768.2	2.8
Herring, Atlantic	2,927.77	4,001.5	3,056.5	4,300.1	4,210.3	18,496.1	2.8
Mackerel	0.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	2,556.8	2,556.8	0.4
Shrimp, <i>Pandalus montagui</i>	110.95	235.2	373.5	373.7	399.8	1,493.1	0.2
Whelk	60.39	29.1	31.6	58.7	280.0	459.7	0.1
Swordfish	131.04	0.0	139.4	0.0	179.0	449.5	0.1
Winter Flounder	96.52	48.5	49.7	21.7	18.3	234.7	0.0
Crab, Spider / Toad	1.99	0.0	0.0	60.8	123.7	186.5	0.0
Atlantic Halibut	20.99	55.9	48.9	0.2	0.5	126.5	0.0
Skate	86.63	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	86.6	0.0
Monkfish (American Angler)	72.05	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	72.1	0.0

Source: DFO 2018b

Note: Due to confidentiality reasons, the annual harvest quantity of some species has been suppressed and was not available at the time of writing. The species above were those for which data were available

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Table 7.5 Offshore Harvest by Species within the RAA, 2012 to 2016, Annual Value (\$)

Species	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total	Percent of Total Value
Crab, Queen / Snow	183,385,507	184,897,742	222,173,976	230,808,303	255,040,324	1,076,305,851	54.8
Northern Shrimp	151,630,475	118,675,636	134,192,462	201,182,539	125,494,301	731,175,413	37.2
Turbot / Greenland Halibut	22,534,385	21,765,482	9,725,832	10,693,331	10,433,710	75,152,740	3.8
Capelin	4,714,435	4,644,255	7,274,956	6,850,820	9,832,323	33,316,788	1.7
Cod, Atlantic	3,472,769	3,815,187	5,223,137	4,855,470	12,542,276	29,908,838	1.5
Shrimp, <i>Pandalus montagui</i>	374,159	792,625	1,518,789	1,238,995	1,699,357	5,623,925	0.3
Herring, Atlantic	968,315	1,102,714	673,834	1,071,253	1,262,377	5,078,492	0.3
Swordfish	997,859	0	1,096,842	0	1,939,144	4,033,846	0.2
Mackerel	0	0	0	0	1,505,146	1,505,146	0.1
Atlantic Halibut	173,360	578,493	552,850	1,858	5,477	1,312,038	0.1
Whelk	76,056	41,320	55,818	120,485	603,182	896,861	0.0
Roe, Lumpfish	384,246	0	6,440	0	0	390,686	0.0
Crab, Spider / Toad	1,524	0	0	53,609	115,595	170,728	0.0
Winter Flounder	54,733	22,348	30,695	14,796	12,432	135,005	0.0
Monkfish (American Angler)	134,114	0	0	0	0	134,114	0.0

Source: DFO 2018b

Note: Due to confidentiality reasons, the annual harvest quantity of some species has been suppressed and was not available at the time of writing. The species above were those for which data were available

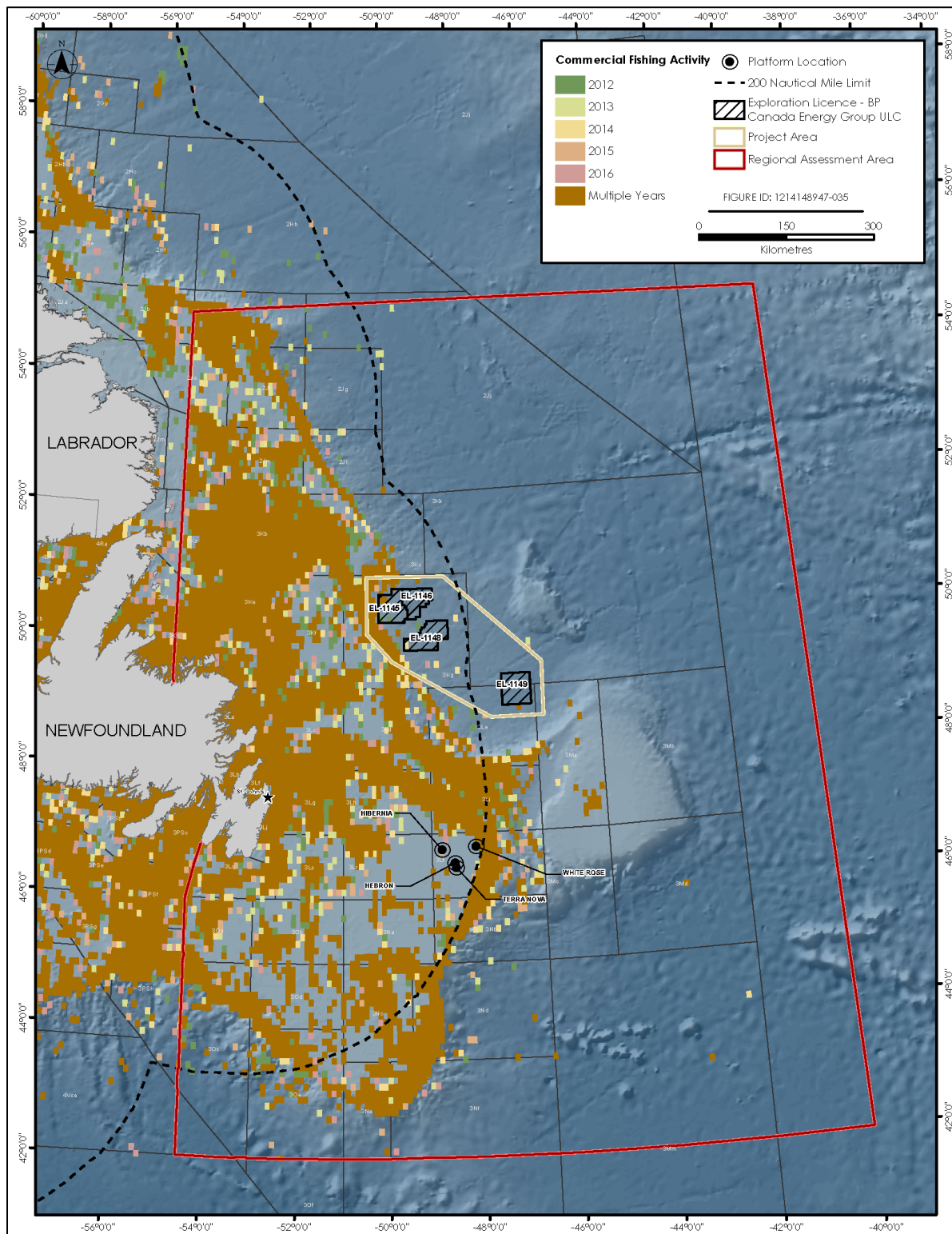
7.2.4 Location and Timing of Harvest

The domestic harvesting locations for all species of fish from 2012 to 2016 within the vicinity of the Project Area and RAA are shown in Figure 7.5 and are based on geospatial landings data provided by DFO. The colours depicted in the figure represent a certain year of fishing activity, with one colour representing an area that has been historically fished over multiple years, as is common in offshore Newfoundland and Labrador. While it does not indicate that a certain area has been fished consistently from year to year, it allows for the interpretation of historically popular areas that contain commercial fishing activity. As illustrated in the figure, fishing effort is generally concentrated along the continental shelf. This includes the slopes along the Orphan Basin, and the Grand Banks and Labrador Shelf. It also shows that there is a limited amount of commercial fishing effort currently ongoing within the Project Area, including within BP's ELs.

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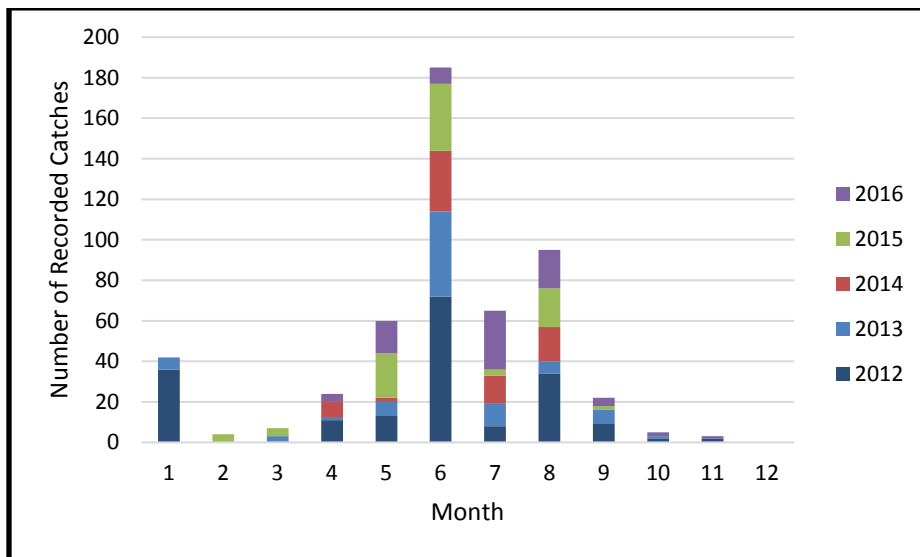
Source: DFO 2018b

Figure 7.5 Domestic Harvesting Locations, All Species, All Months, 2012 to 2016

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Figures 7.6 and 7.7 illustrate the seasonal trends in commercial fish harvesting in offshore Newfoundland and Labrador, and when the majority of commercial harvesting activity takes place. As shown, the majority of commercial fishing activity takes place during the summer months, typically from April to September. This timeline overlaps with the beginning of important seasonal fisheries, such as the snow crab fishery.



Source: DFO 2018b

Figure 7.6 Seasonality of Domestic Offshore Fishing Activity within the PA, All Species, 2012 to 2016

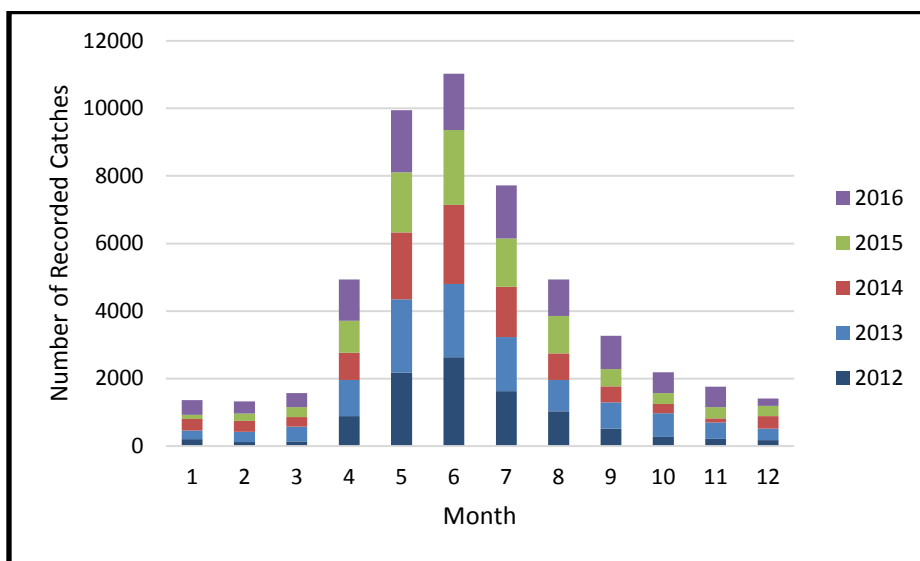


Figure 7.7 Seasonality of Domestic Offshore Fishing Activity within the RAA, All Species, 2012 to 2016

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Figures 7.8 to 7.10 illustrate the seasonality of domestic commercial harvesting activity for shellfish, groundfish, and pelagic species. Shellfish species show the largest increases in activity during the summer months, as the snow crab fishery is active during that time. Harvesting for groundfish species is active most of the year, while pelagic fisheries are more active in the early months of the year (January to March).

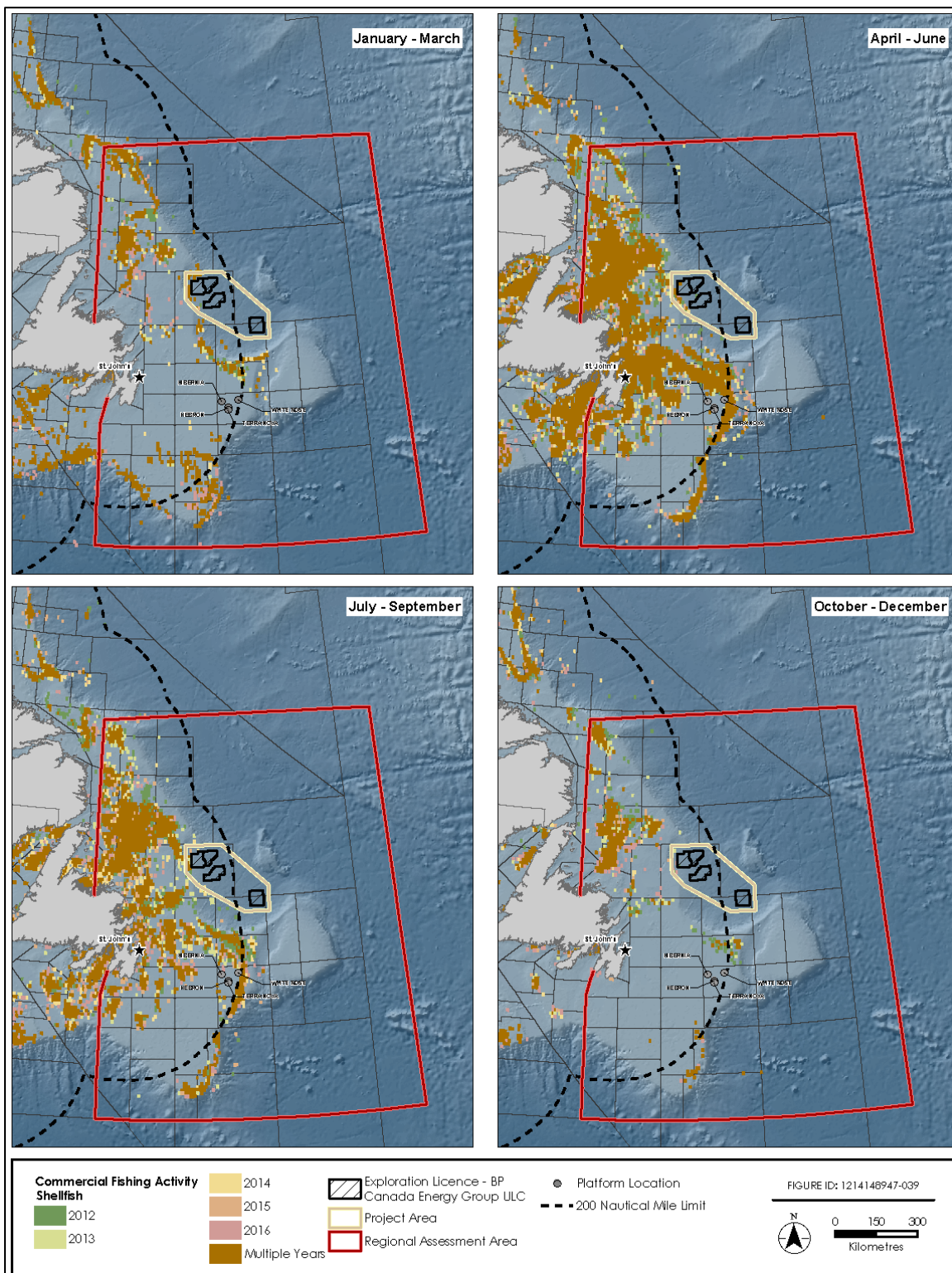
7.2.5 Fishing Gear

Within offshore Newfoundland and Labrador, there is a variety of fishing gear and equipment that is used to harvest specific species of fish. The snow crab fishery uses fixed crab pots, that are lowered to the sea floor and marked with a buoy to signal their presence. The northern shrimp fishery employs modified otter trawls specific to harvesting shrimp, while groundfish are fished via combination of stern trawls, gillnets (which can be fixed or mobile), and longlines. Pelagic fisheries use longline, seines, and nets. Dredges are used to harvest species such as deep-sea clams. Geospatial data of fixed and mobile gear fishing are shown in Figures 7.11 and 7.12. In relation to the Project Area, there is commercial harvesting activity occurring, using both fixed and mobile gear. As mentioned in previous sections, the overlap of this activity is limited and focused mostly along the continental shelf break along the northwestern section of the Project Area. Fixed and mobile gear fishing occurs throughout the RAA, including along proposed vessel transit routes from St. John's to the Project Area.

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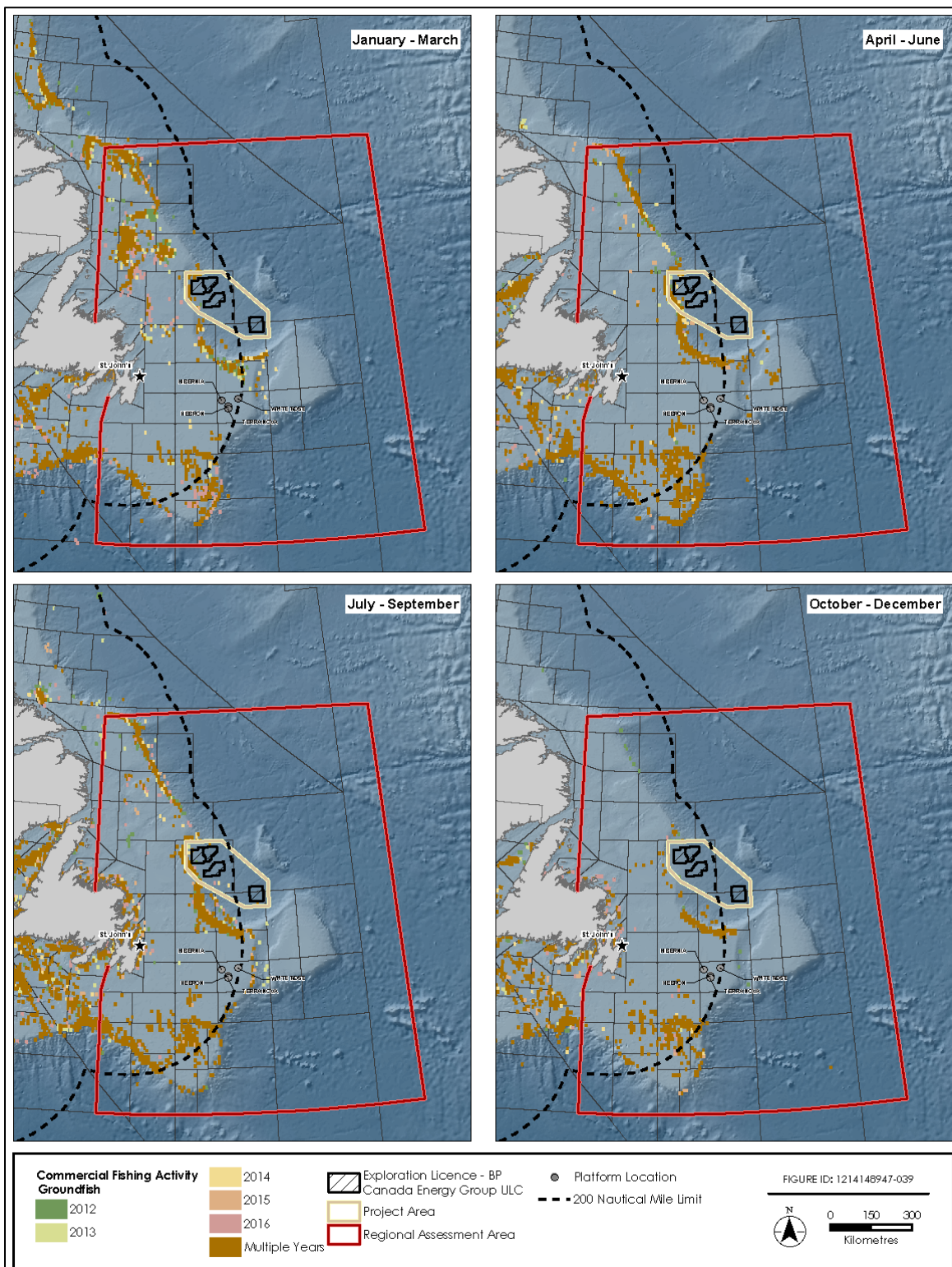
Source: DFO 2018b

Figure 7.8 Seasonality of Domestic Harvesting, Quarterly, Shellfish, 2012 to 2016

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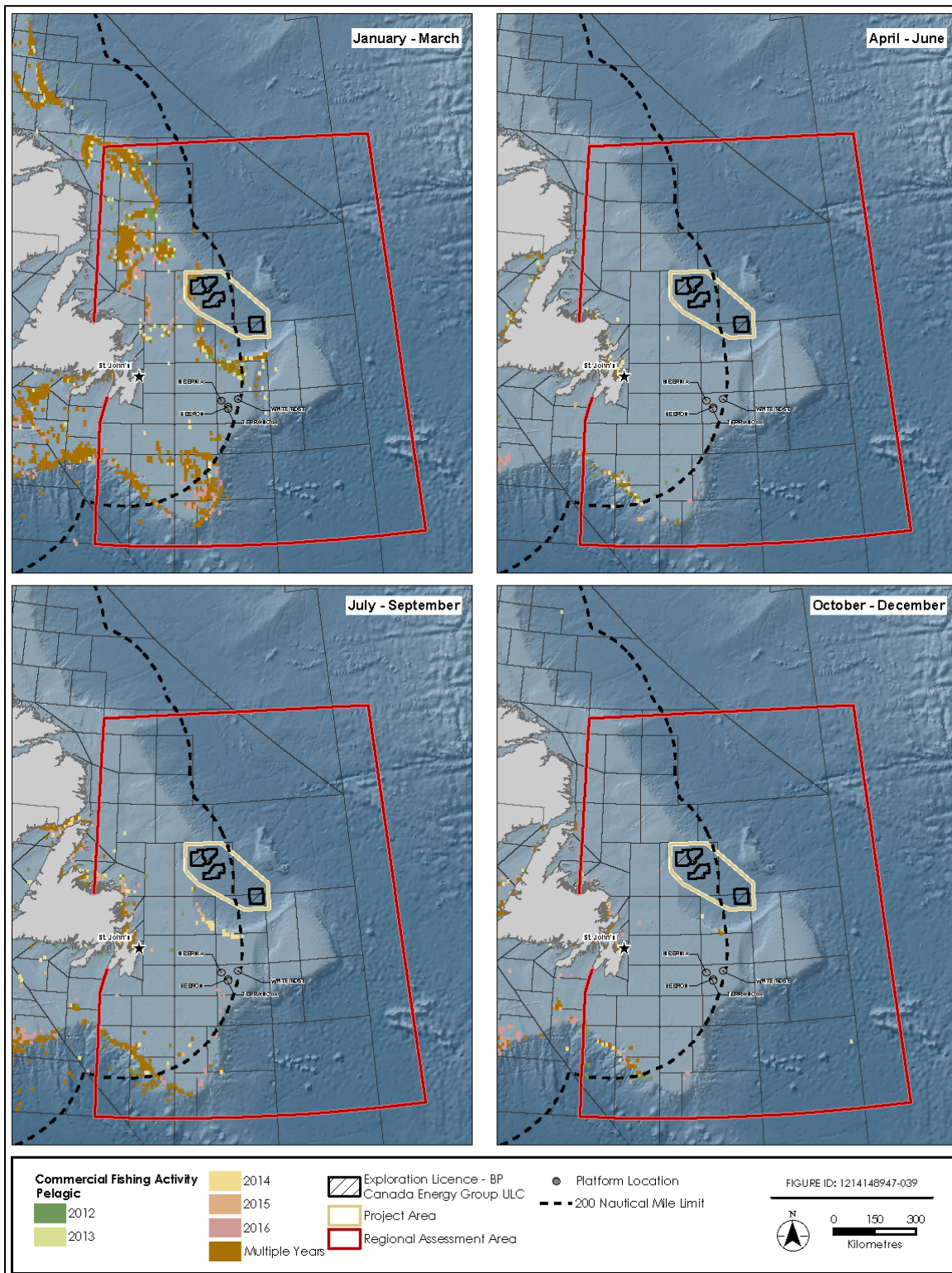
Source: DFO 2018b

Figure 7.9 Seasonality of Domestic Harvesting, Quarterly, Groundfish, 2012 to 2016

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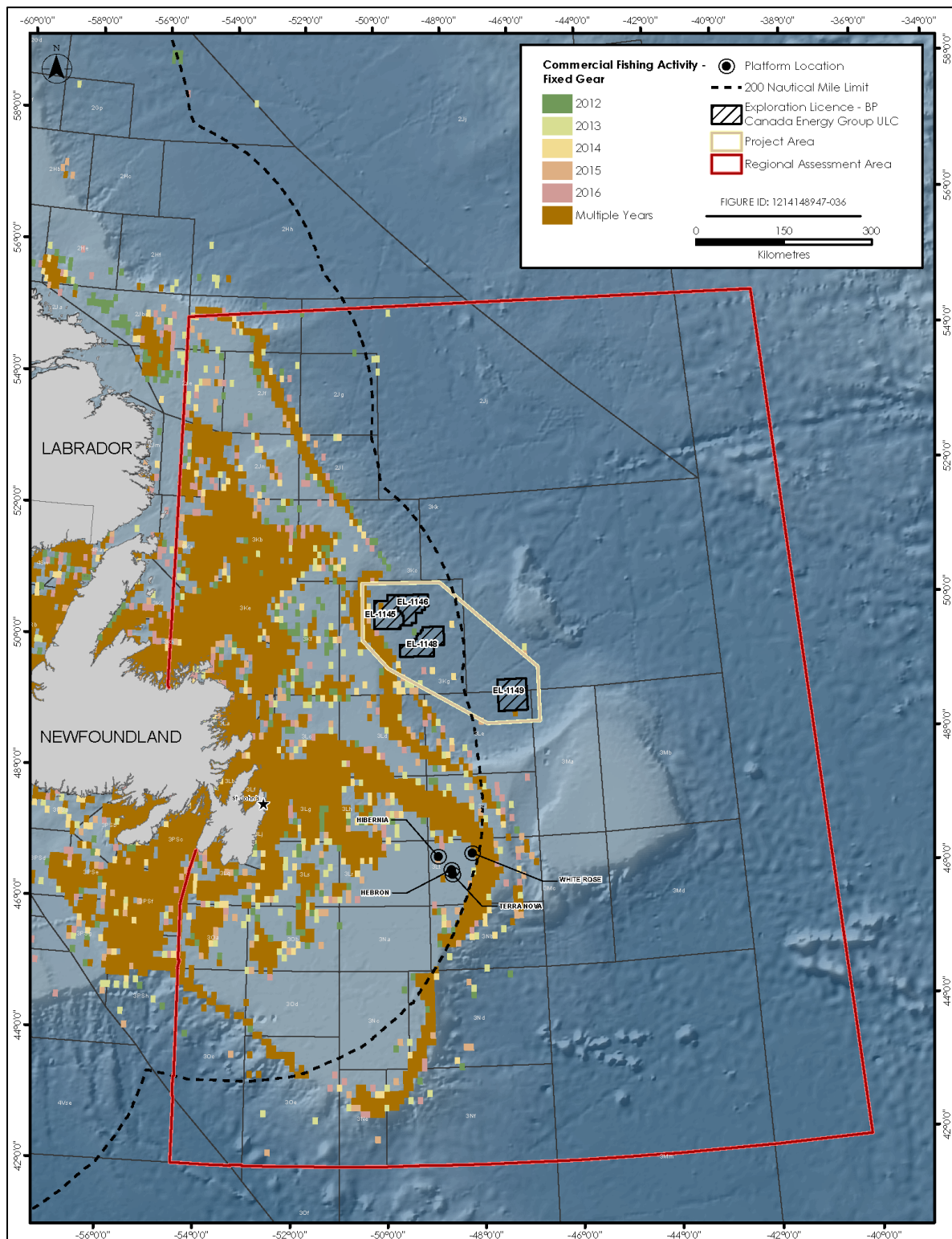
Source: DFO 2018b

Figure 7.10 Seasonality of Domestic Harvesting, Quarterly, Pelagic, 2012 to 2016

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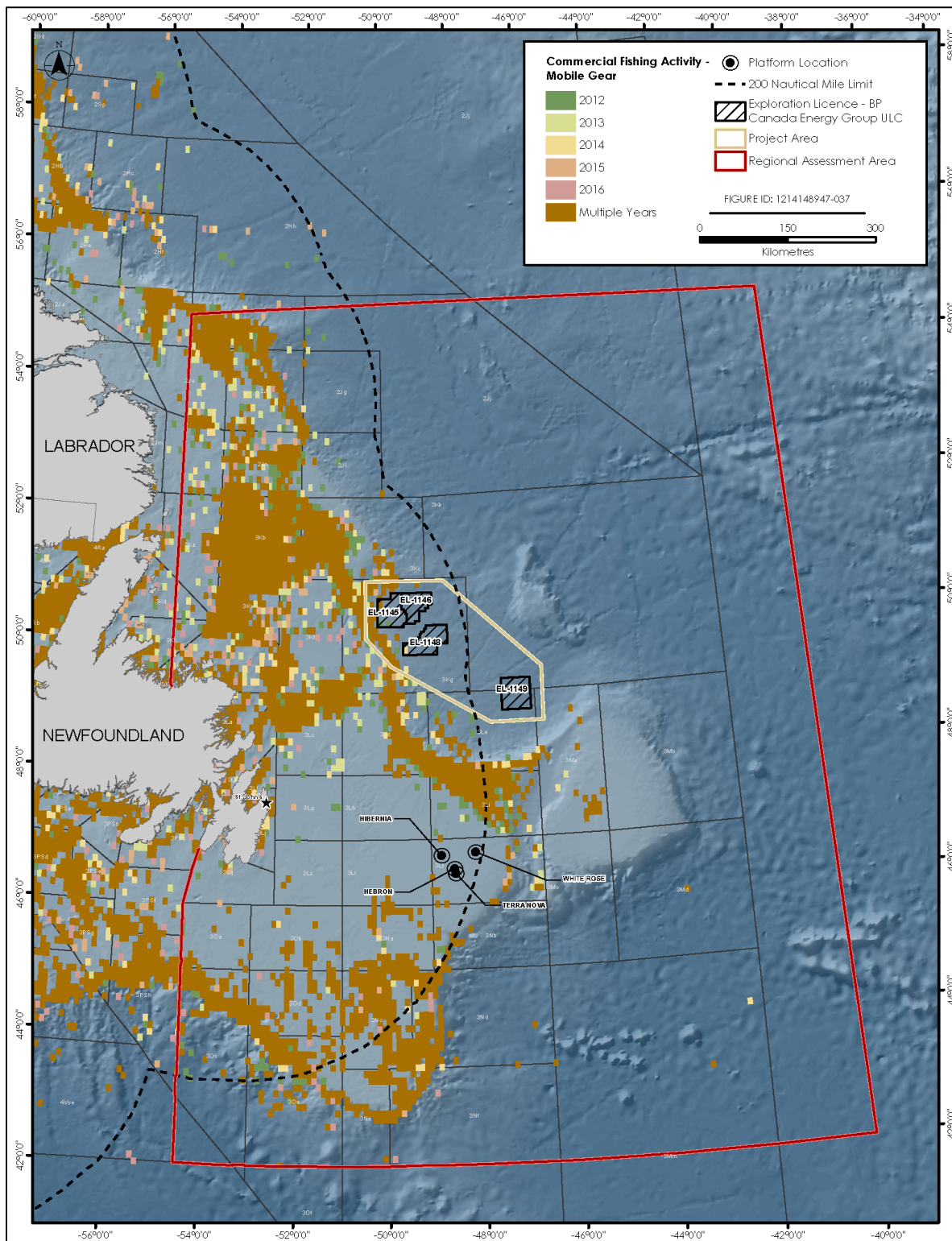
Source: DFO 2018b

Figure 7.11 Fixed Gear Domestic Harvesting Locations, All Species, 2012 to 2016

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Source: DFO 2018b

Figure 7.12 Mobile Gear Domestic Harvesting Locations, All Species, 2012 to 2016

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7.2.6 International Fisheries

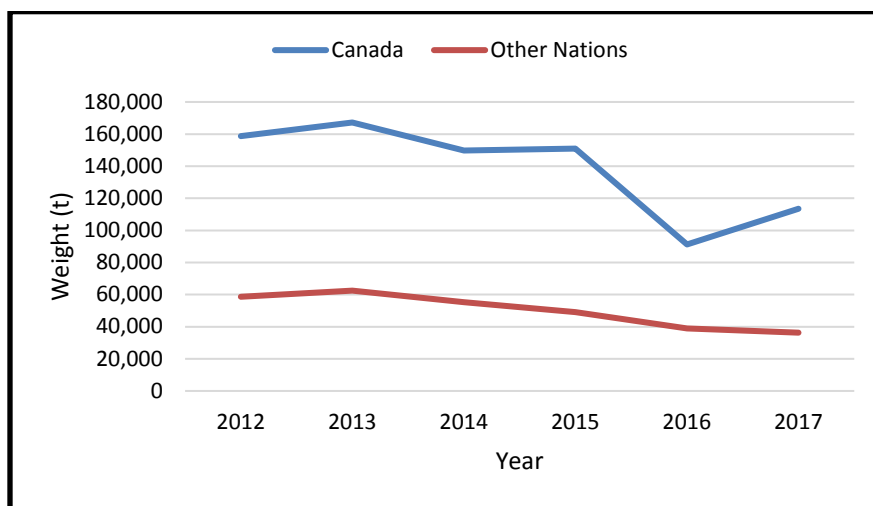
As illustrated in the previous figures, a portion of the Project Area and RAA are located outside of the Canadian EEZ, and in international waters. NAFO holds jurisdiction over commercial fish harvesting for multiple species and provides data on harvesting activities outside of the EEZ. Commercial harvest landings data, in metric tonnes, from NAFO’s STATLANT 21A and 21B datasets for NAFO Divisions 2J + 3KLMNO from 2012 to 2017 are shown in Table 7.6. Based on the data provided, divisions 3K and 3L, where the portion of Project Area outside the EEZ is located, historically contain the largest amount of fishing activity by weight landed, while 3O has the lowest amount of fishing activity.

Table 7.6 International Harvest by Weight (t), NAFO Divisions 2J+3KLMNO, 2012 to 2017

NAFO Division	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Total
2J	32,683	31,644	19,251	16,018	10,782	7,691	118,069
3K	63,468	61,144	60,361	66,651	23,517	29,775	304,916
3L	66,443	69,712	65,610	65,348	51,140	60,718	378,971
3M	25,885	27,609	26,024	24,182	18,073	14,951	136,724
3N	17,888	24,971	19,067	14,961	16,323	26,523	119,733
3O	10,977	14,627	14,489	16,569	10,415	10,103	77,180
Total	217,344	229,707	187,502	203,729	130,250	149,761	1,118,293

Source: NAFO 2018a

Figure 7.13 illustrates the quantity of harvest from 2012 to 2017 of Canadian vessels against vessels from other NAFO member nations harvesting outside of the EEZ. Over this span of time, Canadian vessels have been harvesting the most landings within the region.



Source: NAFO 2018a

Figure 7.13 Harvest from NAFO Divisions 2J+3KLMNO, Canadian vs. International Fleets, NAFO Managed Stocks, 2012 to 2017

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In terms of common species harvested within the NAFO Subdivisions that overlap with the Project Area and RAA, Table 7.7 illustrates the top five species harvested for NAFO Subdivisions 2J+3KLMNO.

Table 7.7 Top Species Harvested in NAFO Subdivision 2J+3KLMNO, by Weight (t) 2012 to 2017

Species	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Total
2J							
Northern Prawn	22,443	19,156	9,898	10,171	6,604	2,411	70,683
Greenland Halibut	3,086	3,765	2,647	3,142	2,096	2,857	17,593
Pink (pandalid) Shrimps	5,025	6,313	4,184	-	-	-	15,522
Queen Crab	1,604	1,380	1,740	1,769	1,745	1,751	9,989
Aesop Shrimp	141	268	427	445	219	169	1,669
3K							
Northern Prawn	38,333	36,529	35,549	40,892	8,185	8,432	167,920
Capelin	10,597	11,307	9,797	13,683	3,729	3,830	52,943
Queen Crab	8,390	8,519	7,828	7,179	5,464	5,508	42,888
Atlantic Cod	1,589	2,043	2,168	2,237	3,543	6,367	17,947
Greenland Halibut	1,775	832	1,820	1,237	1,903	1,196	8,763
3L							
Queen Crab	28,169	28,739	29,093	30,004	22,893	22,255	161,153
Capelin	11,643	12,388	13,352	11,389	16,187	16,037	80,996
Greenland Halibut	7,198	8,154	8,685	7,172	3,903	5,207	40,319
Atlantic Redfishes (ns)	2,732	4,446	4,245	8,620	6,652	7,856	34,551
Northern Prawn	9,994	7,605	2,279	-	-	3	19,881
3M							
Atlantic Cod	9,068	13,521	14,356	12,828	12,107	8,707	70,587
Atlantic Redfishes (ns)	7,032	6,766	6,448	5,667	4,592	5,112	35,617
Great Blue Shark	4,414	3,524	2,073	-	-	-	10,011
Greenland Halibut	1,846	1,704	1,487	2,575	824	660	9,096
Swordfish	790	313	250	-	-	-	1,353
3N							
Yellowtail Flounder	2,540	8,614	6,944	4,298	5,093	6,862	34,351
Surf Clam	-	256	-	766	6,944	12,839	20,805
Queen Crab	3,474	3,562	3,528	3,235	742	751	15,292
Skates (ns)	3,961	3,515	3,171	2,428	378	504	13,957
Atlantic Redfishes (ns)	1,762	1,786	1,450	1,320	1,805	3,645	11,768

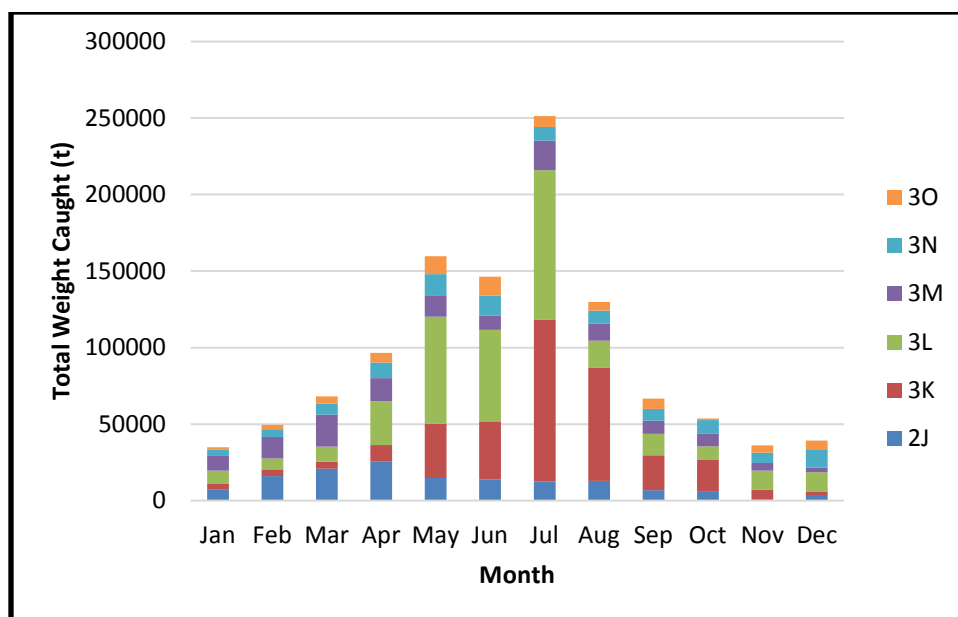
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Species	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Total
30							
Atlantic Redfishes (ns)	6,967	7,795	7,524	7,919	6,943	5,681	42,829
Queen Crab	1,897	1,674	1,899	1,740	383	1,015	8,608
Yellowtail Flounder	475	1,840	1,021	2,586	548	1,084	7,554
Skates (ns)	271	793	1243	837	137	75	3,356
Silver Hake	117	71	714	936	585	203	2,626
Source: NAFO 2018a							

The seasonality of international fishing activity is similar to that of domestic harvesting, and is illustrated in Figure 7.14, using data extracted from the STATLANT 21b data set from 2010 to 2015 (the most recent year available in the dataset). It provides an overall total weight harvested throughout the year, and then further breaks this total down by NAFO Subdivision. The figure shows that while commercial harvesting activity occurs year-round, May to August are the months where the majority of international harvesting activities takes place. Additionally, NAFO Subdivisions 3K and 3L are the areas in which the highest weight of landings is harvested.



Source: NAFO 2018a

Figure 7.14 International Harvest by Month and NAFO Subdivision, Total, All Species, 2010 to 2015

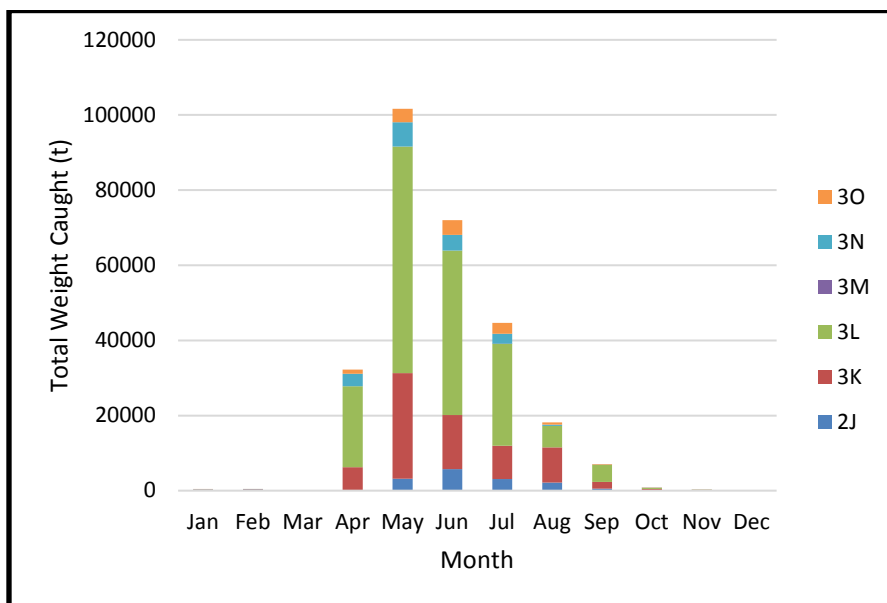
Fixed and mobile gear fishing activity is also similar to that of domestic harvesting activities, as international fishing uses a variety of both fixed and mobile gear to target species. Figures 7.15 and 7.16 show the seasonality of international harvesting using both fixed and mobile gear, for 2010 to 2015. The use of fixed gear is more prominent during April to September, which correlates with the snow crab fishing season that uses crab pots. Within these months, NAFO Subdivisions 3L and 3K comprise the

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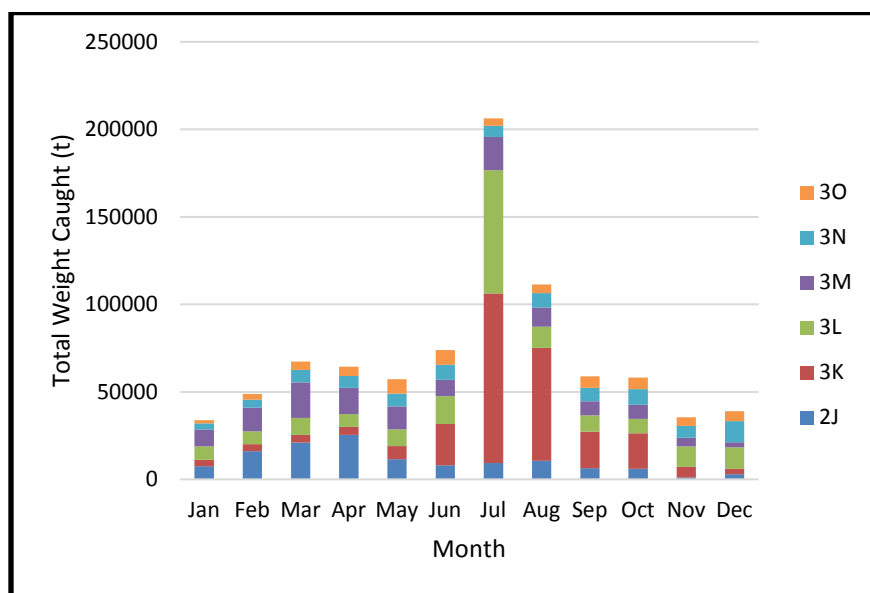
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majority of landings. Mobile gear is used more commonly year-round, as groundfish and pelagic fisheries tend to occur throughout the year. However, June to August are the months where the use of mobile gear is most common. Likewise, Subdivisions 3L and 3K also comprise the majority of harvest during these months.



Source: NAFO 2018a

Figure 7.15 International Harvest by Month and NAFO Subdivision, Fixed Gear, All Species, 2010 to 2015



NAFO 2018a

Figure 7.16 International Harvest by Month and NAFO Subdivision, Mobile Gear, All Species, 2010 to 2015

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In 2007, a request was made to Regional Fisheries Management Organizations, including NAFO, from the United Nations General Assembly to determine a way to regulate bottom fishing activities by international vessels because these bottom fishing activities have the potential to affect vulnerable marine ecosystems. As a result, NAFO developed new Fisheries Conservation Enforcement Measures, which were created to monitor and reduce the effects of bottom fishing activities in the NRA. Part of these new measures included using a vessel monitoring system to track the intensity of bottom fishing activities in certain areas. This led to the development of the NAFO Fishing Footprint (Figure 7.17). This footprint outlines an area of historically heavy bottom fishing activity. This area is located outside the EEZ that overlaps with the Flemish Cap and a portion of the slope of the Grand Banks; it does not overlap with the Project Area.

7.2.7 Description of Key Fisheries by Species

The following sections describe key fisheries that occur in the offshore environment. Based on the data provided for both domestic and international harvesting, there are species harvested commercially that are important for both domestic and international fleets. These species include northern shrimp, snow crab, and groundfish species such as redfish, Greenland halibut (turbot), Atlantic halibut, roughhead grenadier, greyscale / witch flounder, Atlantic cod, and American plaice.

7.2.7.1 Northern Shrimp

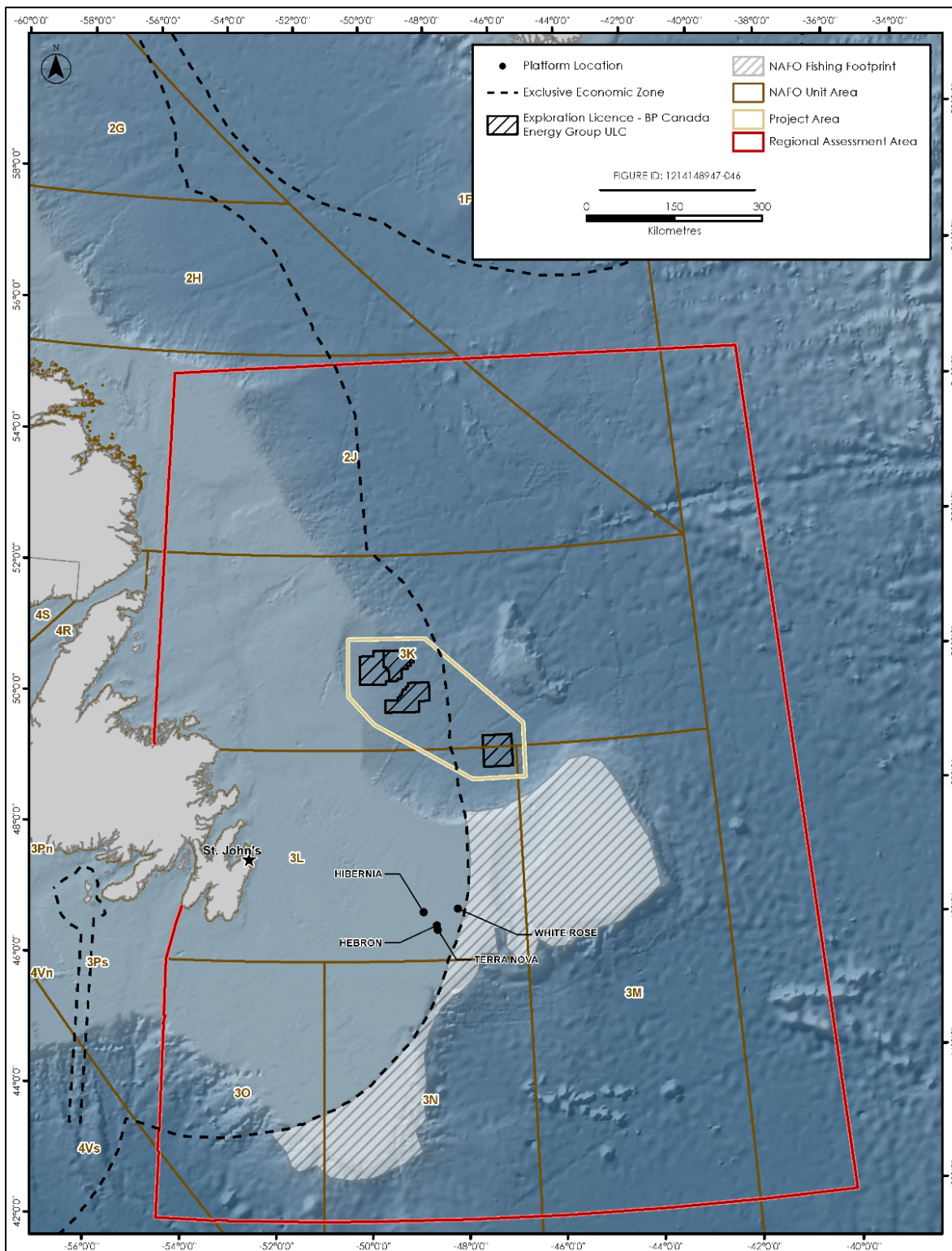
The northern shrimp fishery in Canada started during the 1970s off the coast of Labrador, and occurs along the continental shelf, spanning from Labrador down through the Grand Banks. With the collapse of groundfish stocks in the 1990s, and the current moratoria that still remains on groundfish species, northern shrimp has become one of the largest and economically important fisheries in terms of quantity and value of harvest (DFO 2009). The domestic fishery for northern shrimp involves fleets both inshore and offshore, and commercial fishing activity is conducted within defined SFAs along Canada's coastline. These SFAs are illustrated on Figure 7.18; the Project Area overlaps with SFAs 6 and 7. These SFAs are managed by DFO, who will set TACs and quotas within the EEZ. The 3L portion outside the EEZ is managed by NAFO, along with harvesting activities taking place within 3M. Northern shrimp are primarily harvested using modified trawls, designed to reduce bycatch of other species.

Locations of domestic northern shrimp fishing activity from 2012 to 2016 relative to the Project Area and RAA are shown in Figure 7.19, which includes Canadian vessels harvesting in 3L, under quotas set by NAFO for Canadian enterprises. In relation to the Project Area, there is some overlap of commercial fishing activity for northern shrimp in the northwest portion of the Project Area, near ELs 1145 and 1146. However, this overlap is small, and there does not appear to be a large amount of commercial fishing activity for northern shrimp in the Project Area as a whole. Northern shrimp are typically harvested year-round in offshore Newfoundland and Labrador by larger trawlers, but the summer months are usually the most active and productive time to fish for the species. Figure 7.20 shows northern shrimp harvests by month between 2012 and 2016.

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Source: NAFO 2018a

Figure 7.17 NAFO Fishing Footprint

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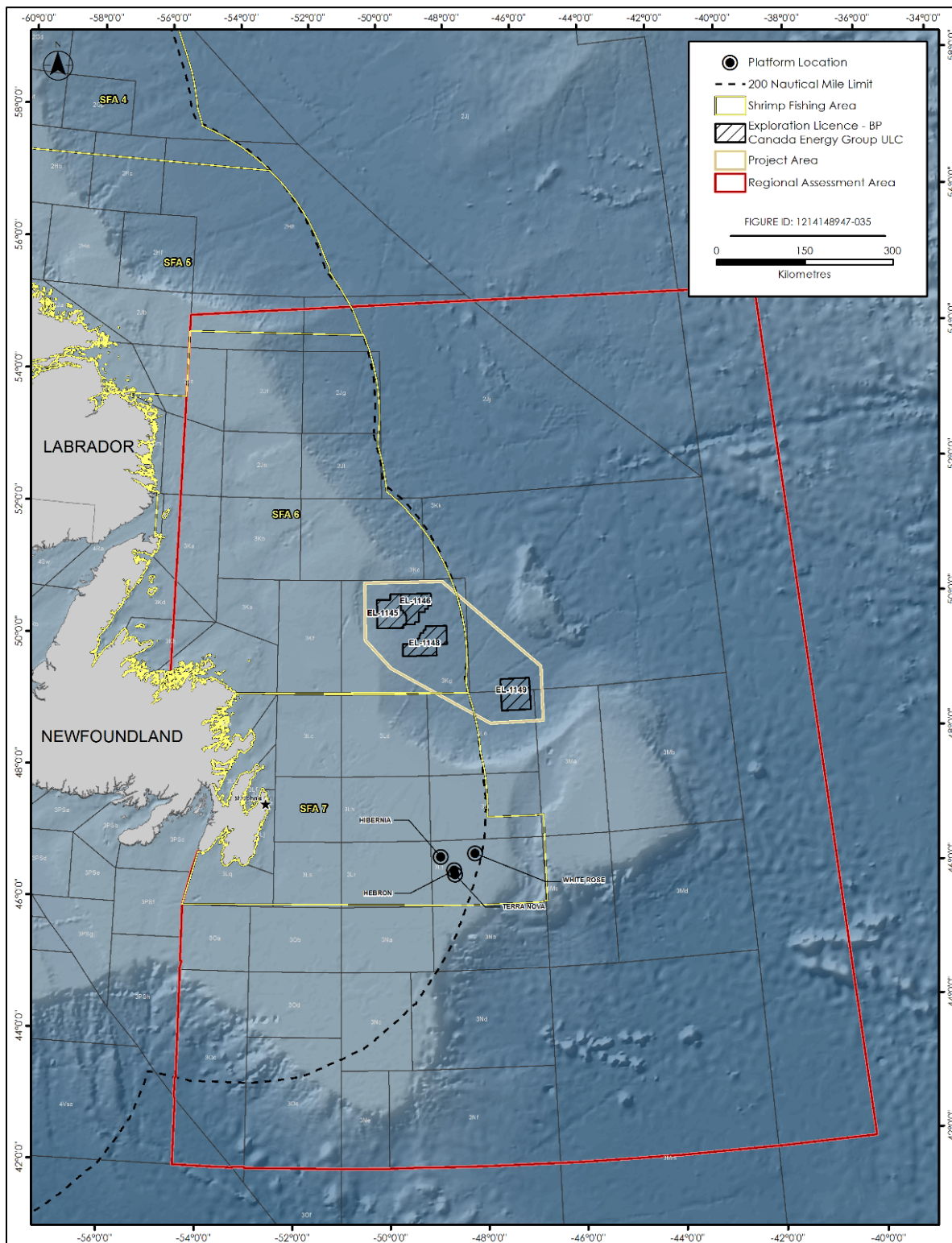
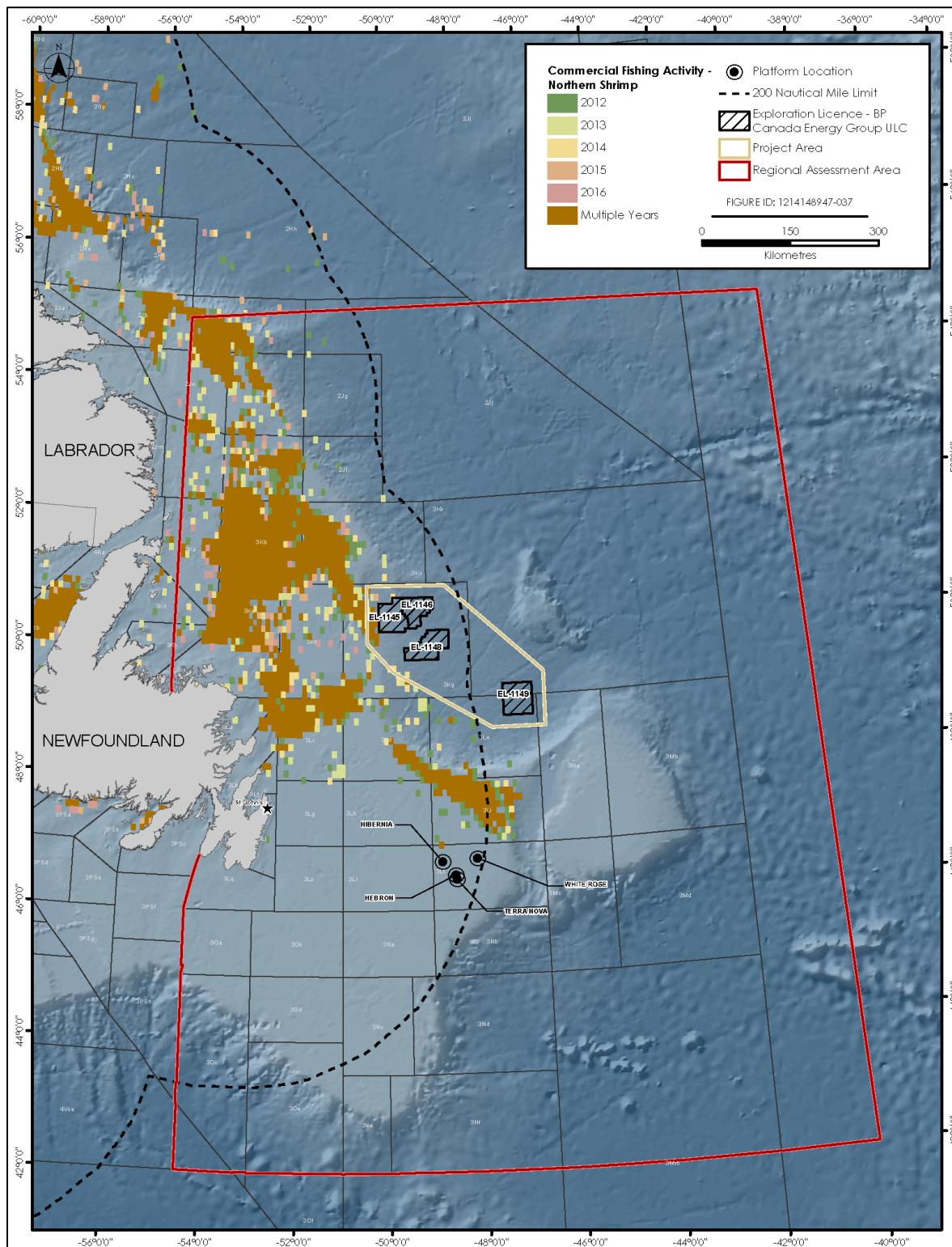


Figure 7.18 Northern Shrimp Fishing Areas in Offshore Newfoundland and Labrador

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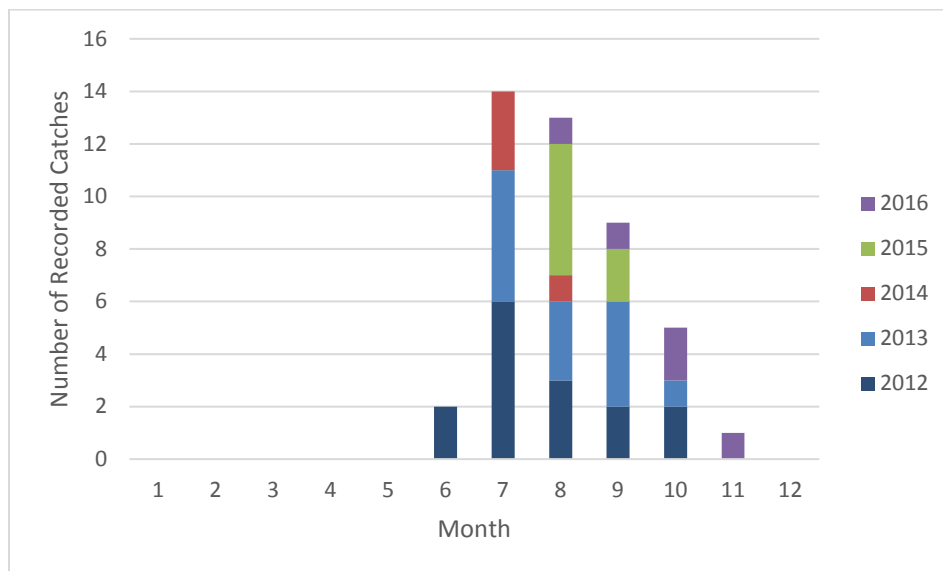
Source: DFO 2018b

Figure 7.19 Domestic Harvesting Locations, Northern Shrimp, 2012 to 2016

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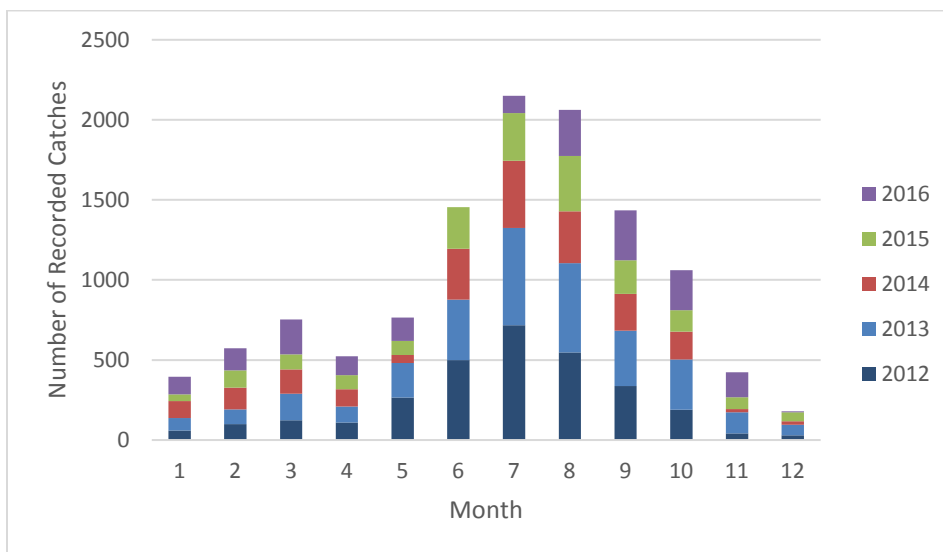
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Source: DFO 2018b

Figure 7.20 Northern Shrimp Harvest within the Project Area by Month, 2012 to 2016



Source: DFO 2018b

Figure 7.21 Northern Shrimp Harvest within the RAA by Month, 2012 to 2016

Northern shrimp stocks have undergone changes recently, as stock health and stability of the species has become a growing concern for harvesters both domestically and internationally. Northern shrimp stocks have been in decline since 2010, with the most recent assessment published by DFO (2018c) for northern shrimp in SFAs 4, 5, and 6 showing varying trends. In SFA 6, where a large amount of commercial fishing activity for northern shrimp occurs, the fishable biomass in SFA 6 declined 16% from 104,000 t in 2016, to 87,300 t in 2017. This was the lowest observed levels between 1996 and 2017,

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where the total fishable biomass averaged 407,000 t (DFO 2018c). Likewise, the female spawning stock biomass also declined 19% from approximately 65,000 t in 2016, to 52,700 t in 2017. This was also the lowest observed levels from 1996 to 2017, where the average female spawning stock biomass averaged 254,000 t (DFO 2018c). This puts the female stock spawning biomass within DFO's "critical zone".

Within SFAs 4 and 5, shrimp stocks have been relatively healthy. Total fishable biomass in SFA 5 increased by 31% from 110,000 t in 2016 to 140,000 t in 2017, and the female spawning stock biomass also increased by 3% from 54,300 in 2016 to 55,700 t in 2017 (DFO 2018c). This increase follows a 35% decrease in female biomass between 2015 and 2016 (DFO 2017a). Within SFA 4, the total fishable biomass decreased by 13% from 95,300 t in 2016 to 82,700 t, while the total female spawning stock biomass increased 0.2% from 55,500 t in 2016 to 55,600 in 2017. Both the female spawning stock biomass for SFAs 4 and 5 were listed within the "healthy zone".

As a result of these changes, fishing TACs and quotas for northern shrimp have also changed over the years. Within SFA 6, the most recent decision by DFO set the TAC at 27,825 t for the 2016 / 2017 fishing season. This TAC was cut again, approximately 63% to 10,400 t for the 2017 / 2018 fishery and has since been further reduced to 8,730 t for the 2018 / 2019 fishing season (DFO 2018d). The largest changes in domestic harvesting activity for commercial shrimp occurred in SFA 7, when a moratorium was placed due to declining biomass of the species. As a result of these changes in TAC, shrimp harvesting efforts may be less intense in areas such as SFA 6, where commercial harvesting has historically been most active.

In terms of international harvesting, the northern shrimp fishery is in a similar situation. A fishing moratorium was placed on northern shrimp in 3M in 2011 due to low levels of recruitment. The latest assessment by NAFO indicates that the stock is still experiencing poor recruitment levels and is therefore likely to remain low with the moratorium in place. The latest stock assessment by NAFO in 2017 calls for no directed fishery for 2018 and 2019 (NAFO 2018b). The stock in 3LNO has also been placed under a moratorium since 2015, with no directed fishery occurring in 2015 or 2016 (NAFO 2018b). The latest assessment for 3LNO northern shrimp was carried out in 2017, which also calls for no directed fishing activity for 2018 and 2019 (NAFO 2018b).

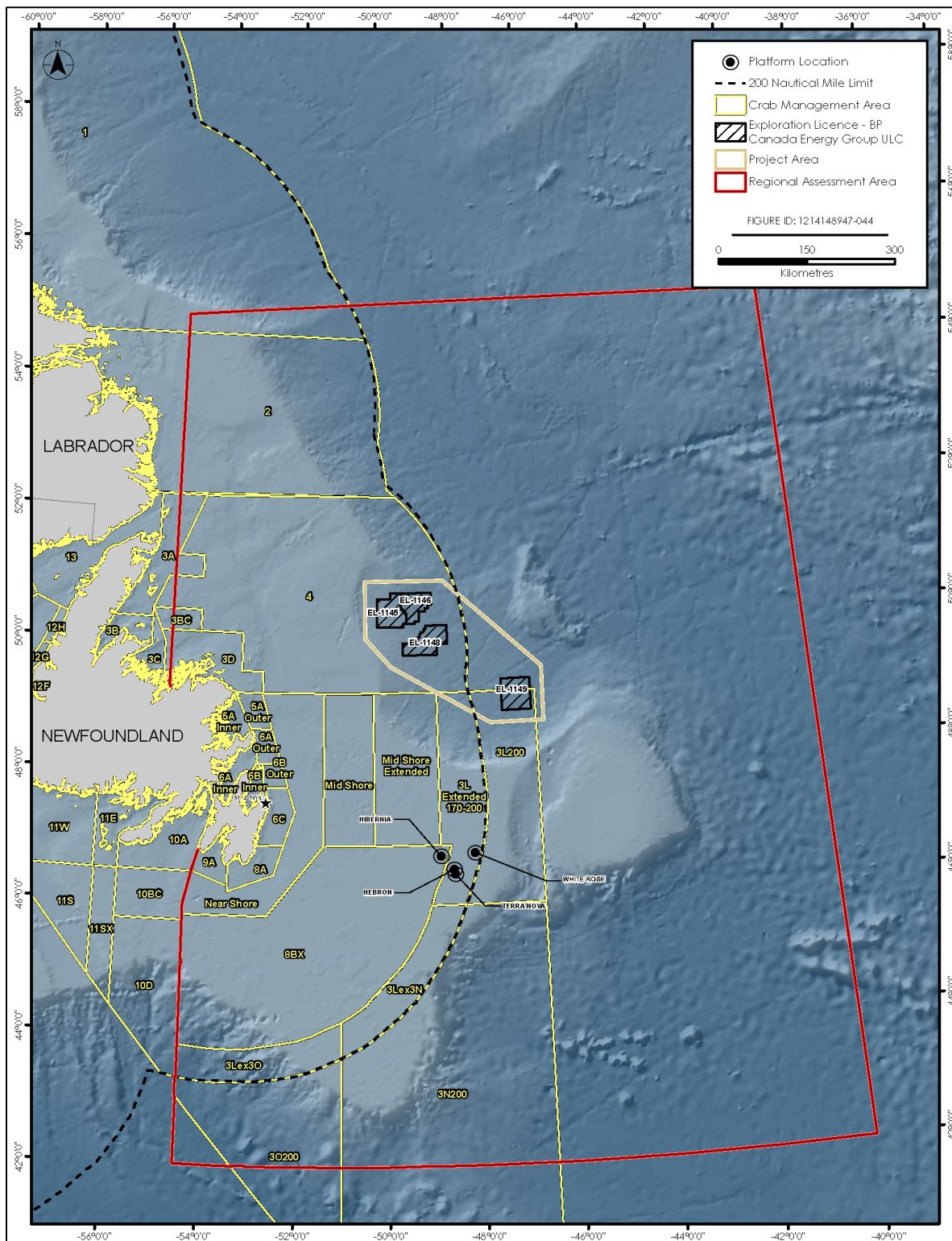
7.2.7.2 Snow Crab

Similar to northern shrimp after the collapse of groundfish stocks in the 1990s, snow crab has become one of the largest fisheries in the province, and accounts for a large portion of offshore harvesting activity both domestically and internationally. Crabs are harvested using crab pots, which are set along the seabed using buoys and markers to indicate its location. The fishery uses a quota system, and the offshore environment is broken out into CMAs (Figure 7.22) for management of quotas. Within each NAFO Division there are multiple CMAs, each with its own fleet sectors based on vessel size, quotas, and start and end dates. The dates for the 2018 crab fishing season are illustrated in Table 7.8. As mentioned in Section 7.2.1, the Government of Canada maintains jurisdiction over commercial fish species within Canada's 200 nautical mile EEZ, and all sedentary species that occur across the extent of Canada's continental shelf. This includes the management of snow crab stocks both within and outside of the EEZ. Domestic harvesting locations for snow crab from 2012 to 2016 are illustrated in Figure 7.23. Similar to northern shrimp, there is some overlap within the northwest section of the Project Area, but overall there are low levels of harvesting activity for snow crab.

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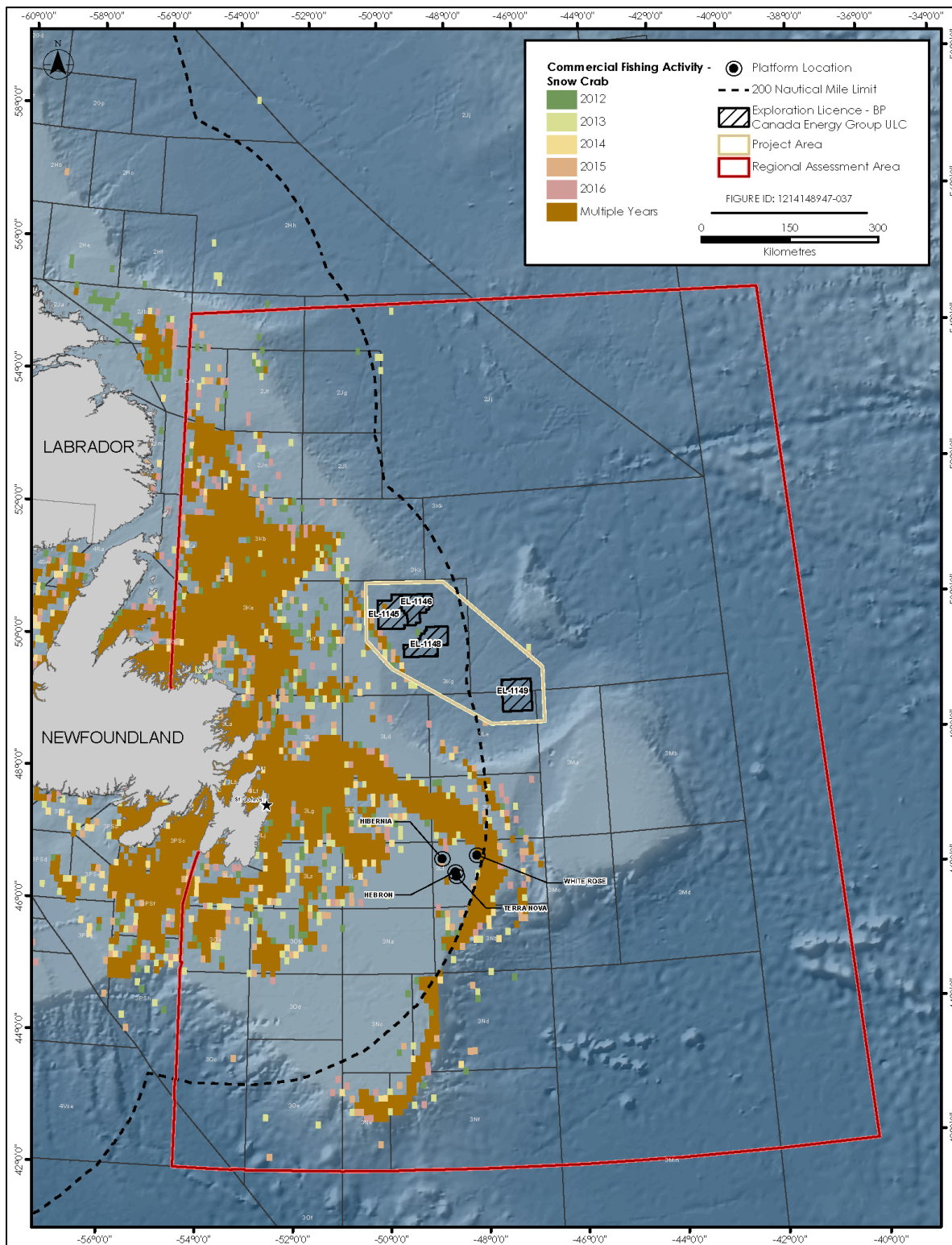
Source: DFO 2018b

Figure 7.22 Crab Management Areas

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Source: DFO 2018b

Figure 7.23 Domestic Harvesting Locations, Snow Crab, 2012 to 2016

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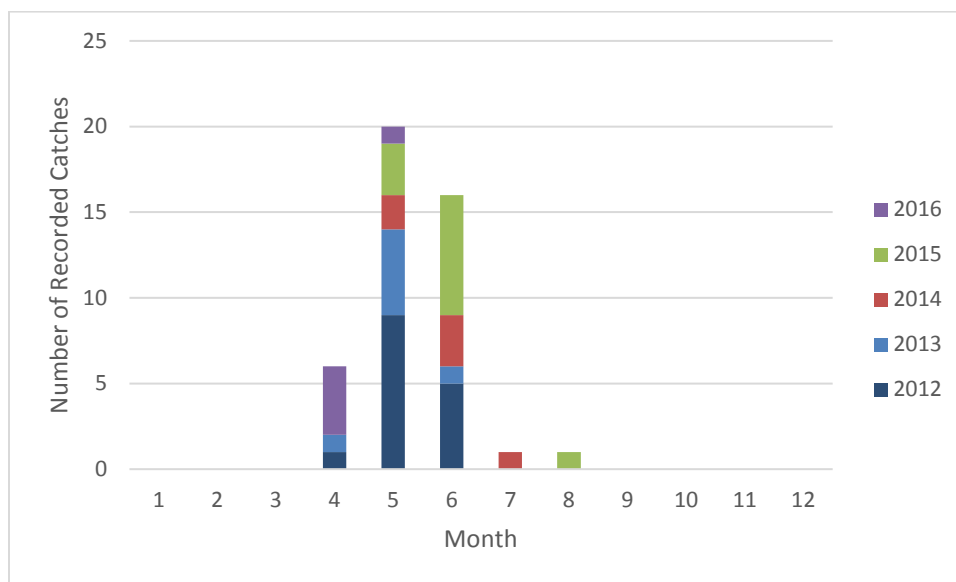
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Table 7.8 Fishing Windows for Snow Crab, 2018

NAFO Division	Crab Fishing Area	2018 Season Dates
2GHJ	2GH, 2J North	TBD
2J South	All fleets	TBD
3K	3A	April 14 - July 15
	3BC, 4	April 14 - June 30
	3D	April 16 - June 30
	3B	April 22 - June 30
	3C	April 30 - June 30
3LNO	Most areas	April 9 - June 31
	8Bx South	April 9 - July 15

Source: DFO 2018d

The seasonality for the snow crab fishery is shown in Figure 7.24; the fishing period for snow crab is between April and August.



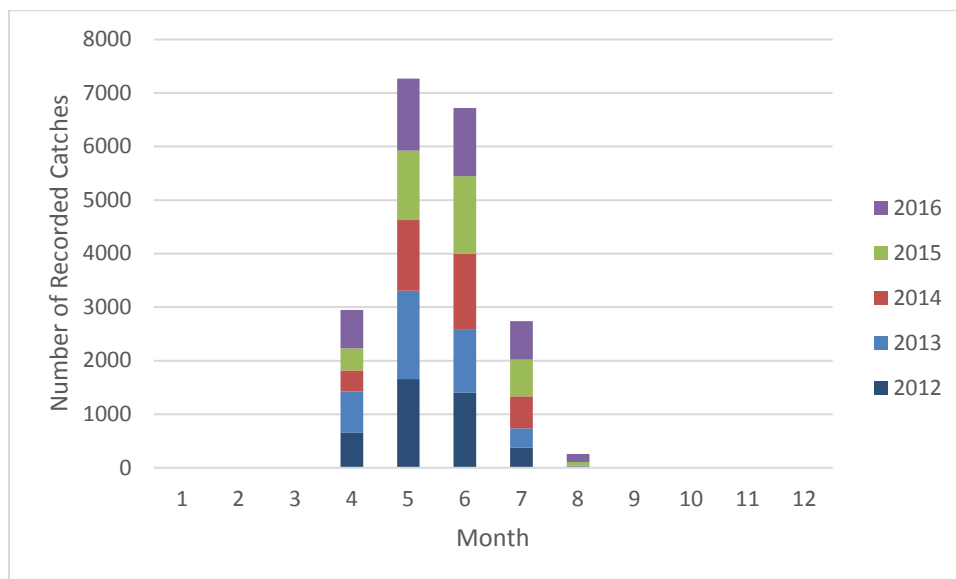
Source: DFO 2018b

Figure 7.24 Snow Crab Harvest within the Project Area by Month, 2012 to 2016

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Source: DFO 2018b

Figure 7.25 Snow Crab Harvest within the RAA by Month, 2012 to 2016

Like northern shrimp, snow crab stocks have also undergone changes in recent years. In the results from the most recent assessment of snow crab by DFO in 2016, total landings of snow crab in offshore Newfoundland and Labrador (2HJ3KLNOP4R) peaked in 2009 at 53,500 t, and then declined to 34,000 t in 2017. The total exploitable biomass of snow crab has been in decline since 2013 and is now at its lowest observed levels (DFO 2018e). Landings in NAFO Divisions 2HJ have remained low, at less than 2,000 t for the previous four years (DFO 2018e), which can partially be explained by the natural range and distribution of snow crab; however, snow crab landings in NAFO Division 3K declined by 66% since 2009 to their lowest observed level in two decades to (5,450 t) (DFO 2018e). Landings in the 3LNO offshore stock have remained between 20,000 and 30,000 t since 1999; however, recruitment in this area was at an historic low in 2017 of 18,050 t (DFO 2018e).

Because of these changes in biomass in certain areas, TACs and quotas have changed as well. In 2016, the TAC for the Newfoundland and Labrador snow crab fishery in areas 2HJ, 3KLNO, 3Ps, and 4R3Pn was approximately 45,667 t. That number was reduced by 22% in 2017 to 35,419 t, and by 17% in 2018 to 29,390 (DFO 2018d). The breakdown of snow crab quotas for the 2018 season is provided in Table 7.9.

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Table 7.9 Snow Crab Quotas for the 2018 Season

Area	Quota (t)
2HJ	1,865
3K	5,932
3LNO	18,840
3Ps	1,792
4R3Pn	501
CPS Trap Survey	460
Total	29,390

Source: DFO 2018d

7.2.7.3 Groundfish

Groundfish harvesting in offshore Newfoundland and Labrador, after the collapse of groundfish stocks in the 1990s, has historically made up modest amounts of landings in terms of weight and value. Most species of groundfish are either associated with a limited directed fishery or are caught as bycatch species as part of another fishery. Historically, Atlantic cod was the primary species harvested, along with other species such as American plaice. Since the collapse of stocks, Greenland halibut and redfish are some species that have comprised the majority of groundfish landings in offshore waters. Atlantic cod is still considered a key species due to its cultural and historic value to Newfoundland and Labrador, and efforts have been made to try and rebuild the stocks to support a commercial harvest.

Internationally, groundfish species are the primary species managed by NAFO, and groundfish landings have comprised a larger portion of landings internationally. NAFO manages groundfish stocks using a similar quota system to that used by DFO, allocating portions of TACs to member nations, including Canada.

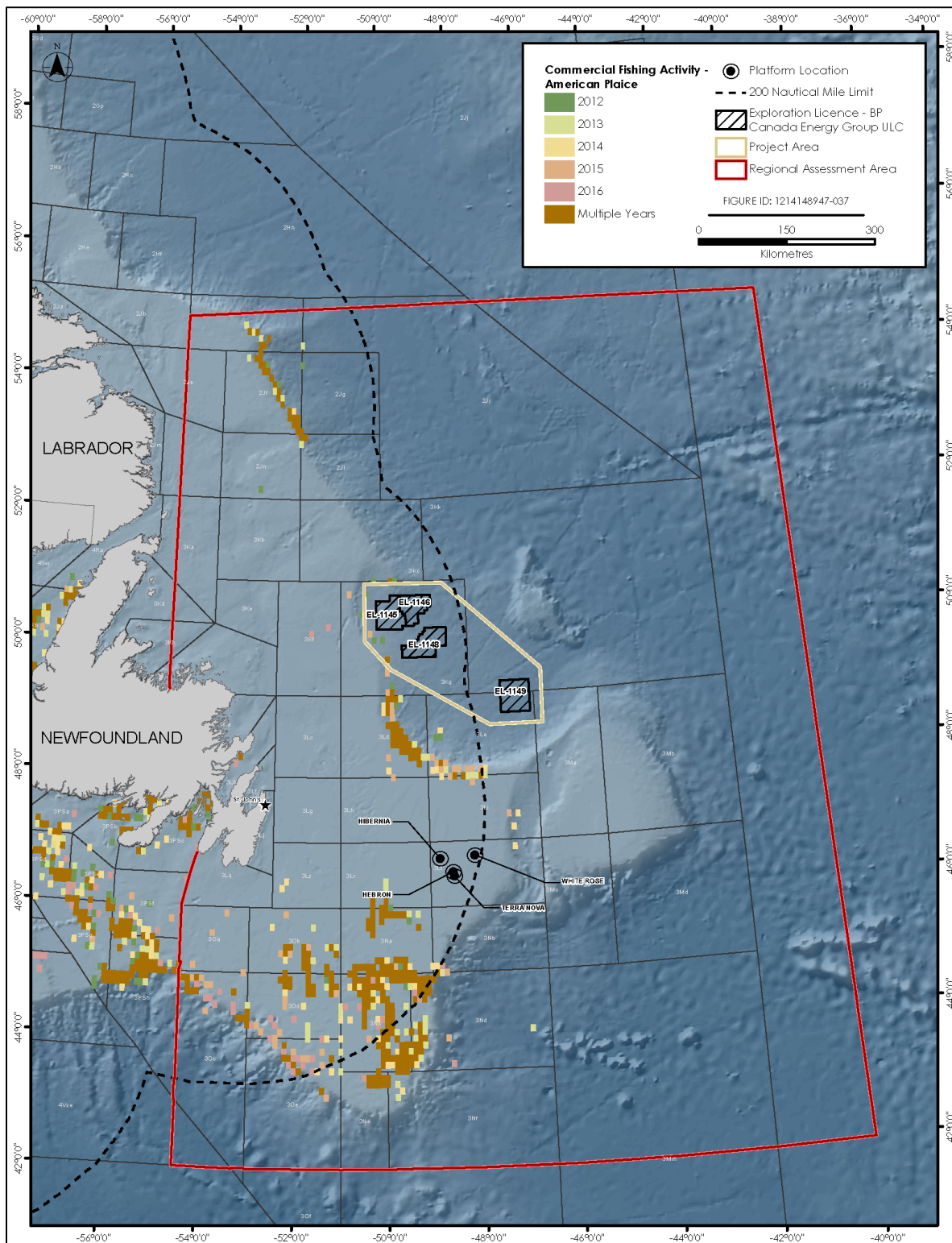
Domestic harvesting locations for groundfish species from 2012 to 2016 are shown in Figures 7.26 to 7.32. Most recorded groundfish harvesting locations are confined to the northwestern section of the Project Area. This is due to this area overlapping with the continental shelf, where commercial fishing activity primarily occurs.

Figure 7.33 summarizes the timing of groundfish harvests for 2012-2016. While fisheries for shrimp and crab are generally confined to the summer months, groundfish harvesting effort is spread out throughout the year.

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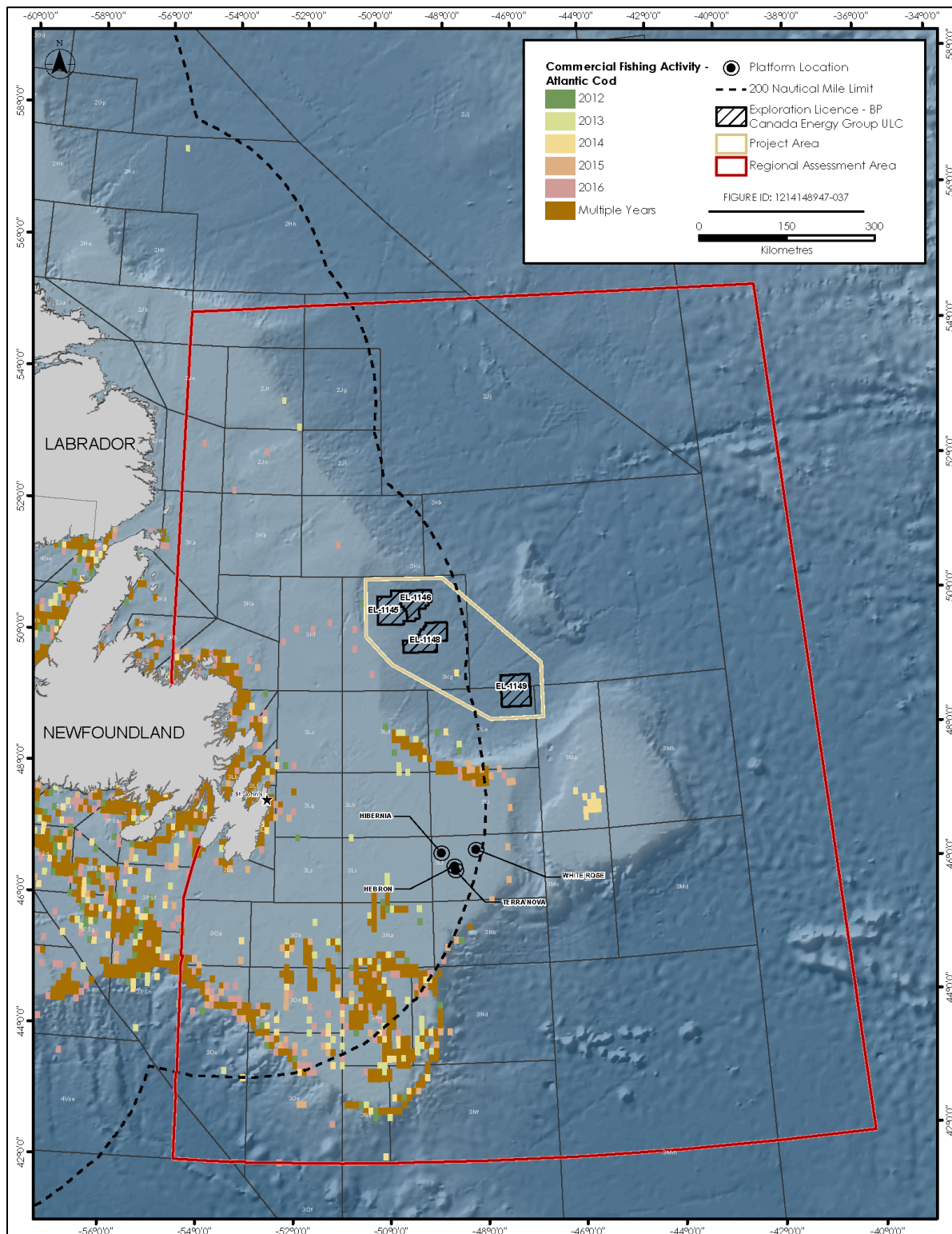
Source: DFO 2018b

Figure 7.26 Domestic Harvesting Locations, American Plaice, 2012 to 2016

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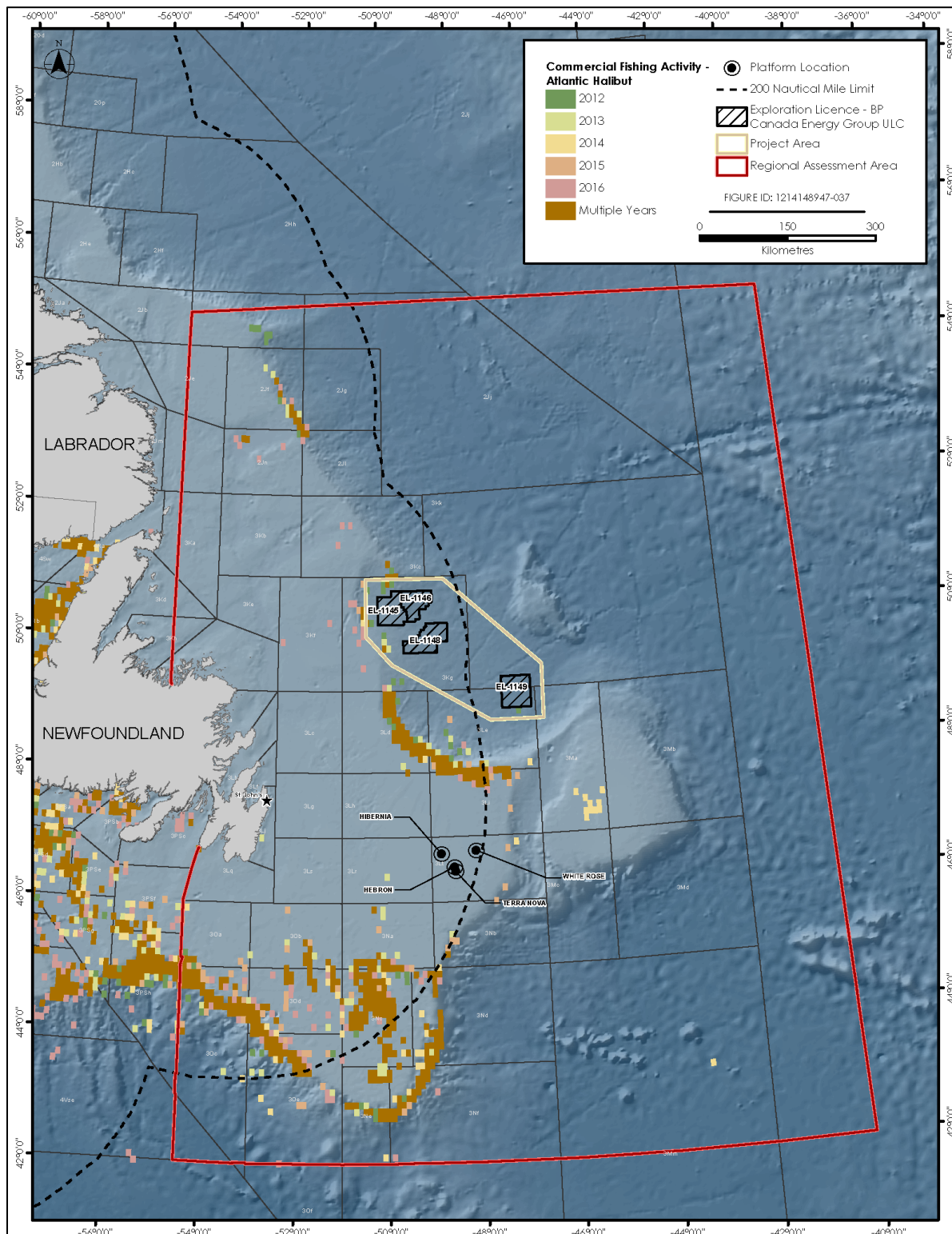
Source: DFO 2018b

Figure 7.27 Domestic Harvesting Locations, Atlantic Cod, 2012 to 2016

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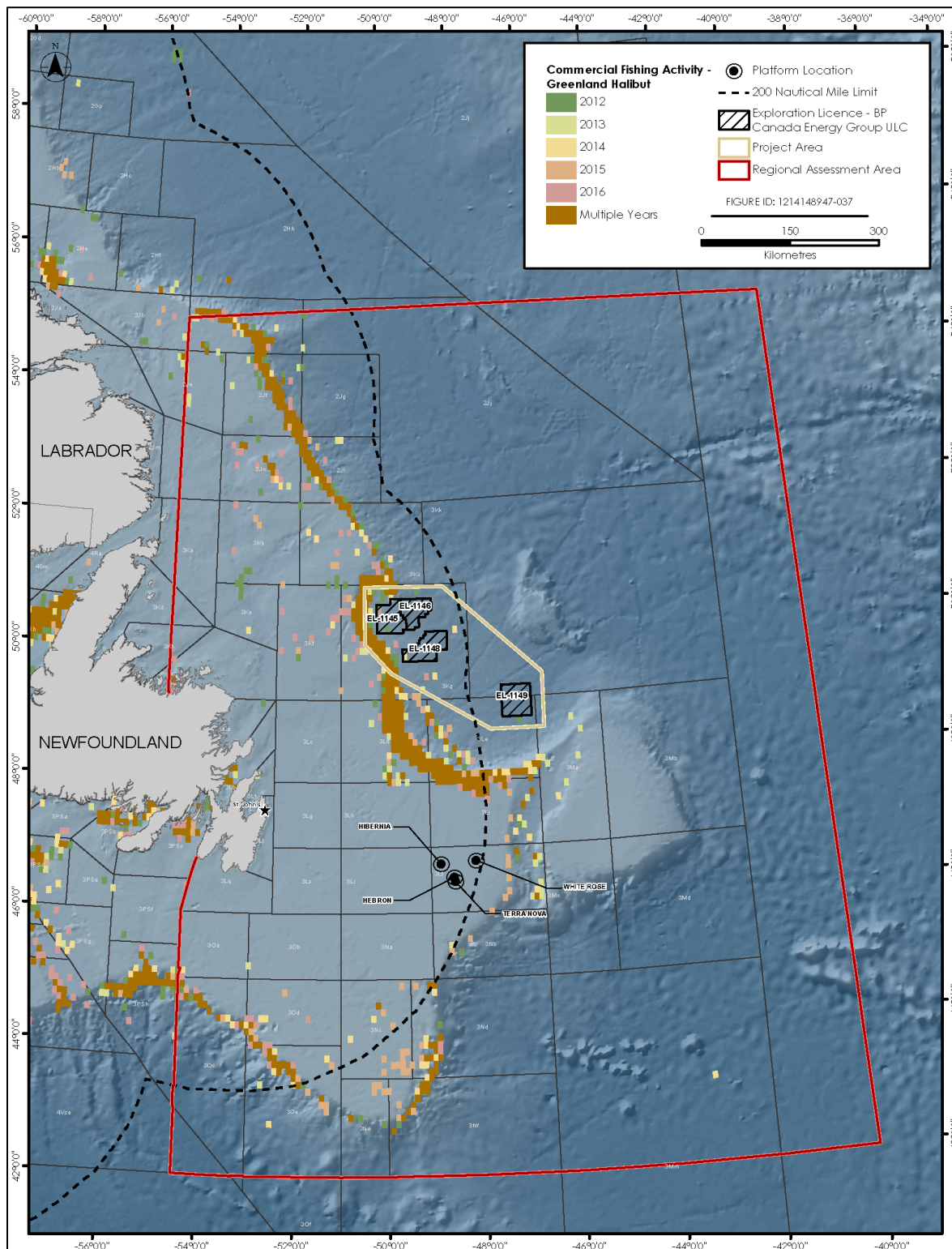
Source: DFO 2018b

Figure 7.28 Domestic Harvesting Locations, Atlantic Halibut, 2012 to 2016

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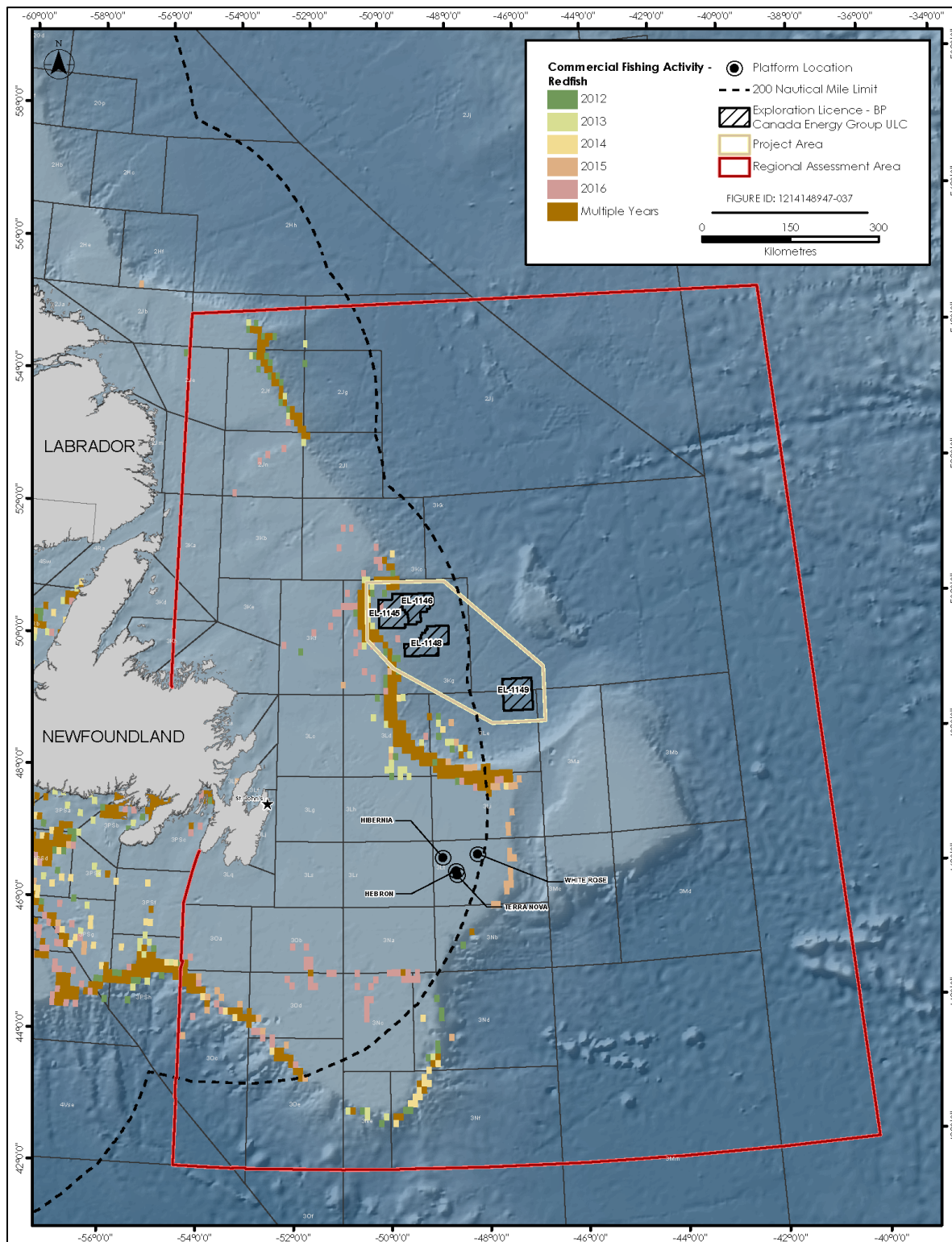
Source: DFO 2018b

Figure 7.29 Domestic Harvesting Locations, Greenland Halibut, 2012 to 2016

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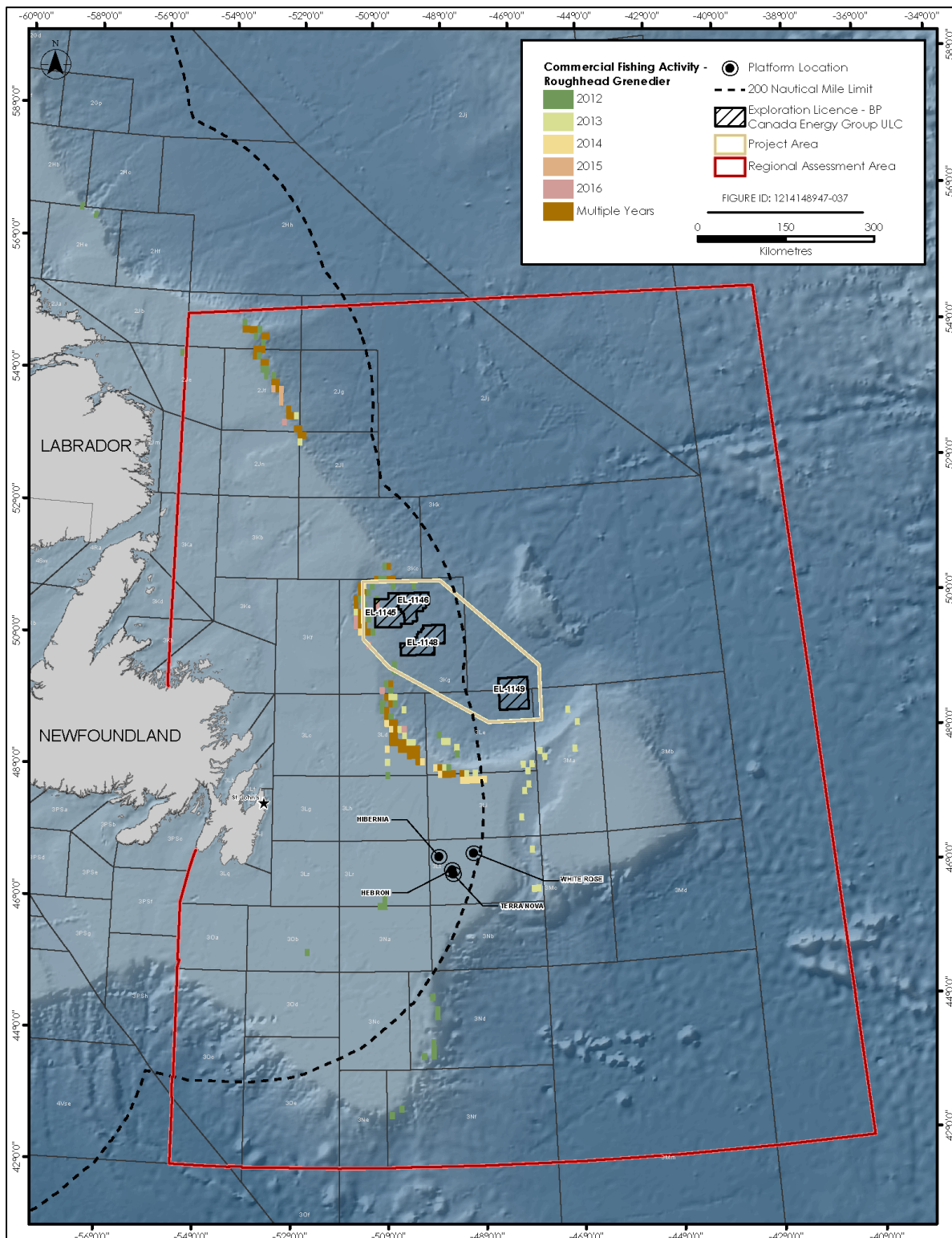
Source: DFO 2018b

Figure 7.30 Domestic Harvesting Locations, Redfish, 2012 to 2016

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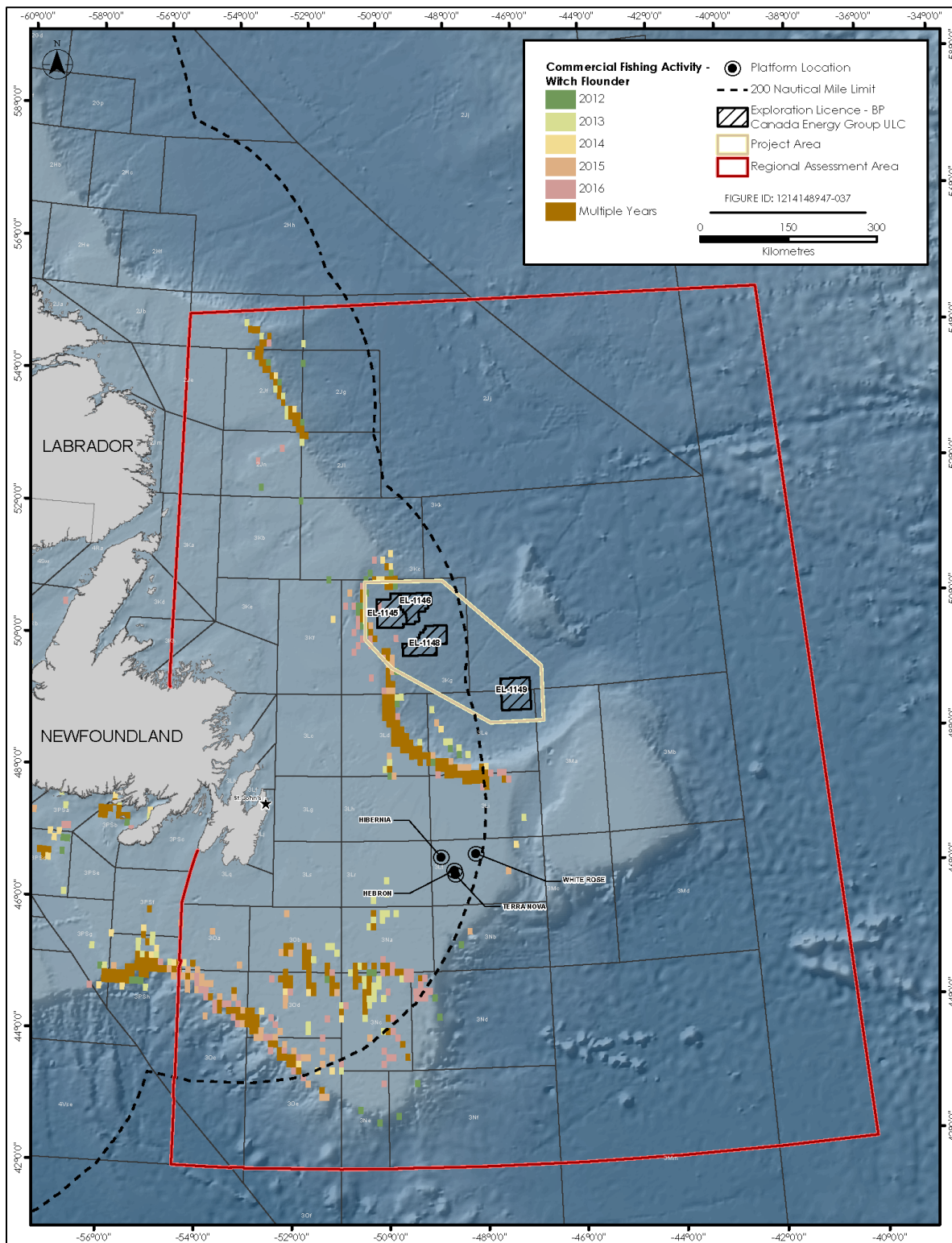
Source: DFO 2018b

Figure 7.31 Domestic Harvesting Locations, Roughhead Grenadier, 2012 to 2016

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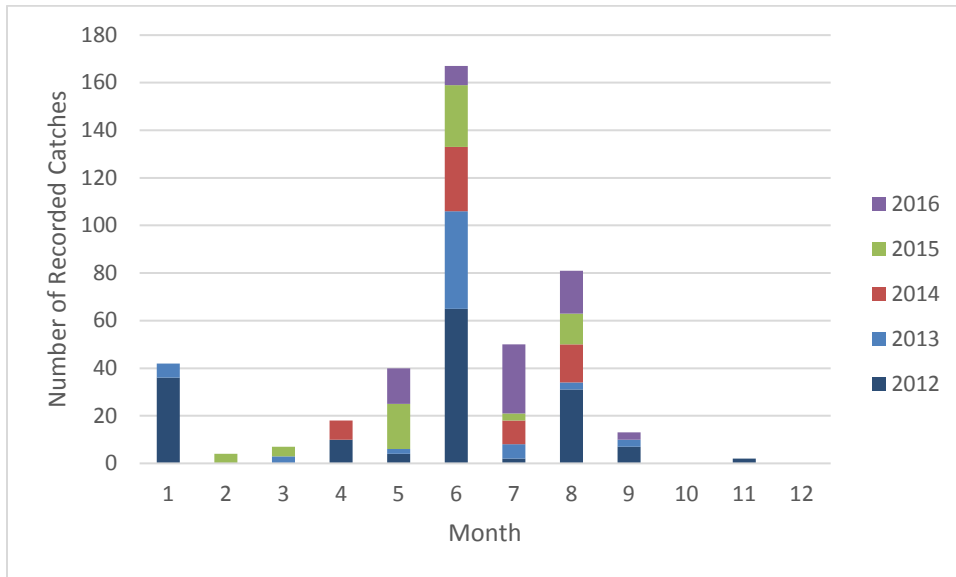
Source: DFO 2018b

Figure 7.32 Domestic Harvesting Locations, Witch Flounder, 2012 to 2016

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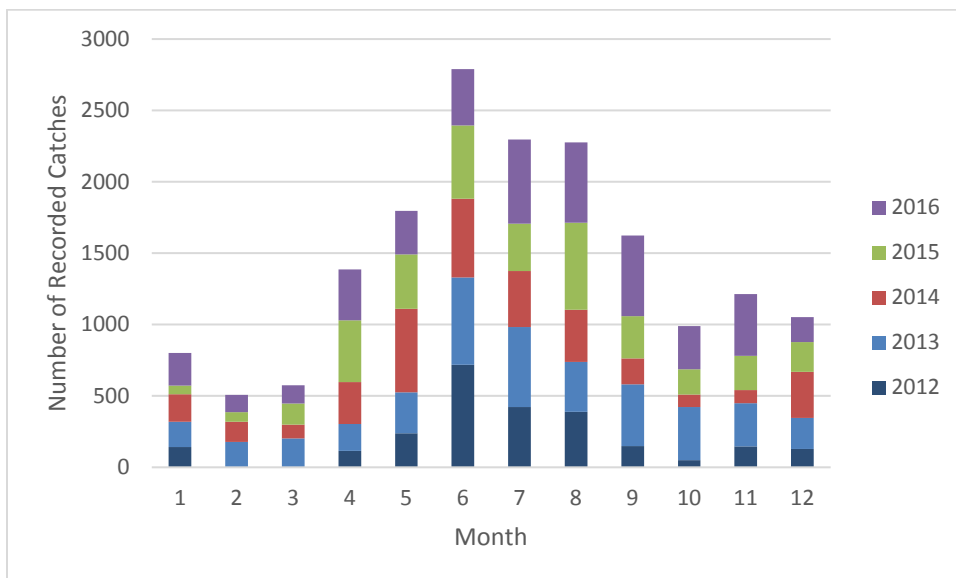
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Source: DFO 2018b

Figure 7.33 Groundfish Harvest within the Project Area for 2012 to 2016



Source: DFO 2018b

Figure 7.34 Groundfish Harvest within the RAA for 2012 to 2016

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American plaice have been under a moratorium on directed commercial fishing since the collapse of groundfish stocks in the 1990s. Domestically, there is no directed commercial fishery for the species, and catches of American plaice are typically recorded as bycatch from fishing activities for other groundfish species. NAFO manages American plaice stocks in Divisions 3M and 3LNO. The most recent stock assessment for American plaice in 3M, completed in 2017, indicated that there should be no directed fishery for the species between 2018 and 2020 (NAFO 2018b). The most recent assessment for the 3LNO stock in 2016 indicated that the population is still below levels that would warrant an opening of a commercial fishery and recommended no directed fishery for 2017 and 2018 (NAFO 2018b). Figure 7.27 illustrates a pattern similar to Atlantic cod. There is little overlap for commercial harvesting of American plaice within the Project Area.

Atlantic cod have also been under a moratorium in Canada since the collapse of the groundfish stocks in the early 1990s. The most recent assessment of NAFO Divisions 2J3KL Atlantic cod stock by DFO indicates that while the stock has increased over the past decade, it remains within the critical recovery zone (DFO 2018f). There is still uncertainty surrounding the stock recovery and whether a commercial fishery will be reinstated for the species. Domestically, there is a commercial fishery for groundfish in NAFO Division 3Ps, with a quota of 5,980 t for Atlantic cod. There is also a northern cod stewardship fishery in Divisions 2J+3KL. In the latest decision by DFO, the TAC for the 2018 fishery was announced at 9,500 t, a 25% decrease from the 2017 TAC (DFO 2018d). Internationally, NAFO manages Atlantic cod for NAFO Divisions 3M and 3NO. The latest assessment of cod in 3M (2017) resulted in a TAC of 8,182 t for 2018 (NAFO 2018b). The latest assessment of the 3NO cod stock (2015) indicated that the biomass is still too low for a directed fishery, and no directed fishery has been scheduled from 2016 to 2018 (NAFO 2018b). Figure 7.27 shows minimal overlap with the Project Area.

Atlantic halibut is managed by DFO as a single stock that spans the Scotian Shelf and Southern Grand Bank (3NOPs4VWX5Zc). The most recent stock assessment was carried out in 2014 by DFO and indicated that Atlantic halibut was in a healthy state. Recovery of the stock over time has allowed for increased access by domestic and international fleets (DFO 2015a). NAFO does not manage Atlantic halibut stocks. Harvesting for Atlantic halibut appears to be primarily concentrated on the northern and southern portions of the Grand Banks, with a small amount occurring near the Orphan Basin, and overlapping slightly with the northwest section of the Project Area (Figure 7.28).

Greenland halibut is managed by NAFO for stocks in Divisions 3LMNO. In 2010, NAFO adopted a Management Strategy Evaluation for the fishery, which looked at a survey-based harvest control rule (assessed annually) to set quotas for the species. The TAC for 2017 was 10,966 t. However, during NAFO's 39th annual meeting, NAFO members agreed on a TAC for Greenland halibut in 2+3KLMNO of approximately 16,500 t for 2018, representing an 11% increase (NAFO 2017). Of that amount, approximately 12,227 t (74%) was allocated to fisheries in 3LMNO. Commercial harvesting for Greenland halibut appears to be the most active of groundfish species (Figure 7.29), extending along the continental shelf, and overlapping with the Project Area in the northwest section.

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Three species of redfish (Acadian, golden, and deepwater) occur in the waters of offshore Newfoundland and Labrador, and all three are managed together as a single unit in each management area (DFO n.d.). Redfish are typically located at water depths below 200 m and are found along the northeast slope of the Grand Banks. NAFO collectively manages the stocks of all three species of redfish in Divisions 3KLMNO. The stock in Division 3K is jointly managed with the Northeast Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NAFO 2018b). The commercial stock for redfish in 3LN was placed under moratorium in 1998 but re-opened in 2010. Catches for redfish in 3LMN reached 6,000 t in 2013, the highest level in 20 years. Stocks in 3M have remained relatively stable over the years, but there is still a high level of uncertainty regarding the health of the 3O stocks (NAFO 2018b). According to Figure 7.30, redfish harvesting is concentrated primarily along the continental shelf, and overlaps with the northwest section of the Project Area.

Directed fishing for roughhead grenadier in Canadian waters has been under a moratorium since 1997. Grenadier are caught as bycatch for other fisheries, primarily Greenland halibut. Figure 7.31 illustrates domestic harvesting location of roughhead grenadier. The distribution of harvesting shows that it follows the shelf break and does not have a large amount of overlap with the Project Area.

Witch flounder are partly managed by NAFO and they are comprised of two separate stocks, one stock in subdivisions 3NO, and one widely distributed stock in subdivisions 2J+3KL. A moratorium was placed on both witch flounder stocks in 1995 due to low catch numbers, and landings of witch flounder have primarily been as bycatch in other fisheries. The moratorium was lifted for witch flounder in 3NO in 2015, with an initial quota of 1,000 t. The latest stock assessment for 3NO witch flounder by NAFO was in 2017 and indicated that catch levels for the 2018 and 2019 fishing seasons should not exceed 1,116 t and 1,175 t, respectively (NAFO 2018b). The most recent stock assessment for witch flounder in 2J+3KL was in 2016, which recommended that the moratorium remain in place for a commercial witch flounder fishery from 2017 to 2019 (NAFO 2018b). Figure 7.32 illustrates that harvesting for witch flounder is concentrated along the continental shelf break and does not have a large amount of overlap with the Project Area.

7.2.8 Potential Commercial Fisheries

In terms of fisheries that may be reasonably foreseeable as having the potential to occur during the life of the Project, the most likely would be the return of groundfish stocks like Atlantic cod and American plaice. These are stocks that were placed under moratorium after the collapse of groundfish stocks in the 1990s, and these fisheries have been limited or prohibited since. While the latest stock assessment for Atlantic cod in NAFO Divisions 2J+3KL found that the stock has increased considerably over the last decade, the species still remains below pre-moratoria levels, and is still within the critical recovery zone (DFO 2018f). Industry representatives are also cautious about the return of a commercial fishery for Atlantic cod, indicating that while the stock has increased, the species still needs further recovery before consideration can be given for a commercial fishery (CBC 2016). DFO announced that it will begin annual full stock assessments of Atlantic cod, beginning in 2018 (DFO 2017b). These assessments will continue annually for five years, in an effort to more closely monitor the recovery and status of the species and determine whether a future commercial fishery for the species is viable.

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Potential effects of climate change on the marine environment (e.g., warming waters) may influence the species that may be harvested commercially in the future. Warming temperatures could result in more abundance and presence of larger migratory fish such as tuna and swordfish. Changes in temperatures could also cause fish species to change distribution, and some fisheries may decrease or increase as a result. This may change what species are harvested, where they are harvested, and the seasonality of the harvest. These changes have the potential to take place during the temporal scope of the Project.

The addition of new marine refuge areas within offshore Newfoundland and Labrador, including areas that overlap with the Project Area, may also influence how commercial fisheries are conducted in the future. For example, the Northeast Newfoundland Slope Closure currently prohibits bottom fishing activities within its boundaries. Closure areas may result in relocation of fisheries to other areas that would support such fisheries. While this may not affect the overall mix of species fished, it may force fishers to move to new areas to harvest target species, and, in the extreme event, motivate fishers to target other species that they would not typically harvest.

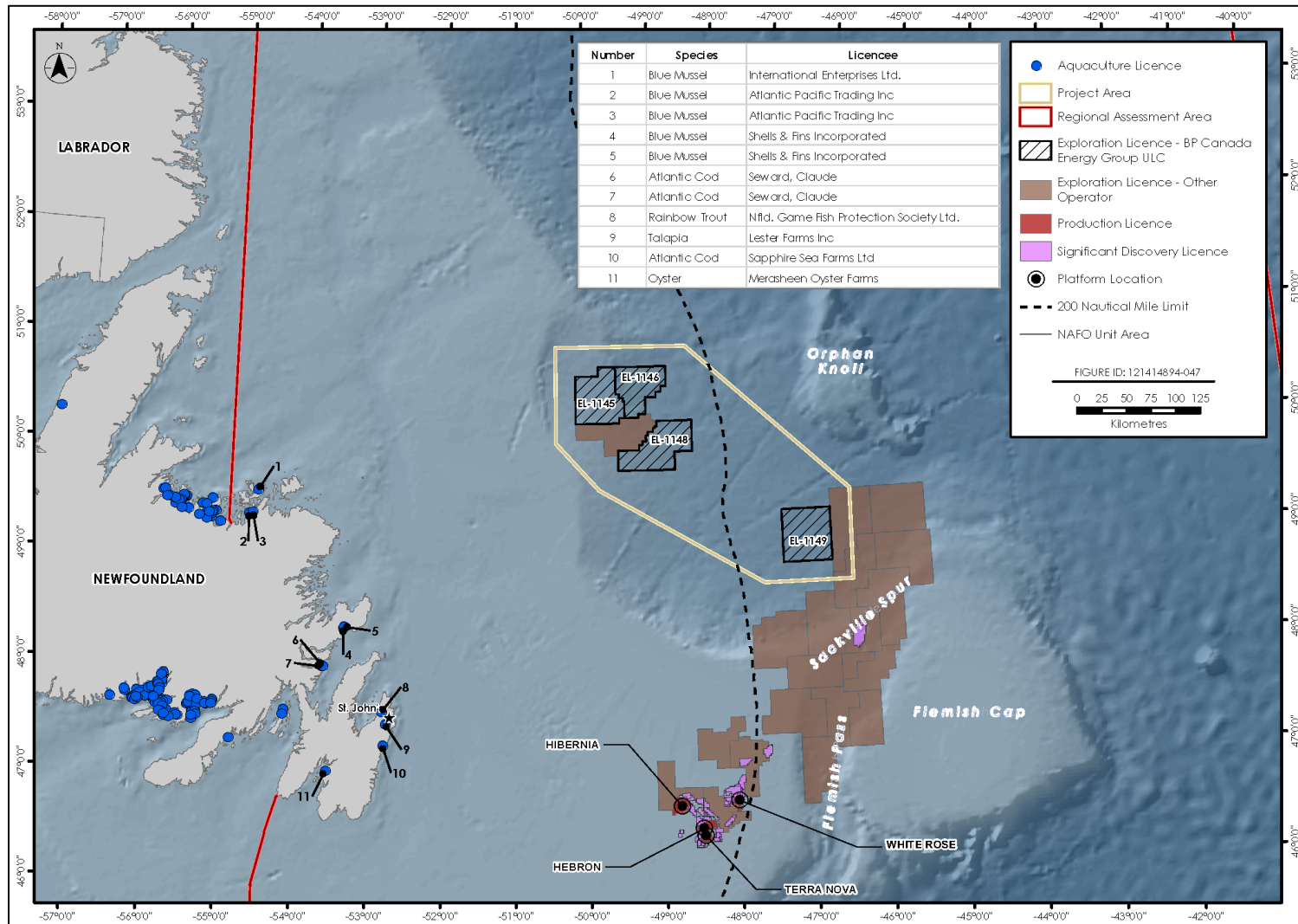
7.2.9 Aquaculture

Aquaculture is a growing industry in Newfoundland and Labrador and has, in the past, become an important contributor to the province's fisheries sector and economy. The industry experienced a decline in 2017, with production totaling approximately 21,700 t. This was a decrease of approximately 24% from 28,600 t in 2016. The market value also experienced a decline, declining approximately 20% from \$276 million in 2016 to \$221 million in 2017 (Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Finance 2018). The main species for the aquaculture industry in the province include Atlantic salmon, steelhead trout, and blue mussels. Operations on the east coast of Newfoundland, within the RAA, include farms for blue mussels, Atlantic cod, trout, and oysters, and a tilapia farm on the Avalon Peninsula. There are no registered aquaculture operations in or near the Project Area or within St. John's Harbour. Figure 7.35 illustrates aquaculture sites in Newfoundland, and those that are within the RAA (all are coastal).

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Source: Government of Newfoundland and Labrador 2018

Figure 7.35 Aquaculture Sites in Newfoundland and Labrador

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7.2.10 Recreational Fishing

This section provides a discussion of recreational fisheries in Newfoundland and Labrador which take place in inland and coastal waters during certain months of the year. Food, social and ceremonial (FSC) fisheries are discussed in Section 7.4. During the designated times in summer and fall, individuals may participate in a recreational fishery for Atlantic cod. Licenses or tags are currently not a requirement for this fishery, but commercial fishing operations are not allowed to participate, and the catch from the recreational fishery is not permitted to be sold (DFO 2018d). The recreational food fishery will be open for 39 days in 2018, down from 46 in 2017 (CBC 2018a). The 2018 Eastern Newfoundland recreational groundfish fishery is summarized in Table 7.10.

Recreational fishing occurs in Newfoundland and Labrador for other species as well, including smelt, Atlantic salmon, and trout. Angling for smelt in coastal waters is allowed year-round, and there is no set bag limit for an individual fisher. Recreational fishing for salmon and trout are permitted during certain times of the year, depending on the location of the river, and time of year. Newfoundland and Labrador has approximately 186 scheduled salmon rivers, divided into different categories or zones. These different zones have specific fishing regulations and requirements associated with them, including bag limits and fishing seasons (DFO 2018g).

Table 7.10 Recreational Groundfish Harvesting Dates, 2018

Season	Dates (2018)	Retention Limit	Restrictions
Summer	Saturday June 30 to Monday July 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five groundfish (including Atlantic cod) per individual • Retention limit per boat, if more than three people fishing, is 15 groundfish • Tour boat operators will be eligible to apply for a licence to seek an increased trip limit. This licence will have harvest reporting requirements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retention of Atlantic halibut, spotted and northern wolffish, and any species of shark is prohibited • Only angling gear and handlines with a maximum of three hooks are permitted. Handlines include artificial lures, baited hooks, and feathered hooks. Artificial lures with treble hooks weighing less than five ounces or 142 grams are acceptable. Traditional jiggers are not permitted unless they are modified and have only one single hook • Fishing is only permitted from one hour before sunrise until one hour after sunset
	Saturday July 07 to Monday July 9		
	Saturday July 14 to Monday July 16		
	Saturday July 21 to Monday July 23		
	Saturday July 28 to Monday July 30		
	Saturday August 4 to Monday August 6		
	Saturday August 11 to Monday August 13		
	Saturday August 18 to Monday August 20		
	Saturday August 25 to Monday August 27		
Fall	Saturday September 22 to Sunday September 30		

Source: DFO 2018d

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7.3 Other Ocean Users

In addition to commercial fishing activity, there are other human-related activities that take place within offshore Newfoundland and Labrador, including areas that overlap with the Project Area and RAA. This section provides an overview of these activities using available information provided by government agencies (e.g., DFO, Department of National Defence, Transport Canada), and industry regulators (e.g., C-NLOPB). Websites from other organizations were also used to gather data and information on other ocean activities taking place in offshore Newfoundland and Labrador. These other human activities represent an important component of overall activity occurring offshore that could interact with the Project.

7.3.1 Marine Research

Marine research activities take place in the waters of offshore Newfoundland. These research activities are primarily related to biophysical research being carried out by DFO, within the 200 nm EEZ of Canada. DFO’s Atlantic Zone Monitoring Program and the RAPID Climate Change Program study involve bottom trawl surveys to collect information on the marine environment, including commercial fish species; this information is also used to inform decisions on the management and monitoring of resources in offshore Newfoundland and Labrador. DFO also conducts annual research surveys, occurring in both the spring and fall, that span the offshore waters throughout NAFO Divisions 3KLMNO, and in areas that overlap portions of the Project Area and RAA. The coordinates for DFO research vessel transects for the 2017 year are illustrated in Figure 7.36. Planned 2018 DFO research vessel schedules are presented in Table 7.11. Within the Project Area, there is little DFO research activity that takes place. There are low levels of research activity taking place in the northwest extent of the Project Area, with small portions overlapping with ELs 1145 and 1148.

Table 7.11 DFO Research Vessel Planned Schedules, 2018, NAFO Divisions 3KLM

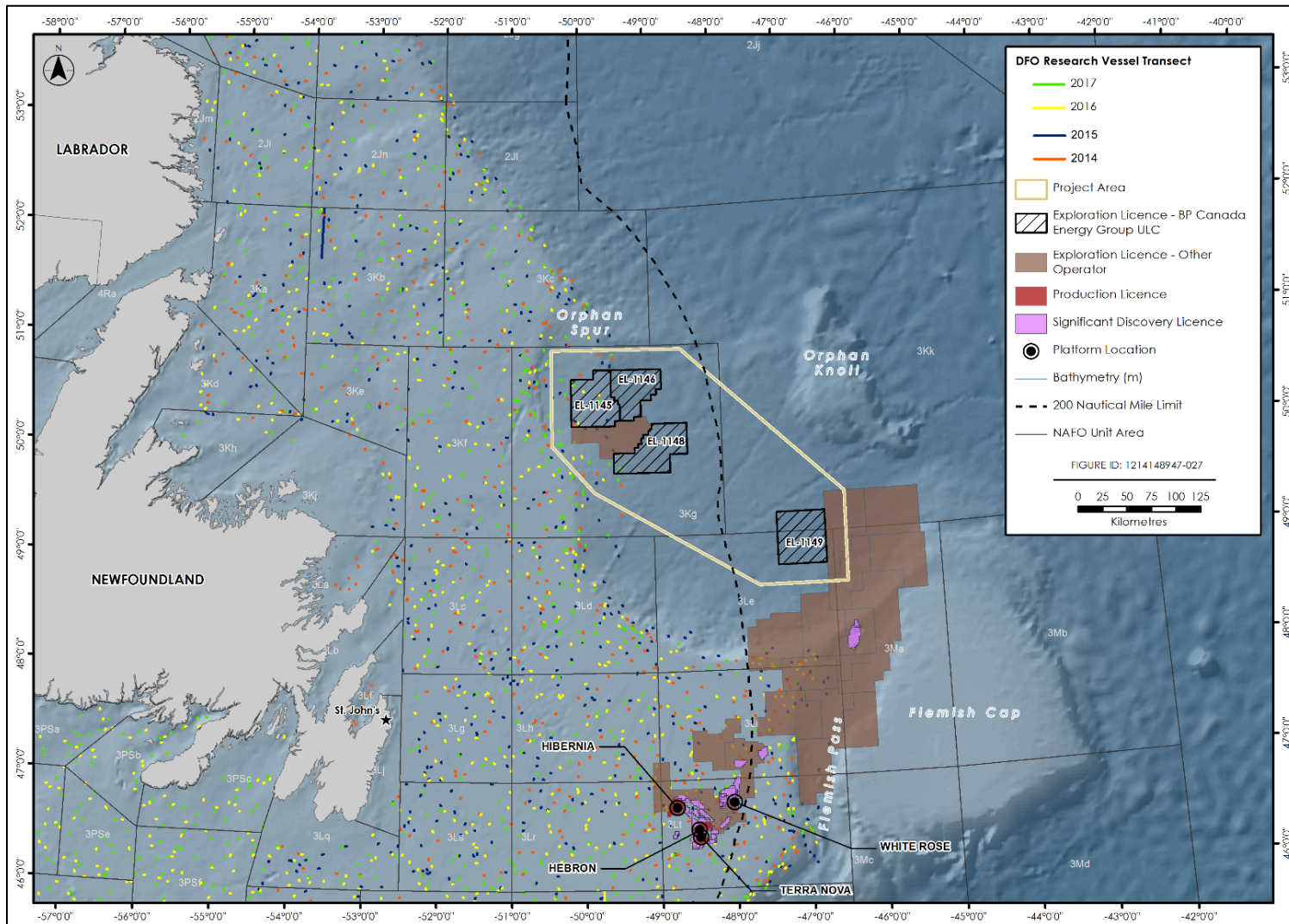
Vessel	Activity	Start Date	End Date	Total Days	Area
<i>CCG Teleost</i>	Spring AZMP	03-Apr-2018	24-Apr-2018	22	3L
	Calibrations	26-Apr-2018	01-May-2018	6	3P + 3KLMNO
	Capelin Survey	02-May-2018	22-May-2018	21	3KL
	Fall Survey	20-Nov-2018	04-Dec-2018	14	3K
		05-Dec-2018	19-Dec-2018	15	3K
<i>CCG Needler</i>	Spring Survey	23-May-2018	05-Jun-2018	14	3L + 3N
	Fall Survey	10-Oct-2018	23-Oct-2018	14	3L + 3N
		23-Oct-2018	06-Nov-2018	14	3L
		07-Nov-2018	20-Nov-2018	14	3K + 3L

Source: L. Mello, DFO, pers. comm., 2018

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Source: DFO 2018h

Figure 7.36 DFO Research Vessel Transects, 2014-2017

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In addition to research undertaken solely by DFO, Industry representatives also partner with DFO to undertake research surveys. FFAW-Unifor, in partnership with DFO, undertake an annual post-season snow crab survey to assist in understanding the health of the offshore stocks. This survey is conducted once the commercial fishery for the year has ended and involves setting fixed gear (crab pots) at various locations in offshore Newfoundland and Labrador. Stations are sampled annually in multiple Crab Management Areas to collect data on snow crab, which is then incorporated into the scientific assessment of stocks and overall management of the species. Each year approximately 1,500 stations are sampled in selected Crab Management Areas. The survey covers a broad portion of the Grand Banks, including areas near offshore installations and offshore supply vessel traffic routes. The Torngat Fisheries Secretariat, in Labrador, also partners with DFO to conduct a post-season trap survey for snow crab. Figure 7.37 shows survey locations for crab surveys in 2017, the most recent year for which data were available.

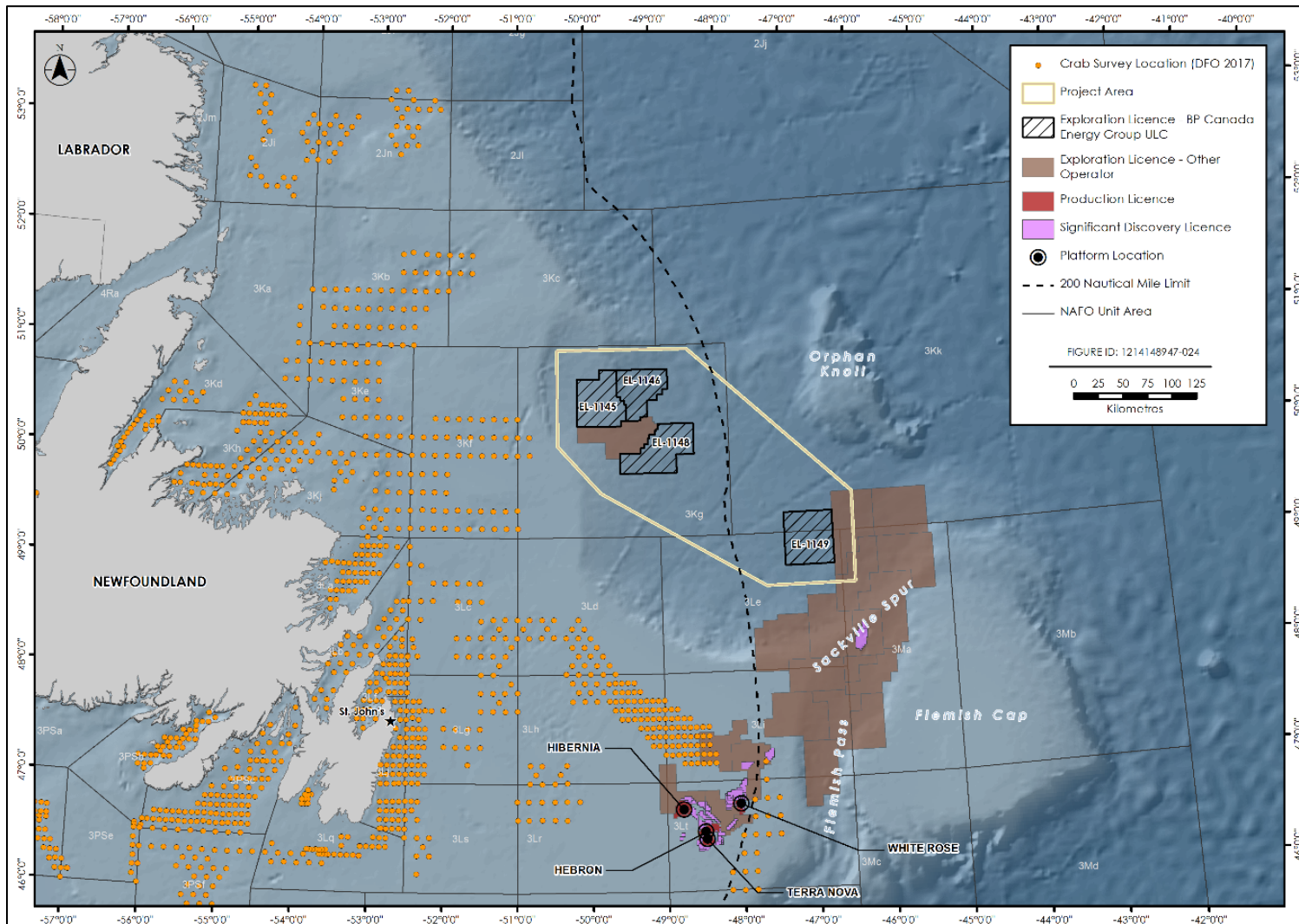
7.3.2 Marine Transportation

7.3.2.1 Shipping

Marine shipping is an important activity for Newfoundland and Labrador and is relevant for both exporting and importing goods. In 2011, the eastern region of Newfoundland and Labrador accounted for approximately 698 international shipping movements, handling approximately 16,654 t of cargo. In the same year, domestic shipping (i.e., within Canada) saw approximately 3,044 movements, handling approximately 27,248 t of cargo (Statistics Canada n.d.[a]). On the east coast of Newfoundland, St. John's Harbour is one of the busiest ports, as it has the most infrastructure, can accommodate both domestic and international shipping, and is the primary service port for the offshore oil and gas industry. Common vessel traffic routes in offshore Newfoundland and Labrador are illustrated in Figure 7.38. St. John's Harbour is managed by the St. John's Port Authority, which is responsible for activities occurring in the harbour, along with port development. St. John's Port Authority provides statistical information on the number of vessels entering the harbour for a given year. Figure 7.39 illustrates the trend in vessels visiting St. John's Harbour between 2007 and 2017. In general, the total number of vessels visiting St. John's Harbour has increased since 2007 but has been on a decline since the peak of 1,601 vessels in 2013. The oil and gas industry has historically accounted for the largest number of vessels entering the harbour, with the exception of 2016 when vessels representing other industries accounted for more port movements than the oil and gas industry.

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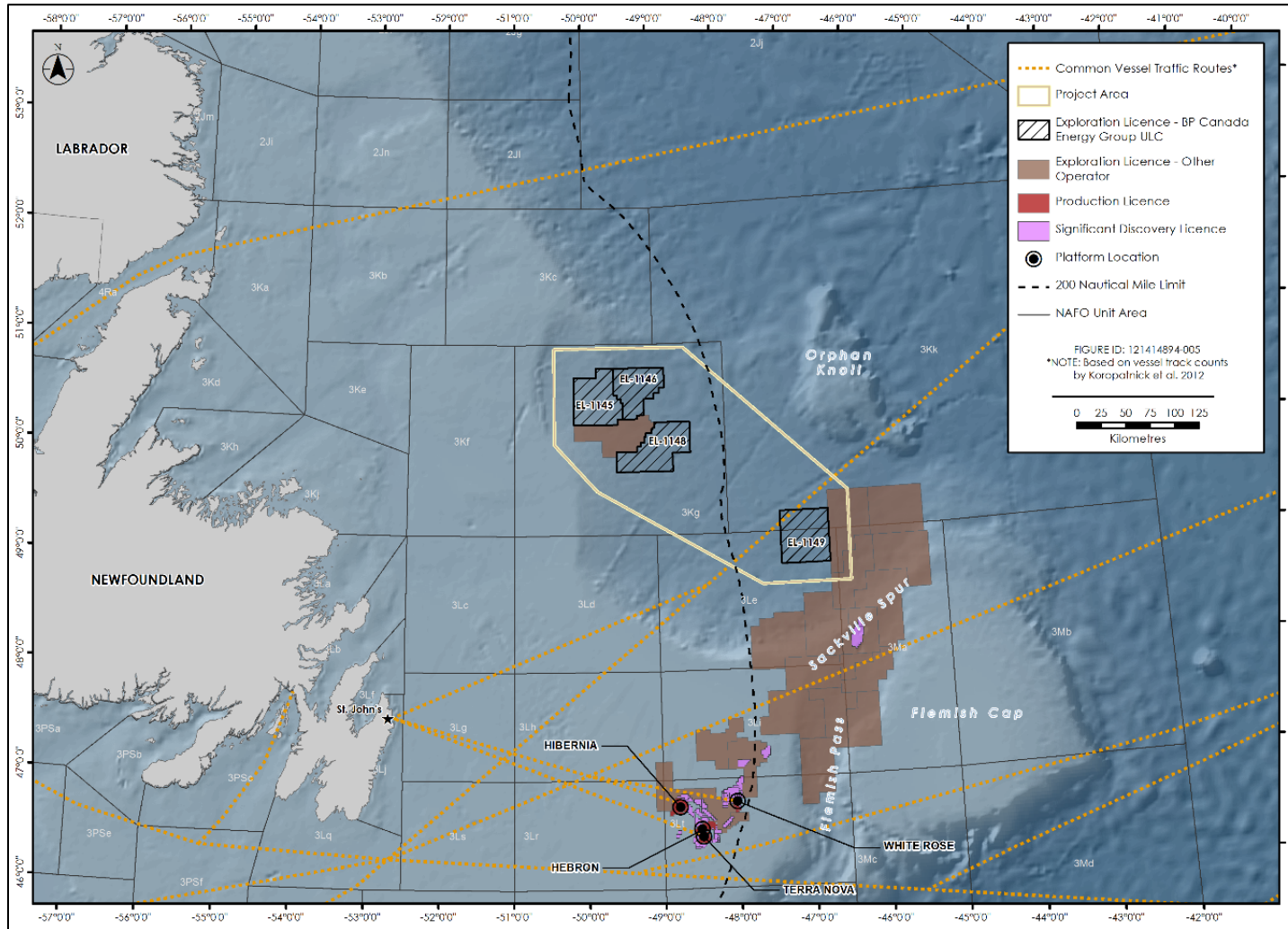


Source: DFO 2017c

Figure 7.37 DFO and Fishing Industry Post-Season Crab Survey Locations, 2017

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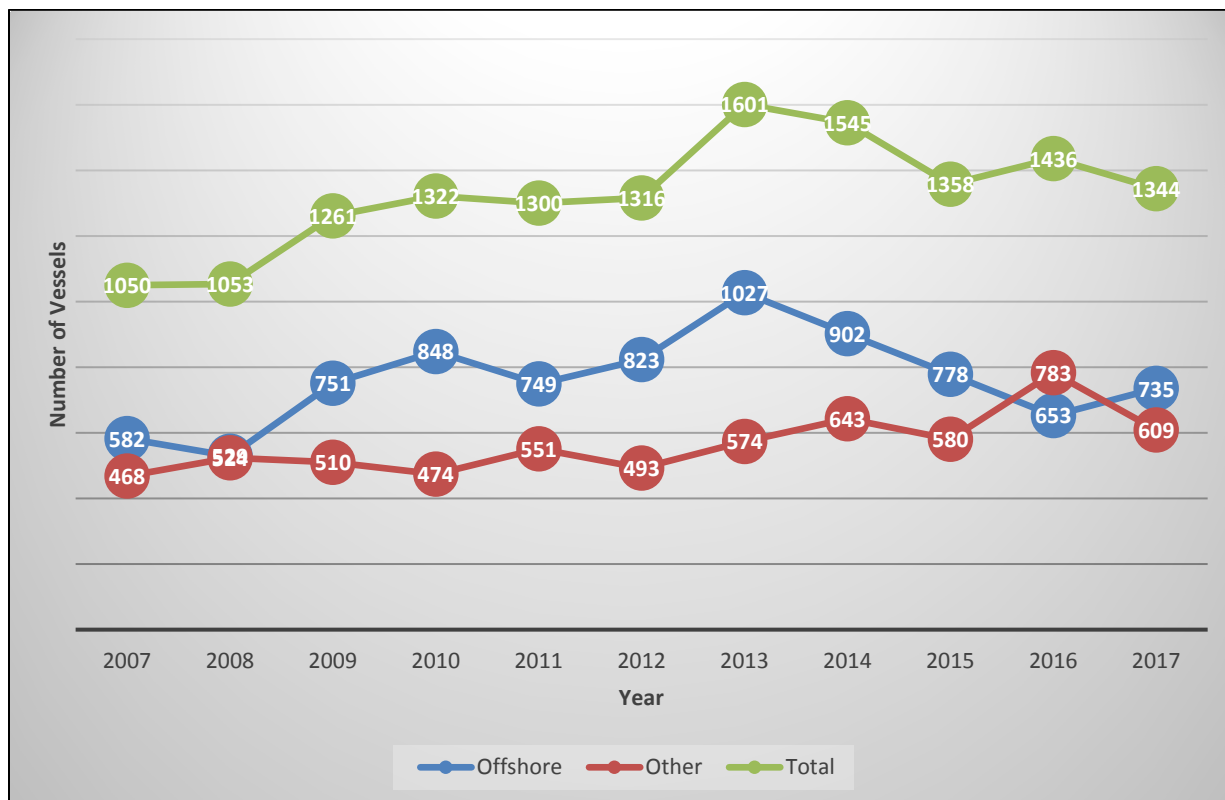
Source: Adapted from Koropatnick et al. 2012

Figure 7.38 Common Vessel Traffic Routes in Offshore Newfoundland and Labrador

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Source: B. McCarthy, St. John's Port Authority, pers. comm., 2017

Figure 7.39 Number of Vessels Visiting St. John's Harbour, 2007 to 2017

7.3.2.2 Marine Tourism

Marine tourism has become an important part of the Newfoundland and Labrador economy. This includes both conventional marine cruise traffic, along with other tourism activities such as eco-tourism that occurs along the coastlines of the province. According to the latest 2017 report issued by the provincial Department of Tourism, Culture, Industry and Innovation, Newfoundland and Labrador received approximately 38,321 unique cruise visitors during the 2017 cruise season. This was an increase of approximately 62.8%, from 23,545 visitors in 2016 (NLDTIC 2018). This includes 105 port calls to 20 different ports in the province, by 31 vessels. This was also an increase of 59%, from 66 port calls in 2016. Table 7.12 outlines the tentative 2018 cruise schedule for Newfoundland and Labrador which provides context for the volume and timing of cruise ship traffic in the province.

In addition to cruise ship activity, Newfoundland and Labrador is also regarded as a destination for eco-tourism activity. The rugged coastline of the province offers many hiking opportunities and local boating excursions to watch icebergs, whales, and colonies of seabirds. These eco-tours are located around many areas of the province and are prominent along the coastline of the Avalon Peninsula.

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Table 7.12 Newfoundland and Labrador Cruise Ship Itinerary (2018)

Port	Date (2018)	Ship	Operator	Number of Passengers
St. John's	April 24	Fram	Hurtigruten	318
	April 28	Artania	Phoenix Resien	1,200
	April 28	Silver Muse	Silversea	596
	May 15	Marina	Oceania	2,402
	June 03	Hebridean Sky	Noble Caledonia	118
	June 15	AIDAvita	AIDA	1,266
	July 29	AIDAvita	AIDA	1,266
	August 21	Rotterdam	Holland America	1,404
	August 24	AIDAvita	AIDA	1,266
	August 31	Star Pride	Windstar	212
	September 09	AIDAluna	AIDA	2,030
	September 09	Zuiderdam	Holland America	2,272
	September 12	Marco Polo	Cruise and Maritime Voyages	800
	September 18	Silver Spirit	Silversea	540
	September 18	AIDAdiva	AIDA	2,050
	September 18	Silver Cloud	Silversea	254
	September 20	Amadea	Phoenix Resien	6,000
	September 22	Royal Princess	Princess	3,600
	September 24-25	Seaborn Quest	Seaborn	450
	September 27	Silver Cloud	Silversea	254
	September 28	Black With	Fred Olsen	804
	October 2	Ocean Endeavour	Adventure Canada	198
October 7	Norwegian Jade	Norwegian Cruise Line	2,402	
October 12	Ocean Endeavour	Adventure Canada	198	
October 12	Saga Sapphire	Saga Cruises	720	
			Total	32,620
St. Anthony	May 15	Fram	Hurtigruten	318
	August 20	Rotterdam	Holland America	1,404
	October 01	Fram	Hurtigruten	318
			Total	2,040
Battle Harbour	May 16	Fram	Hurtigruten	318
	July 27	Akademik Loffe	One Ocean Expeditions	96
	September 31	Fram	Hurtigruten	318
			Total	732
Terra Nova National Park	October 01	Ocean Endeavour	Adventure Canada	198
			Total	732
Hebron (Labrador)	July 29	Akademik Loffe	One Ocean Expeditions	96
	September	Ocean Endeavour	Adventure Canada	198
			Total	294

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Port	Date (2018)	Ship	Operator	Number of Passengers
L'Anse aux Meadows	June 05	Hebridean Sky	Noble Caledonia	118
	July 26	Akademik Loffe	One Ocean Expeditions	96
	August 25	Seaborn Quest	Seaborn	450
	September 01	Star Pride	Windstar	212
	September 14	Viking Sea	Viking Cruises	930
	September 19	Silver Cloud	Silversea	254
	September 23	Seaborn Quest	Seaborn	450
	September 30	Ocean Endeavour	Adventure Canada	198
	October 03	Silver Wind	Silversea	294
	October 05	Ocean Endeavour	Adventure Canada	198
	Total			
Hopedale	July 28	Akademik Loffe	One Ocean Expeditions	92
	Total			
Northeast Coast of Newfoundland	October 3-4	Ocean Endeavour	Adventure Canada	198
	Total			
Red Bay	May 14	Fram	Hurtigruten	318
	June 06	Hebridean Sky	Noble Caledonia	118
	July 23	Rotterdam	Holland America	1,404
	August 26	Seaborn Quest	Seaborn	450
	September 02	Star Pride	Windstar	212
	October 02	Fram	Hurtigruten	318
	October 06	Ocean Endeavour	Adventure Canada	198
	Total			
Torngat Mountains National Park	July 30 to 31	Akademik Loffe	One Ocean Expeditions	96
	September 15	Silver Cloud	Silversea	254
	September 23-25	Ocean Endeavour	Adventure Canada	198
	Total			
Nain	September 27	Ocean Endeavor	Adventure Canada	198
	Total			
Happy Valley-Goose Bay	August 23	Seaborn Quest	Seaborn	450
	September 04	Amadea	Phoenix Reisen	600
	Total			
Twillingate	June 04	Hebridean Sky	Noble Caledonia	118
	September 17	Silver Cloud	Silversea	254
	Total			
Labrador Coast	September 28-30	Fram	Hurtigruten	318
	September 28-29	Ocean Endeavour	Adventure Canada	198
	Total			

Source: Cruise Newfoundland and Labrador 2018

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7.3.2.3 Marine Ferry Traffic

The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador oversees and operates a fleet of ferries, designed to provide both inter-provincial and intra-provincial transportation services of passengers and freight to communities. There are also regular ferry services that are scheduled from the town of Fortune on the Burin Peninsula, and the French islands of St. Pierre et Miquelon. None of these ferry services extend offshore or are within the vicinity of the Project Area. Table 7.13 illustrates the number of trips and the number of passengers that each ferry service recorded between 2013 and 2017.

In addition to these intra-provincial ferry services. There is also an inter-provincial ferry service, providing access to North Sydney, Nova Scotia, from Port aux-Basques and Argentia, NL. The ferry services from Port aux Basques operate year-round, while the Argentia ferry operates once to three times a week, from June to September annually. Both of these services are operated by Marine Atlantic, a crown-corporation. The service between Port Aux Basques and North Sydney registered 1,594 crossings during 2017, 50 fewer than in the previous year, resulting in 299,261 passenger movements and 109,244 passenger related vehicle movements. The seasonal service between Argentia and North Sydney registered 82 crossings, no change compared to the previous season, resulting in 31,451 passenger movements and 13,511 passenger related vehicle movements (NLDTCII 2018).

7.3.2.4 Small Craft Harbours

Small craft harbours are harbours operated by DFO and are critical to the fishing industry in the province. While fishing is the main purpose of many small craft harbours in the province, these harbours can also support other recreational marine activities that occur in the coastal waters of Newfoundland and Labrador. There are a total of 339 small craft harbours within the province, with approximately 261 of these harbours considered core fishing harbours. Figure 7.40 illustrates small craft harbours in Newfoundland and Labrador.

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Table 7.13 Marine Ferry Service in Newfoundland and Labrador, 2013 to 2017

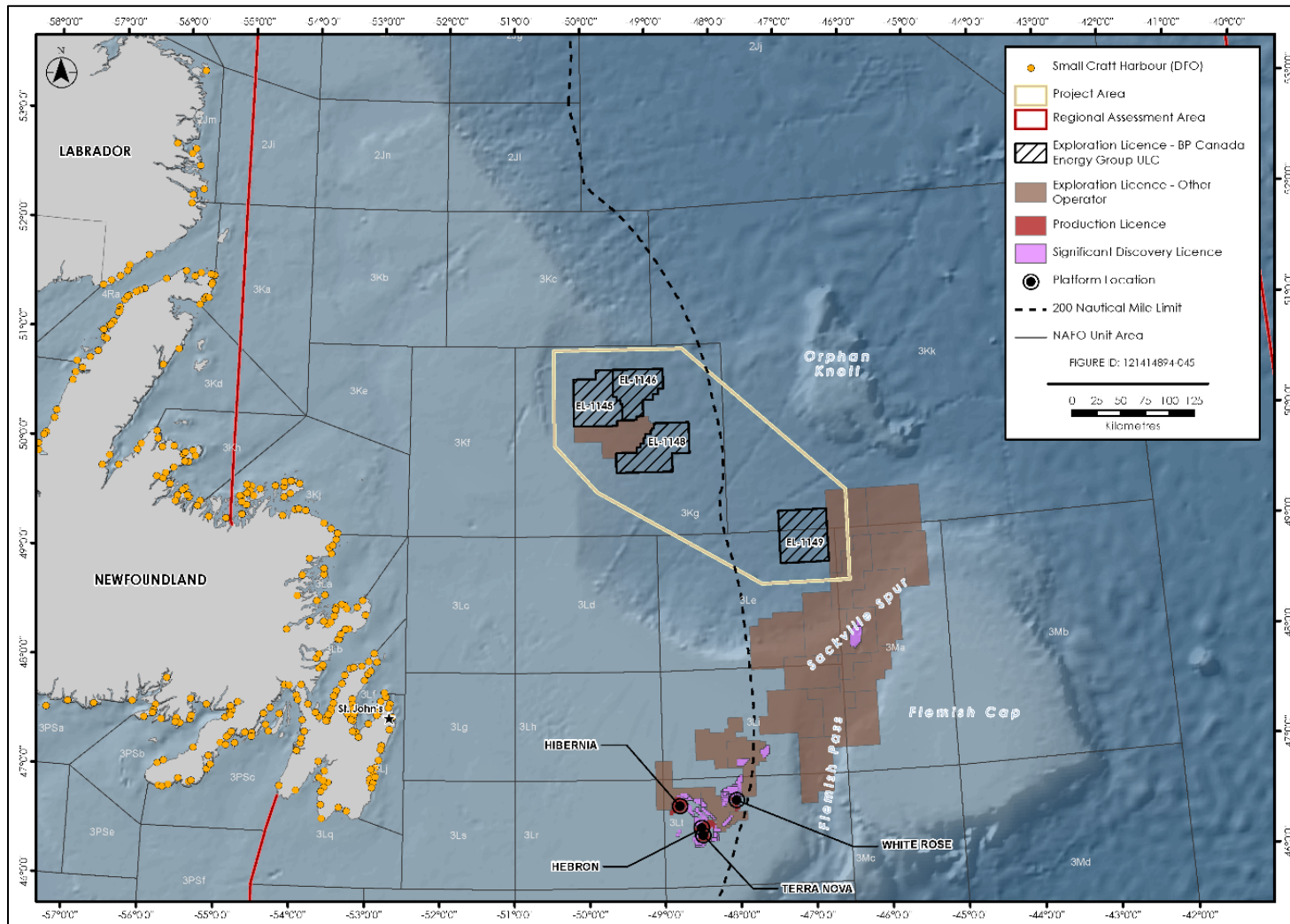
Service	2013/2014		2014/2015		2015/2016		2016/2017	
	Trips	Passengers	Trips	Passengers	Trips	Passengers	Trips	Passengers
Bell Island - Portugal Cove	13,701	463,320	12,903	463,764	12,631	474,855	10,647	426,234
Fogo Island – Change Islands - Farewell	6,383	144,708	6,058	152,648	6,789	177,883	5,868	177,179
St. Brendan's - Burnside	2,428	15,746	2,335	16,678	2,622	17,806	2,351	17,217
Little Bay Islands – Long Island - Pelley's Island	6,574	38,059	7,706	38,645	7,828	44,480	7,865	43,439
Shoal Arm - Little Bay Islands – Pelley's Island - Long Island	1,444	6,028	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Ramea – Grey River - Burgeo	1,817	19,694	1,741	16,751	1,778	19,864	1,821	18,376
Charlottetown - Norman's Bay – William's Harbour - Port Hope Simpson	478	1,443	398	1,071	443	1,038	367	929
La Poile - Rose Blanche	611	3,886	598	3,708	659	4,346	644	3,979
Francois – Grey River - Burgeo	1,107	4,238	1,093	4,884	1,168	4,364	1,066	4,020
Gaultois – McCallum - Hermitage	3,336	10,579	3,523	11,005	3,933	11,616	3,756	10,623
Rencontre East - Bay L'Argent - Pool's Cove	1,466	8,546	1,601	7,420	1,557	8,255	1,528	8,897
South East Bight-Petit Forte	1,663	6,702	1,845	6,826	1,785	6,674	1,575	7,033
Labrador Straits (St. Barbe - Blanc Sablon)	1,192	96,842	1,102	91,920	1,187	102,418	1,361	110,158
Labrador Straits (Corner Brook - Blanc Sablon)	21	1,101	14	492	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Labrador North Coast - Passenger*	387	5,923	335	5,034	440	6,723	471	5,768

*Note that the number of trips for the North Coast services is the total number of individual port-to-port trips. A full round-trip for the passenger service is over a one-week turnaround with the following schedule: HV Goose Bay-Rigolet-Makkovik-Postville-Hopedale-Natuashish-Nain-Natuashish-Hopedale-Postville-Makkivok-HV Goose Bay-Rigolet-Cartwright-Black Tickle-Cartwright-Rigolet-HV Goose Bay.

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Source: DFO 2018i

Figure 7.40 Small Craft Harbours in Newfoundland and Labrador

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7.3.3 Other Offshore Oil and Gas Activity

In addition to the Project, there are also other offshore oil and gas activities taking place, including additional exploration activities and production operations. Oil and gas is an established industry in Newfoundland and Labrador, with exploration related activities beginning in the 1960s, and production activities occurring since 1997. Newfoundland and Labrador currently has four producing oil fields within its offshore waters: Hibernia (Hibernia Management and Development Company), Terra Nova (Suncor Energy Inc.), White Rose (Husky Energy Inc.), and Hebron (ExxonMobil Canada Properties). As of June 19, 2018, more than 464 wells have been drilled in the Newfoundland and Labrador offshore, including 171 exploration wells, 57 delineation wells and 237 development wells (C-NLOPB 2018a). As of March 31, 2018, there were 28 ELs, 56 Significant Discovery Licenses (SDLs) and 12 Production Licenses (PLs) within Offshore Newfoundland and Labrador (C-NLOPB 2018b). Figure 7.41 shows the number of wells that have been drilled in offshore NL to date. Within the Project Area, there have been four wells drilled, with no wells overlapping an EL. Of these four wells, the most recent was drilled in 2013, and the oldest well was drilled in 1979. Most wells have been drilled in the Jeanne d'Arc Basin, where production activity is currently located.

Seismic activity and gathering geophysical data has also been a large component of offshore oil and gas related activity that has occurred in Newfoundland and Labrador. Between 2014 and 2017, a total of 1,757,512 km of seismic data was collected in the C-NLOPB's defined Eastern and Northeastern Newfoundland regions (C-NLOPB 2017). In 2013, Statoil (now Equinor) announced two discoveries in the Flemish Pass: the Bay du Nord discovery is estimated to contain from 300 to 600 million barrels of recoverable oil; the resource potential of the Harpoon discovery is not yet fully assessed. These properties are near the adjacent Mizzen discovery, which is estimated to contain 102 million barrels of recoverable oil. In May 2018, Husky energy announced a new discovery in the White Rose Field of the Jeanne d'Arc Basin. The full potential of the discovery is still being assessed, and there is no current information on the amount of recoverable oil (CBC 2018b).

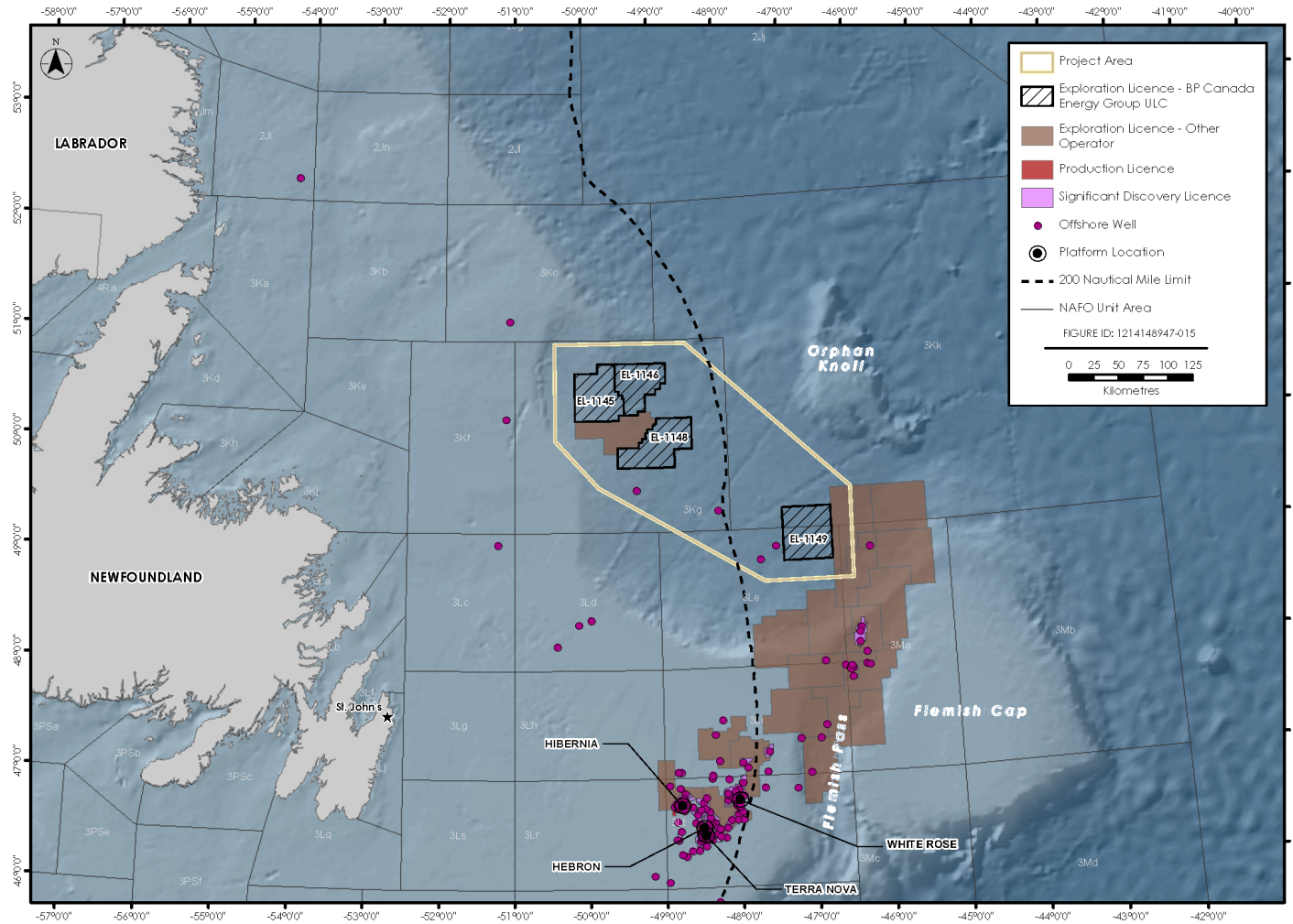
7.3.4 Military Operations

The Royal Canadian Navy and Air Force conduct training exercises and surveillance operations in Canadian waters, including the waters of offshore Newfoundland and Labrador within the 200 nm EEZ. These operations involve both the use of aircraft and marine vessels, and activities have the potential to occur in or near the Project Area depending on the location of the proposed training exercises.

As some of these training activities conducted by DND involve the use of weapons, and with the history of the Northwest Atlantic Ocean during World War II, legacy sites exist across Canada's east coast where unexploded ordnance (UXO) may remain. There are approximately 1,100 known UXO sites off Canada's east coast (Amec 2014). Figure 7.42 illustrates known legacy and shipwreck sites that exist in the waters off the east coast of Newfoundland. Currently, there are no known shipwrecks or legacy sites located within the Project Area.

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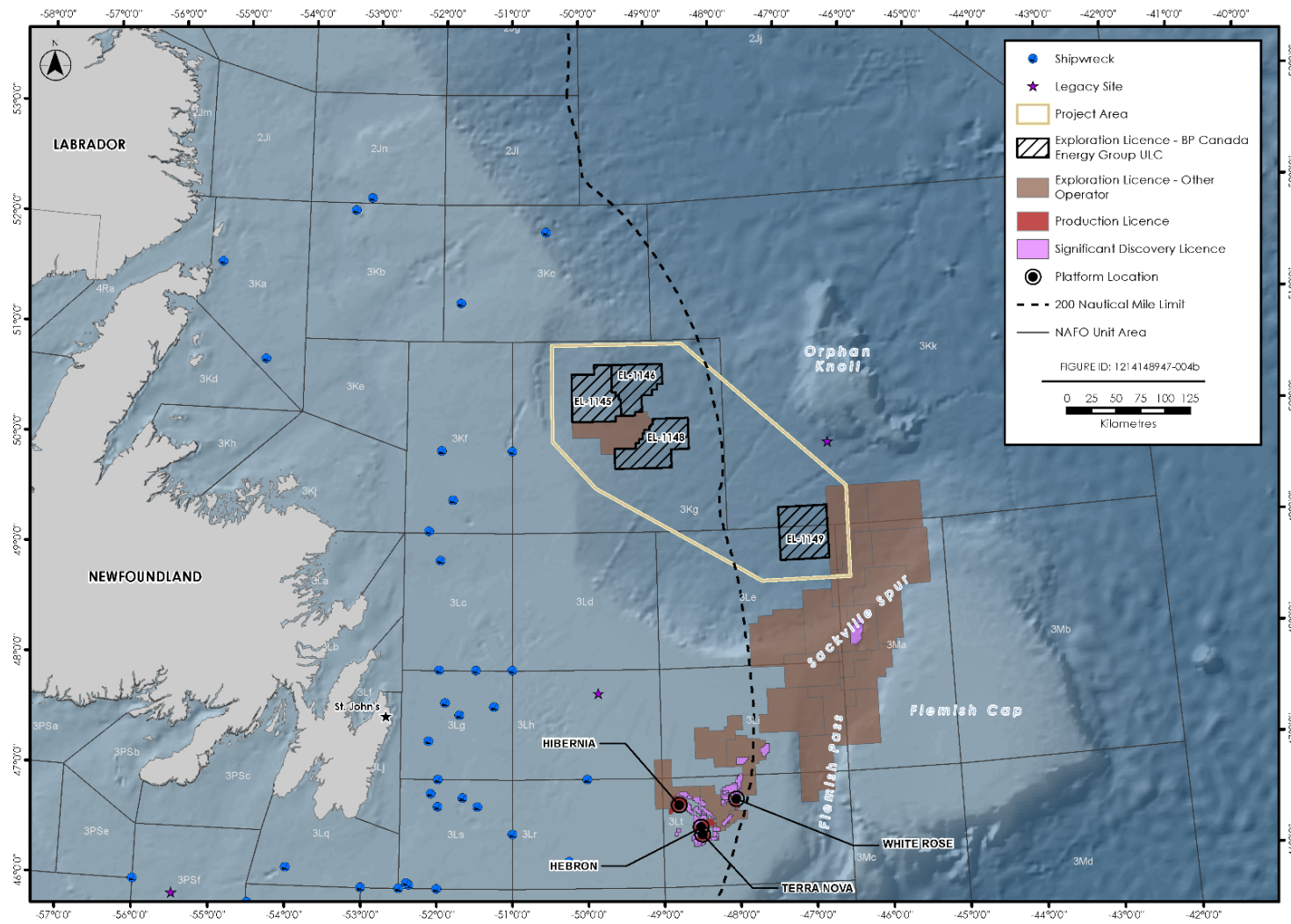
Source: C-NLOPB 2018c

Figure 7.41 Offshore Wells Drilled in Offshore Newfoundland and Labrador

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Source: Defence Construction Canada 2015

Figure 7.42 Shipwrecks and Legacy Sites in Offshore Newfoundland and Labrador

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7.3.5 Subsea Infrastructure

In addition to shipwrecks and legacy sites that may exist, multiple subsea cables (active and abandoned) are offshore Newfoundland and Labrador. The active cables are predominantly subsea fibre optic cables installed to provide high-speed internet and telecommunications between insular Newfoundland and Canada to countries across the Atlantic Ocean. Figure 7.43 illustrates marine cables in the waters of offshore Newfoundland and Labrador. Eleven subsea cables intersect with the Project Area, with six cables overlapping a BP EL. These cables are described in Table 7.14. Most of the cables are currently abandoned, except for the Greenland Connect cable, which is currently active.

Table 7.14 Subsea Cables within the Project Area

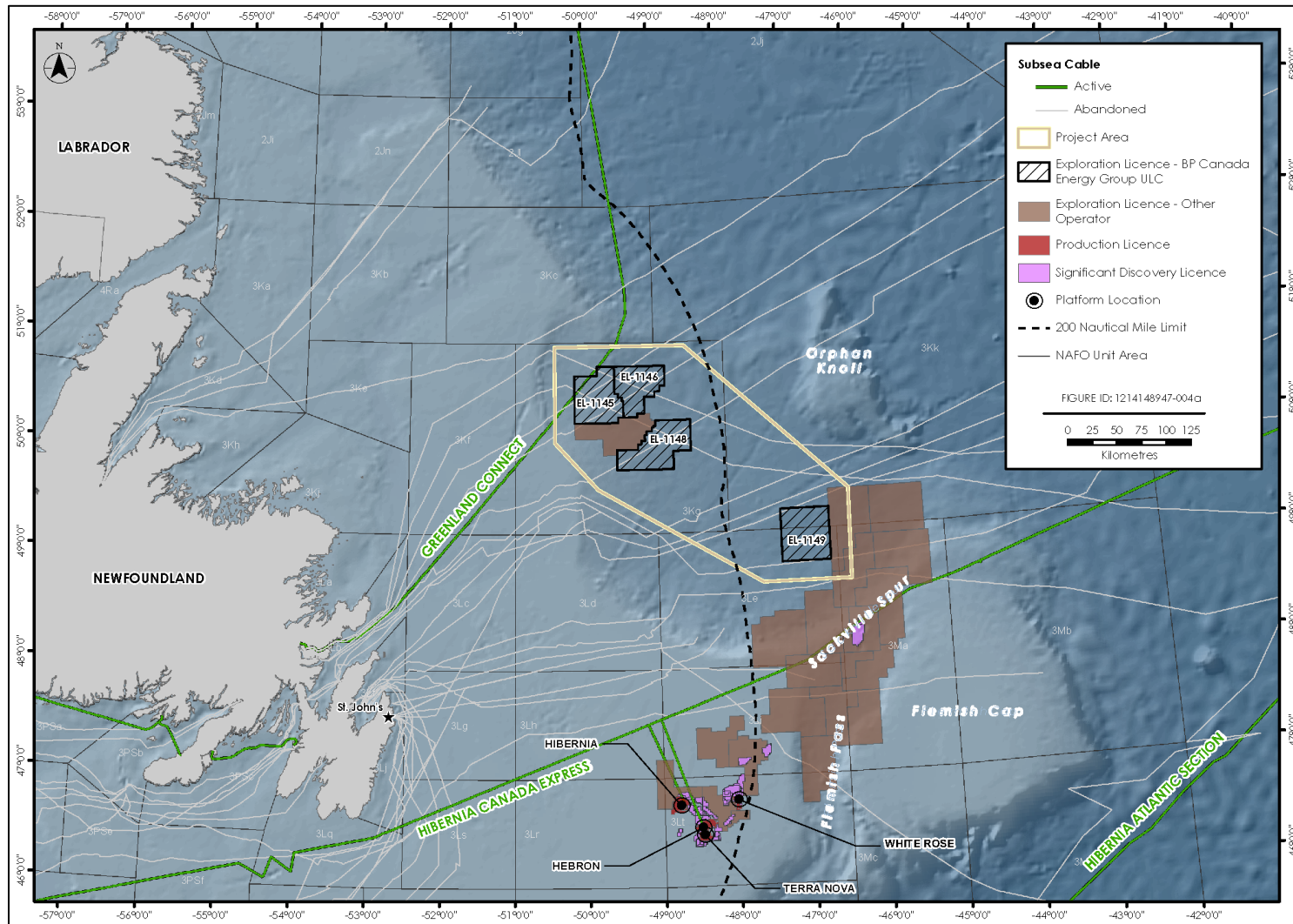
Name	Status	Source	Type	Date	Owner	EL Crossing
Greenland Connect	Active	TELE Greenland A/S	Fibre Optic	3/2/2008	TELE Greenland A/S	1145
1VA	Abandoned	Correspondence	Telegraph	1/1/1866	Unknown	NA
2VA	Abandoned	Correspondence	Telegraph	1/1/1866	Unknown	1148
3PZ	Abandoned	Correspondence File	Telegraph	1/1/1800	Unknown	1149
4PZ	Abandoned	Correspondence File	Telegraph	1/1/1800	Unknown	NA
4VA	Abandoned	Correspondence	Telegraph	1/1/1800	Unknown	1149
Unknown	Abandoned	Correspondence	Telephone	1/1/1955	ATT	NA
Unknown	Abandoned	8015	Telephone	1/1/1955	ATT	1145, 1156
Unknown	Abandoned	Correspondence	Telephone	1/1/1972	ATT	1145, 1156
Unknown	Abandoned	4001	Telephone	1/1/1972	ATT	1145, 1148

Source: DFO 2015b

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Source: DFO 2015b

Figure 7.43 Subsea Cables in Offshore Newfoundland and Labrador

7.4 Indigenous Peoples and Community Values

As per Section 6.1.8 of the EIS Guidelines, this section of the EIS describes the baseline information for each Indigenous group identified in Section 5 of the Guidelines. This includes Indigenous communities in Newfoundland and Labrador (NL), Nova Scotia (NS), Prince Edward Island (PEI), New Brunswick (NB) and Quebec (QC) (Figure 7.44 and 7.45).

Information presented in this section of the EIS characterizes the baseline conditions for Indigenous peoples to facilitate an evaluation of effects described in paragraph 5(1)(c) of CEAA 2012, specifically:

- health and socio-economic conditions,
- physical and cultural heritage,
- the current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes, or
- any structure, site or thing that is of historical, archaeological, paleontological, or architectural significance.

The following sections provide an overview of the history and current socioeconomic conditions of each Indigenous community, focused on aspects that may have potential to interact with the Project. For example, given the Project is in the marine environment, the description of current land and resource use for traditional purposes (i.e., 5(1)(c)(iii) of CEAA 2012) focuses on marine-associated species of importance to Indigenous peoples. This discussion also includes consideration of food, social and ceremonial (FSC) fishing, hunting and gathering, and commercial communal fishing.

Indigenous peoples have traditionally relied on fishing both for sustenance and for trade for centuries – it is a way of life for many Indigenous communities. Past Supreme Court of Canada decisions recognize the right to fish traditionally (*R. v. Sparrow*, 1992) and for a moderate livelihood (*R. v. Marshall*, 1999). These rights are protected under Section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*. The Minister of Fisheries and Oceans issues two types of communal fishing licences to Indigenous groups, which allow fishing for either FSC or commercial purposes. These licences are held under the name of the Indigenous community, not under the name of a specific individual.

In 1992, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) introduced the Aboriginal Fisheries Strategy to provide a regulatory framework for FSC fishing. After conservation, fishing for FSC purposes takes precedence over other fisheries, including commercial and recreational fisheries. Given the social, spiritual, and cultural value of FSC fisheries, it reflects the very nature of Indigenous culture.

DFO implemented the Marshall Response Initiative (MRI) in 2000 following the Supreme Court of Canada's 1999 Marshall decision, to provide increased Indigenous access to the commercial fishery through the issuance of commercial communal licences to the Mi'kmaq First Nations in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, PEI and the Gaspé Region of Quebec, the Passamaquoddy and the Wolastoqiyik in New Brunswick. In 2007 the MRI was replaced by the Atlantic Integrated Commercial Fisheries Initiative (AICFI) to sustain the public investment made to the Indigenous commercial fishery through the MRI and provide eligible First Nations with capacity-building support for the successful management of Indigenous commercial communal fisheries and effective Indigenous participation in fisheries co-management (DFO 2012a, DFO 2012b).

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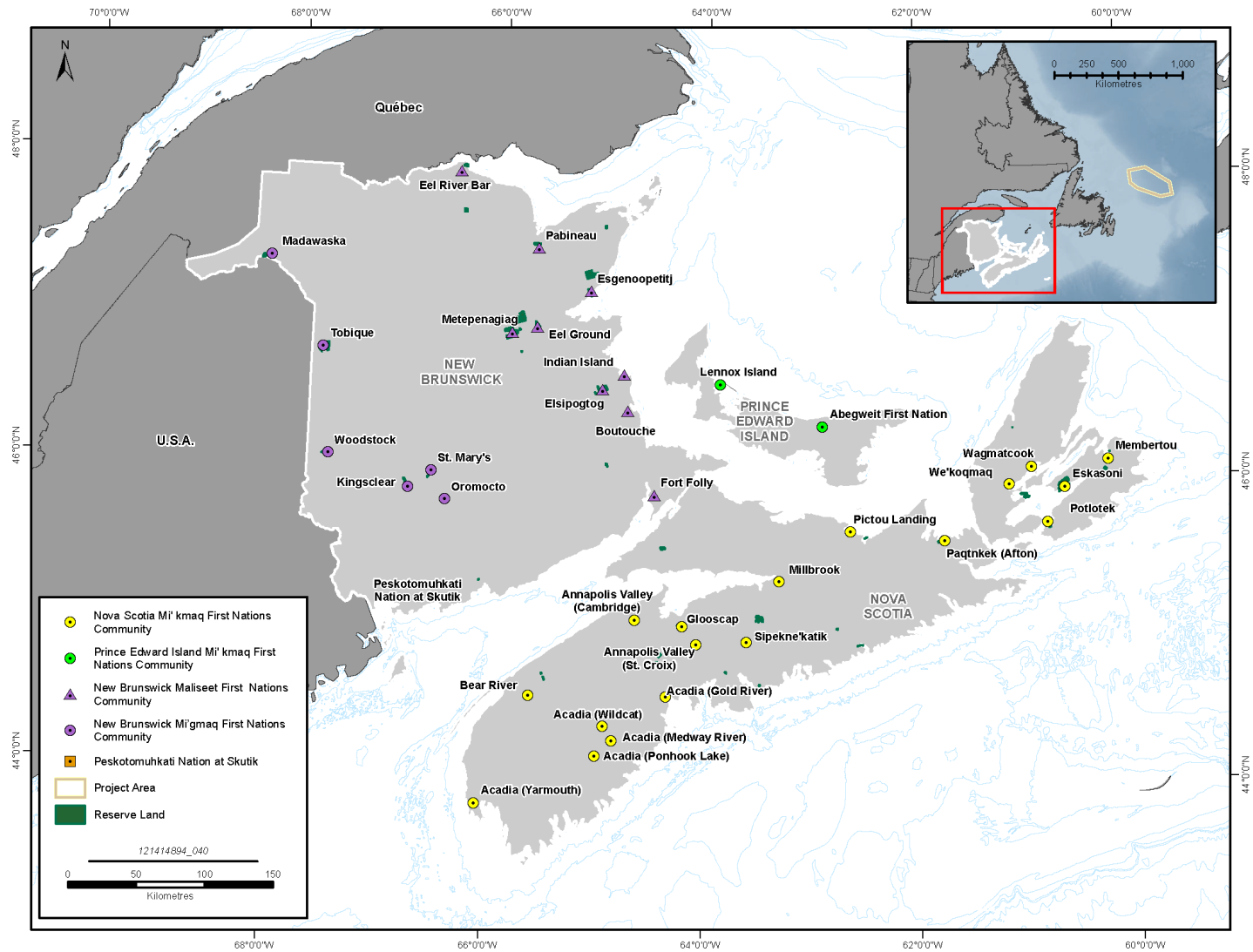


Figure 7.44 Indigenous Communities in the Maritime Provinces

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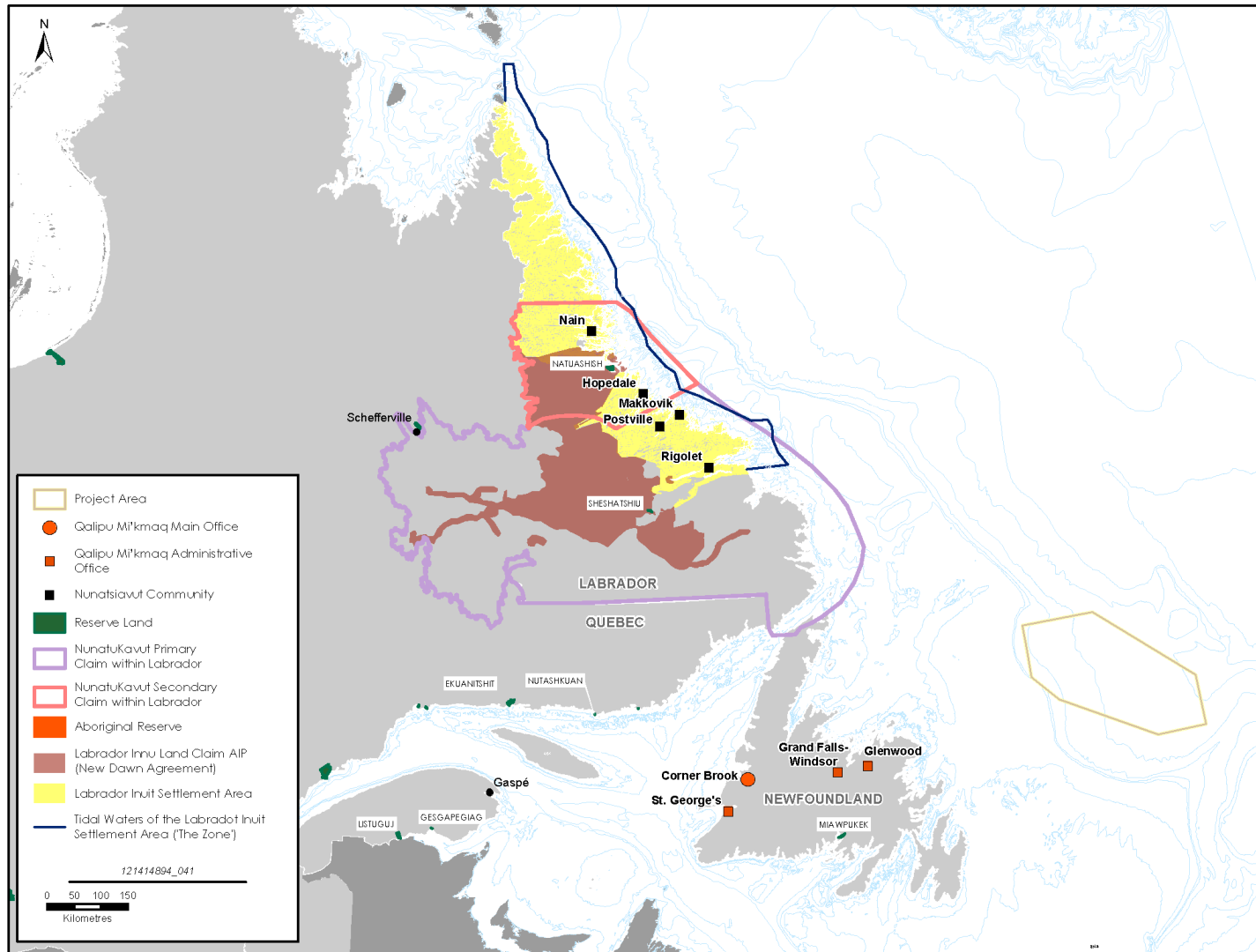


Figure 7.45 Indigenous Communities in Newfoundland and Labrador and Quebec

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Since the inception of the MRI and AICFI initiatives, the value of the commercial communal fisheries has grown and is anticipated to continue to grow. In the Atlantic region, commercial communal fisheries contribute approximately \$100 million to the Indigenous fishery. The commercial communal fisheries comprise a high percentage of sole source revenue for many of the Atlantic Indigenous communities. Community ventures, social programs, and benefits may be funded from revenue generated by the commercial communal fisheries; therefore, there is potential that impacts to commercial communal fisheries may be broader than direct and indirect economic impacts to communities.

Through ongoing engagement and consultation with Indigenous communities on this Project and other offshore exploration drilling programs, it has been communicated that Indigenous interests and concerns extend beyond potential interactions and effects on commercial communal and FSC fishing practices. Several species which could occur in the Eastern Newfoundland offshore area (and potentially interact with Project activities) are culturally or spiritually significant to Indigenous peoples. These may include species which have been traditionally used for food, medicinal, social, or ceremonial purposes and therefore also hold cultural value but also species which have ecological value as biological components contributing to overall ecosystem sustainability, which, if adversely impacted, could potentially indirectly affect asserted or established Aboriginal and treaty rights.

7.4.1 Approach and Key Information Sources

Baseline conditions described below provide information about the demographics of each community and, where available, socio-economic conditions focusing primarily on economic opportunities derived from fisheries-related activities. The nearest Indigenous population to the Project Area is the Qalipu Mi'kmaq community of Glenwood, located approximately 346 km from the Project Area. The nearest reserve land belongs to Miawpukek First Nation, which is located 460 km from the Project Area. Given the Project activities and components will be located a considerable distance from Indigenous communities, activities, and other known interests, Project activities and Indigenous communities' activities are unlikely to directly overlap geographically. The discussion of baseline conditions is therefore focused on marine and migratory species of interest to Indigenous communities, including information about harvested species, seasonal information, and presence within the Study Area.

A variety of sources were considered, including:

- meetings and correspondence with Indigenous communities (including correspondence between Indigenous communities and the Agency)
- community websites
- publicly-available reports and studies, such as recent environmental assessments (e.g., Scotian Basin Exploration Drilling Project and the Flemish Pass Exploration Drilling Project) and associated traditional use information to support other resource development project assessments and supplemental information responses in the Atlantic region

Where limited information was available on aspects of individual Indigenous communities, such as community health or land and resource use, more general information has been provided at the regional or provincial level. BP, in collaboration with Husky Energy, sent draft community profiles to each

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Indigenous group for review and comment; where comments were received, these have been incorporated in the EIS as applicable.

7.4.2 Newfoundland and Labrador

The EIS Guidelines specify five Newfoundland and Labrador Indigenous communities for engagement and inclusion in the EIS:

- Labrador Inuit (Nunatsiavut Government)
- Labrador Innu (Innu Nation)
- NunatuKavut Community Council (NCC)
- Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation
- Miawpukek First Nation

Community profiles are provided for each Indigenous community in Table 7.15.

Table 7.15 Newfoundland and Labrador Indigenous Groups Community Profiles

Community Indicator	Description
Labrador Inuit (Nunatsiavut Government)	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	The Labrador Inuit's traditional territory extends from Cape Chidley in the north, to south of Groswater Bay and west to the Labrador-Quebec border. The Labrador Inuit Settlement Area is approximately 590 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Following three decades of land claims negotiations between the Labrador Inuit Association (LIA) and the Governments of Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador, the Nunatsiavut Government, an Inuit regional self-government, was established. On December 1, 2005 the <i>Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement</i> (LILCA) came into effect which sets out the details of land ownership, resource-sharing, and self-government within the established Labrador Inuit Settlement Area (LISA), and provides for harvesting rights in and outside the LISA. Labrador Inuit Lands are approximately 15,800 km ² in area, within the LISA boundary. The Nunatsiavut Government represents over 2,524 Labrador Inuit beneficiaries living in five Inuit communities: Nunainguk (Nain), Agvitok (Hopedale), maggovik (Makkovik), KipukKak (Postville) and Tikigiaksaugusik (Rigolet) (Nunatsiavut Government 2017; Sikumiut Environment Management Ltd. 2011). There are 7,133 Labrador Inuit Canada-wide. The Project does not overlap with any of the lands covered by this treaty.
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	The Labrador Inuit communities are accessible and serviced for half the year (from July to November) by ferries operated by the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and Nunatsiavut Group of Companies (NGC) and regional airlines such as Air Borealis (Statoil 2017). There are schools within each community, administered by the Newfoundland and Labrador English School District. Emergency services are provided to each community through Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) detachments and volunteer fire brigades in Nain, Rigolet, Makkovik and Hopedale (Nalcor Energy 2011). Each community is visited by a physician every four to six weeks. Dominant industries for the Labrador Inuit include public administration, health care and social assistance, mining and tourism (Nalcor Energy 2011). Major employers are the Torngat Fish Producers Co-op, NGC, the Inuit Community Governments and the Voisey's Bay Mine / Mill (Nalcor Energy 2011).

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Community Indicator	Description
	As described in more detail below, the Nunatsiavut Government hold several commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. In Nain, there is a fisheries operation base for the processing of char and turbot (Nalcor Energy 2011). In Postville, employment has been created through the crab, shrimp, and turbot fishery (Town of Postville 2003). There is also a fish plant in Makkovik.
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	The Labrador Inuit, descendants of the prehistoric Thule, are hunters drawn to Labrador for the large number of whales and wildlife, with the earliest ancestors living primarily along the north coast (Nunatsiavut Government 2017). They are culturally and linguistically part of the Inuit peoples who occupy the Arctic and parts of the sub-Arctic from Alaska east across northern Canada, Greenland and the Arctic edges of the former Soviet Union and are the most southern expansion of this culture (Nexen Energy ULC 2018). Pre-contact Inuit lifestyle included harvesting during all seasons for food, clothing, shelter and tools and seasonal migration to follow animals and fish which they depended on (Nexen Energy ULC 2018). From the late 19 th century to the early part of the 20 th century, Inuit became involved in the market economy and began to earn income from industries focused on trapping and seal hunting, as well as fishing for char, cod, and salmon (Nexen Energy ULC 2018). There are approximately 1,800 known archaeological sites within the land claim area (Torngasok 2013). There are no known sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	The Labrador Inuit undertake current land and resource use activities on their traditional lands within the LISA. These activities include: hunting for seals, birds, rabbits, caribou, and moose; fishing; ice fishing; and trapping and gathering (Sikumiut Environmental Management Ltd. 2009). Traditional food has important value beyond market criteria, due to its cultural, social, and nutritional qualities, representing an integral part of the Inuit lifestyle (Nexen Energy ULC 2018). Hunting of migratory birds is also an important part of their harvest (Sikumiut Environmental Management Ltd. 2008). Following the ice break-up in the spring, the Inuit also hunt or net harp, ringed, harbour, grey and bearded seals in the outer island areas and in the bays (VBNC 1997). The Labrador Shelf area is fished extensively for crab, rock cod, cod, Arctic char, sculpins, mussels, winkles, and sea urchins (Sikumiut Environmental Management Ltd. 2008). Although there is no commercial salmon fishery, an Indigenous traditional fishery for Atlantic salmon exists in Labrador.
Commercial Communal Fishing	The Nunatsiavut Government hold several commercial communal licences for groundfish, Greenland halibut, seal, scallop, snow crab, shrimp and Arctic char. Groundfish licences are held for NAFO Divisions 2GHJ, 3KL and Greenland halibut may be harvested in 2+3K and 3LMNO (Nexen Energy ULC 2018). Seal licences permit harvesting in Sealing Areas 4 through 33, Atlantic-wide. Scallop licences are issued for Scallop Area 1 off the coast of Northern Labrador, and snow crab licences are issued for Snow Crab Areas 1 and 2 and an Exploratory licence for NAFO 2H (Nexen Energy ULC 2018). Northern shrimp licences are held for Shrimp Areas 4 and 5. The Nunatsiavut Government also has a commercial communal Arctic char licence for the area from Cape Rouge to Cape Chidley in Northern Labrador.
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	The Nunatsiavut Government hold two FSC licences including for trout, salmon, Arctic char, seal and smelt. These species may be harvested in the Upper Lake Melville Area and in the LISA. As per the LILCA (Chapter 13 – Fisheries Chapter of the Agreement), beneficiaries have the right to harvest at any time of the year throughout the LISA for any species or stock of fish or aquatic plant, up to the quantity needed for their FSC purposes. In addition, despite the commercial salmon fishery being closed in Labrador, there is an Aboriginal traditional fishery for Atlantic salmon. The Nunatsiavut Government holds FSC licences for species that may migrate between the Project area and the LISA.

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Community Indicator	Description
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The Labrador Inuit have established Aboriginal rights under Section 35 of the <i>Constitution Act 1982</i> , and beneficiaries of the LILCA have treaty rights within the LISA as set out in the Agreement, including the right to harvest species throughout the LISA. In addition, the Agreement allows for a negotiated arrangement for Beneficiaries residing in Labrador, outside of LISA to harvest for food social and ceremonial purposes in tidal waters of Upper Lake Melville, outside of LISA (12E area).
Labrador Innu (Innu Nation)	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	The Labrador Innu reside primarily in two communities: Sheshatshiu in Central Labrador and Natuashish on the North Coast (Statoil 2017). Small numbers of Innu also reside in Happy-Valley Goose Bay, Labrador (Statoil 2017). The Labrador Innu land claim is approximately 535 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	In September 2008, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and Innu Nation announced the signing of the <i>Tshas Petapen</i> (“New Dawn”) Agreement. This Agreement resolved key issues between Innu Nation and the Province related to the Innu land claim, as well as impacts and benefits related to past and proposed hydroelectric developments in western and central Labrador (Statoil 2017). Since that time, the provincial and federal governments and the Innu Nation have completed detailed agreements on tripartite Labrador Innu Land Rights Agreement-in-Principle (AIP), which was signed by all three parties in 2011 (Labrador and Aboriginal Affairs Office n.d.). In 2017, the population of the Innu of Labrador was approximately 2,700 (Nexen Energy ULC 2018). Sheshatshiu, located on the south bank of North West River, formed part of the community of North West River until 1979, at which time the Innu established a separate community which is now a reserve with an elected Chief and Band Council. The community of Natuashish was formed following the Innu’s relocation from the previous community at Utshimassit (Davis Inlet) and is a now reserve with an elected Chief and Band Council. The Project does not overlap with any lands claimed by the Labrador Innu.
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	<p>Sheshatshiu and Natuashish are relatively small communities that offer services and infrastructure to their members and residents. Sheshatshiu, the largest Innu community in Labrador, is 40 km by road from Happy Valley-Goose Bay and accessible year-round. The Natuashish community is approximately 300 km north of Happy-Valley Goose Bay and only accessible by plane or boat. Within Sheshatshiu, an elementary-secondary school, Sheshatshiu Innu School, accommodates approximately 400 students from kindergarten to grade 12 (Innu Education Inc. 2014). The community of Natuashish also has a school, the Mushuau Innu Natuashish School, accommodating approximately 450 students from kindergarten to grade 12 (Innu Education Inc. 2014). Both schools are administered by the Innu School Board. The RCMP provides emergency services to both communities. In Sheshatshiu, the RCMP and Health Canada have collaborated to establish a Sheshatshiu Crisis Intervention Team to support members of the community in times of crisis (Nalcor Energy 2011). There is a fire hall with two fire fighting vehicles in Natuashish (Nalcor Energy 2011). The Labrador Grenfell Regional Health Authority provides health and community services to both communities. In Sheshatshiu, the Health Authority and the Sheshatshiu Innu Health Commission operate a community health clinic with basic trauma and resuscitation equipment (Statoil 2017). In Natuashish, the Health Authority, in partnership with Mushua Innu Health Commission, operate a community health clinic with an emergency room bed, basic trauma and resuscitation equipment and a defibrillator (Statoil 2017).</p> <p>The Innu Business Development Centre was created to establish businesses and contribute to Innu communities. Innu Nation has invested in a variety of businesses including accommodation and food services, aircraft services, arts, entertainment, recreation, automotive, construction, waste management, forestry, and tourism.</p>

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	As described in more detail below, Innu Nation holds several commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. Ueushuk Fisheries Ltd., hold a mid-shore groundfish licence for various areas and a shrimp licence.
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	The Labrador Innu are descendants from Algonkian-speaking hunter-gathers (Heritage Newfoundland and Labrador 2018). Traditionally, the Labrador Innu were a nomadic people; however, following the establishment of Innu settlements in the 1960s, traditional land use and harvesting practices changed considerably. In terms of culture and language, the Innu are the easternmost group of a very widespread people known as the Cree (Heritage Newfoundland and Labrador 2018). Labrador Innu culture and heritage are focused on their relationship to game animals, particularly caribou, which are the focus of their philosophical and religious beliefs (Heritage Newfoundland and Labrador 2018). Nearly 500 Innu archaeological sites are known to be throughout Northern, central and Western Labrador. These sites are generally in inland and coastal areas and were often discovered in relation to developments such as communities, roads, railway, and mining areas. There are no known sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	The Labrador Innu undertake current land and resource use activities on their traditional lands within Labrador (headwaters of Eagle River; the area bounded by Winnokapau Lake, Smallwood Reservoir, Seal Lake and Nipishish Lake; Shipiskan Lake, Snegamook Lake, and Shapio Lake) and parts of Quebec. These activities include: hunting for caribou, black bear, and small game; fishing; trapping; and gathering of wild foods. Hunting of migratory birds such as geese, eider ducks, and turrs is also an important aspect of their harvest. Important bird harvesting areas include near the Trans Labrador Highway, west of Churchill Falls, and the Labrador Shelf (Sikumiut Environmental Management Ltd. 2008). Innu also hunt seal in the spring, summer, and fall (VBNC 1997).
Commercial Communal Fishing	Innu Nation holds several commercial communal licences for groundfish, mackerel, capelin, shrimp, and halibut. Innu Nation hold licences for groundfish in NAFO 0, 2GHJ, 3KL, groundfish (mobile gear) in NAFO 2GHJ, 3KL, mackerel and capelin in Fishing Areas 1 to 11, and shrimp in Shrimp Area 4. Ueushuk Fisheries Limited hold a mid-shore groundfish licence for various areas for harvesting of a variety of species. Ueushuk Fisheries Ltd. also hold a shrimp licence for Shrimp Areas 6 and 7.
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Innu Nation holds several FSC licences for Sheshatshiu and Natuashish for salmon, Arctic char, and trout. The Natuashish fishing area includes all tidal waters of Labrador extending north and east from Cape Harrigan and south and east of Anaktalik Bay. The licence is restricted to these areas and within the 12-nautical mile limit. The Sheshatshiu fishing area includes all tidal waters of Labrador extending from Fish Cove Point, north to Cape Harrison, including Lake Melville and the inland waters of Little Lake and Grand Lake in Upper Lake Melville. The licence is restricted to these areas and within the 12-nautical mile limit. Despite the commercial salmon fishery being closed in Labrador, there is an Aboriginal traditional fishery for Atlantic salmon.
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	Innu Nation claim Aboriginal rights and title to most of Labrador and parts of Quebec. Innu Nation asserts Aboriginal rights to land and resources within Labrador and to resources along the Labrador coast, including the right to hunt, fish, and gather throughout its traditional territory.
NunatuKavut Community Council (NCC)	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	The NunatuKavut Community Council (NCC) claims traditional territory that extends from Central to Southeastern Labrador. NCC members primarily reside in southern and central Labrador, particularly along the southeast coast. The territory is approximately 390 km from the Project Area.

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Community Indicator	Description
General Overview	<p>Originally established as the Labrador Metis Association in 1985, the NCC is the governing body, representing a membership of over 6,000 Inuit of south and central Labrador, collectively known as the Southern Inuit of NunatuKavut (NCC 2013). The NCC has asserted a land claim, covering most of Central and Southeastern Labrador (NCC 2013). To date, this claim has not been accepted for negotiation by the federal or provincial governments. Members primarily reside in Cartwright, Paradise River, Charlottetown, Pinsent's Arm, William's Harbour, Black Tickle / Domino, Norman Bay, Port Hope Simpson, St. Lewis, Mary's Harbour and Lodge Bay (Statoil 2017; Russell 2018). Census data are not available for NCC members as a group. In 2016, the population of these communities range from 15 (Paradise River) to 572 (Cartwright), with five communities (Paradise River, Pinsent's Arm, William's Harbour, Norman Bay and Lodge Bay) having fewer than 100 people (Martin et al. 2012). The Project does not overlap with any lands claimed by the NCC.</p>
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	<p>The Trans-Labrador Highway (TLH) serves the southeast coast of Labrador. Most communities are accessibly by road via the TLH (Nalcor Energy 2011), while some communities are only accessible by plane or boat. During the winter months, a 1,500 km winter trail system connects Southern Labrador to all communities in Labrador and provides the only transportation link for many otherwise unconnected coastal communities (Nalcor 2011).</p> <p>Some communities have road access, airstrips, basic municipal services (i.e., waste removal and water supply) and nursing clinics while others do not (Martin et al. 2012). Health, policing, and education services also vary. RCMP travel to communities periodically from locations such as Mary's Harbour and Cartwright (Martin et al. 2012). Most communities have schools, but Paradise River, William's Harbour, Pinsent's Arm and Lodge Bay do not. Students from Pinsent's Arm and Lodge Bay travel to St. Mary's All Grade School in Mary's Harbour (Martin et al. 2012). Many of the communities have medical clinics, operated by Labrador-Grenfell Regional Health Authority. Clinics typically provide primary health care services and are staffed with nurses (Nalcor Energy 2011). Generally, a physician and dentist visit each community every six weeks. The NCC is invested in seasonal and year-round businesses including hotels, motels, bed and breakfasts, convenience stores and gas bars (Martin et al. 2012).</p> <p>As described in more detail below, the NCC holds several commercial communal fishing licences for a variety of fish and marine species. The major employer in southern Labrador communities is the fishery. Employing hundreds of individuals, the Labrador Fisherman's Union Shrimp Company has processing facilities in Cartwright, Charlottetown, Pinsent's Arm, Mary's Harbour and L'Anse au Loup (Labrador Shrimp Company 2014). NDC Fisheries Limited hold quotas for 450,000 lbs. of snow crab as well as shrimp quotas and is required to hire NunatuKavut members as crew.</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	<p>In the 17th Century, contact was made between the Labrador Inuit and Europeans. In southern Labrador, these interactions were based on the trade with seasonal fishers and whalers (Statoil 2017). As early as 1775, the first generation of people of mixed descent between the Labrador Inuit and European fur traders appeared (Nalcor Energy 2010). Over time, the population grew, and settlements were established throughout central and southern Labrador (Nalcor Energy 2010). In terms of culture, NCC members' practices and resources are focused on the lands and waters of Labrador. There are no known heritage sites in or near the Project Area.</p>

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Community Indicator	Description
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	Members of the NCC place a strong emphasis on the importance of traditional food. The core areas traditionally used by NCC members for current land and resource use activities are focused on central and southeastern Labrador, including the Churchill River Valley and extending from the Sandwich Bay region, south to Port Hope Simpson and Williams Harbour, and west to the area of the Paradise and Eagle rivers (Nalcor Energy 2011). These activities include: hunting for caribou, moose, bear, hare and porcupine; fishing; trapping marten; and plant harvesting. Hunting of migratory birds such as sea duck and turr, is also an important aspect of their harvest. Important bird harvesting areas include the islands of the Backway, Table Bay, and St. Peter's Bay (Statoil 2017). The NCC establishes annual <i>Spring Bird / Egg Harvest and Conservation Guidelines</i> , which specify the opening and closing of dates, the seasonal take of birds and gull eggs that may be harvested per household, and any associated restrictions (NCC 2013). Members of NCC also harvest marine mammals, with seals providing income and a source of meat and oil (Russell 2018).
Commercial Communal Fishing	The NCC holds several commercial communal licences for groundfish, shrimp, snow crab, capelin, herring seal, scallops, and toad crab. NDC Fisheries (Nunacor) also holds several commercial communal licences and operates enterprises for groundfish in NAFO 2GHJ, 3KL, and 4RS, scallop in Scallop Areas 1 and 2, shrimp in Shrimp Area 6 as well as for whelk, northern shrimp, snow crab, capelin, herring and toad crab in southern Labrador. The NCC also holds two seal harvesting licences in Seal Fishing Areas 4 to 33 (Atlantic-wide).
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	The NCC holds several FSC licences including for salmon, trout, Arctic char, Atlantic cod, rock cod, herring, scallop, whelk, smelt and seal. Fishing areas are Fish Cove Point and Cape Charles in Labrador and Upper Lake Melville but is restricted to these areas and within the 12-nautical mile limit. NCC members also fish throughout central and southeastern Labrador, Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Grand Lake and its tributaries, Sebaskachu Bay and Sebaskachu River, Mud Lake, Traversspine River, the mouths of Caroline Brook, McKenzie River, and lakes south of the Churchill River for Atlantic salmon. Despite the commercial salmon fishery being closed in Labrador, there is still an Aboriginal traditional fishery for Atlantic salmon.
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The NCC asserts Aboriginal and treaty rights to land and resources within Labrador and to resources along the Labrador coast, including the right to hunt, fish, and gather throughout its traditional territory.
Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation members live in 67 communities in Newfoundland, with satellite administrative offices in Glenwood, Grand Falls-Windsor, and St. George's. The Nation's central administrative office is in Corner Brook (Qalipu First Nation 2016). Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation communities are approximately 346 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	In 2008, the Government of Canada and the Federation of Newfoundland Indians (FNI) signed the Agreement of Recognition of the Qalipu Mi'kmaq Indian Band to establish a landless band for the Mi'kmaq of Newfoundland (INAC 2017). The Qalipu Mi'kmaq do not have any recognized Aboriginal or treaty rights. The Agreement is not a treaty within the meaning of section 25 and section 35 of the <i>Constitution Act, 1982</i> . The signed Agreement initiated the enrolment process, with approximately 25,000 applications received within the first year (Qalipu First Nation 2016). The Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation have not signed treaties with the Crown and there is no land base associated with the Qalipu First Nation. In September 2011, the Qalipu was established as an Indian band under the <i>Indian Act</i> and 23,877 members were found eligible and registered as founding members (Qalipu First Nation 2016). The Project does not overlap with the 67 communities inhabited by members.

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Community Indicator	Description
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	<p>Because Qalipu members live in over 60 communities in Newfoundland, consolidated information and services, economic conditions, and community health is not readily available. Members access services and programs provided by municipal and provincial agencies, private businesses and services agencies in communities and regions where they reside. Economic and corporate development are led by the Qalipu Development Corporation (QDC) (Qalipu First Nation 2016). Qalipu First Nation has several wholly-owned commercial enterprises including Mi'kmaq Commercial Fisheries Incorporated (MCF), Qalipu Management Services Incorporated (QMS), Qalipu Marine Holdings (QMH) and Qalipu Project Support Services Limited (QPSS). Business partnerships have been negotiated and implemented between Qalipu and several different construction firms. Marine Contractors Inc. Qalipu was created as a partnership between Qalipu and Marine Construction to enable Qalipu to bid on civil construction opportunities from Emera NL. Other business entities are Qalipu Project Support Services, Qalipu Safety and Industrial Supply, and Eastern Door Logistics. In 2016-2017, the Band earned revenues of \$10.2 million and had total expenditures of \$9.6 million (Qalipu First Nation 2017).</p> <p>As described in more detail below, the Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation and MCF hold several commercial communal fishing licences for a variety of fish and marine species. Additionally, the Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation and the Miawpukek First Nation (MFN) have developed a joint fisheries initiative, Mi'kmaq Alsumk Mowimsikik Koqoey Association (MAMKA). MAMKA also hold commercial communal licences for different fish and marine species.</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	<p>Historical evidence demonstrates that the Mi'kmaq were living in Newfoundland by the 16th century; by the 17th century there are increasing historical references (Heritage Newfoundland and Labrador 2018). From 1600 to 1700, Mi'kmaq families hunted, fished, and trapped along Newfoundland's southwest coast to Placentia Bay (Pastore 1998). Families would travel back and forth between Cape Breton and Newfoundland (Pastore 1998). In the early 19th century, their range further expanded to include most of the interior of Newfoundland, for hunting and trapping purposes (Pastore 1998). Limited publicly-available information exists on historic and cultural Qalipu sites; however, one has been identified (seal rocks near the Town of St. George's on the west coast (St. George's Indian Band 2017). Currently, there are 21 known Mi'kmaq archaeological sites in interior and coastal Newfoundland between the Port au Port peninsula and Clarendville (Inside Newfoundland and Labrador Archaeology 2013). In terms of culture, Qalipu First Nation's practices and resources are focused on the lands and waters of the Island of Newfoundland. There are no known heritage sites in or near the Project Area.</p>
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	<p>The Qalipu undertake current land and resource use activities on their traditional lands which are extensive areas of land, sea, and water. These activities include hunting for caribou, moose, partridge and snowshoe hares, fishing, and harvesting of wild berries (Emera Newfoundland and Labrador 2013). Hunting of marine and migratory birds such as turr is also considered an important traditional activity. The harvesting of seals and groundfish is of lesser importance, but still practiced (Emera Newfoundland and Labrador 2013).</p>
Commercial Communal Fishing	<p>The Qalipu hold several commercial communal licences for lobster, snow crab, mackerel, herring, squid, scallops, capelin, whelk, shrimp, eel, smelt and bait. Lobster fishing licences are for LFA 4B, 13A, and 13B and snow crab licences are for Snow Crab Areas 4, 12, 12C, 12E and 12F. MAMKA also holds several commercial communal licences for snow crab, herring, capelin, lobster, and bait. MAMKA also holds a commercial communal scallop licence.</p>
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	<p>No information is available for FSC licences for the Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation.</p>

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Community Indicator	Description
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	At this time, BP is unaware of the Qalipu expressing any asserted or established Aboriginal and/or treaty rights.
Miawpukek First Nation (MFN)	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Miawpukek Mi'kamaway Mawi'omi First Nation (Miawpukek First Nation or MFN) is comprised of one reserve, located at the mouth of the Conne River on the south coast of Newfoundland and Labrador (BP 2017; Statoil 2017). The Miawpukek First Nation community is approximately 460 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	<p>Samiajij Miawpukek is approximately 224 km south of Gander with an area of 1666 ha (BP 2017). According to traditional oral history, the Samiajij Miawpukek community was established in 1870. It was officially designated as Samiajij Miawpukek Indian Reserve under the <i>Indian Act</i> in 1987 (Miawpukek First Nation 2017). In 2013, MFN signed a Self-Government Agreement-in-Principle with the provincial government, giving them the opportunity to govern their internal affairs and assume greater responsibility and control over decisions that affect their community. The Agreement is not considered a treaty or a land claims agreement within the meaning of sections 25 and 35 of the <i>Constitution Act, 1982</i>; however, it is an important component to self-government for the Miawpukek First Nation (Government of Newfoundland and Labrador 2013). The registered population of the Miawpukek First Nation is more than 3,000 individuals, with nearly 28% living on-reserve (INAC 2017). The Project does not overlap with the reserve lands.</p>
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	<p>The MFN community is accessible year-round by road. In 2017, a new school was opened in the community, accommodating 180 students from kindergarten to grade 12. The school also houses a dental office and daycare centre. Since 1975, MFN has been providing health services to the community. The Conne River Health and Social Services (CRHSS) designs and delivers a range of community-based programs such as a medical clinic, wellness centre, youth centre and nutrition centre (CRHSS 2008). The MFN community owns and operates small businesses such as Christmas tree farms, hunt camps and small fisheries, and the Miawpukek Gas Bar and Convenience Store (INAC 2012). The MFN has partnered with several outside communities and corporations in ventures including tourism and aquaculture (INAC 2012). The MFN also owns and operates the Jipuijij'kuei Kuespem Nature Park which provides camping, kayak / canoe rentals, walking trails and float plane charters (Explore Newfoundland and Labrador 2010).</p> <p>As described in more detail below, the MFN hold several commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species.</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	<p>Some historical evidence exists demonstrating that the Mi'kmaq were living in Newfoundland by the 16th century, and by the 17th century there are increasing historical references (Heritage Newfoundland and Labrador 2018). From 1600 to 1700, Mi'kmaq families hunted, fished, and trapped along Newfoundland's southwest coast to Placentia Bay (Pastore 1998). Families would travel back and forth between Cape Breton and Newfoundland (Pastore 1998). In the early 19th century, their range expanded to include most of the interior of Newfoundland, for hunting and trapping purposes (Pastore 1998). Currently, there are 21 known Mi'kmaq archaeological sites in interior and coastal Newfoundland between the Port au Port peninsula and Clarendville (Inside Newfoundland and Labrador Archaeology 2013). In terms of culture, Miawpukek First Nation's practices and resources are focused on the lands and waters of the Island of Newfoundland. There are no known sites in or near the Project Area.</p>

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Community Indicator	Description
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'kmaq continue to use extensive areas of land, sea, and water for recreational and subsistence purposes such as hunting for caribou, moose, partridge and snowshoe hares; fishing; and harvesting of wild berries (Emera Newfoundland and Labrador 2013). Hunting of marine and migratory birds such as turr is also an important traditional activity. The harvesting of seals and groundfish is of lesser importance (Emera Newfoundland and Labrador 2013).
Commercial Communal Fishing	The MFN holds several commercial communal licences for groundfish, capelin, herring, mackerel, snow crab, squid, swordfish, scallop, bluefin tuna and other tuna species, and seal. MFN has nine enterprises that permit access to NAFO 3KL, three tuna licences permitting access to 3LN, and one seal licence permitting access to Seal Fishing Areas 4-33 (Atlantic-wide). The First Nation also holds licences for sea cucumber and whelk in NAFO 3Ps. In addition, MFN holds tuna and swordfish licences for the Scotia-Fundy region.
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	The MFN holds several FSC licences for scallop, lobster, mackerel, herring, rainbow trout, brook trout, cod, eels, smelt, capelin, seals (harp, grey, and harbor), snow crab, whelk, and redfish.
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The MFN assert Aboriginal rights, including the right to hunt, fish, and gather.

7.4.3 Mi'kmaq of the Maritime Provinces

The provinces of Nova Scotia, parts of New Brunswick, PEI, and the Gaspé Peninsula in Quebec are founded on land historically occupied by the ancestors of the Mi'kmaq. The earliest evidence of Indigenous peoples in the Maritimes Region indicates that the ancestors of the Mi'kmaq have existed on the land for more than 11,000 years (Nova Scotia Office of Aboriginal Affairs (OAA) website 2017). The Mi'kmaq generally lived in semi-permanent and permanent settlements at resource-rich locations (Mi'kma'ki All Points Services 2013). The lives of Indigenous peoples in what are today referred to as the Maritime Provinces considered the seasonal cycles of the local vegetation, animals, and fish, living a traditional life as fishers, hunters, and gatherers throughout their territory (MGS 2016). In the summer, areas around the coastal camps provided fish, shellfish, fowl, and eggs, while during the colder months, the Mi'kmaq did most of their game hunting moving inland from their summer camps (Speck 1922 in MGS 2016; Denys 1993 in MGS 2016). When resources such as fish, game and plants became scarce near an encampment, the Mi'kmaq moved it to a new location (Robertson 1969 in MGS 2016; Speck 1922 in MGS 2016).

7.4.3.1 Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia

The EIS Guidelines specify 13 Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq communities for engagement and inclusion in the EIS:

- Acadia First Nation
- Annapolis Valley First Nation
- Bear River First Nation
- Eskasoni First Nation

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- Glooscap First Nation
- Membertou First Nation
- Paq'tnkek Mi'kmaw Nation
- Pictou Landing First Nation
- Potlotek First Nation
- Wagmatcook First Nation
- We'koqma'q First Nation
- Sipekne'katik First Nation
- Millbrook First Nation

The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia have established an Aboriginal right to hunt, fish and gather; as well as a Treaty right to hunt, fish and gather for a moderate livelihood, which flows from the Peace and Friendship Treaties. The Project does not overlap with the claimed traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia, however, Glooscap, Membertou, Millbrook, Paq'tnkek, Pictou Landing, Sipekne'katik, Wagmatcook, and Waycobah First Nations have commercial communal licences to harvest swordfish and/or tuna in NAFO Unit Areas which overlap with the Project Area.

The Mi'kmaq, Nova Scotia and federal governments signed an Umbrella Agreement in 2002 to establish a "Made-in-Nova Scotia" negotiation process to resolve outstanding issues related to Mi'kmaq Treaty Rights following the Marshall decision in 1999. On February 23, 2007, a Framework Agreement was signed between the three parties to set out the process to promote efficient, effective, orderly, and timely negotiations towards a resolution of issues respecting Mi'kmaq rights and title (NSOAA 2017). After a three-year pilot period, on August 31, 2010, the thirteen Mi'kmaq communities through the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Chiefs signed an historic consultation agreement with the Governments of Canada and Nova Scotia. The Mi'kmaq-Nova Scotia-Canada Consultation Terms of Reference (TOR) lays out a consultation process for the parties to follow when governments are making decisions that have the potential to adversely impact asserted Mi'kmaq Aboriginal and treaty rights.

Of the 13 Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq First Nation communities, 11 are currently represented by the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Chiefs (ANSMC). The Kwilmu'kw Maw-klusuaqn Negotiation Office (KMKNO) is the administrative office of the Assembly that coordinates treaty negotiations and consultation on decisions/actions that may impact Mi'kmaq Aboriginal or treaty rights. In 2013 and 2016, respectively, Sipekne'katik and Millbrook First Nations chose to withdraw from the TOR process and represent themselves in consultation. The Sipekne'katik First Nation and Millbrook First Nation assert the same rights as the other Mi'kmaq communities.

The 13 Mi'kmaq communities located in Nova Scotia are discussed in further detail in Table 7.16.

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Table 7.16 Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia Community Profiles

Community Indicator	Description
Acadia First Nation	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Acadia First Nation, in southwestern Nova Scotia, is comprised of five reserves, in five counties from Yarmouth to Halifax. Acadia First Nation communities are approximately 1300 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Acadia First Nation encompasses five reserves: Yarmouth 33 (3.2 km east of Yarmouth with an area of 27.7 ha), Ponhook Lake 10 (115.2 km southwest of Halifax with an area of 101.8 ha), Medway River 11 (1108.8 km southwest of Halifax with an area of 4.7 ha), Wildcat 12 (11 km southwest of Halifax with an area of 465.4 ha) and Gold River 21 (60.8 km west of Halifax with an area of 270.2 ha) (INAC n.d.). Acadia First Nation also has separate land holdings in Gardner's Mill and Hammonds Plains. Acadia First Nation is represented by the ANSMC. According to 2016 census data, the on-reserve population for Yarmouth was 157, Ponhook Lake was 15, Wildcat was 29 and Gold River was 95 (Statistics Canada n.d.[b]). Population data were not available for Medway River.
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	<p>The availability of infrastructure within each community varies, however Acadia First Nation has experienced infrastructure growth over the past decade, including the development of housing and roads (Acadia First Nation n.d.). An after-school program exists within Yarmouth, for children ages 5 – 12, attending elementary school. Health centres are in Yarmouth and Gold River. The Yarmouth Health Centre includes a dentist, Victorian Order of Nurses (VON), clinic nursing, foot care clinics and wellness and health promotion clinics (Acadia First Nation Undated.). The Gold River Health Centre provides a VON, clinic nursing, wellness and health-promotion clinics, afterschool program and parent and tot groups (Acadia First Nation n.d.). In Wildcat, a VON is available once a month (Acadia First Nation n.d.). Recent economic developments for the Nation include administrative buildings, gaming facilities, and offices in Halifax and Milton to serve the off-reserve population.</p> <p>As described in more detail below, Acadia First Nation hold several commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. The First Nation has an established fisheries company, Kespuwick Resources, established in 2001. Kespuwick Resources' main onshore facilities are in Yarmouth (Acadia First Nation n.d.).</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	The Acadia First Nation were once based in what is today's Queen's County with artifacts found along the Mersey River (KMKNO n.d.). The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia harvest Atlantic salmon as part of their Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes (UINR 2018). Salmon harvesting occurs throughout the year; however, efforts are concentrated during, or just prior to, salmon runs. Atlantic salmon is an integral component to Mi'kmaq culture. The practice of salmon fishing, using traditional harvesting methods, creates opportunities for traditional knowledge sharing, transmission, and adaptation, expressing Mi'kmaw values of sharing catches with the community, and other uses specific to salmon that cannot be replaced by harvesting other species (UINR 2018). The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia also harvest American eel within Aboriginal rights-based, treaty rights-based and commercial fisheries. In addition to a rich food source, the American eel is also used for medicinal purposes.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Acadia First Nation hold several commercial communal licences for groundfish, lobster, scallops, snow crab, jonah crab, herring, mackerel, quahaug and tuna. Lobster is licenced for LFA 33 and 34.

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Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Acadia First Nation hold several FSC fishing licences for blue shark, blueback herring, brook trout, gaspereau, herring, mussel, periwinkle, seal, smallmouth bass, soft-shell clams, squid, striped bass, tomcod, quahaug, rainbow trout and razor clams. The First Nation also hold an FSC licence to fish for groundfish, lobster, and crab (other than snow crab). Lobster is licenced in LFA 33, 34, and 35. There are no location restrictions on gaspereau, eel, mackerel, shad, smelt, green crab, jonah crab or bait (mackerel and herring) fishing (Newbould, DFO, pers. comm. 2017; Statoil 2017). Acadia First Nation also has an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon for FSC purposes.
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia have established Aboriginal and Treaty rights. This includes a right to fish for a "moderate livelihood" which flows from the Peace and Friendship Treaties, and an Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes.
Annapolis Valley First Nation	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Annapolis Valley First Nation is comprised of two reserves within Kings County in southwestern Nova Scotia. Annapolis Valley First Nation is located approximately 1200 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Annapolis Valley First Nation encompasses two reserve lands: Annapolis Valley (Cambridge) (88 km northwest of Halifax with an area of 59 ha) and St. Croix 34 (46.6 km northwest of Halifax with an area of 126.2 ha) (INAC n.d.). Annapolis Valley First Nation is represented by the ANSMC. According to 2016 census data, the on-reserve population was 140 (Statistics Canada n.d.[b]).
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	Established in 1998, the Three Wishes Learning Centre provides a nursery school program, after school program, and culture programs (Annapolis Valley First Nation n.d.). The Annapolis Valley First Nation Health Centre has a registered community health nurse, access to prevention and weight control programs, foot care clinics, prenatal programs, massage therapy, physical activity programs, drug and alcohol abuse prevention, suicide prevention, injury / illness prevention and health and wellness promotion (Annapolis Valley First Nation n.d.). A dental hygienist is available twice a month at the health centre. Annapolis Valley First Nation's economic initiatives include Annapolis Valley First Nation Gaming, Annapolis Valley First Nation Smoke Shop, and Annapolis Valley First Nation Gas Bar (Annapolis Valley First Nation n.d.). As described in more detail below, the Annapolis Valley First Nation hold several commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. The Nation also operates the Annapolis Valley Commercial Fisheries. The Annapolis Valley Commercial Fisheries operates one lobster fishing boat (BP 2017).
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	There is a long history of Mi'kmaq presence in Annapolis Royal and the surrounding areas; archeologists have identified several settlement patterns (Statoil 2017). The Mi'kmaq lived in Annapolis Valley when the Europeans arrived in the area, with lifestyles heavily influenced by the land and ecosystems and a strong tradition of innovation connected to the homelands. The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia harvest Atlantic salmon as part of their Aboriginal rights for FSC purposes (UINR 2018). Salmon harvesting occurs throughout the year; however, efforts are concentrated during, or just prior to, salmon runs. Atlantic salmon is an integral component to Mi'kmaq culture. The practice of salmon fishing, using traditional harvesting methods, creates opportunities for traditional knowledge sharing, transmission, and adaptation, expressing Mi'kmaw values of sharing catches with the community, and other uses specific to salmon that cannot be replaced by harvesting other species (UINR 2018). The Mi'kmaq of NS also harvest American eel within Aboriginal rights-based, treaty rights-based and commercial fisheries. In addition to a rich food source, the American eel is also used for medicinal purposes.

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Community Indicator	Description
Commercial Communal Fishing	Annapolis Valley First Nation holds several commercial communal licences for groundfish, lobster, scallops, herring and sea urchins. Lobster is licenced for LFA 33 and 34.
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Annapolis Valley First Nation holds several FSC licences for trout, mussels, clams, mackerel, herring, groundfish, eel, flounder, halibut, pollock, gaspereau, shad, smelt, lobster and scallops. Annapolis Valley First Nation also has an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon for FSC purposes.
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia have established Aboriginal and Treaty rights. This includes a right to fish for a "moderate livelihood" which flows from the Peace and Friendship Treaties, and an Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes.
Bear River First Nation	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Bear River First Nation is comprised of three reserves, within the Annapolis Valley between the towns of Annapolis Royal and Digby (KMKNO n.d.). Bear River First Nation is approximately 1300 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Bear River First Nation encompasses three reserve lands: Bear River 6 (17.7 km southeast of Digby with an area of 633.8 ha), Bear River 6A (9.6 km southeast of Annapolis Valley with an area of 31.2 ha), and Bear River 6B (6.4 km southeast of Annapolis Valley with an area of 24.3 ha) (INAC n.d.). Bear River First Nation is represented by the ANSMC. According to 2016 census data, the on-reserve population in Bear River 6 was 138, Bear River 6A was 0, and Bear River 6B was 16 (Statistics Canada n.d.[b]).
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	<p>The majority of community members live on the Bear River 6, also known as L'sitkuk Mainland (Mainland Mi'kmaq Development Inc. 2016). In Bear River, a learning centre provides space for educational activities. There is a health centre in Bear River, offering healing services and workshops (Bear River First Nation 2016). A doctor visits the health centre monthly (Bear River First Nation 2016). Recently, an RCMP satellite office opened in the community. Bear River First Nation enterprises include a Treaty Gas bar, L'sitkuk Gas Bar Limited, and a seasonal Heritage and Cultural Centre.</p> <p>As described in more detail below, Bear River First Nation hold commercial communal licences for lobster and tuna.</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	<p>There is a long history of Bear River Mi'kmaq presence in Digby and Annapolis Counties (Mainland Mi'kmaq Development Inc. 2016). As early as 1612, the Mi'kmaq have been recorded as harvesting resources in the Annapolis River and French Bay (Bay of Fundy) (Mainland Mi'kmaq Development Inc. 2016). Traditionally, during the fall and winter, families would travel to hunt big game such as moose, deer, caribou and bear, and smaller game such as beaver, bird species, and rabbit. In the spring, families typically settled along the coast and in the summer, they harvested shellfish such as clam, mussels, and scallops as well as several fish species including cod, salmon, trout, eel, herring, and bass (Mainland Mi'kmaq Development Inc. 2016). Seals, walrus, porpoises and berries and plants were also harvested.</p> <p>Bear River First Nation was traditionally, and continues to be, well known for their artwork, specializing in embroidering porcupine quills on birchbark, leatherwork, and basketry (Mainland Mi'kmaq Development Inc. 2016).</p> <p>The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.</p>

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Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia harvest Atlantic salmon as part of their Aboriginal rights for FSC purposes (UINR 2018). Salmon harvesting occurs throughout the year; however, efforts are concentrated during, or just prior to, salmon runs. Atlantic salmon is an integral component to Mi'kmaq culture. The practice of salmon fishing, using traditional harvesting methods, creates opportunities for traditional knowledge sharing, transmission, and adaptation, expressing Mi'kmaw values of sharing catches with the community, and other uses specific to salmon that cannot be replaced by harvesting other species (UINR 2018). The Mi'kmaq of NS also harvest American eel within Aboriginal rights-based, treaty rights-based and commercial fisheries. In addition to a rich food source, the American eel is also used for medicinal purposes.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Bear River First Nation holds commercial communal licences for lobster and tuna. Lobster fishing is licenced in LFA 34 and 35.
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Bear River First Nation holds several FSC licences for bar clam, groundfish, gaspereau, herring, landlocked salmon, mackerel, mussel, quahaug, razor clam, smallmouth bass, soft-shelled clam, striped bass and trout, lobster, and crab (other than snow crab) and scallop. Seal may also be harvested. There are no restrictions on the fishing of eel, shad or smelt. Bear River First Nation also has an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon for FSC purposes.
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia have established Aboriginal and Treaty rights. This includes a right to fish for a "moderate livelihood" which flows from the Peace and Friendship Treaties, and an Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes.
Eskasoni First Nation	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Eskasoni First Nation is comprised of three reserves, along the shore of the Bras d'Or Lakes. Eskasoni First Nation is approximately 890 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Eskasoni First Nation encompasses three reserves: Eskasoni 3 (40 km southwest of Sydney with an area of 3,504.6 ha), Eskasoni 3A (40 km southwest of Sydney with an area of 28.5 ha), and Malagawatch 4 (62 km southwest of Sydney with an area of 661.3 ha) (INAC n.d.). Eskasoni First Nation is the largest Indigenous community in Atlantic Canada (KMKNO n.d.). Eskasoni First Nation is represented by the ANSMC. According to 2016 census data, the on-reserve population was 3,422 (Statistics Canada n.d.[b]).
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	Eskasoni First Nation has community-owned infrastructure such as a community-operated school, accommodating students from kindergarten to grade 12, a supermarket, a community rink and a cultural centre. The Eskasoni Community Health Centre provides a wide range of primary care services as well as several health programs and services such as blood collection, community health nursing, maternal child health, medical transportation, and diabetic services (Eskasoni Community Health Centre 2004). The Eskasoni Pharmacy is in the Health Centre. The pharmacy provides information to the community on drug use, Native Alcohol and Drug Addiction Counseling Association, and Mi'kmaq Family and Children's Services. The Health Centre is staffed with a nurse, medical transcriptionist, and several physicians (Eskasoni Community Health Centre 2004). Community Health Representatives are also on-site and act as a liaison between health care providers and community members, assisting with translation and administration of health care services and programs (Eskasoni Community Health Centre 2004). Within the community there is also a fire department, with four career firefighters and 20 volunteer firefighters (Eskasoni First Nation n.d.). As described in more detail below, Eskasoni First Nation hold several commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. The community operates Crane Cove Seafoods. Crane Cove Seafoods owns 13 vessels ranging from 30 – 65 feet and employs over 100 community members, with an additional 35 community members employed at the associated processing plant (Eskasoni First Nation n.d.). Fish harvesting takes place throughout Nova Scotia from Ingonish to Yarmouth.

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Community Indicator	Description
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	Chartered in 1832, Eskasoni First Nation became an official reserve in 1834. From 1845 to 1851, much of Cape Breton suffered from famine (MGS 2012). During this time, the Mi'kmaq transitioned into a more stationary lifestyle and found opportunities to provide labour, typically traveling to Sydney to work and sell wares (MGS 2012). The population of Eskasoni grew in the 1940s as the Department of Indian Affairs implemented a new policy to centralize Indigenous peoples (Eskasoni First Nation n.d.). In the 1950s, Eskasoni First Nation began controlling their own affairs and a Band Council was established in 1958 (Eskasoni First Nation n.d.). The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia harvest Atlantic salmon as part of their Aboriginal rights for FSC purposes (UINR 2018). Salmon harvesting occurs throughout the year; however, efforts are concentrated during, or just prior to, salmon runs. Atlantic salmon is an integral component to Mi'kmaq culture. The practice of salmon fishing, using traditional harvesting methods, creates opportunities for traditional knowledge sharing, transmission, and adaptation, expressing Mi'kmaq values of sharing catches with the community, and other uses specific to salmon that cannot be replaced by harvesting other species (UINR 2018). The Mi'kmaq of NS also harvest American eel within Aboriginal rights-based, treaty rights-based and commercial fisheries. In addition to a rich food source, the American eel is also used for medicinal purposes.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Eskasoni First Nation hold several commercial communal licences for groundfish, lobster, snow crab, herring, mackerel, and shrimp. There are no location restrictions on gaspereau, eel, mackerel, and bait (O'Neil, DFO, pers. comm. 2017; Statoil 2017). Lobster fishing is licenced in LFA 28.
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Eskasoni First Nation hold several FSC licences for clam, cod, flounder, haddock, mussels, quahaug, scallops, shad, smelt, trout, eel, and lobster. Eskasoni First Nation also has an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon for FSC purposes.
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia have established Aboriginal and Treaty rights. This includes a right to fish for a "moderate livelihood" which flows from the Peace and Friendship Treaties, and an Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes.
Glooscap First Nation	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Glooscap First Nation is comprised of one reserve (Glooscap 35), northwest of Halifax. Glooscap First Nation is approximately 1180 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Glooscap 35 is 68.8 km northwest of Halifax with an area of 171.1 ha (INAC n.d.). Glooscap First Nation is represented by the ANSMC. According to 2016 census data, the on-reserve population was 81 (Statistics Canada n.d.[b]).
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	Glooscap First Nation does not have any schools within the community; however, the Nation has an appointed education director who oversees primary and secondary education for on-reserve members (Glooscap First Nation 2018). There is a Health Centre in the community, offering health and healing services that focus on six components: education, health promotion, culture and language, nutrition, social support, and parent / family involvement (Glooscap First Nation 2018). Established in 2014, Glooscap Ventures was created as the economic department for the community and is owned and operated by Glooscap First Nation. Glooscap Ventures manages on-reserve businesses including the variety store / gas bar, gaming facility, and commercial fisheries. Currently, Glooscap Ventures is developing a 27-acre parcel of land, Glooscap Landing, along Highway 101 for retail purposes (Glooscap First Nation 2018). Other initiatives include the expansion of the commercial fisheries and pursuing opportunities in renewable energy (Glooscap First Nation 2018). As described in more detail below, Glooscap First Nation holds several commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species.

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Community Indicator	Description
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	Established in 1984, Glooscap First Nation became the thirteenth Mi'kmaq band in NS (KMKNO n.d.). Originally, Glooscap First Nation was created following the separation of two communities, Annapolis Valley and Glooscap, that were 30 km apart (KMKNO n.d.). Glooscap First Nation was originally known as Horton but was renamed in 2001 (KMKNO n.d.). The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	Glooscap First Nation's traditional activity is focused on harvesting of migratory marine species, particularly for FSC and commercial communal purposes. The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia harvest Atlantic salmon as part of their Aboriginal rights for FSC purposes (UINR 2018). Salmon harvesting occurs throughout the year; however, efforts are concentrated during, or just prior to, salmon runs. Atlantic salmon is an integral component to Mi'kmaq culture. The practice of salmon fishing, using traditional harvesting methods, creates opportunities for traditional knowledge sharing, transmission, and adaptation, expressing Mi'kmaw values of sharing catches with the community, and other uses specific to salmon that cannot be replaced by harvesting other species (UINR 2018). The Mi'kmaq of NS also harvest American eel within Aboriginal rights-based, treaty rights-based and commercial fisheries. In addition to a rich food source, the American eel is also used for medicinal purposes.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Glooscap First Nation holds several commercial communal licences for gaspereau, groundfish, herring, lobster, mackerel, swordfish, and tuna. Lobster fishing is licenced in LFA 34.
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Glooscap First Nation holds several FSC licences for groundfish, cod, flounder, haddock, halibut, pollock, soft-shelled clams, striped bass, lobster, eel, shad, smelt and scallops. There are no location restrictions on gaspereau, eel, mackerel, and bait (O'Neil, 2017 pers comm; Statoil 2017). In addition, the Agency identified Glooscap First Nation as having an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon for FSC purposes.
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia have established Aboriginal and Treaty rights. This includes a right to fish for a "moderate livelihood" which flows from the Peace and Friendship Treaties, and an Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes.
Membertou First Nation	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Membertou First Nation is comprised of four reserves, in northeastern and southwestern Sydney. Membertou First Nation is 850 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Membertou First Nation encompasses four reserves: Membertou 28B (1.6 km south of Sydney with an area of 100.1 ha), Sydney 28A (1.6 km northeast of Sydney with an area of 5.1 ha), Caribou Marsh 29 (8 km southwest of Sydney with an area of 219 ha) and Malagawatch 4 (62 km southwest of Sydney with an area of 661.3 ha) (INAC n.d.). Membertou First Nation is represented by the ANSMC. According to 2016 census data, the on-reserve population was 1,015 (Statistics Canada n.d.[b]).
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	Membertou First Nation has one school, Maupeltuewey Kina'matno'kuom, accommodating students from kindergarten to grade 6 (Membertou First Nation n.d.). A local Cape Breton Regional Police detachment is in Membertou. The Membertou Wellness Centre delivers programs to the community that address prominent health issues such as smoking cessation, crisis prevention / intervention, addictions services, and home and community care (Membertou First Nation n.d.). The Membertou Wellness Centre also provides a family practice medical clinic with a doctor available Monday through Friday (Membertou First Nation n.d.). Membertou First Nation has made considerable investments in infrastructure and providing services to community members over the last decade such as a gas station, church, community centre, band office and boxing gym. Membertou First Nation also recently built the Membertou Sports and Wellness Centre, with two ice surfaces, an indoor walking track, a YMCA gym and multi-purpose meeting and event rooms (Membertou Sports and Wellness

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	<p>Centre n.d.). Within Membertou, there is a business park including the Membertou Trade and Convention Centre, Membertou Heritage Park and Petroglyphs Gift Shop, a hotel, Kiju's Restaurant, Membertou Entertainment Centre, and private businesses. In 2002, Membertou First Nation became the first Indigenous government in the world to be ISO-certified (CANDO 2018).</p> <p>As described in more detail below, Membertou First Nation holds several commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. The Nation owns and operates a seafood company, First Fishermen Seafoods. The company has six fleet vessels and harvests a variety of groundfish, shellfish, tuna, and swordfish (Membertou First Nation n.d.).</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	Once known as Kings Road, Membertou was situated along the banks of Sydney Harbour. In 1926, Membertou was officially moved to its present location (Membertou First Nation n.d.). As an urban Indigenous community, few members relied solely on traditional hunting, fishing, and gathering to earn their living; instead, both men and women worked in various industries (Membertou First Nation n.d.). The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia harvest Atlantic salmon as part of their Aboriginal rights for FSC purposes (UINR 2018). Salmon harvesting occurs throughout the year; however, efforts are concentrated during, or just prior to, salmon runs. Atlantic salmon is an integral component to Mi'kmaq culture. The practice of salmon fishing, using traditional harvesting methods, creates opportunities for traditional knowledge sharing, transmission, and adaptation, expressing Mi'kmaw values of sharing catches with the community, and other uses specific to salmon that cannot be replaced by harvesting other species (UINR 2018). The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia also harvest American eel within Aboriginal rights-based, treaty rights-based and commercial fisheries. In addition to a rich food source, the American eel is also used for medicinal purposes.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Membertou First Nation holds several commercial communal licences for eel, gapereau, snow and rock crab, eel, groundfish, herring, lobster, mackerel, sea scallops, sea urchins, shrimp and bluefin tuna. Lobster fishing is licenced in LFA 27.
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Membertou First Nation holds several FSC licences for clams, cod, crab, eel, flounder, haddock, halibut, mussel, oyster, pollock, quahaug, smelt, striped bass, mackerel, lobster and scallop. There are no location restrictions on gaspereau, eel, mackerel, and bait (O'Neil, 2017 pers comm; Statoil 2017). Membertou First Nation also has an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon for FSC purposes.
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia have established Aboriginal and Treaty rights. This includes a right to fish for a "moderate livelihood" which flows from the Peace and Friendship Treaties, and an Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes.
Paq'tnkek Mi'kmaw Nation	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Paq'tnkek Mi'kmaw Nation is comprised of three reserves, southeast of Amherst and east of Antigonish. Paq'tnkek Mi'kmaw Nation is approximately 980 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Paq'tnkek Mi'kmaw Nation encompasses three reserves: Franklin Manor 22 (32 km southeast of Amherst with an area of 212.5 ha), Paq'tnkek-Niktuek 23 (24 km east of Antigonish with an area of 218.1 ha), and Welnek 38 (18 km east of Antigonish with an area of 43.4 ha) (INAC n.d.). Paq'tnkek is represented by the ANSMC. According to 2016 census data, the on-reserve population was 353 (Statistics Canada n.d.[b]).

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Community Indicator	Description
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	<p>Since 1980, the Paq'tnkek Pre-School has been in operation in Afton, NS. The nearest RCMP detachment is in Antigonish. The Paq'tnkek Health Centre provides a variety of programs and services to community members, including community health promotion, education, and prevention programming (Paq'tnkek Mi'kmaw Nation 2018). Paq'tnkek Mi'kmaw Nation has an Economic Development Department which manages all development projects within the community, including recent infrastructure development projects related to highway development and commercial opportunities. The First Nation also operates the Paq'tnkek Entertainment Centre, Gas Bar, and Smoke Shop (Paq'tnkek Mi'kmaw Nation 2018).</p> <p>As described in more detail below, Paq'tnkek holds several commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. The First Nation owns and operates the Paq'tnkek Fisheries Enterprise, employing 20 community members. The enterprise has a fleet of five communal vessels and harvests lobster, snow crab, and herring (Paq'tnkek Mi'kmaw Nation 2018).</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	<p>Established in 1820, Paq'tnkek, meaning "by the bay", has been a traditional stopping point for Mi'kmaq travelling to and from Unama'ki, and a central meeting point for Chiefs across the province. Cultural and traditional practices such as spearing eels and salmon and snaring rabbits are still practiced within the community (Paq'tnkek Mi'kmaw Nation 2018). The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.</p>
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	<p>The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia harvest Atlantic salmon as part of their Aboriginal rights for FSC purposes (UINR 2018). Salmon harvesting occurs throughout the year; however, efforts are concentrated during, or just prior to, salmon runs. Atlantic salmon is an integral component to Mi'kmaq culture. The practice of salmon fishing, using traditional harvesting methods, creates opportunities for traditional knowledge sharing, transmission, and adaptation, expressing Mi'kmaw values of sharing catches with the community, and other uses specific to salmon that cannot be replaced by harvesting other species (UINR 2018). The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia also harvest American eel within Aboriginal rights-based, treaty rights-based and commercial fisheries. In addition to a rich food source, the American eel is also used for medicinal purposes.</p>
Commercial Communal Fishing	<p>Paq'tnkek Mi'kmaw Nation holds 37 commercial communal licences for rock crab, eel, groundfish, herring, lobster mackerel, marine plants, oysters, scallops, smelts, snow crab and squid. Paq'tnkek First Nation also holds commercial communal licences for swordfish in NAFO divisions that overlap with the exploration licences included in the Project Area. Lobster fishing is licenced in LFA 26.</p>
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	<p>Paq'tnkek Mi'kmaw Nation holds FSC licences for salmon, striped bass, and eel. Paq'tnkek Mi'kmaw Nation also has an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon (outer Bay of Fundy population) for FSC purposes.</p>
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	<p>The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia have established Aboriginal and Treaty rights. This includes a right to fish for a "moderate livelihood" which flows from the Peace and Friendship Treaties, and an Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes.</p>
Pictou Landing First Nation	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	<p>Pictou Landing First Nation is comprised of five reserves on the south shore of the Northumberland Strait in Pictou County. Pictou Landing First Nation is approximately 1040 km from the Project Area.</p>

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Community Indicator	Description
General Overview	Pictou Landing First Nation encompasses five reserves: Franklin Manor 22 (32 km southeast of Amherst with an area of 212.5 ha), Fisher's Grant (10 km north of New Glasgow with an area of 142.7 ha), Boat Harbour West 37 (8 km north of New Glasgow with an area of 98.2 ha), Fisher's Grant 24G (3.2 km southeast of Pictou Landing with an area of 60.0 ha) and Merigomish Harbour 31 (12.8 km east of New Glasgow with an area of 14.2 ha) (INAC n.d.). Pictou Landing First Nation is represented by the ANSMC. According to 2016 census data, Fisher's Grant (the main community) had a population of 485 and a small population lived in Merigomish Harbour (INAC 2017). No population data were available for the other communities.
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	Pictou Landing First Nation School, accommodates students from primary to grade 6. There are no police detachments or fire halls within the community. The Nation has a church, gas bar, and health centre (KMKNO n.d.). As described in more detail below Pictou Landing First Nation holds several commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. The Pictou Landing First Nation fishery is the Nation's main industry, with a fleet of 12 vessels and employing approximately 100 people (full and part time) a year (KMKNO n.d.).
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	Pictou Landing First Nation have lived on a seasonal basis in and around a small tidal estuary connected by a narrow channel to the Northumberland Strait (Statoil 2017). The area provided an abundance of resources such as fish, eels, crustaceans, and shellfish as well as hunting and trapping near shore (Statoil 2017). The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia harvest Atlantic salmon as part of their Aboriginal rights for FSC purposes (UINR 2018). Salmon harvesting occurs throughout the year; however, efforts are concentrated during, or just prior to, salmon runs. Atlantic salmon is an integral component to Mi'kmaq culture. The practice of salmon fishing, using traditional harvesting methods, creates opportunities for traditional knowledge sharing, transmission, and adaptation, expressing Mi'kmaw values of sharing catches with the community, and other uses specific to salmon that cannot be replaced by harvesting other species (UINR 2018). The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia also harvest American eel within Aboriginal rights-based, treaty rights-based and commercial fisheries. In addition to a rich food source, the American eel is also used for medicinal purposes.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Pictou Landing First Nation hold 146 commercial communal licences for alewives / gaspereau, clams, rock and spider / toad crab, eel, groundfish, herring, lobster, mackerel, marine plants, oysters, scallops, smelts, snow crab, squid, seal and bluefin tuna. Pictou Landing First Nation also holds commercial communal licences for swordfish in NAFO divisions that overlap with the exploration licences included in the Project Area. Lobster fishing is licenced in LFA 26.
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Pictou Landing First Nation holds FSC licences for lobster, salmon, striped bass and trout. Pictou Landing First Nation also has an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon for FSC purposes.
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia have established Aboriginal and Treaty rights. This includes a right to fish for a "moderate livelihood" which flows from the Peace and Friendship Treaties, and an Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes.
Potlotek First Nation	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Potlotek First Nation is comprised of two reserves, southwest of Sydney. Potlotek First Nation is approximately 915 km from the Project Area.

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General Overview	Potlotek First Nation encompasses two reserves: Chapel Island 5 (69 km southwest of Sydney with an area of 595.5 ha) and Malagawatch 4 (62 km southwest of Sydney with an area of 661.3 ha (INAC n.d.)). Potlotek First Nation is represented by the ANSMC. According to 2016 census data, the on-reserve population was 506 (Statistics Canada n.d.[b]).
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	<p>Within the community, there is a day care and elementary school, the Mi'kmawey School. Established in 1998, it accommodates students from primary to grade 6 (Potlotek First Nation 2016). An RCMP building and fire hall exist within the community. The Potlotek Volunteer Fire Department has 14 active members (KMKNO n.d.). A Health Centre is in the community, providing a variety of services and programs such as addiction services, maternal care, home care, advanced and diabetic foot care, healing programs and wellness programs (Potlotek First Nation 2016). A doctor visits the Health Centre on a weekly basis (Potlotek First Nation 2016). Additional infrastructure within the community includes the Chapel Island Community Hall / Kateri Chapel and a Youth Centre. Recently, economic developments such as the construction of a store-gas bar which includes Robins Donuts, a Rite Stop, Esso and video lottery terminals have provided employment opportunities for community members (KMKNO n.d.).</p> <p>As described in more detail below, Potlotek First Nation holds several commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. The fisheries industry plays a dominant role in the First Nation's economy, particularly in oyster cultivation. Formed in 1995, the Apaqtukewaq Fisheries Co-op includes four members and employs seven people during peak season (May to September) (Potlotek First Nation 2016). An oyster plant operates within the community and the Co-op operates two fishing vessels used for harvesting of lobster and snow crab (Potlotek First Nation 2016).</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	Established in 1834, Potlotek First Nation, also known as Chapel Island, is the home of the Saint Anne's Mission where each year Mi'kmaq people gather to celebrate the Feast of Saint Anne (Potlotek First Nation 2016). Chapel Island is considered a sacred ground to the Mi'kmaq (Potlotek First Nation 2016). The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia harvest Atlantic salmon as part of their Aboriginal rights for FSC purposes (UINR 2018). Salmon harvesting occurs throughout the year; however, efforts are concentrated during, or just prior to, salmon runs. Atlantic salmon is an integral component to Mi'kmaq culture. The practice of salmon fishing, using traditional harvesting methods, creates opportunities for traditional knowledge sharing, transmission, and adaptation, expressing Mi'kmaw values of sharing catches with the community, and other uses specific to salmon that cannot be replaced by harvesting other species (UINR 2018). The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia also harvest American eel within Aboriginal rights-based, treaty rights-based and commercial fisheries. In addition to a rich food source, the American eel is also used for medicinal purposes.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Potlotek First Nation and Apaqtukewag Fishermen's Co-op hold several commercial communal licences for snow crab, groundfish, herring, lobster, sea urchin, mackerel, squid, gaspereau, eel, bait, and shrimp.
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Potlotek First Nation holds several FSC licences for capelin, cod, flounder, haddock, mackerel, mussel, pollock, shad, trout, quahaug, smelt, soft-shelled clams, striped bass, eel, salmon, lobster, scallop and bluefin tuna. Potlotek First Nation also has an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon for FSC purposes.
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia have established Aboriginal and Treaty rights. This includes a right to fish for a "moderate livelihood" which flows from the Peace and Friendship Treaties, and an Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes.

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Community Indicator	Description
Wagmatcook First Nation	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Wagmatcook First Nation is comprised of three reserves, within the Bras d'Or Lakes region of Cape Breton. Wagmatcook First Nation is approximately 900 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Wagmatcook encompasses three reserves: Malagawatch 4 (62 km southwest of Sydney with an area of 661.3 ha), Margaree 25 (68.8 km northwest of Sydney with an area of 0.8 ha), and Wagmatcook 1 (51 km west of Sydney with an area of 385.0 ha) (INAC n.d.). Wagmatcook First Nation is represented by the ANSMC. According to 2016 census data, the on-reserve population at Wagmatcook 1 was 537 (Statistics Canada n.d.[b]). No population data were available for Malagawatch 4 and Margaree 25.
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	<p>In 1986, Wagmatcook First Nation initiated the first Indigenous secondary school in the Atlantic Region and established the first Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Day Care Centre (Statoil 2017). A new elementary-secondary education school, Wamgatcookewey School, is the first kindergarten to grade 12 Mi'kmaq First Nation school in Nova Scotia (Wagmatcook First Nation 2016). There is no police detachment within the community, but there is a fire hall. The cultural centre, the Wagmatcook Enterprise and Cultural Centre, provides a variety of services to community members including an Alternate School for Youth, cultural demonstration projects, and a Fitness Centre (Wagmatcook First Nation 2016). The cultural centre also houses the TD Canada Trust Agency bank, a Canada Post office, and the Clean Wave Restaurant (Wagmatcook First Nation 2016). The band also operates a gas bar, grocery store, wharf, and warehouse.</p> <p>As described in more detail below, Wagmatcook First Nation holds several commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. The Wagmatcook commercial fishery has been in operation since 1990 and is communally owned by registered members of Wagmatcook First Nation (Wagmatcook First Nation 2016). The Wagmatcook Commercial Fishery employs 35 fishers and one shore-based manager (Wagmatcook First Nation 2016). It utilizes a total of eleven fishing vessels and primarily harvests groundfish, palegics, shellfish and is a producer / wholesaler of shell ice products (Wagmatcook First Nation 2016). The fishery has six Cape Islander-style lobster vessels, one groundfish vessel, two storage facilities and an ice processing facility (Wagmatcook First Nation 2016). The fishery generates the highest projected returns to the community (Wagmatcook First Nation 2016).</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia harvest Atlantic salmon as part of their Aboriginal rights for FSC purposes (UINR 2018). Salmon harvesting occurs throughout the year; however, efforts are concentrated during, or just prior to, salmon runs. Atlantic salmon is an integral component to Mi'kmaq culture. The practice of salmon fishing, using traditional harvesting methods, creates opportunities for traditional knowledge sharing, transmission, and adaptation, expressing Mi'kmaw values of sharing catches with the community, and other uses specific to salmon that cannot be replaced by harvesting other species (UINR 2018). The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia also harvest American eel within Aboriginal rights-based, treaty rights-based and commercial fisheries. In addition to a rich food source, the American eel is also used for medicinal purposes.

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Community Indicator	Description
Commercial Communal Fishing	Wagmatcook First Nation hold several commercial communal licences for rock crab, spider / toad crab, groundfish, lobster, mackerel, smelts, snow crab, squid and bluefin tuna. Wagmatcook First Nation also holds commercial communal licences for swordfish in NAFO divisions that overlap with the exploration licences included in the Project Area. Lobster fishing is licenced in LFA 26.
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Wagmatcook First Nation holds several FSC licences for cod, eel, flounder, haddock, herring, mackerel, mussel, pollock, scallop, shad, smelt, trout, lobster and salmon. In addition, the Agency identified Wagmatcook First Nation as having an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon for FSC purposes.
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia have established Aboriginal and Treaty rights. This includes a right to fish for a "moderate livelihood" which flows from the Peace and Friendship Treaties, and an Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes.
We'koqma'q First Nation	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	We'ko'kmaq (Waycobah) First Nation is comprised of two reserves within the village of Whycomagh in Cape Breton. Waycobah First Nation is approximately 920 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Waycobah First Nation encompasses two reserves: Malagawatch 4 (62 km southwest of Sydney with an area of 661.3 ha) and Whycomagh 2 (70 km west of Sydney with an area of 908 ha) (INAC n.d.). Waycobah First Nation is represented by the ANSMC. According to 2016 census data, the on-reserve population was 831 (Statistics Canada n.d.[b]).
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	<p>In 2008, a new elementary-secondary school was opened within the community (Waycobah First Nation n.d.). A daycare facility also exists within the community as well as a RCMP station and volunteer fire department. In 2010, the Theresa Cremona Memorial Health Centre was opened, offering a variety of programs and services such as a full time Nurse Practitioner, full time clinical therapist, prenatal classes, lab collection, Reiki treatments, an Alcohol and Drug counselor, midwifery clinics, well women and men clinics, a dietician, teen health clinic and a variety of activities for members of the community of all ages (Waycobah First Nation n.d.). A doctor is available at the Health Centre twice a week. The Nation also owns and operates a convenience store and gas bar and a gaming centre (Waycobah First Nation n.d.).</p> <p>As described in more detail below, Waycobah First Nation holds several commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. The First Nation has two lobster licences, shrimp trap and trawl licences, groundfish quotas and an active elver fishery (Waycobah First Nation n.d.). The Waycobah Fisheries employs approximately 35 community members (Waycobah First Nation n.d.). In 2011, a trout fish farm was re-established within the community. Although owned by Cold Water Fisheries, employees are largely Waycobah community members (Waycobah First Nation n.d.).</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	Established in the early 1800s, Waycobah First Nation was originally known as We'ko'kmaq. In the 1940s, the community experienced a decline in population because of the federal government's centralization policy, where many individuals were relocated to the community of Eskasoni (Waycobah First Nation n.d.). The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.

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Community Indicator	Description
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia harvest Atlantic salmon as part of their Aboriginal rights for FSC purposes (UINR 2018). Salmon harvesting occurs throughout the year; however, efforts are concentrated during, or just prior to, salmon runs. Atlantic salmon is an integral component to Mi'kmaq culture. The practice of salmon fishing, using traditional harvesting methods, creates opportunities for traditional knowledge sharing, transmission, and adaptation, expressing Mi'kmaq values of sharing catches with the community, and other uses specific to salmon that cannot be replaced by harvesting other species (UINR 2018). The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia also harvest American eel within Aboriginal rights-based, treaty rights-based and commercial fisheries. In addition to a rich food source, the American eel is also used for medicinal purposes.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Waycobah First Nation holds several commercial communal licences for groundfish, lobster, snow crab, herring, mackerel, sea urchin, shrimp, and swordfish. Lobster fishing is licenced in LFA 27 and 29.
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Waycobah First Nation hold several FSC licences for 16 species within the tidal waters of Cape Breton. The Nation also holds licences to harvest lobster throughout Cape Breton. In addition, the Agency identified Waycobah First Nation as having an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon for FSC purposes.
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia have established Aboriginal and Treaty rights. This includes a right to fish for a "moderate livelihood" which flows from the Peace and Friendship Treaties, and an Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes.
Sipekne'katik First Nation	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Sipekne'katik First Nation (also known as Indian Brook or Shubenacadie) is comprised of five reserves in Hants County, near the town of Shubenacadie. Sipekne'katik First Nation is approximately 1145 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Sipekne'katik First Nation encompasses five reserves: Indian Brook 14 (29 km southwest of Truro with an area of 1,234.2 ha), Wallace Hills 14A (with an area of 54.8 ha), Shubenacadie 13 (32 km north of Halifax with an area of 412.0 ha), Pennal 19 (67.2 km northwest of Halifax with an area of 43.5 ha) and New Ross 20 (64 km northwest of Halifax with an area of 408.3 ha) (INAC n.d.). Sipekne'katik First Nation is currently not represented by the ANSMC. Sipekne'katik First Nation asserts the same rights as other Mi'kmaq communities in Nova Scotia. According to 2016 census data, the on-reserve population at Wallace Hills was 10, Pennal was 27, and Indian Brook was 1,089 (Statistics Canada n.d.[b]). No population data were available for Shubenacadie or New Ross.
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	<p>In 2008, the L'nu Sipuk Kina'muokum (LSK) school opened in the community, accommodating students from primary to grade 12. The school specializes in Mi'kmaq studies and Mi'kmaq language courses (Sipekne'katik First Nation 2016). Little Eagles Daycare Centre provides care to children ages 1 – 4 years old (Sipekne'katik First Nation 2016). The community also has the Sipekne'katik Multipurpose Centre, used for community meetings, events, and social gatherings. Local businesses within the community include a community gas-bar, tobacco shop, gaming room and convenience store.</p> <p>As described in more detail below, Sipekne'katik First Nation holds several commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. The Sipekne'katik First Nation Fisheries Department is an economic enterprise, managing 33 fishing licences for various species including lobster, crab, and groundfish (BP 2017).</p>

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Community Indicator	Description
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	Established in 1820, Sipekne'katik was originally named "Indian Brook". The area was traditionally used as a sacred site to prepare for ceremonies and hunting and fishing trips (Sipekn'katik First Nation n.d.). In 1752, one of the most significant Peace and Friendship Treaties was signed at Shubenacadie District (Sipekn'katik First Nation 2016). This treaty dealt with lands, hunting, fishing, trapping, gathering, and trading. In 2002, a memorial was erected in honor of Chief Jean Baptiste Cope and the Treaty of 1752 (Sipekn'katik First Nation 2016). The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia harvest Atlantic salmon as part of their Aboriginal rights for FSC purposes (UINR 2018). Salmon harvesting occurs throughout the year; however, efforts are concentrated during, or just prior to, salmon runs. Atlantic salmon is an integral component to Mi'kmaq culture. The practice of salmon fishing, using traditional harvesting methods, creates opportunities for traditional knowledge sharing, transmission, and adaptation, expressing Mi'kmaw values of sharing catches with the community, and other uses specific to salmon that cannot be replaced by harvesting other species (UINR 2018). The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia also harvest American eel within Aboriginal rights-based, treaty rights-based and commercial fisheries. In addition to a rich food source, the American eel is also used for medicinal purposes.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Sipekne'katik First Nation holds several commercial communal licences for groundfish, lobster, scallops, snow crab, sea urchins and tuna. Sipekne'katik First Nation also holds commercial communal licences for swordfish in NAFO divisions that overlap with the exploration licences included in the Project Area. Lobster fishing is licenced in LFA 33, 34, and 35.
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Sipekne'katik First Nation holds several FSC licences to harvest 20 species within the inland and tidal waters of NS. The First Nation also holds licences to fish for several other species in defined NAFO units in and around Nova Scotia, such as crab, lobster, scallops and groundfish. Sipekne'katik First Nation also has an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon for FSC purposes.
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia have established Aboriginal and Treaty rights. This includes a right to fish for a "moderate livelihood" which flows from the Peace and Friendship Treaties, and an Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes.
Millbrook First Nation	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Millbrook First Nation is comprised of seven reserves, near the community of Truro and Halifax. Millbrook First Nation is approximately 1100 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Millbrook First Nation encompasses seven reserves. Four reserve lands: Truro 27A, Truro 27B, Truro 27C and Millbrook 27, are near the town of Truro with a total area of 344.9 ha (INAC n.d.). The remaining three are: Beaver Lake 17 (78.4 km southeast of Halifax with an area of 49.4 ha), Sheet Harbour 36 (91.2 km northeast of Halifax with an area of 32.7 ha), and Cole Harbour 30 (9.6 km east of Halifax with an area of 18.6 ha (INAC n.d.). Millbrook First Nation is currently not represented by the ANSMC. Millbrook First Nation asserts the same rights as other Mi'kmaq communities in Nova Scotia. According to 2016 census data, the population at Millbrook was 860 and the Sheet Harbour was 25 (Statistics Canada n.d.[b]). No population data were available for Cole Harbour and Beaver Lake.

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Community Indicator	Description
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	<p>Infrastructure and services available in the community of Millbrook are the Millbrook Band Office, Millbrook Community Hall, Millbrook Ballfield, Millbrook Gym, Millbrook Early Education Centre, Millbrook Senior’s Centre, and Sacred Heart Mission Church (Millbrook First Nation 2018). The Millbrook Health Centre is also in the community, providing a variety of programs and services such as home and community care and assisted living programs, youth support, addiction services, wellness programs and community support and family enrichment programs. Millbrook First Nation owns, develops, and manages the retail park, Millbrook Power Centre, in Truro, NS. This park encompasses 68 acres of commercial land on the most traveled stretch of highway in Nova Scotia, outside of Halifax (Millbrook First Nation 2018). Since opening in 2001, the Millbrook Power Centre has approximately a dozen tenants including a multiplex theatre, several restaurants, two hotels, a recreational vehicle retailer, a service station, an aquaculture facility, a furniture store, and the Glooscap Heritage Centre (Millbrook First Nation 2018). There have also been recent developments in the Cole Harbour community, including apartment buildings, General Dynamics Building, and a gaming centre.</p> <p>As described in more detail below, Millbrook First Nation hold several commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. Millbrook Fisheries is an important part of the local economy, controlling eight vessels and employing over 40 staff members throughout the year.</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	<p>From the late 1700s to the early 1800s, the Mi’kmaq near Truro were settled along the banks of the Salmon River. The Mi’kmaq then relocated to their current community at Millbrook (Millbrook First Nation 2018). The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi’kmaq of Nova Scotia, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.</p>
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	<p>The Mi’kmaq of Nova Scotia harvest Atlantic salmon as part of their Aboriginal rights for FSC purposes (UINR 2018). Salmon harvesting occurs throughout the year; however, efforts are concentrated during, or just prior to, salmon runs. Atlantic salmon is an integral component to Mi’kmaq culture. The practice of salmon fishing, using traditional harvesting methods, creates opportunities for traditional knowledge sharing, transmission, and adaptation, expressing Mi’kmaw values of sharing catches with the community, and other uses specific to salmon that cannot be replaced by harvesting other species (UINR 2018). The Mi’kmaq of Nova Scotia also harvest American eel within Aboriginal rights-based, treaty rights-based and commercial fisheries. In addition to a rich food source, the American eel is also used for medicinal purposes.</p>
Commercial Communal Fishing	<p>Millbrook First Nation holds several commercial communal licences for alewives / gaspereau, rock crab, eel, groundfish, herring, lobster, mackerel, oysters, scallop, smelts, and squid. Millbrook First Nation also holds commercial communal licences for swordfish and tuna in NAFO divisions that overlap with the exploration licences included in the Project Area. Lobster fishing is licenced in LFA 26.</p>
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	<p>Millbrook First Nation hold several FSC licences to harvest 17 species within the inland and tidal waters of NS including the tidal water of the Bay of Fundy. The Nation also holds licences to fish for several other species in defined NAFO units in and around Nova Scotia, including herring, lobster, mackerel, ocean quahaug, oysters and scallops. Millbrook First Nation also has an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon for FSC purposes.</p>
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	<p>The Mi’kmaq of Nova Scotia have established Aboriginal and Treaty rights. This includes a right to fish for a “moderate livelihood” which flows from the Peace and Friendship Treaties, and an Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes.</p>

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7.4.3.2 Mi'kmaq of Prince Edward Island

The EIS Guidelines specify two PEI Mi'kmaq communities for engagement and inclusion in the EIS:

- Abegweit First Nation
- Lennox Island First Nation

Abegweit and Lennox Island First Nations, the two Mi'kmaq communities on PEI, are represented in consultation and engagement by the Mi'kmaq Confederacy of Prince Edward Island (MCPEI). Established in 2002, MCPEI started as a service delivery organization and has expanded to include economic development, integrated resource management, government advisory services, and consultation on behalf of these two Mi'kmaq communities (MCPEI n.d.).

In 2009, PEI's Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat was created to manage government's response to Aboriginal matters within the province (MCPEI n.d.). On August 13, 2012, the Government of Canada, the Province of PEI, and the Mi'kmaq of PEI signed a tripartite consultation agreement, Mi'kmaq – Prince Edward Island – Canada Consultation Agreement (Abegweit First Nation 2015). The Agreement outlines a means for Canada and PEI to consult with the Mi'kmaq on proposed actions or decisions that may adversely impact asserted or established Aboriginal treaty rights (Abegweit First Nation 2015).

The Project does not overlap with traditional Mi'kmaq territory, however Abegweit and Lennox Island First Nations both have commercial communal fishing licences to harvest swordfish in NAFO divisions that overlap with the Project Area.

The Mi'kmaq communities located in PEI are discussed in further detail in Table 7.17.

Table 7.17 Mi'kmaq of Prince Edward Island Community Profiles

Community Indicator	Description
Abegweit First Nation	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Abegweit First Nation is comprised of three reserves, extending along the eastern portion of PEI. The community is approximately 1015 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Abegweit First Nation encompasses three reserves: Morell Rear Reserve 2 (approximately 40 km northeast of Charlottetown with an area of 83 hectares (ha)), Rocky Point Reserve 3 (south of Charlottetown with an area of 4.8 ha), and Scotchfort Reserve 4 (24 km northeast of Charlottetown with an area of 113.1 ha) (BP 2017). Abegweit First Nation is represented by MCPEI. As of October 2017, Abegweit First Nation had a registered population of 379 (INAC 2017).
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	Abegweit First Nation has no schools within the community. As of 2015, Abegweit First Nation students were enrolled in approximately 15 different schools throughout the province (Abegweit First Nation 2015). The Abegweit First Nation's Education Program does however play a significant role, providing a variety of programs and services such as access to upgrading and GED programs, after-school tutoring programs, homework clubs, post-secondary education programs and early childhood learning (Abegweit First Nation 2015). The Abegweit First Nation Mi'kmaq Wellness Centre delivers health care services to the community, while respecting safety, cultural values, traditions, and beliefs of the community. The Wellness Centre has an interdisciplinary team including a doctor, registered nurse, licenced practical nurse, registered dietician, native alcohol

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Community Indicator	Description
	<p>and drug addiction counselor and a community health representative (Abegweit First Nation 2015). The Abegweit First Nation Community Economic Development Program serves the community, its members, and businesses in many ways including proposal development, land and resource development, and economic planning (Abegweit First Nation 2015). Abegweit First Nation owns and operates the Epekwitk Gas Bar and the Redstone Truck and Marine facility (Abegweit First Nation 2015). Other economic initiatives include the Epekwitk Gardens and Preserves, Abegweit Biodiversity and Enhancement Hatchery, stream enhancement and forestry (Abegweit First Nation 2015; BP 2017).</p> <p>As described in more detail below, Abegweit First Nation holds several commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. The First Nation has an established commercial fishery for lobster, snow crab, rock crab, mackerel, tuna and silverside (Abegweit First Nation 2015; BP 2017).</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	<p>Abegweit First Nation was established in 1972 due to separation from the Lennox Island First Nation (Abegweit First Nation 2015). The first election for the band occurred in May of 1972. The Project does not overlap with traditional Mi'kmaq territory, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.</p>
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	<p>The Mi'kmaq of PEI are known to occupy and use the land and waters around PEI, including use for travel corridors, land hunting and harvesting, and fishing for traditional purposes.</p> <p>The Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI database which is a partial inventory of existing knowledge does not indicate use of lands in the RAA for traditional purposes, although it could be that evidence of use, if it exists, has not yet been collected (MCPEI, pers. comm. 2018). Refer below for details on FSC fishing practices.</p>
Commercial Communal Fishing	<p>Abegweit First Nation holds 200 commercial communal licences for clams, rock crab, toad / spider crab, eel, groundfish, herring, lobster, mackerel mussels, oysters, quahaugs, scallops, seal, silverside, smelts, snow crab, squid, bluefin tuna and whelks. Abegweit First Nation also holds commercial communal licences for swordfish in NAFO divisions that overlap with the exploration licences included in the Project Area. Lobster is licensed for LFA 24.</p>
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	<p>Abegweit Fish Nation holds several FSC licences for clams, eel, gaspereau, herring, lobster, mackerel, mussels, oysters, quahaug, rock crab, scallops, seals, silversides, smelts, striped bass, toad crab and trout. Abegweit First Nation also has an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon (outer Bay of Fundy population) for FSC purposes.</p>
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	<p>The Mi'kmaq of PEI assert an Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes, and hold commercial communal licences issue by DFO as a result of the Marshall decision (1999). The rights to fish under the Marshall decision flow from the Peace and Friendship Treaties.</p>
Lennox Island First Nation	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	<p>Lennox Island First Nation is comprised of one reserve, extending along the northwestern portion of PEI, facing the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Lennox Island is approximately 1,070 km from the Project Area.</p>
General Overview	<p>Lennox Island is 24 km north of Summerside with an area of 535.1 ha (BP 2017). Lennox Island First Nation is represented by MCPEI. As of October 2017, Lennox Island First Nation had a registered population of 967 (INAC 2017).</p>

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Health and Socio-economic Conditions	<p>In 1972-73, a bridge was built to Lennox Island, allowing for year-round accessibility. Established in 1981, the Mi'kmaq school, John J. Sark Memorial, accommodates approximately 50 students from kindergarten to grade 6 (Lennox Island First Nation 2013). The Lennox Island Health Centre provides the community with a variety of programs and services including basic health care services, delivery of home support services, substance abuse counselling, access to fitness and maternal health coordination. There is also a fire department in the community. The Lennox Island Development Corporation was developed by the First Nation to further economic prosperity within the community (Lennox Island First Nation 2013).</p> <p>As described in more detail below, Lennox Island First Nation hold several commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. The fisheries industry is the band's largest employer. Fisherman's Pride Inc., owned and operated by Lennox Island First Nation, is a primary resource harvester and seller of inshore seafood, operating on Lennox Island. In 2012, the fishery operated 32 boats and employed three shore-based personnel and 24 sea-going personnel (Lennox Island First Nation 2013). Fisherman's Pride Inc. also invests in mentoring programs for its members.</p> <p>Established in 2010, Minigoo Fisheries, is also owned and operated by the Lennox Island First Nation. Minigoo Fisheries processes wild Atlantic lobster, fished by Indigenous and non-Indigenous fishermen for international markets (Lennox Island First Nation 2013). The plant is located on Indigenous lands in PEI and operates under a Government of Canada processing licence (Lennox Island First Nation 2013).</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	<p>The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq of PEI, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.</p>
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	<p>The Mi'kmaq of PEI are known to occupy and use the land and waters around PEI, including use for travel corridors, land hunting and harvesting and fishing for traditional purposes.</p> <p>The Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI database which is a partial inventory of existing knowledge does not indicate use of lands in the RAA for traditional purposes, although it could be that evidence of use, if it exists, has not yet been collected (MCPEI, pers. comm. 2018). Refer below for details on FSC fishing practices.</p>
Commercial Communal Fishing	<p>Lennox Island First Nation holds 352 commercial communal licences for clams, rock crab, eel, groundfish, herring, lobster, mackerel, mussels, quahaug, oysters, scallops, seal, shark, porbeagle / mackerel, silverside, smelts, snow crab, squid, bluefin tuna and whelks. Lennox Island First Nation also holds commercial communal licences for swordfish in NAFO divisions that overlap with the exploration licences included in the Project Area. Lobster is licenced for LFA 24 and 25.</p>
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	<p>Lennox Island First Nation holds several FSC licences for mussels, clams (bar, soft-shell, and razor), oysters, eel, gaspereau, groundfish, herring, lobster, rock crab, salmon, seals, smelt and trout. Lennox Island First Nation also has an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon (outer Bay of Fundy population) for FSC purposes.</p>
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	<p>The Mi'kmaq of PEI assert an Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes, and hold commercial communal licences issue by DFO as a result of the Marshall decision (1999). The rights to fish under the Marshall decision flow from the Peace and Friendship Treaties.</p>

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7.4.3.3 Mi'gmaq of New Brunswick

The EIS Guidelines specify nine Mi'gmaq First Nation communities in New Brunswick for engagement and inclusion in the EIS:

- Elsipogtog First Nation
- Fort Folly First Nation
- Eel Ground First Nation
- Pabineau First Nation
- Esgenoôpetitj First Nation
- Indian Island First Nation
- Eel River First Nation
- Metepenagiag Mi'gmaq Nation
- Buctouche First Nation

Eight of the nine Mi'gmaq communities in New Brunswick are represented by the Mi'gmawé' Tplu'taqn Incorporated (MTI) (the exception is Elsipogtog First Nation). MTI, formed in late 2015, is a not-for-profit organization established to manage consultation and, promote and support the recognition, affirmation, and implementation of the inherent Aboriginal and Treaty Rights of its members. Elsipogtog First Nation conducts its own consultation and engagement, and in 2016 launched an Aboriginal title claim to the southeastern third of the province.

Traditional territory for the Mi'gmaq in New Brunswick includes lands and waters draining into the Gulf of St. Lawrence and a portion of the lands and waters draining into the Bay of Fundy (MGS and UINR 2016). The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'gmaq of New Brunswick. However, Fort Folly First Nation holds commercial communal fishing licences for swordfish and tuna in the RAA including within NAFO Unit Areas which overlap with the Project Area.

All nine Mi'gmaq communities located in New Brunswick are discussed in further detail in Table 7.18.

Table 7.18 Mi'gmaq of New Brunswick Community Profiles

Community Indicator	Description
Fort Folly First Nation	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Fort Folly First Nation is comprised of one reserve, located near Dorchester in Westmorland County. Fort Folly is approximately 1,150 km from the Project Area
General Overview	Fort Folly 1 is 2 km southeast of Dorchester with an area of 56.0 ha (INAC n.d.). Fort Folly First Nation is a Mi'gmaq Nation affiliated with the North Shore Micmac District Council and represented by MTI. According to 2016 census data, the on-reserve population was 40 (Statistics Canada n.d.[b]).

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Community Indicator	Description
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	<p>The Fort Folly First Nation Pre-School is located within the community, accommodating students in kindergarten. There is no police detachment or fire hall within the community.</p> <p>As described in more detail below, Fort Folly First Nation holds several commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. Fort Folly's fishing, particularly for lobster and scallops, plays an important part of the local economy (Fort Folly First Nation n.d.). The First Nation owns two lobster boats (Fort Folly First Nation n.d.).</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	<p>In 1918, Fort Folly First Nation community members were relocated to Robinson, outside of Richibucto (Fort Folly First Nation n.d.). The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'gmaq of New Brunswick, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.</p>
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	<p>The Mi'gmaq of New Brunswick are known to occupy and use the land and waters around New Brunswick primarily for travel corridors, hunting, harvesting and fishing for traditional purposes. Although not necessarily reflective of all Mi'gmaq use of lands and resources, Indigenous knowledge studies conducted in 2016 and 2017 involving 112 MTI community members demonstrate a diversity of traditional harvesting, fishing and gathering activities occurring primarily in the province of New Brunswick, Bay of Fundy, Northumberland Strait and Gulf of St. Lawrence (SVS 2017). Fort Folly First Nation was also included in a Traditional Use Study conducted for the Scotian Basin Exploration Drilling Project, which focused on the First Nation's commercial communal and FSC fishing offshore Nova Scotia (MGS and UINR 2016).</p>
Commercial Communal Fishing	<p>Fort Folly First Nation holds several commercial communal licences for groundfish herring, lobster, and scallops. They also hold commercial communal licences to fish for swordfish, and tuna in NAFO Unit Areas which overlap the Project Area.</p>
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	<p>Fort Folly First Nation holds FSC licences to harvest lobster in the Bay of Fundy. Fort Folly First Nation also has an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon (outer Bay of Fundy population) for FSC purposes.</p>
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	<p>The Mi'gmaq of New Brunswick have a right to fish for a "moderate livelihood" which flows from the Peace and Friendship Treaties, and an Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes.</p>
Eel Ground First Nation	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	<p>Eel Ground First Nation is comprised of three reserves, along the Miramichi River near Newcastle. Eel Ground First Nation is approximately 1175 km from the Project Area.</p>
General Overview	<p>Eel Ground First Nation encompasses three reserves: Big Hole Tract 8 (21 km west of Newcastle with an area of 1,740.2 ha), Eel Ground 2 (5 km west of Newcastle with an area of 1,072.8 ha), and Renous 12 (27 km west of Newcastle with an area of 10.0 ha) (INAC n.d.). Eel Ground First Nation is a Mi'gmaq Nation affiliated with the North Shore Micmac District Council and represented by MTI. According to 2016 census data, the on-reserve population for Eel Ground 2 was 532 (Statistics Canada n.d.[b]). No population data exist for Big Hole Tract or Renous.</p>

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Community Indicator	Description
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	<p>In 2015, a new school was built in Eel Ground First Nation, Natoaganeg School, accommodating students from kindergarten to grade 8 (Eel Ground School n.d.). There is a health centre in the community, the Eel Ground Health and Wellness Centre, offering a variety of programs and services such as women’s wellness clinics, blood collection, well baby clinics and home and community care and support services (Eel Ground First Nation n.d.). A doctor visits the Eel Ground Health and Wellness Centre once a week (Eel Ground First Nation n.d.). There is no police detachment or fire hall in the community. Eel Ground First Nation is active in the forestry industry with the company Straight Arrow Specialized Lumber Products.</p> <p>As described in more detail below, Eel Ground First Nation holds several commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species.</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	<p>The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi’gmaq of New Brunswick, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.</p>
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	<p>The Mi’gmaq of New Brunswick are known to occupy and use the land and waters around New Brunswick primarily for travel corridors, hunting, harvesting and fishing for traditional purposes. Although not necessarily reflective of all Mi’gmaq use of lands and resources, Indigenous knowledge studies conducted in 2016 and 2017 involving 112 MTI community members demonstrate a diversity of traditional harvesting, fishing and gathering activities occurring primarily in the province of New Brunswick, Bay of Fundy, Northumberland Strait and Gulf of St. Lawrence (SVS 2017). Refer below for information on FSC fishing.</p>
Commercial Communal Fishing	<p>Eel Ground First Nation hold 24 commercial communal licences for alewives / gaspereau, groundfish, herring, lobster, mackerel, marine plants, oysters, sea urchins, snow crabs and soft-shell clams. Lobster fishing is licenced for LFA 25.</p>
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	<p>Eel Ground First Nation hold several FSC licences for clams, mussels, eels, gaspereau, herring, mackerel, oysters, quahaug, salmon, shad, smelts, striped bass, and brook trout. Clams, mussels, oysters and quahaug can be harvested in the tidal waters of Northumberland County and herring and mackerel in the Northumberland Strait (Nexen Energy ULC 2018). Eel, gaspereau, salmon, smelt, stiped bass and brook trout are licenced to be harvested in the tidal / or inland portions of the Miramichi River System (P. Belanger, DFO, pers. comm. 2017; Statoil 2017). Eel Ground First Nation also has an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon (outer Bay of Fundy population) for FSC purposes.</p>
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	<p>The Mi’gmaq of New Brunswick have a right to fish for a “moderate livelihood” which flows from the Peace and Friendship Treaties, and an Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes.</p>
Pabineau First Nation	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	<p>Pabineau First Nation is comprised of one reserve, located south of Bathurst. Pabineau First Nation is approximately 1,150 km from the Project Area.</p>
General Overview	<p>Pabineau 11 is 8 km south of Bathurst with an area of 429.0 ha (INAC n.d.). Pabineau First Nation is a Mi’gmaq Nation affiliated with the North Shore Micmac District Council and represented by MTI. According to 2016 census data, the on-reserve population was 134 (Statistics Canada n.d.[b]).</p>

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Community Indicator	Description
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	<p>A daycare program is offered to members of the community, accommodating children 2 – 5 years of age (Pabineau First Nation n.d.). The Pabineau First Nation Health Care Centre was opened in 2011, providing a variety of programs and services to community members including a Community Health Nurse, addictions counselling, diabetes prevention, a visiting Nurse Practitioner and foot care service (Pabineau First Nation n.d.). There is a police detachment within the community, but no fire hall or school. Community-owned and operated businesses include the Pabineau Seafood Takeout, Pabineau Smoke Shop, and Pabineau Gas Bar (Pabineau First Nation n.d.).</p> <p>As described in more detail below, Pabineau First Nation holds several commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. Pabineau First Nation is involved in collaborative efforts to support the enhancement of healthy salmon populations within the Nepisiguit and Pabineau Rivers (Pabineau First Nation n.d.). Since 1981, Pabineau First Nation has been involved in the operation and management of a salmon counting and brood stock collection fence (Pabineau First Nation n.d.). The Pabineau Salmon Enhancement Centre employs approximately 10 community members each summer and fall (Pabineau First Nation n.d.).</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	<p>The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'gmaq of New Brunswick, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.</p>
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	<p>The Mi'gmaq of New Brunswick are known to occupy and use the land and waters around New Brunswick primarily for travel corridors, hunting, harvesting and fishing for traditional purposes. Although not necessarily reflective of all Mi'gmaq use of lands and resources, Indigenous knowledge studies conducted in 2016 and 2017 involving 112 MTI community members demonstrate a diversity of traditional harvesting, fishing and gathering activities occurring primarily in the province of New Brunswick, Bay of Fundy, Northumberland Strait and Gulf of St. Lawrence (SVS 2017). Limited publicly-available information exists on current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes for Pabineau First Nation. Pabineau First Nation has a long history of fishing Atlantic salmon in the Little River system (Nexen Energy ULC 2018). Refer below for more information on FSC fishing.</p>
Commercial Communal Fishing	<p>Pabineau First Nation holds 24 commercial communal licences for rock crab, groundfish, herring, lobster, mackerel, oysters, scallops, snow crab and bluefin tuna. Lobster fishing is licenced for LFA 23.</p>
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	<p>Pabineau First Nation hold several FSC licences including for soft-shell, bar, and razor clams, quahaugs, herring, mackerel, mussels, oysters, salmon, and trout. Pabineau First Nation also has an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon (outer Bay of Fundy population) for FSC purposes.</p>
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	<p>The Mi'gmaq of New Brunswick have a right to fish for a “moderate livelihood” which flows from the Peace and Friendship Treaties, and an Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes.</p>
Esgenoôpetitj First Nation	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	<p>Esgenoôpetitj First Nation is comprised of three reserves, located southwest of the village of Neguac in Kent County. Esgenoôpetitj is approximately 1,130 km from the Project Area.</p>

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Community Indicator	Description
General Overview	Esgenoôpetitj First Nation encompasses three reserves: Esgenoôpetitj Indian Reserve 14 (32 km northeast of Chatham with an area of 985.4 ha); Pokemouche 13 (64 km east of Bathurst with an area of 151.4 ha); and Tabusintac 9 (40 km northeast of Chatham with an area of 3,268.7 ha) (INAC n.d.). Esgenoôpetitj First Nation is a Mi'kmaq Nation affiliated with MAWIW Council and represented by MTI. According to 2016 census data, the on-reserve population of Esgenoôpetitj Indian Reserve 14 was 1,179 and Tabusintac was 10 (Statistics Canada n.d.[b]). No population data exist for Pokemouche.
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	The Esgenoôpetitj School accommodates students from kindergarten to grade 8. There is no police detachment but there is a fire hall. Publicly-available information on economic development for the Esgenoôpetitj First Nation could not be found. As described in more detail below, Esgenoôpetitj First Nation hold several commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species.
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq of New Brunswick, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'kmaq of New Brunswick are known to occupy and use the land and waters around New Brunswick primarily for travel corridors, hunting, harvesting and fishing for traditional purposes. Although not necessarily reflective of all Mi'kmaq use of lands and resources, Indigenous knowledge studies conducted in 2016 and 2017 involving 112 MTI community members demonstrate a diversity of traditional harvesting, fishing and gathering activities occurring primarily in the province of New Brunswick, Bay of Fundy, Northumberland Strait and Gulf of St. Lawrence (SVS 2017). Refer below for information on FSC fishing.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Esgenoôpetitj First Nation holds 163 commercial communal licences for bar clams, rock and spider / toad crab, eel, groundfish, herring, lobster, mackerel, marine plants, mussels, oysters, quahaugs, scallops, smelts, snow crab, soft shell clams and bluefin tuna. Lobster is licenced for LFA 23.
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Esgenoôpetitj First Nation holds several FSC licences for soft-shell and bar clams, quahaug, eel, herring, lobster, mackerel, mussels, oysters, salmon, smelts, striped bass and trout. Esgenoôpetitj First Nation also has an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon (outer Bay of Fundy population) for FSC purposes.
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The Mi'kmaq of New Brunswick have a right to fish for a "moderate livelihood" which flows from the Peace and Friendship Treaties, and an Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes.
Buctouche First Nation	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Buctouche First Nation is comprised of one reserve, located near the town of Buctouche. Buctouche First Nation is approximately 1140 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Buctouche 16 is 3 km southwest of Buctouche with an area of 62.3 ha (INAC n.d.). Buctouche First Nation is a Mi'kmaq Nation affiliated with the North Shore Micmac District Council and represented by MTI. According to 2016 census data, the on-reserve population was 96 (Statistics Canada n.d.[b]).

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Community Indicator	Description
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	<p>A kindergarten, Buctouche First Nation Pre-school, is in the community. There is no police detachment but there is a fire hall. The Buctouche First Nation Health Centre is also in the community. Buctouche First Nation has an economic development program that focuses on band-owned business opportunities (Buctouche First Nation n.d.). The program provides community members with employment and training opportunities (Buctouche First Nation n.d.). The Buctouche Micmac Band Forestry Department administers the distribution of royalties received through the Band's annual allocation by the Province of New Brunswick (Buctouche First Nation n.d.). The band also owns and operates the River of Little Fire Incorporated Gas Bar (Buctouche First Nation n.d.).</p> <p>As described in more detail below, Buctouche First Nation hold several commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species.</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	<p>Established in 1810, Buctouche First Nation was abandoned in 1924 then re-established in 1958. Historically, it is thought that the Band's traditional fishing, trapping, and hunting territories expanded to the western portion of PEI, through the coast of New Brunswick from the Miramichi Bay along the Northumberland Strait, southeast between Nova Scotia on the Bay of Fundy to the border of Maine. Throughout the winter, traditional territory also encompassed inland areas around Fredericton, Grand Lake, Moncton and Miramichi (Buctouche First Nation n.d.). The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'gmaq of New Brunswick, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.</p>
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	<p>The Mi'gmaq of New Brunswick are known to occupy and use the land and waters around New Brunswick primarily for travel corridors, hunting, harvesting and fishing for traditional purposes. Although not necessarily reflective of all Mi'gmaq use of lands and resources, Indigenous knowledge studies conducted in 2016 and 2017 involving 112 MTI community members demonstrate a diversity of traditional harvesting, fishing and gathering activities occurring primarily in the province of New Brunswick, Bay of Fundy, Northumberland Strait and Gulf of St. Lawrence (SVS 2017). Refer below for information on FSC fishing.</p>
Commercial Communal Fishing	<p>Buctouche First Nation holds 31 commercial communal licences for alewives / gaspereau, bar clams, rock and spider / toad crab, ground fish, herring, lobster, mackerel, oysters, scallops, seal, porbeagle / mackerel shark, smelts, snow crab and bluefin tuna. Lobster is licenced for LFA 25.</p>
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	<p>Buctouche First Nation holds several FSC licences for striped bass, clams, oysters, trout, mackerel, salmon, and eels. Buctouche First Nation also has an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon (outer Bay of Fundy population) for FSC purposes.</p>
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	<p>The Mi'gmaq of New Brunswick have a right to fish for a "moderate livelihood" which flows from the Peace and Friendship Treaties, and an Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes.</p>
Indian Island First Nation	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	<p>Indian Island First Nation is comprised of one reserve, located near Miramichi Bay on the eastern coast of NB. Indian Island First Nation is approximately 1,130 km from the Project Area.</p>
General Overview	<p>Indian Island 28 is 8 km northeast of Rexton with an area of 38.4 ha (INAC n.d.). Indian Island First Nation is a Mi'gmaq Nation affiliated with the North Shore Micmac District Council and represented by MTI. According to 2016 census data, the on-reserve population is 138 (Statistics Canada n.d.[b]).</p>

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Community Indicator	Description
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	<p>Within the community, there is no police detachment, fire hall or school.</p> <p>As described in more detail below, Indian Island First Nation holds several commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. Since 2007, the Indian Island Aquaculture Development Corporation has been growing oysters (Indian Island First Nation 2015). As of 2015, there have been approximately 2.6 million oysters on-site (Indian Island First Nation 2015). The Corporation has four leases, three are used as grow-out leases and one as an overwintering lease (Indian Island First Nation 2015). Indian Island Aquaculture Development Corporation employs five seasonal fulltime employees and up to two summer students (Indian Island First Nation 2015). The Corporation has over \$600,000 in assets (Indian Island First Nation 2015).</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	<p>The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'gmaq of New Brunswick, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.</p>
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	<p>The Mi'gmaq of New Brunswick are known to occupy and use the land and waters around New Brunswick primarily for travel corridors, hunting, harvesting and fishing for traditional purposes. Although not necessarily reflective of all Mi'gmaq use of lands and resources, Indigenous knowledge studies conducted in 2016 and 2017 involving 112 MTI community members demonstrate a diversity of traditional harvesting, fishing and gathering activities occurring primarily in the province of New Brunswick, Bay of Fundy, Northumberland Strait and Gulf of St. Lawrence (SVS 2017). Refer below for information on FSC fishing.</p>
Commercial Communal Fishing	<p>Indian Island First Nations hold 44 commercial communal licences for alewives / gaspereau, rock crab, eel, groundfish, herring, lobster, mackerel, oysters, scallops, smelts, snow crab, soft shell crabs and bluefin tuna. Lobster is licenced for LFA 25.</p>
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	<p>Indian Island First Nation holds several FSC licences for soft shell, razor, and bar clams, mussels, eel, gaspereau, herring, lobster, mackerel, oysters, quahaug, rock crab, salmon, smelts, striped bass and trout. Indian Island First Nation also has an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon (outer Bay of Fundy population) for FSC purposes.</p>
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	<p>The Mi'gmaq of New Brunswick have a right to fish for a "moderate livelihood" which flows from the Peace and Friendship Treaties, and an Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes.</p>
Eel River Bar First Nation	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	<p>Eel River Bar First Nation is comprised of three reserves, located near Dalhousie. Eel River Bar First Nation is approximately 1,190 km from the Project Area.</p>
General Overview	<p>Eel River Bar First Nation encompasses three reserves: Eel River 3 (3 km south of Dalhousie with an area of 122.0 ha), Indian Ranch (2 km south of Dalhousie with an area of 45.7 ha), and Moose Meadows (32 km south of Dalhousie with an area of 404.7 ha) (INAC n.d.). Eel River Bar First Nation is a Mi'kmaq Nation affiliated with the North Shore Micmac District Council and represented by MTI. According to 2016 census data, the on-reserve population of Eel River 3 was 329 and Indian Ranch was 89 (Statistics Canada n.d.[b]). No population data exist for Moose Meadows.</p>

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Community Indicator	Description
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	<p>The Eel River Bar Pre-School is within the community. There is no police detachment or fire hall. The Uqpi'ganjig Health Centre provides a variety of programs and services such as substance abuse prevention programs, maternal child health, home and community care, chronic disease prevention, children's oral health initiative, aboriginal diabetes initiative and injury prevention programs (Eel River Bar First Nation 2018). Eel River Bar First Nation has a forestry department that oversees and provides support for woodlot management (Eel River Bar First Nation 2018). The First Nation owns and operates the Osprey Truck Stop which consists of a convenience store, restaurant, commercial road transportation services and video lottery terminals (Eel River Bar First Nation 2018).</p> <p>As described in more detail below, Eel River Bar First Nation holds several commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species.</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	<p>Traditionally, members of the Eel River Bar community would annually migrate from the sheltered in-land areas of the territory after winter to a summer encampment in the area around Benjamin and Eel Rivers (Eel River Bar First Nation 2018). The area provided access to Heron Island, where traditional burials would take place. Historically, the Eel River Bar community would harvest resources of the land, oceans, and lakes and rivers which provided a variety of fish, seals, shellfish, moose, deer, bear, small animals, and birds. The community would fish in the waters of the Bay of Chaleur and dig for clams on the shores of Eel River Bar. In 1963, flooding, due to the construction of a dam, resulted in the loss of fishing and harvesting of clam along Eel River (Eel River Bar First Nation 2018). The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'gmaq of New Brunswick, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.</p>
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	<p>The Mi'gmaq of New Brunswick are known to occupy and use the land and waters around New Brunswick primarily for travel corridors, hunting, harvesting and fishing for traditional purposes. Although not necessarily reflective of all Mi'gmaq use of lands and resources, Indigenous knowledge studies conducted in 2016 and 2017 involving 112 MTI community members demonstrate a diversity of traditional harvesting, fishing and gathering activities occurring primarily in the province of New Brunswick, Bay of Fundy, Northumberland Strait and Gulf of St. Lawrence (SVS 2017). Refer below for information on FSC fishing.</p>
Commercial Communal Fishing	<p>Eel River Bar First Nation holds 50 commercial communal licences for rock crab, groundfish, herring, lobster, mackerel, mussels, oysters, scallops, sea urchins, shrimp, smelts, snow crab and bluefin tuna. Lobster is licenced for LFA 23.</p>
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	<p>Eel River Bar First Nation holds several FSC licences for soft shell clams, herring, salmon, striped bass, lobster, and rock crab. Eel River Bar First Nation also has an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon (outer Bay of Fundy population) for FSC purposes.</p>
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	<p>The Mi'gmaq of New Brunswick have a right to fish for a "moderate livelihood" which flows from the Peace and Friendship Treaties, and an Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes.</p>
Metepngiag Mi'kmaq First Nation	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	<p>Metepngiag Mi'kmaq First Nation is comprised of three reserves, on the Miramichi River near Newcastle. Metepngiag First Nation is approximately 1,190 km from the Project Area.</p>

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General Overview	Metepngiag First Nation encompasses three reserves: Indian Point 1 (19 km west of Newcastle with an area of 41.2 ha), Red Bank 4 (23 km west of Newcastle with an area of 1,457.0 ha), and Red Bank 7 (24 km west of Newcastle with an area of 1,011.7 ha) (INAC n.d.). Metepngiag First Nation is a Mi'kmaq Nation affiliated with the North Shore Micmac District Council and represented by MTI. According to 2016 census data, the on-reserve population for Red Bank 4 was 309 (Statistics Canada n.d.[b]). No population data exist for Red Bank 7 or Indian Point 1.
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	The Metepngiag School accommodates students from kindergarten to grade 6 within the community. There is no police detachment or fire hall. Publicly-available information on economic development for the Metepngiag First Nation could not be found. As described in more detail below, Metepngiag First Nation hold several commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species.
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	Traditionally, the Miramichi River served as a travel route and meeting place for the Mi'kmaq people in NB (MMFN n.d.). Metepngiag First Nation developed a heritage park containing two of the most important Indigenous heritage archaeological sites in eastern Canada: the Augustine Mound National Historic Site and the Oxbow National Historic Site (Metepngiag First Nation 2017). Archeological sites at these two locations demonstrate that the area has been inhabited by Mi'gmaq people for over 3,000 years (Metepngiag First Nation 2017). The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'gmaq of New Brunswick, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'gmaq of New Brunswick are known to occupy and use the land and waters around New Brunswick primarily for travel corridors, hunting, harvesting and fishing for traditional purposes. Although not necessarily reflective of all Mi'gmaq use of lands and resources, Indigenous knowledge studies conducted in 2016 and 2017 involving 112 MTI community members demonstrate a diversity of traditional harvesting, fishing and gathering activities occurring primarily in the province of New Brunswick, Bay of Fundy, Northumberland Strait and Gulf of St. Lawrence (SVS 2017). Refer below for information on FSC fishing.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Metepngiag First Nation holds 18 commercial communal licences for alewives / gaspereau, rock crab, herring, lobster, mackerel, oysters, scallops, shrimp, and snow crabs. Lobster is licenced for LFA 25.
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Metepngiag First Nation holds several FSC licences for eel, salmon, shad, striped bass, and brook trout. Metepngiag First Nation also has an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon (outer Bay of Fundy population) for FSC purposes.
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The Mi'gmaq of New Brunswick have a right to fish for a "moderate livelihood" which flows from the Peace and Friendship Treaties, and an Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes.
Elsipogtog First Nation	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Elsipogtog First Nation is comprised of two reserves, located near Rexton and Moncton. Elsipogtog First Nation is approximately 1,150 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Elsipogtog First Nation encompasses two reserves: Richibucto Reserve (8 km southwest of Rexton with an area of 1,742.0 ha), and Soegao Reserve (5 km west of Moncton with an area of 105.0 ha). Elsipogtog First Nation is a Mi'gmaq Nation affiliated with the MAWIW Council Inc. According to 2016 census data, the on-reserve population for Richibucto First Nation was 1,937 (Statistics Canada n.d.[b]). No population data exist for Soegao Reserve.

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Community Indicator	Description
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	The Elsipogtog School accommodates students from kindergarten to grade 8 within the community (Elsipogtog First Nation n.d.). There is no police detachment or fire hall. The two primary economic developments within the community are the River of Fire Market and Elsipogtog Pharmasave (Elsipogtog First Nation n.d.). As described in more detail below, Elsipogtog First Nation holds several commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species.
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'gmaq of New Brunswick, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'gmaq of New Brunswick are known to occupy and use the land and waters around New Brunswick primarily for travel corridors, hunting, harvesting and fishing for traditional purposes. Refer below for information on FSC fishing.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Elsipogtog First Nation holds 320 commercial communal licences for alewives / gaspereau, bar clams, rock crab, eel, groundfish, herring, lobster, mackerel, marine plants, mussels, oysters, quahaugs, scallops, seals, smelts, snow crab, soft shell clams and bluefin tuna. Lobster is licenced for LFA 25.
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Elsipogtog First Nation holds several FSC licences for clams, eel, gaspereau, herring, lobster, mackerel, mussels, oysters, quahaug, rock crab, salmon, scallops, seals, shad, smelts, striped bass, and trout. Elsipogtog First Nation also has an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon (outer Bay of Fundy population) for FSC purposes.
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The Mi'gmaq of New Brunswick have a right to fish for a "moderate livelihood" which flows from the Peace and Friendship Treaties, and an Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes.

7.4.4 Wolastoqiyik of New Brunswick (Maliseet)

The Wolastoqiyik Nation of New Brunswick are a group of Indigenous communities that reside along the Saint John River (Wolastoq), predominately in the west and northwest areas of the province. The Wolastoqiyik traditional territory is bordered by the Mi'kmaq traditional territory to the east and Passamaquoddy traditional territory along the Bay of Fundy and the Gulf of Maine coast and Penobscot traditional territory to the west (MGS and UINR 2016). The Project does not overlap with the claimed traditional territory of the Wolastoqiyik of New Brunswick. However, St. Mary's First Nation and Woodstock First Nation hold commercial communal fishing licences for swordfish and tuna (Woodstock only) within NAFO Unit Areas that overlap the Project Area. Further, the Outer Bay of Fundy Designatable unit of Atlantic salmon was an important dietary staple of all the Wolastoqiyik. While the community of Madawaska still fishes salmon from the St. Lawrence, all other communities use of this culturally important fish has been restricted for the purposes of conservation (WNNB, pers. comm. 2018).

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The Wolastoqiyik were traditionally primarily an agricultural and forestry-based community, supplementing their diet with hunting, fishing, and gathering fruits, berries, and nuts (Madawaska Maliseet First Nation n.d.).

The Peace and Friendship Treaties were established between 1725 and 1779 between the Mi'kmaq, the Wolastoqiyik, the Peskotomuhkati, and British settlers, the terms of which were intended to assist in establishing peace and trade relations (AANDC 2013). These treaties guarantee rights to hunt and fish throughout the region and to maintain a moderate livelihood.

The EIS Guidelines specify six Wolastoqiyik communities in New Brunswick for engagement and inclusion in the EIS:

- Kingsclear First Nation
- Madawaska Maliseet Nation
- Oromocto First Nation
- Tobique First Nation
- St. Mary's First Nation
- Woodstock First Nation

The Wolastoqiyik Nation of New Brunswick (WNNB) was established in 2016 and represents five of the six Wolastoqiyik Nations in consultation and engagement. The exception is Woodstock First Nation, which handles its own consultation and engagement, although WNNB and Woodstock often share technical expertise (WNNB, pers. comm. 2018).

The six Wolastoqiyik Nation communities located in New Brunswick are discussed in further detail in Table 7.19.

Table 7.19 Wolastoqiyik of New Brunswick (Maliseet) Community Profiles

Community Indicator	Description
Kingsclear First Nation	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Kingsclear First Nation is comprised of two reserves, in York County along the Saint John River. Kingsclear First Nation is approximately 1300 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Kingsclear First Nation encompasses two reserves: Kingsclear 6 (14 km west of Fredericton with an area of 374.7 ha), and The Brothers 18 (on two small islands in Kennebecasis Bay 3 km north of Saint John with an area of 4.0 ha) (INAC n.d.). The Brothers 18 is also affiliated with Woodstock First Nation, Tobique First Nation, and Madawaska First Nation. Kingsclear First Nation is a Wolastoqiyik Nation and represented by WNNB. According to Kingsclear's registry administrator there is currently 737 people living on-reserve, with an additional 310 living off band lands (WNNB, pers. comm. 2018). No population data exist for The Brothers 18.

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Community Indicator	Description
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	<p>The Kingsclear First Nation Education Program accommodates students from kindergarten to grade 12, and includes a band operated school, Wulastukw Elementary, accommodating students from kindergarten to grade 5 (Kingsclear First Nation 2014). A health centre provides a variety of services and programs to community members such as prenatal / postnatal programs, well baby clinics, chronic disease screening and education, home care nursing, prevention (additions) and mental wellness and children's oral health programs (Kingsclear First Nation 2014). A physician visits the health centre once a week to provide primary care for members of the community (Kingsclear First Nation 2014). Kingsclear First Nation is active in the forestry industry, cutting their allocation under the Allowable Annual Cut arrangement with the provincial government, generally cut by contractors under agreement with the Band (Kingsclear First Nation 2014). This activity results in significant return and capital for community members (Kingsclear First Nation 2014). Kingsclear First Nation also owns and operates the Wulastukw Convenience store and a video lottery terminal lounge.</p> <p>As described in more detail below, Kingsclear First Nation hold several commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. The Nation is exploring opportunities to expand their fisheries operations, particularly in aquaculture for eel and sea urchin production (Kingsclear First Nation 2014). The Band is also considering developing whale watching and guided tours along the Saint John River (Kingsclear First Nation 2014).</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	<p>The Maliseet were traditionally known to be hunters, trappers, and gatherers, who travelled along the St. John River valley depending on the season to find sustenance and shelter, as well as to trade with Europeans. The community of Kingsclear was established in 1795. Prior to settling at its current location, the Maliseet people lived in a village known as Ekwpahak located a few miles downriver of Kingsclear (Kingsclear First Nation 2014). During late spring and summer, wigwams were set up on the adjacent island known as Ekwpahak Island. This area was used by the Maliseet for spearing salmon, bass, and sturgeon, planting corn, and gathering foods and medicines such as fiddleheads, berries, butternut, grapes, and wild potatoes (Kingsclear First Nation 2014). The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Wolastoqiyik of New Brunswick, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.</p>
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	<p>Wolastoqiyik First Nations continue to harvest, hunt, and consume traditional foods including moose, deer, fish, fiddleheads and berries, and use resources from the local landscape for medicinal and ceremonial purposes. Refer below for information on FSC fishing.</p>
Commercial Communal Fishing	<p>Kingsclear First Nation holds 18 commercial communal licences for crab, groundfish, herring, lobster, scallops, and sea urchins for the Bay of Fundy.</p>
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	<p>Kingsclear First Nation holds several FSC licences for striped bass and lobster. In addition, the Agency identified Kingsclear First Nation as having an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon (outer Bay of Fundy population) for FSC purposes.</p>
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	<p>The Wolastoqiyik have Aboriginal rights under Section 35 of the <i>Constitution Act, 1982</i>, and Peace and Friendship Treaty rights, which include the right to fish for a "moderate livelihood".</p>
Madawaska Maliseet First Nation	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	<p>Madawaska First Nation is comprised of two reserves along the Saint John River. Madawaska First Nation is located approximately 1,340 km from the Project Area.</p>

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Community Indicator	Description
General Overview	Madawaska First Nation encompasses two reserves: St. Basile 10 (2 km east of Edmundson with an area of 340.3 ha), and The Brothers 18 (on two small islands in the Kennebecasis Bay, 3 km north of Saint John with an area of 4.0 ha) (INAC n.d.). The Brothers 18 is affiliated with Kingsclear First Nation, Tobique First Nation, and Woodstock First Nation. Madawaska First Nation is affiliated with Wolastoqey Tribal Council and represented by WNNB. According to 2016 census data, the on-reserve population of St. Basile was 214 (Statistics Canada n.d.[b]) although the membership clerk declares only 168 on-reserve (WNNB, pers. comm. 2018). No population data exist for The Brothers 18.
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	Madawaska Maliseet First Nation has no school, police detachment, or fire hall. A health centre exists within the community, staffed by a doctor and a nurse (Madawaska Maliseet First Nation n.d.). The Madawaska Maliseet Economic Development Corporation focuses on business development, attracting new businesses and visitors, and investing with regional partners (Madawaska Maliseet First Nation n.d.). Businesses within the community include gas stations, restaurants, car dealerships and the Grey Rock Casino (Madawaska Maliseet First Nation n.d.). The Grey Rock Power Centre also exists within the community, along the Trans-Canada Highway (Madawaska Maliseet First Nation n.d.). As described in more detail below, Madawaska First Nation hold several commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species.
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	The Maliseet were known to be traditional hunters, trappers, and gatherers, who travelled along the St. John River valley depending on the season to find sustenance and shelter, as well as to trade with Europeans. The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Wolastoqiyik of New Brunswick, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	Wolastoqiyik First Nations continue to harvest, hunt, and consume traditional foods including moose, deer, fish, fiddleheads and berries, and use resources from the local landscape for medicinal, arts, crafts, instruments and other ceremonial purposes. Refer below for information on FSC fishing.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Madawaska First Nation holds 14 commercial communal licences for rock crab, groundfish, herring, lobster, mackerel and scallops. Lobster is licenced for LFA 23.
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Madawaska First Nation holds several FSC licences for lobster, salmon, and trout. In addition, the Agency identified Madawaska First Nation as having an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon (outer Bay of Fundy population) for FSC purposes.
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The Wolastoqiyik have Aboriginal rights under Section 35 of the <i>Constitution Act, 1982</i> and Peace and Friendship Treaty rights, which include the right to fish for a “moderate livelihood”.
Oromocto First Nation	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Oromocto First Nation is comprised of one reserve, located in Sunbury County near the town of Oromocto. Oromocto First Nation is approximately 1,290 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Oromocto 26 is adjacent to Gagetown with an area of 32.0 ha (INAC n.d.). Oromocto First Nation is a Wolastoqiyik Nation affiliated with the Wolastoqey Tribal Council Inc. (WTCI) and represented by WNNB. According to 2016 census data, the on-reserve population was 282 (Statistics Canada n.d.[b]) but has since grown.

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Community Indicator	Description
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	<p>The Oromocto First Nation Health Centre is staffed by an early childhood wellness coordinator, a community health representative, a community health nurse and an alcohol and drug worker (Oromocto First Nation 2018). There is no school, police detachment, or fire hall within the community. Oromocto First Nation economic initiatives include forestry, fisheries, and a gas station (Oromocto First Nation 2018). Further information on these initiatives could not be found. In addition, a local operation has built handcrafted canoes within the community since 1897 (Oromocto First Nation 2018).</p> <p>As described in more detail below, Oromocto First Nation hold several commercial communal for a variety of fish and marine species.</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	<p>The Maliseet were known to be traditional hunters, trappers, and gatherers, who travelled along the St. John River valley depending on the season to find sustenance and shelter, as well as to trade with Europeans. The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Wolastoqiyik of New Brunswick, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.</p>
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	<p>Wolastoqiyik First Nations continue to harvest, hunt, and consume traditional foods including moose, deer, fish, fiddleheads and berries, and use resources from the local landscape for medicinal and ceremonial purposes. Refer below for information on FSC fishing.</p>
Commercial Communal Fishing	<p>Oromocto First Nation holds 10 commercial communal licences for lobster, sea scallops, sea urchins, herring, groundfish, gaspereau, herring, mackerel, shad, and smelts.</p>
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	<p>Oromocto First Nation holds several FSC licences for groundfish, eel, lamprey, trout, gaspereau, shad, striped bass, sturgeon, and lobster. In addition, the Agency identified Oromocto First Nation as having an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon (outer Bay of Fundy population) for FSC purposes.</p>
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	<p>The Wolastoqiyik have Aboriginal rights under section 35 of the <i>Constitution Act, 1982</i> and Peace and Friendship Treaty rights, which include the right to fish for a “moderate livelihood”.</p>
St. Mary's First Nation	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	<p>St. Mary's First Nation is comprised of two reserves in the Saint John River Valley near Fredericton. St. Mary's First Nation is approximately 1,290 km from the Project Area.</p>
General Overview	<p>St. Mary's First Nation encompasses two reserves: St. Mary's 24 (6 km east of Fredericton with an area of 1.0 ha), and Devon 30 (6 km east of Fredericton with an area of 125.9 ha) (INAC n.d.). St. Mary's First Nation is a Wolastoqiyik Nation affiliated with the WTCI and represented by the WNNB. According to 2016 census data, the on-reserve population was 1,038 (Statistics Canada n.d.[b]).</p>
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	<p>Within the community, an elementary school, Chief Harold Sappier Memorial Elementary, accommodates students from kindergarten to grade five. There is no police detachment health centre, and a fire hall. St. Mary's First Nation businesses include the St. Mary's Entertainment Centre, the St. Mary's Retail Sales (which includes a gas bar, smoke shop, supermarket, coffee shop, a fish and chip shop and a fine dining restaurant), and there are a number of band member privately owned businesses (WNNB, pers. comm. 2018). The St. Mary's Entertainment Centre is in Fredericton and includes one of the largest bingo facilities in Atlantic Canada (St. Mary's First Nation n.d.). St. Mary's First Nation is also engaged in the forestry industry. Initiated in 1998, the St. Mary's Logging Program was established to create employment for band members with an interest in working in the forestry industry (St. Mary's First Nation n.d.).</p>

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Community Indicator	Description
	As described in more detail below, St. Mary's First Nation hold several commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. St. Mary's First Nation owns six active commercial fishing vessels. The Nation is currently not equipped to fish tuna, swordfish or shrimp and these licences are typically leased to others for a percentage of the catch (Nexen Energy ULC 2018).
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	The Wolastoqiyik were known to be traditional hunters, trappers, and gatherers, who travelled along the St. John River valley depending on the season to find sustenance and shelter, as well as to trade with Europeans. Although the St. Mary's First Nation community was not recognized until 1867, it was documented as an encampment site as early as 1818. The Maliseet people would travel the Saint John River, and it is believed that Maliseet from Kingsclear, Madawaska, Tobique, Woodstock and Meductic would assemble in the area to sell furs and trade handmade goods. The St. Mary's Maliseet maintained migratory practices by hunting, fishing, and trapping downriver each summer. Once the Oromocto First Nation was established in 1895, some Maliseet from St. Mary's relocated, but most remained within the community (St. Mary's First Nation n.d.). The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Wolastoqiyik of New Brunswick, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	Wolastoqiyik First Nations continue to harvest, hunt, and consume traditional foods including moose, deer, fish, fiddleheads and berries, and use resources from the local landscape for medicinal and ceremonial purposes. Refer below for information on FSC fishing.
Commercial Communal Fishing	St. Mary's First Nation holds 17 commercial communal licences for herring, lobster, scallops, sea urchins, shrimp, swordfish, gaspereau, shad and bluefin tuna.
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	St. Mary's First Nation holds several FSC licences for eel, smallmouth bass, trout, gaspereau, shad, striped bass, groundfish, lobster and scallops. In addition, the Agency identified St. Mary's First Nation as having an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon (outer Bay of Fundy population) for FSC purposes.
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The Wolastoqiyik have Aboriginal rights under section 35 of the <i>Constitution Act, 1982</i> and Peace and Friendship Treaty rights, which include the right to fish for a "moderate livelihood".
Tobique First Nation	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Tobique First Nation is comprised of two reserves in Victoria County on the northside of the Tobique River. Tobique First Nation is approximately 1,325 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Tobique First Nation encompasses two reserves: Tobique 20 (27 km south of Grand Falls with an area of 2,724.0 ha), and The Brothers 18 (on two small islands in Kennebecasis Bay, 3 km north of Saint John with an area of 4.0 ha) (INAC n.d.). The Brothers 18 is affiliated with Kingsclear First Nation, Madawaska First Nation, and Woodstock First Nation. Tobique First Nation is a Wolastoqiyik Nation affiliated with MAWIW and represented by WNNB. According to 2016 census data, the on-reserve population for Tobique 20 was 968 (Statistics Canada n.d.[b]). No population data exist for The Brothers 18.
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	Within the community, the Mah-Sos School accommodates students from kindergarten to grade 8. There is a police detachment and a fire hall. The Neqotkuk Health Centre promotes, educates, and provides primary health care services to community members (Tobique First Nation 2015). Community-owned enterprises include the Tobique Gaming Centre, Tobique Bingo, Two Rivers Restaurant, Tobique Youth Centre and Tobique Convenience and Gas Bar (Tobique First Nation 2015). Other businesses within the community include tobacco shops, take-out restaurants, and convenience stores (Tobique First Nation 2015).

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Community Indicator	Description
	As described in more detail below, Tobique First Nation holds one commercial communal licence.
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	The Maliseet were known to be traditional hunters, trappers, and gatherers, who travelled along the St. John River valley depending on the season to find sustenance and shelter, as well as to trade with Europeans. The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Wolastoqiyik of New Brunswick, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	Wolastoqiyik First Nations continue to harvest, hunt, and consume traditional foods including moose, deer, fish, fiddleheads and berries, and use resources from the local landscape for medicinal and ceremonial purposes. Refer below for information on FSC fishing.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Tobique First Nation holds one commercial communal licence for bluefin tuna.
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Tobique First Nation holds several FSC licences for smallmouth bass and trout. In addition, the Agency identified Tobique First Nation as having an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon (outer Bay of Fundy population) for FSC purposes.
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The Wolastoqiyik have Aboriginal rights under section 35 of the <i>Constitution Act, 1982</i> and Peace and Friendship Treaty rights, which include the right to fish for a “moderate livelihood”.
Woodstock First Nation	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Woodstock First Nation is comprised of two reserves, located on the Saint John River near Woodstock. Woodstock First Nation is approximately 1350 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Woodstock First Nation encompasses two reserves: Woodstock 23 (5 km south of Woodstock with an area of 159.8 ha), and The Brothers 18 (on two small islands in Kennebecasis Bay, 3 km north of Saint John with an area of 4.0 ha) (INAC n.d.). The Brothers 18 is affiliated with Kingsclear First Nation, Tobique First Nation, and Madawaska First Nation. Woodstock First Nation is a Wolastoqiyik Nation affiliated with the WTCI. According to 2016 census data, the on-reserve population for Woodstock 23 was 327 (Statistics Canada n.d.[b]). No population data exist for The Brothers 18.
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	<p>The Woodstock First Nation Pre-School exists within the community. There is no police detachment or fire hall. The Woodstock First Nation Health Centre provides a variety of programs and services such as family support program, footcare, children’s oral health initiative, a community health nurse and home and community care. A Nurse Practitioner is also available to community members who do not have a primary health care provider (Woodstock First Nation n.d.). Woodstock First Nation economic enterprises include three gas stations / convenience stores and the Eagle’s Nest Gaming Place. Woodstock First Nation is engaged in the forestry industry, owning Woodstock First Nation Logging (Woodstock First Nation n.d.).</p> <p>As described in more detail below, Woodstock First Nation hold several commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. The Woodstock First Nation began commercial fishing operations in 1996, and they have become a significant source of employment and revenue for the First Nation. The First Nation has expanded operations and now includes the harvesting of scallop, lobster, sea urchins, swordfish, and tuna with four commercial fishing vessels (Woodstock First Nation n.d.).</p>

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Community Indicator	Description
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	The Maliseet were known to be traditional hunters, trappers, and gatherers, who travelled along the St. John River valley depending on the season to find sustenance and shelter, as well as to trade with Europeans. The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Wolastoqiyik of New Brunswick, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	Wolastoqiyik First Nations continue to harvest, hunt, and consume traditional foods including moose, deer, fish, fiddleheads and berries, and use resources from the local landscape for medicinal and ceremonial purposes. Refer below for information on FSC fishing.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Woodstock First Nation holds 14 commercial communal licences for lobster, scallops, sea urchins, tuna, herring, mackerel, swordfish and groundfish.
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Woodstock First Nation holds several FSC licences for smallmouth bass, smelt, gaspereau, striped bass, trout, lobster, and scallops. In addition, the Agency identified Woodstock First Nation as having an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon (outer Bay of Fundy population) for FSC purposes.
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The Wolastoqiyik have Aboriginal rights under section 35 of the <i>Constitution Act, 1982</i> and Peace and Friendship Treaty rights, which include the right to fish for a “moderate livelihood”.

7.4.5 Peskotomuhkati Nation (Passamaquoddy)

The EIS Guidelines specify the inclusion of the Peskotomuhkati Nation for engagement and inclusion in the EIS. The Peskotomuhkati Nation (Passamaquoddy) is a third Indigenous group in New Brunswick. The traditional territory of the Passamaquoddy included all lands and waters of the St. Croix River watershed, Machia River watershed and the Magaguadavic River watershed, draining into the Bay of Fundy and Gulf of Matine (Bassett 2014, in MGS and UINR 2016). The territory was bordered on the northeast by the Wolastoqiyik traditional territory of all lands and waters draining the St. John River watershed, and bordered on the west by the Penobscot traditional territory of the Penobscot River watershed and Union River watershed in Maine, USA (MGS and UINR 2016).

The community is in St. Andrews where they assert title to territories along the Maine and New Brunswick border, with most of the members currently living on the US side of the border (Table 7.20). The Passamaquoddy are specifically named in the Marshall decision (1999) based on the Peace and Friendship Treaties which provides them the Treaty right to fish. The Passamaquoddy have submitted a claim to the federal government which has currently been accepted for review.

Table 7.20 Peskotomuhkati Nation (Passamaquoddy) Community Profile

Community Indicator	Description
Peskotomuhkati Nation in New Brunswick	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Peskotomuhkati Nation is in St. Andrews. Peskotomuhkati Nation is approximately 1,370 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	The homeland of the Peskotomuhkati people is centred around the Passamaquoddy Bay, the drainage area of the Schoodic (St. Croix) River, and the Fundy Islands (in Canada and the United States) (Nexen Energy ULC 2018). In 2013, it was estimated

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Community Indicator	Description
Peskotomuhkati Nation in New Brunswick	
	that the Schoodic Band numbered 300 residing in NB, primarily in the southwestern portion of the province along the Maine and NB border. A larger group of Peskotomuhkati live in the State of Maine. No census information is available specifically for Peskotomuhkati Nation in New Brunswick.
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	Limited information is available on the health and socio-economic conditions of the Peskotomuhkati as a group because they do not live on a reserve or in a separate community.
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	<p>Limited information is available on the physical and cultural heritage of the Peskotomuhkati. However, evidence suggests that their ancestors inhabited their traditional territory from Machias, Maine to Point Lepreau, NB for the last 13,000 years. More than 70 known pre-contact archaeological sites, on the Canadian side of the Peskotomuhkati's traditional territory, hold artifacts demonstrating continuous occupancy. Many more sites are believed to be underwater. Seasonal journeys within their traditional territory, which extended inland north along the Schoodic River to the Chippitnecook Lakes, involved harvesting natural resources throughout the year (Nexen Energy ULC 2018). In the spring, Peskotomuhkati people occupied a field at Salmon Falls on the Schoodic River to take advantage of the runs up-river by salmon, eels, and alewives. Passamaquoddy Bay was also an important fishing area for its abundance of pollock. Gran Manan was also considered an important fishing and hunting location.</p> <p>At least three Peskotomuhkati communities were established in Charlotte County, NB in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Established in 1785, the Schoodic Reserve, located in Milltown, NB, was an important fishing place and tribal burial ground. The Canoose Reserve, at the confluence of the Canoose and Schoodic Rivers, was created in 1851. The St. Croix Reserve was created in 1881 on the St. Croix River. At least two other tracts of land in St. Andrews and Gran Manan Island were known to be gathering places and were the subject of various petitions for reserve status but were never formalized. The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Peskotomuhkati, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.</p>
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	Peskotomuhkati communities were traditionally located along the coast and its people were mainly a seafaring nation of fishermen and harvesters migrating to and from the coast within rivers and valleys (Bassett 2014, in MGS and UINR 2016).
Commercial Communal Fishing	Peskotomuhkati Nation has no commercial communal licences.
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Peskotomuhkati Nation has no FSC licences, however the Agency identified them as having an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon for FSC purposes.
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The Peskotomuhkati Nation asserts Aboriginal rights to land and resources, including the right to hunt, fish, and gather throughout its traditional territory.

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7.4.6 Mi'kmaq and Innu of Québec

7.4.6.1 Mi'gmaq of Québec

Three Mi'gmaq First Nation groups were identified in the EIS Guidelines for engagement and inclusion in the EIS:

- Micmacs of Gesgapegiag
- La Nation Micmac de Gespeg
- Listuguj Mi'gmaq Government

These Indigenous communities are represented by Mi'gmawei Mawiomí Secretariat (MMS) to represent the Mi'gma'gi of Gespe'gewa'gi in Aboriginal title, Mi'kmq rights and Treaty rights with the Governments of Canada and Québec. The MMS formally submitted a statement of claim to the federal and provincial governments in 2007. The Mi'kmaq, Québec and Canada formally agreed to pursue land claims negotiations in 2008 and signed a framework agreement and a consultation agreement in 2012. The three parties are currently negotiating an agreement-in-principle (AIP) that should eventually lead to a final agreement (MMS 2017).

The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'gmaq of Quebec (the Gespe'gewa'gi), which includes virtually all of the Gaspé Peninsula and a large part of New Brunswick, and adjacent waters.

The three Mi'gmaq communities located in Quebec are discussed in further detail in Table 7.21.

Table 7.21 Mi'gmaq of Quebec Community Profiles

Community Indicator	Description
Micmacs of Gesgapegiag	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Micmacs of Gesgapegiag is comprised of one reserve, located on the south shore of the Gaspé Peninsula, at the intersection of the Gesgapegiag River estuary and the Baie des Chaleurs. Micmacs of Gesgapegiag is approximately 1,150 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Gesgapegiag is 45 km west of Bonaventure, on the north shore of Cascapedia Bay with an area of 222 ha (INAC 2015). According to 2016 census data, the on-reserve population of the Micmacs of Gesgapegiag was 653 (Statistics Canada 2018). The population of the Gesgapegiag community decreased from 2011 to 2016, which may be attributed to the result of a lower birth rate or possible out-migration, as approximately half of the registered population of Gesgapegiag live off-reserve (Nexen Energy ULC 2018).

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Community Indicator	Description
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	<p>The Micmacs de Gesgapegiag Band Council provides education, health care, social services, fire and police services, public works, economic development, and employment through community employment projects. The Wejgwapniag School exists within the community, providing primary and secondary education. Established in 1996, the Gesgapegiag Health and Community Services (GHCS) provides a variety of programs and services through a medical centre, healing lodge, and youth centre (MOG 2018). In addition, the Mawiomí Treatment Centre in Gesgapegiag specializes in the treatment of substance, drug, and alcohol abuse (Statoil 2017). Also located within the community is the Walgwan Treatment Centre, which is one of a network of nine First Nation treatment centres in Canada to provide culturally-based treatment services for dependence on solvents and other substances as well as addictive behaviour to First Nations and Inuit youth (Statoil 2017).</p> <p>The Micmacs of Gesgapegiag are engaged in the forestry industry, through a Forest Management Agreement with the provincial government to harvest 15,000 cubic meters of softwood to be sold to a local sawmill (MOG 2018). The Band’s forestry industry employs 25 – 30 individuals on a seasonal basis. Other economic activities include construction, tourism, handicraft production and outfitting services for sport fishing and hunting (CDPDJ 2009). In 2011, the largest employer within the community was Public Administration, employing approximately 42% of the workforce.</p> <p>As described in more detail below, Micmacs of Gesgapegiag has an agreement with the provincial government for communal fishing, which occurs primarily in the Cascapedia River mouth as well as in the Petite riviere Cascapedia and its mouth (MMAFMA 2017). Established in 2012, the Mi’gmaq Maliseet Aboriginal Fisheries Management Association (MMAFMA), in partnership with the Quebec School of Fisheries and Aquaculture, assists the Micmac of Gesgapegiag in commercial fishing initiatives. The MMAFMA has a commercial fishing vessel and administers training programs for fishing mackerel, herring and bluefin tuna, pelagic species for which it holds commercial communal licences. The boat is also used for training programs in groundfish (Atlantic halibut, Greenland halibut, redfish) fisheries through a program with Quebec School of Fisheries and Aquaculture. The Micmac of Gesgapegiag are also engaged in a joint aquaculture initiative to grow and process kelp products and the Micmacs de Gesgapegiag co-manage sport salmon fishing in the Cascapedia River through Société Cascapedia inc. (MOG 2018; Saumon Quebec 2017). The Gesgapegiag Fisheries Department (GFD) manages the Band’s participation in commercial seafood harvesting. The GFD employs 48 registered First Nations members and nine non-Indigenous people in the fishing industry, seasonally. Fishers harvest lobster, shrimp, and crab off the coast of the Gaspé Peninsula.</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	<p>Traditionally, the Mi’kmaq lived by hunting, fishing, and gathering throughout their territory, which covered the southeastern portion of the Gaspé Peninsula, NS, PEI, most of NB, southern Newfoundland and Labrador. Mi’kmaq hunters and fishers were also known to travel to Anticosti Island and the shore of the North Coast and the Magdalen Islands (CDPDJ 2009). Traditional camps of the Quebec Mi’kmaq were located along the shores of the St. Lawrence River. The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Micmacs of Gesgapegiag, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.</p>

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Community Indicator	Description
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	<p>Various fish species have traditionally been fished by the Mi'gmaq in the Gulf of St. Lawrence through the seasons, including winter flounder as the ice begins to melt, then spawning runs of anadromous and catadromous fish including smelt in March, alewife in April, sturgeon and salmon in May, July and August, eel in September and Atlantic tomcod as late as December (Morrison 2018). During spring and summer, the Mi'gmaq also harvest marine invertebrates including oysters, scallops, quahog or hard clam, soft clam, American lobster, and northern crab (Morrison 2018).</p> <p>Traditionally, the people of the Micmacs of Gesgapegiag used Atlantic salmon for barter, spiritual, and ceremonial practices Fishing occurred from late May to early November. From 1984-2008, the Micmac of Gesgapegiag annually harvested salmon in the Cascapedia River for subsistence purposes. The Gesgapegiag have not taken salmon in the Cascapedia River since 2009 pursuant to an agreement with the provincial government to cease fishing salmon in return for monetary compensation (Nexen Energy ULC 2018). Eel harvesting is a traditional Mi'kmaq activity, beginning in May and ending when the ice forms. According to members of the Micmac of Gesgapegiag, eel is largely harvested in the mouth and estuary of the Cascapedia River. Harvesting sites extend along the coast from Carleton to Bonaventure including the Nouvelle area (Nexen Energy ULC 2018). Cod fishing has been an important aspect to the economic and cultural landscape of the Gaspé Peninsula but is now restricted due to low stocks. Members of Gesgapegiag have reported catching cod in the Cascapedia River estuary in recent years. Members have also reported that striped bass is captured mostly as by-catch in the Cascapedia River estuary, along the shoreline near Carleton and New Richmond. The marine area of the Banc des Américains has been identified as being of economic, ecological, and cultural importance for the Mi'kmaq communities. The area is used to harvest crab, lobster, mackerel, herring, cod, and waterfowl (MMAFMA 2017).</p>
Commercial Communal Fishing	Gesgapegiag holds commercial fishing licences for cod and turbot, halibut, and winter flounder (Morrison 2018). Commercial communal licences are held for mackerel and shrimp (Morrison 2018).
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	The Micmac of Gesgapegiag participate in fishing for FSC purposes. The First Nation has an agreement with the provincial government for communal fishing, which occurs principally in the Cascapedia River mouth as well as the Petite riviere Cascapedia and its mouth (MMAFMA 2017).
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The MMS signed a Framework Agreement for a comprehensive claim with Canada (2012) that includes the Gaspé Peninsula and westward down the St. Lawrence River as well as Anticosti Island. Mi'gmaq First Nations have a right to fish for a "moderate livelihood" which flows from the Peace and Friendship Treaties and an Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes.
La Nation Micmac de Gespeg	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	La Nation Micmac de Gespeg has no land base; members live throughout the Gaspé Peninsula and in other areas. La Nation Micmac de Gespeg is approximately 1,030 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	La Nation Micmac de Gespeg is represented by the MMS. In 2016, La Nation Micmac de Gespeg had 820 registered members living throughout the Gaspé Peninsula and in other areas (INAC 2015). No census information is available specifically for La Nation Micmac de Gespeg.

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Community Indicator	Description
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	<p>Publicly-available information of the health and socio-economic conditions of the Micmac de Gespeg could not be found.</p> <p>La Nation Micmac de Gespeg is actively engaged in the fishing industry, through the MMAFMA who hold several commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. The MMAFMA has a commercial fishing vessel and administers training programs for fishing mackerel, herring and bluefin tuna, pelagic species for which it holds commercial communal licences. The vessel is also used for training programs in groundfish (Atlantic halibut, Greenland halibut, redfish) fisheries through a program with Quebec School of Fisheries and Aquaculture. La Nation Micmac de Gespeg is also engaged in a joint aquaculture initiative to grow and process kelp products.</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	<p>Traditionally, the Mi'kmaq lived by hunting, fishing, and gathering throughout their territory, which covered the southeastern portion of the Gaspé Peninsula, NS, PEI, most of NB, southern Newfoundland and Labrador. Mi'kmaq hunters and fishers were also known to travel to Anticosti Island and the shore of the North Coast and the Magdalen Islands (CDPDJ 2009). Traditional camps of the Quebec Mi'kmaq were located along the shores of the St. Lawrence River. No specific information is available of the physical and cultural heritage of la Nation Micmac de Gespeg. The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of la Nation Micmac de Gespeg, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.</p>
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	<p>Various fish species have traditionally been fished by the Mi'gmaq in the Gulf of St. Lawrence with different species being targeted in certain seasons, including winter flounder as the ice begins to melt, followed by spawning runs of anadromous and catadromous fish including smelt in March, alewife in April, sturgeon and salmon in May, July and August, eel in September and Atlantic tomcod as late as December (Morrison 2018). During spring and summer, the Mi'gmaq also harvest marine invertebrates including oysters, scallops, quahog or hard clam, soft clam, American lobster, and northern crab (Morrison 2018).</p> <p>Traditionally, the people of la Nation Micmac de Gespeg used Atlantic salmon for barter, spiritual, and ceremonial practices. Fishing occurred from late May to early November. Members of Gespeg took salmon in the Saint-Jean, Dartmouth, York, and Malbaie Rivers and in the mouth of the Dartmouth River (MMAFMA 2017).</p> <p>According to some members, cod is also harvested in the Gaspé Bay, particularly in the southern and northern portions. Striped bass is also harvested at locations between Gaspé and the Malbaie River, generally from May to October. Eel harvesting is a traditional Mi'kmaq activity, beginning in May and ending when the ice forms.</p>
Commercial Communal Fishing	<p>The MMAFMA hold several commercial communal licences for mackerel, herring, and bluefin tuna (Nexen Energy ULC 2018). Commercial harvesting of groundfish (e.g., Atlantic halibut, Greenland halibut, redfish) is planned.</p>
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	<p>La Nation Micmac de Gespeg participate in fishing for FSC purposes. The First Nation has an agreement with the provincial government for harvesting salmon on the Saint-Jean, Dartmouth, and York Rivers. Most of the salmon harvested is distributed to elders. Eel harvesting sites reported by the Gespeg First Nation include the shoreline between Gaspé and Perce.</p>
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	<p>The MMS signed a Framework Agreement for a comprehensive claim with Canada (2012) that includes the Gaspé Peninsula and westward down the St. Lawrence River as well as Anticosti Island. Mi'gmaq First Nations have a right to fish for a “moderate livelihood” which flows from the Peace and Friendship Treaties and an Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes.</p>

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Community Indicator	Description
Listuguj	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Listuguj is comprised of one reserve, located at the mouth of the Restigouche River in the southwestern area of the Gaspé Peninsula. Listuguj is approximately 1,210 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Listuguj is 118 km southwest of Bonaventure, on the north shore of the Restigouche River with an area of 4,344 ha (INAC 2015). Listuguj is represented by the Mi'gmawei Mawiomi Secretariat (INAC 2015). According to 2016 census data, the on-reserve population of the Listuguj was 1,241 (Statistics Canada 2018). The population of Listuguj decreased from 2011 to 2016, which may be attributed to the result of a lower birth rate or possible out-migration, because approximately half of the registered population of Listuguj live off-reserve (Nexen Energy ULC 2018).
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	<p>Listuguj Mi'gmaq Government (LMG) provides facilities and programs to the community in housing, education, community and social services, health, community health, fire safety, policing, restorative justice, drinking water, wastewater management, solid waste management, roads, and natural resource management. Established in 1997, the Alaqsit'e'w Gitpu School exists within the community, accommodating 250 students from nursery to grade 8 (LMG 2017). The Band Council provides additional educational support through the Post-Secondary Student Support Program and Mi'kmaq language and culture programs (LMG 2017). The community also has a variety of community health services, provided by the Listuguj Community Health Services, including the Listuguj Health Centre, women's shelter, a long-term care facility for the elderly and a youth group home (LMG 2017). The LMG is actively engaged in the forestry industry and Listuguj members are employed in the LMG silvicultural and forestry operations and as independent loggers (LMG 2017). In 2011, the largest employer in the Listuguj community was Public Administration, employing approximately 31 percent of the workforce.</p> <p>As described in more detail below, the Band Council holds several commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. The fisheries sector is an important element for Listuguj First Nation. Listuguj Fisheries directly employs community members and owns 13 fishing vessels (Listuguj Fisheries 2014). Listuguj Fisheries is also involved in fisheries training, employment, and policy development (Listuguj Fisheries 2014).</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	The Mi'kmaq traditionally lived by hunting, fishing, and gathering throughout their territory, which covered the southeastern portion of the Gaspé Peninsula, NS, PEI, most of NB, southern Newfoundland and Labrador. Mi'kmaq hunters and fishers were also known to travel to Anticosti Island and the shore of the North Coast and the Magdalen Islands (CDPDJ 2009). Traditional camps of the Quebec Mi'kmaq were located along the shores of the St. Lawrence River. The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Listuguj, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	<p>Various fish species have traditionally been fished by the Mi'gmaq in the Gulf of St. Lawrence with different species being targeted in certain seasons, including winter flounder as the ice begins to melt, followed by spawning runs of anadromous and catadromous fish including smelt in March, alewife in April, sturgeon and salmon in May, July and August, eel in September and Atlantic tomcod as late as December (Morrison 2018). During spring and summer, the Mi'gmaq also harvest marine invertebrates including oysters, scallops, quahog or hard clam, soft clam, American lobster, and northern crab (Morrison 2018).</p> <p>The Mi'kmaq have traditionally relied upon marine resources. Since 1984, Listuguj have taken approximately 1,000 salmon annually in the Restigouche River (Nexen Energy ULC 2018). Eel harvesting is a traditional Mi'kmaq activity, beginning in May and ending when the ice forms.</p>

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Community Indicator	Description
Commercial Communal Fishing	Listuguj holds commercial fishing licences for cod, turbot and halibut and commercial communal licences for snow crab (Morrison 2018).
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Listuguj participates in communal fishing for FSC purposes with licences to harvest salmon and lobster (Statoil 2017).
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The MMS signed a Framework Agreement for a comprehensive claim with Canada (2012) that includes the Gaspé Peninsula and westward down the St. Lawrence River as well as Anticosti Island. Mi'gmaq First Nations have a right to fish for a "moderate livelihood" which flows from the Peace and Friendship Treaties and an Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes.

7.4.6.2 Innu of Québec

The Innu people of Quebec were traditionally nomadic and depended on the products of hunting, fishing, and gathering activities for their subsistence. Their ancestral territory covers the entire region between Québec City and Labrador and extends north of Schefferville, with permanent establishment of Innu communities in the south of their territory at the end of the 19th century from the participation in the fur trade and expansion of the forestry and mining industries. The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Innu of Quebec.

In 1979, Québec Innu land claim negotiations were initiated by the Atikamekw and Montagnais Council, which was created in 1975 to represent nine Québec Innu Nations and three Atikamekw Nations; however, due to differences of opinion, mainly with respect to recognition of Aboriginal rights and certainty, the Atikamekw and Montagnais Council was dissolved. The Mamuitun mak Nutashkuan Tribal Council completed negotiations in 2004 and a general Agreement-in-Principal (AIP) was signed by the Chiefs of the Essipit First Nation, Mashteuiatsh First Nation, Nutashkuan First Nation and Pessamit First Nation and the governments of Québec and Canada (Tremblay 2011). The land claims AIP is significant in that the Innu First Nations would not surrender title over their traditional territory and would no longer be subject to the *Indian Act*; instead, a form of self-government would be determined (NP 2016). Negotiations towards a Final Agreement are still underway (INAC 2016). The Pessamit First Nation no longer participates in the negotiations and the Regroupement Petapan now represents the other three First Nations (RP 2017).

The Regroupement Mamit Innuat Tribal Council (MICT) was formed in 1982 as an advisory body to create a common development structure for the four "Montagnais" Innu First Nations of the Lower North Shore (i.e., Ekuanitshit, Nutashkuan, Unamen Shipu and Pakua Shipu). The MICT represents the interests of the First Nations in public, provincial, national, and international initiatives (MICT 2011).

Two Innu communities were identified in the EIS Guidelines for engagement and inclusion in the EIS:

- Les Innus de Ekuanitshit
- Innu First Nation of Nutashkuan

They are discussed in further detail in Table 7.22.

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Table 7.22 Innu of Quebec Community Profiles

Community Indicator	Description
Les Innus de Ekuanitshit	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	The Innu of Ekuanitshit is comprised of one reserve, at the confluence of the Mingan River and the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The Innu of Ekuanitshit community is approximately 965 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Mingan is 28 km west of Havre-Saint-Pierre with an area of 3,838 ha (INAC 2015). The Innu of Ekuanitshit is represented by Regroupement Mamit Innuat Tribal Council (INAC 2015). The total registered population of the Conseil des Innu of Ekuanitshit is 645, of whom 94 percent live on-reserve (Nexen Energy ULC 2018).
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	<p>Within the community, Ecole Teueikan accommodates students from pre-kindergarten to grade 4. A health centre provides emergency and preventive care and community health services. Five nurses are available on-reserve, and a nutritionist, psychologist and dentist visit regularly. The Council of the Ekuanitshit First Nation is responsible for the provision of health services to community members, after this responsibility was transferred by Health Canada. The Innu Mukutan Economic Development Corporation is responsible for economic development for Innu communities under its jurisdiction, including the Innu of Ekuanitshit. The main economic activities in the community are the public sector, outfitting, commercial fishing and handicrafts (Englobe 2018). In 2011, the largest employer for community members was Public Administration, employing approximately 31 percent of the workforce.</p> <p>The community has commercial fishing enterprises, but limited information is publicly available. Ekuanitshit co-manages Pêcheries Shippek with the Pakua Shipi Innu First Nation. Pêcheries Shippek commercially harvests scallops, crab, halibut, sea cucumber and whelk, and sells its products to three fish stores. Ekuanitshit operates six boats and its commercial fishing activities employ some 40 persons on a full- or part-time basis (Nexen Energy ULC 2018). The Innu communities of Nutashkuan, Ekuanitshit, Pakua Shipi and Unamen Shipu are planning to develop a fish processing plant (Nexen Energy ULC 2018).</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	Innu culture and heritage are based on their relationship with game and fish and the seasonal migrations and locations of various species, particularly caribou and salmon. The spring hunt for migratory birds, seal hunting, and fishing for Atlantic salmon has been practiced by the Innu of Ekuanitshit for several thousand years (Englobe 2018). There are numerous coastal sites dating from approximately a thousand years ago showing intensive spring harvesting of migratory bird species, including the Canada Goose and common eider (Englobe 2018). Innu people travelled across a vast territory that encompassed the entire St. Lawrence catchment area between the Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean and Labrador (Nexen Energy ULC 2018). Of the approximately 8,000 archaeological sites discovered in Quebec, over 1,600 are in traditional Innu territory. Two important Innu sites have been discovered. The first is approximately 60 km from the coast, on the northern shore of Lake Jourdain, and was used as a staging area for lengthy portages. The second site, on the shore of the Jean-Pierre River, demonstrates Innu relationships with groups to the West, North-West and North (MRCN 2010). These archaeological sites are located along the shores of lakes and rivers that were used as encampment areas and travel routes for the Innu. None of these locations are located within or near the Project Area. The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Innu of Quebec, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.

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Community Indicator	Description
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	<p>Traditional hunting, fishing and gathering activities continue to support the domestic economy as well as local traditions for Les Innus de Ekuanitshit (Englobe 2018). The Innu continue to use resources of the St. Lawrence for food and communal purposes. Activities include fishing for Atlantic salmon, herring, and brook trout; collecting goose eggs in the peat bogs between the River and its tributaries; collecting other bird eggs; hunting waterfowl; gathering edible plants; fishing for lobster and scallops; collecting other shellfish along the coast; and harp seal hunting (Piétacho 2018; CIE 2014).</p> <p>Fishing, particularly for Atlantic salmon, has played an important role and continues to have a prominent place in contemporary Innu culture on the North Shore of the St. Lawrence River and estuary.</p> <p>Salmon harvesting continues to be a family and community activity, and the respect and sharing of salmon remain strong community values. The Innu demonstrate their respect for the salmon in several ways: fishers only take what they need; they respect the quotas they set for catching fish for their own food purposes rather than commercial fishing; and they do not waste the salmon. Sharing the salmon with all community members is also part of pow-wow and St. Anne (Fête de la Sainte-Anne) festivities (Ekuanitshit Innu Council, pers. comm. 2018).</p> <p>The run of salmon in rivers in June traditionally coincided with the arrival of the Innu on the shore, with salmon fishing marking the transition from living on land during winter in small family groups, to the summer on the coast where the entire community gathered (Piétacho 2018). The Innu of Ekuanitshit have identified 35 harvesting areas and 21 camps for salmon fishing along the Romaine River and its main tributary, the Puyjalon River. They also take salmon in the Jupitagon, Magpie, Saint-Jean, Mingan and Manitou Rivers (HQP 2007). Salmon fishing (subsistence and sport) in the Romaine River is now closed because of scarcity (MFFP 2017). On the Romaine River, immediately downstream of Grande Chute, hunting is practiced by the Innu of Ekuanitshit using motorized canoe and snowmobiles. Trapping activities are focused on beaver, otter, and muskrat. Various species of ducks are also hunted, particularly in the Grande Hermine Bay (HQP 2007).</p> <p>Migration patterns of some of these species, namely salmon, marine mammals and birds pass through or are in close proximity to the Project Area.</p>
Commercial Communal Fishing	<p>Les Innus de Ekuanitshit have commercial communal licences in its own name, as a member of the Agence Mamu Innu Kaikusseht, and through the Pecheries Shipek fishing company. These three entities have commercial communal fishing licences for several species of fish and shellfish and are important economic levers for their community (Ekuanitshit Innu Council, pers. comm. 2018).</p>
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	<p>Les Innu de Ekuanitshit has no FSC licences. However, Atlantic salmon, herring, brook trout, lobster, scallop and other shellfish are known to be important species for FSC purposes.</p>
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	<p>The Innus of Ekuanitshit assert Aboriginal rights, including the right to hunt, fish, and gather throughout its traditional territory. The Innus of Ekuanitshit claim a territory that extends over parts of Labrador and Quebec, including Anticosti Island in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.</p>
Innu First Nation of Nutashkuan	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	<p>The Innu First Nation of Nutashkuan is comprised of one reserve, at the mouth of the Natashquan River in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Nutashkuan is approximately 813 km from the Project Area.</p>
General Overview	<p>Nutashkuan is 336 km east of Sept-Îles with an area of 118.9 ha (INAC 2015). Nutashkuan is represented by Regroupement Mamit Innuat Tribal Council (INAC 2015). In October 2017, the total registered population of Nutashkuan was 1,144, of whom 91 percent live on-reserve (Nexen Energy ULC 2018). The Project does not overlap with any Innu First Nation of Nutashkuan reserve lands. Nitassinan, its traditional territory, covers 51,950 km².</p>

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Community Indicator	Description
Health and Socio-economic Conditions	<p>Within the community, Ecole Uauitshitun accommodates students from kindergarten to secondary V (grade 11). The Band Council provides medical care and fire protection. Policing services are provided by the Surete du Quebec. A health centre provides front-line, emergency, and preventive health services as well as community health services. Patients requiring hospitalization are transferred to regional centres. Five nurses are available on-reserve, and a nutritionist, psychologist and dentist visit regularly. Innu First Nation of Nutashkuan manages health services, after this responsibility has been transferred by Health Canada. The Innu First Nation of Nutashkuan has recently established its own Economic Development Office. Economic initiatives within Nutashkuan include handicraft production, trapping, tourism, construction, transportation, and outfitting. In 2011, the largest employer for community members was Public Administration, employing approximately 31 percent of the workforce.</p> <p>The community has commercial fishing enterprises, which have several fishing licences. The Council of the Innu First Nation of Nutashkuan owns two boats: Lady Rachel and C.N.M. Nutashkuan (Ekuanitshit Innu Council, pers. comm. 2018). The Innu First Nation of Nutashkuan commercially fish crab, clams, lobster and groundfish and owns two fishing vessels (Nexen Energy ULC 2018). Pêcheries Commerciales Nutashkuan, which was established by the Band Council in 1994, employs between six and 25 individuals (FNQLEDC 2010). The Innu First Nation of Nutashkuan is planning to develop a fish processing plant in cooperation with Ekuanitshit, Pakua Shipi and Unamen Shipu (Nexen Energy ULC 2018).</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	<p>Innu culture and heritage are based on their relationship with game and fish and the seasonal migrations and locations of various species, particularly caribou and salmon. Innu people travelled across a vast territory that encompassed the entire St. Lawrence catchment area between the Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean and Labrador (Nexen Energy ULC 2018). Of the approximately 8,000 archaeological sites discovered in Quebec, over 1,600 are in traditional Innu territory. Two important Innu sites were discovered along the shores of lakes and rivers that were used as encampment areas and travel routes for the Innu. None of these sites are located within or near the Project Area. The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Quebec Innu, therefore there are no known physical and cultural heritage sites in or near the Project Area.</p>
Current Use of Lands for Traditional Purposes	<p>The Innu continue to use the resources of the St. Lawrence for food and communal purposes. Activities include fishing for Atlantic salmon, herring, and brook trout; collecting goose eggs in the peat bogs between the River and its tributaries; collecting other bird eggs; hunting waterfowl; gathering edible plants; fishing for lobster and scallops; collecting other shellfish along the coast; and harp seal hunting (CIE 2014). Fishing, particularly for Atlantic salmon, played and continues to play an important role in Innu life on the North Shore of the St. Lawrence River, estuary, and Gulf.</p> <p>The waterways contemporarily used by the Innu First Nation of Nutashkuan include the Nutashkuan Romaine, De la Corneille, Piashit, Quetachou, Nabisipi and Aguanish Rivers. The southern portion of the land use area extends from the coast to Wakeham, Forgues, Pauline and Metivier Lakes. Trapping and small game hunting in that portion is facilitated by transportation routes. Along the shore, west of Baie-Johan-Beetz, harvesting activities occur up to the Havre-Saint-Pierre region. Lobster and scallops are taken from Nickerson Bay. Canada geese and eider are also hunted from the shoreline or by motorized boat, and waterfowl are hunted along the shore. Many hunting areas and encampments are located at the Grande Hermine and Nickerson Bays, as well as on the coastal plain of the Romaine River, particularly on either side of Route 138. Beaver trapping and gathering of small fruit occur on the Romaine coastal plain. Porcupine is often hunted near the shore along Route 138 and other roads leading north.</p> <p>The Innu First Nation of Nutashkuan have continued to be mobile and still cover a large territory but travels are not as expansive as they have been historically.</p>

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Community Indicator	Description
Communal Fishing	The Innu First Nation of Nutashkuan has communal licenses. The fisheries cover several areas and species including cod, Atlantic halibut, Greenland halibut, fluke, mackerel, herring, groundfish, whelk, lobster, Arctic surf clam crab and scallop (Innu First Nation of Nutashkuan, pers. comm. 2018).
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	The Innu First Nation of Nutashkuan has no FSC licences. However, Atlantic salmon, herring, brook trout, lobster, scallops, and other shellfish are understood to be important FSC species for the Innu.
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The Innu First Nation of Nutashkuan asserts Aboriginal rights, including the right to hunt, fish, and gather throughout its traditional territory. The Innu First Nation of Nutashkuan claim a territory that extends over parts of Labrador and Quebec, including part of Anticosti Island and Jacques Cartier Strait in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

7.4.7 Harvested Species

Given that the Project is located 343 km offshore, approximately 346 km from the nearest Indigenous community, potential interactions with Indigenous peoples are most likely to occur through Project interactions with species of cultural or commercial importance that have the potential to occur or migrate through the RAA and/or coastal species that could potentially be impacted in the unlikely event of a major spill (refer to Section 15.x for more information on fate and behaviour of spills and likelihood and locations of potential shoreline interactions).

7.4.7.1 Commercial Communal Fisheries

Within the waters of offshore Newfoundland and Labrador, including waters within the Project Area and the RAA, commercial fishing activity for several different species occurs, including species that Indigenous groups may hold commercial communal licences to harvest. Commercial communal fishing activity and licences for Indigenous groups is described in Sections 7.3.2 to 7.3.6. Table 7.23 summarizes the Indigenous groups within Newfoundland and Labrador which hold commercial communal licences within the RAA. Species harvested for commercial communal purposes within the RAA include capelin, groundfish, herring, mackerel, seal, shrimp, snow crab, tuna, and whelk. Commercial fisheries are discussed in Section 7.2, and Figures 7.46 to 7.49 show landings locations for primary commercial fisheries. These figures demonstrate that commercial fishing activities, including those that are carried out under a commercial communal licence by Indigenous groups, are occurring within the Project Area or RAA.

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Table 7.23 Commercial Communal Fishing Licences Issued to Newfoundland and Labrador Indigenous Groups for Fishing in the Regional Assessment Area

Indigenous Group	Commercial Communal Fishing Licence								
	Capelin	Ground -fish	Herring	Mackerel	Seal	Shrimp	Snow Crab	Tuna	Whelk
	Capelin Fishing Area	NAFO Unit	Herring Fishing Area	Mackerel Fishing Area	Sealing Area	Shrimp Mgmt Area	Crab Fishing Area	NAFO Unit	NAFO Unit
Innu Nation	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	2J, 3KL	-	3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	-	6, 7	-	-	-
Nunatsiavut Government	-	2J, 3KL	-	-	4, 5, 6, 7	-	2	-	-
NunatuKavut Community Council	2	2J, 3KL	-	-	4, 5, 6, 7	6	2	-	2J
Miawpukek First Nation (MFN)	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	2J, 3KLN	-	3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	4, 5, 6, 7	-	-	3LNO	-
Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation Band (QMFNB)	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	2J, 3KLN	3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	-	6	4	-	-
Mi'kmaq Alsumk Mowimsikik Koqoey Association ¹	-	2J, 3KLN	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Notes: ¹ formed by MFN and QMFNB under DFO's Aboriginal and Aquatic Resources Management Program Bolded text indicates areas within the Project Area. Data provided by DFO (2018)									

As discussed in Section 7.2.3, commercial fishing activity occurs throughout the RAA, with shrimp, snow crab, and groundfish being the key species harvested in and near the Project Area. Species such as capelin, herring, and mackerel are generally harvested in coastal areas. Commercial fishing gear used in offshore Newfoundland and Labrador are unique to the species that is being harvested, except for groundfish which typically uses a combination of stern otter trawls, mobile or fixed gillnets, or longlines (e.g., baited hooks). Crab pots are used in the snow crab fishery and shrimp trawls for northern shrimp. Most harvesting occurs between the months of April and August, with some activity occurring year around (refer to Section 7.2.4).

Harp, grey, hooded, and ringed seals are harvested by Indigenous groups in Newfoundland and Labrador. Sealing generally occurs between late March and mid-May, however can vary by species, and considers environmental and biological conditions (DFO 2011). The ringed seal is the primary seal species harvested by the Inuit (DFO 2011). The harp seal is commonly harvested in Greenland, with the harvest in Greenland surpassing the Canadian commercial harvest in recent years because Inuit harvesters tend to harvest older animals than are available in the Canadian commercial harvest (DFO

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2011). Hooded seals are also important to subsistence harvesters in Greenland, particularly to the Inuit along the east coast (DFO 2011). Grey seals are generally harvested around the Gulf of St. Lawrence and coastal areas of Nova Scotia. In addition to the commercial communal fishery, Indigenous groups can harvest seals throughout the year for FSC purposes.

In addition to species commercially fished by the Newfoundland and Labrador Indigenous groups, Indigenous groups within the Maritime provinces hold commercial communal licences which are located within the RAA. This includes commercial communal licences for swordfish and tuna. Table 7.24 provides a summary of Indigenous groups in the Maritime provinces that hold commercial communal licences in the RAA. Details for each of these species is provided below.

Table 7.24 Commercial Communal Fishing Licences Issued to Maritime Indigenous Groups for Fishing in the Regional Assessment Area

Indigenous Group	Swordfish	Tuna
	NAFO Unit	NAFO Unit
Glooscap First Nation	3LMNO	3LMNO
Membertou Band Council	-	3LMNO
Millbrook First Nation	3LMNO	3LMNO
Mime'j Seafoods Ltd (NCNS)	3LMNO	3LMNO
Paqtnekek First Nation	3LMNO	-
Pictou Landing First Nation	3LMNO	-
Sipekne'katik First Nation	3LMNO	3LMNO
Wagmatcook First Nation	3LMNO	-
Waycobah First Nation	3LMNO	-
Abegweit Band	3LMNO	-
Lennox Island First Nation	3LMNO	-
Native Council of PEI	3LMNO	-
Bouctouche Micmac Band	-	-
Eel River Bar First Nation	-	-
Elsipogtog First Nation	-	-
Esgenoopetitj First Nation	-	-
Fort Folly First Nation	3LMNO	3LMNO
Indian Island First Nation	-	-
Pabineau First Nation	-	-
St. Mary's First Nation	3LMNO	-
Tobique First Nation	-	-
Woodstock First Nation	3LMNO	3LMNO
Notes: Bolded text indicates areas within the Project Area. Data provided by DFO (2018)		

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Swordfish

Swordfish are a migratory species that are distributed widely throughout the Atlantic Ocean and can occur in waters of offshore NL. As shown in Table 7.10, there are several Indigenous groups that hold commercial communal fishing licences for swordfish in NAFO Areas that overlap with the Project Area and the RAA including NAFO subdivisions 3LMNO). Therefore, swordfish harvesting activities may potentially occur in the same area as routine Project activities. As illustrated in Figure 7.46, commercial landing locations for swordfish, including those landings fished under a commercial communal licence, between 2011 and 2015, have been located primarily within NAFO subdivisions 3O and 3N, outside of the Project Area. While commercial landings for swordfish are an indication of swordfish distribution, the species has a wide range and can be found along the edge of the continental shelf. According to recent DFO research surveys (refer to Section 6.1.7), swordfish was found in the Project Area between July and October and the potential for occurrence within the Project Area was considered low. In general, there is potential for swordfish to move throughout the Project Area during certain times of the year.

Tuna

In addition to swordfish, Indigenous groups Within Atlantic Canada also hold commercial communal licences to harvest species of tuna. As illustrated by Figures 7.47 to 7.49, most commercial landings for tuna species within offshore waters of Newfoundland and Labrador, have generally been concentrated within NAFO area 3O, which is outside of the Project Area, and within the southwest portion of the RAA. As tuna are a highly migratory species, and they have been found in the offshore waters of Newfoundland and Labrador, there is potential that the species could migrate through the Project Area in search of prey species. The most recent DFO research vessel survey results showed that bluefin, albacore, and bigeye tuna were observed in the Project Area (refer to Section 6.1.7.). Albacore tuna were found in the Project Area between September and December, while bluefin tuna were observed in the Project Area between July and September. For the three species, DFO noted that the potential for occurrence within the Project Area was low (see Figures 4.47 to 4.49).

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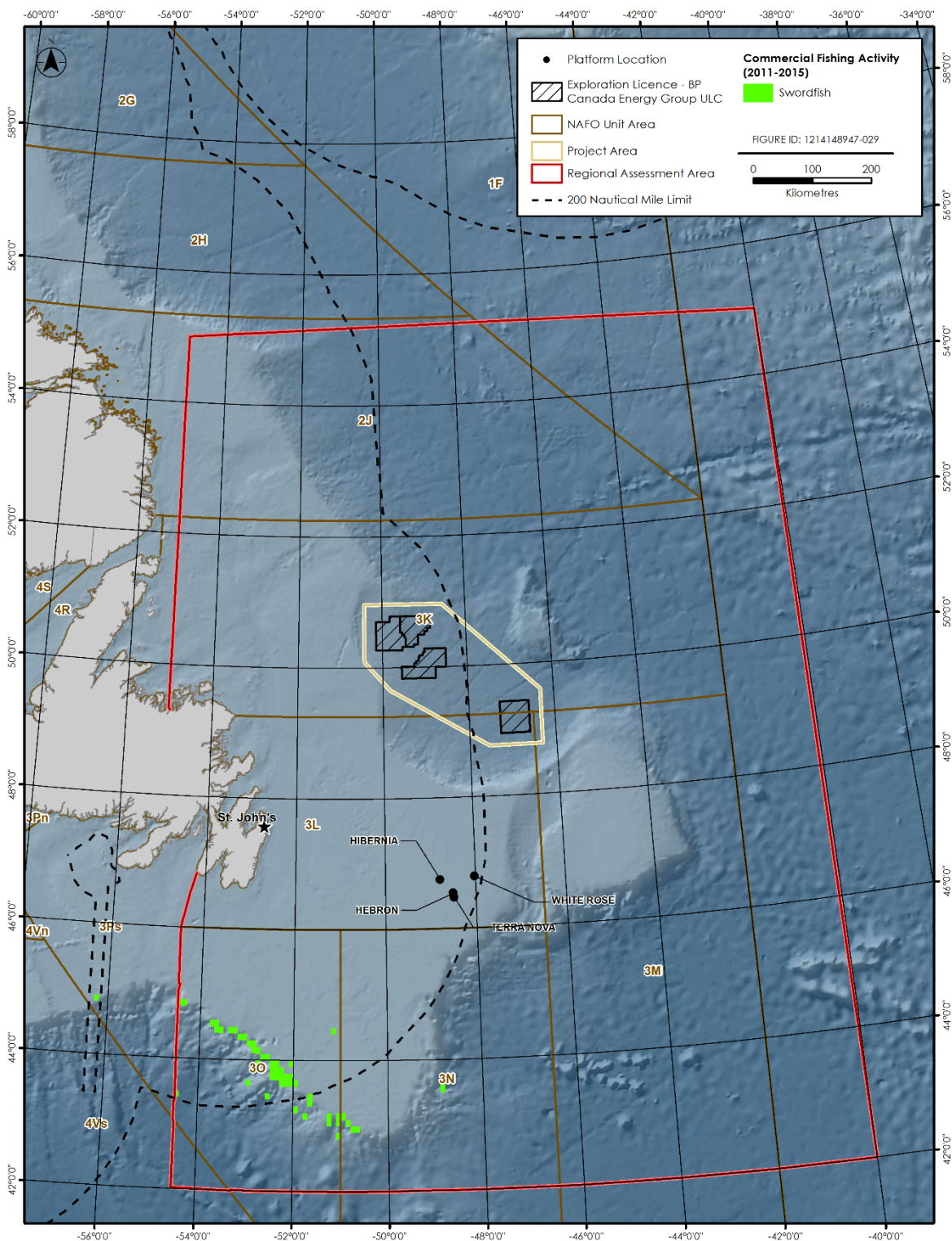


Figure 7.46 Domestic Harvesting Locations, Swordfish, 2012 to 2016

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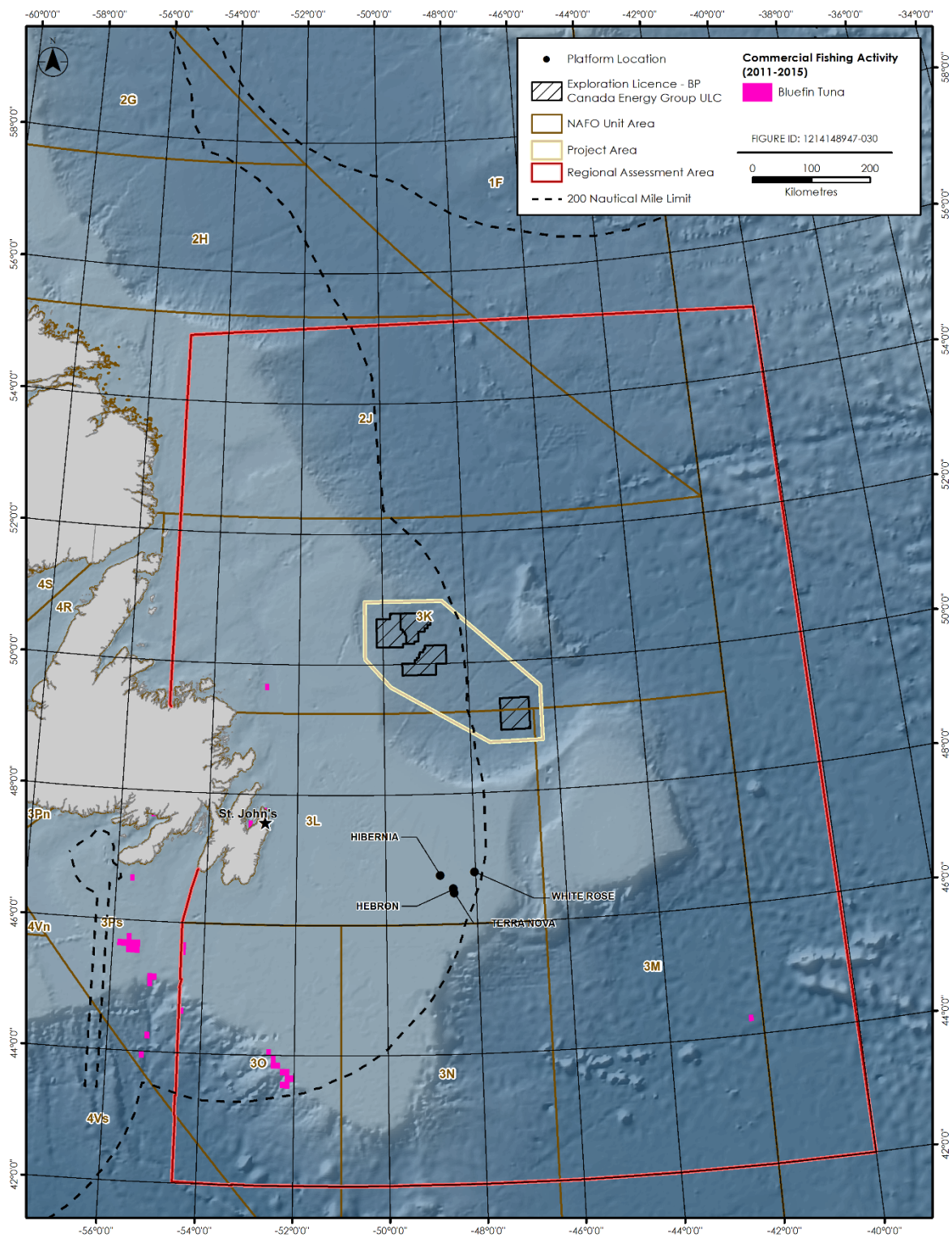


Figure 7.47 Domestic Harvesting Locations, Bluefin Tuna, 2012 to 2016

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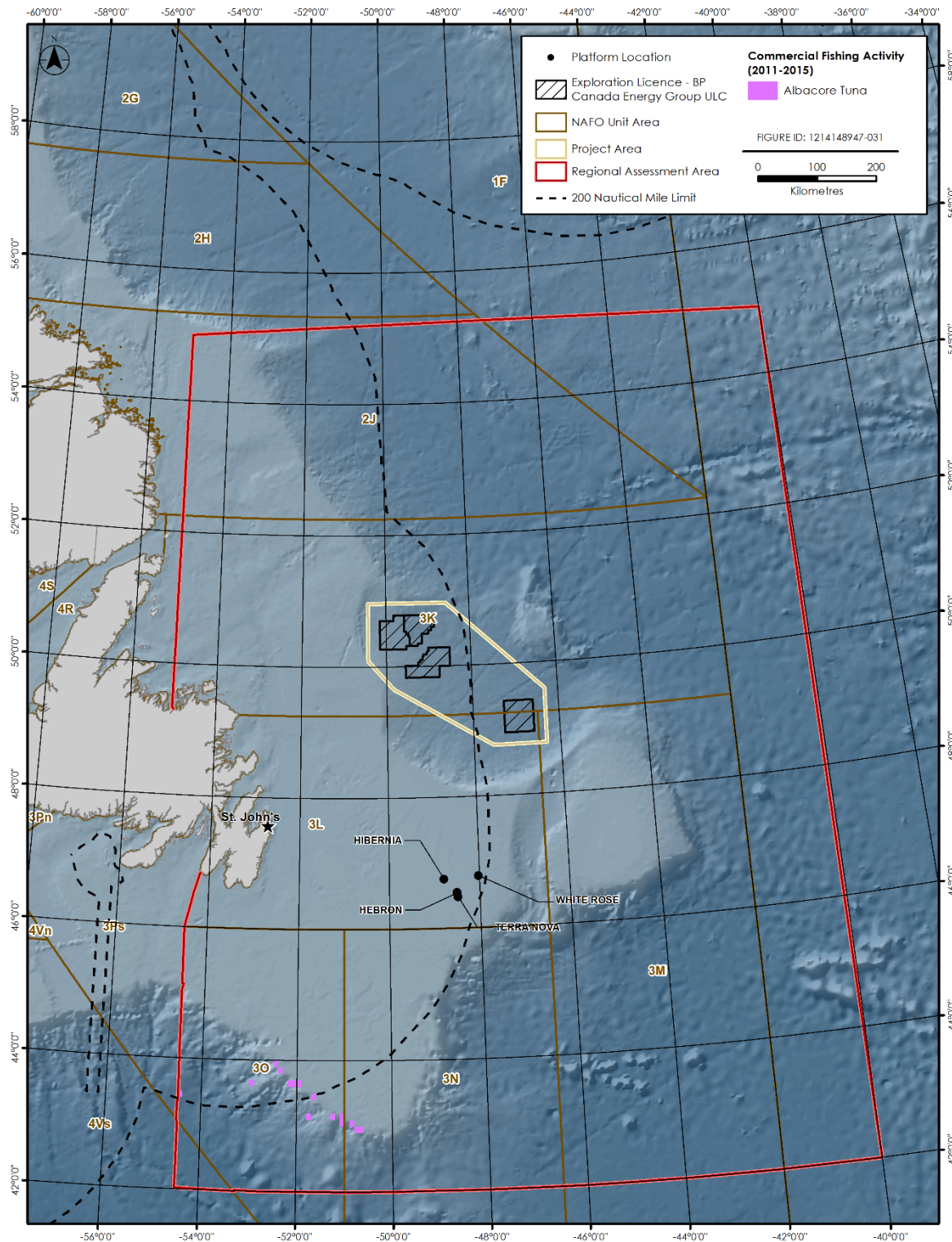


Figure 7.48 Domestic Harvesting Locations, Albacore Tuna, 2012 to 2016

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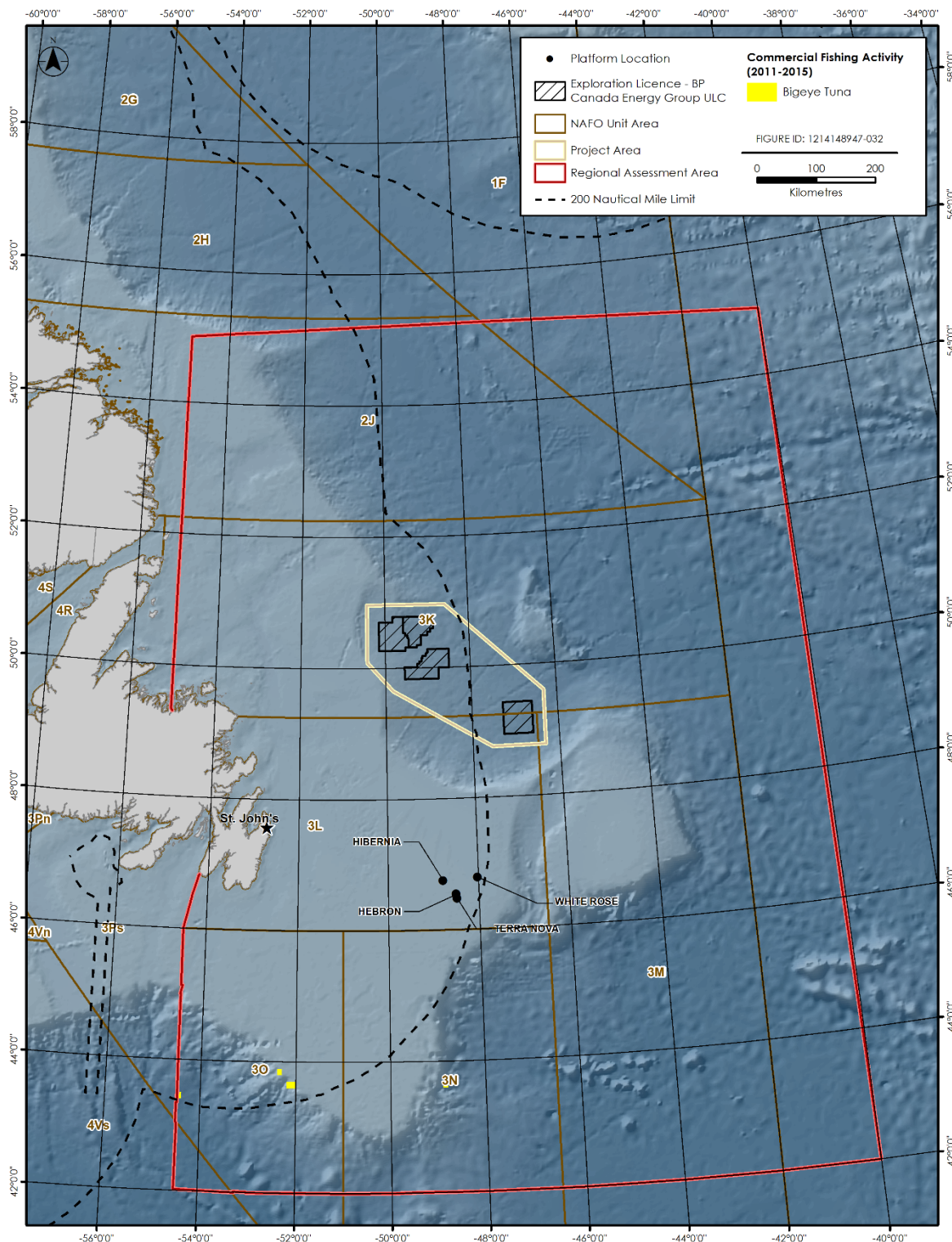


Figure 7.49 Domestic Harvesting Locations, Bigeye Tuna, 2012 to 2016

7.4.7.2 Food, Social, Ceremonial Fisheries

As noted in Sections 7.3.2 to 7.3.6, there are various species harvested by Indigenous groups for FSC purposes, including, but not limited to gaspereau, trout, Atlantic salmon, bass, mackerel, eel, shad, groundfish (e.g., flounder, halibut, pollock), Arctic char, smelt, blue shark, herring, mussel, clams, periwinkle, soft-shell clams, squid, tomcod, quahaug, razor clams, lobster, crab and scallops. Many of FSC species are harvested in the inshore and/or freshwater systems and would not be expected to interact with Project activities. However, some species are anadromous and can potentially migrate through the RAA and/or Project Area. Two migratory fish species have been highlighted during Indigenous engagement as being of concern due to potential interaction with Project activities: American eel and Atlantic salmon. These species, including their significance to Indigenous peoples and their potential for occurrence in the RAA, as described below.

American Eel

The American eel (*Anguilla rostrata*) (*Katew*) is a catadromous (i.e., migrating down rivers to the sea to spawn) fish that lives primarily within freshwater and estuarine environments and has a broad distribution throughout the northwest Atlantic Ocean, stretching from Venezuela to Greenland and Iceland (COSEWIC 2012). The most recent DFO research vessel surveys for 2016 / 2017 found that American eel occurs within the Project Area between March and November, but the potential for occurrence within the Project Area was considered low (see Section 6.1.7). There is little information available on specific migration patterns of American eel, and if American eel were to occur within the Project Area, it is likely that they would be carried by currents on their way either Greenland, Iceland, or to Newfoundland and Labrador.

The American eel (*Katew*) an important traditional food source with medicinal properties and has spiritual significance to the Mi'kmaq, Wolastoqiyik and Passamaquoddy (Parks Canada 2017; UINR 2015a; Prosper and Paulette 2002). Various types of tools are used when fishing *Katew*, including stone eel weirs and different types of spears depending on the season (Prosper and Paulette 2002). The Mi'kmaq practiced "take what is needed" ethics, not wasting or over-exploiting the eel (Denny 2014). Traditionally all parts of the eel were used, with skin used as boot/moccasin soles, ties, and bindings and used to wrap sprains and provide relief from cramps, rheumatism, headaches, and lameness (Parks Canada 2017; UINR 2015a; Prosper and Paulette 2002). Eel skin was also used to create decorative ornaments (Parks Canada 2017). Tails are used as bait and oils from larger eels were used to treat ear infections and loosen ear wax (UINR 2015a). The eel is available year around and is a dependable important source of food and were often the main source of food during winter, consumed three times a day for days to weeks (Denny 2014).

The American eel is assessed by COSEWIC as threatened because of dramatic declines over a significant portion of its distribution (COSEWIC 2012). Various factors have been identified as threats to the American eel including habitat loss, dams, overfishing, disease, and possibly global warming (UINR 2015a; Parks Canada 2017; COSEWIC 2012). A relatively new threat is an exotic swim bladder nematode parasite which may also be adversely affect the eel (COSEWIC 2012; Parks Canada 2017). Mi'kmaq eel fishers have observed declines in traditional fishing areas as having to fish longer to get the

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same amounts to feed their families and provide for cultural events (Denny et al. 2012 and Wagner et al. 2004, in Denny and Kavanagh 2018).

Atlantic Salmon

North American Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*) breed and spend the early part of their life cycle in freshwater systems throughout Atlantic Canada, eastern Québec, and the northeastern seaboard of the United States. Salmon (or *Plamu* as it is known to the Mi'kmaq) are an important food source for the Mi'kmaq. Salmon spend most of their lives in brooks and rivers, with a rocky bottom of gravel and cobble being ideal habitat (UINR 2015b). They are generally caught using rods, spear, snare, seines, or weirs. *Plamu* were historically a staple, dependable and predictable food source (Denny and Fanning 2016). Rivers where salmon were fished were shared among families, and sometimes other tribes, and fished on a rotational basis (Ladner 2005, Marshall 2014 in Denny and Fanning 2016). Due to the decline in salmon, they are now generally reserved for special occasions such as feasts, powwows, and other celebrations where the serving of a large fish like salmon is preferred (UINR 2015b; Denny and Fanning 2016). The experience of the salmon harvest is important to the Mi'kmaq, it is part of their culture as many Mi'kmaq grew up harvesting *Plamu* with family, learning the harvesting practices and about sustainability (UINR 2015b). Mi'kmaq use all parts of the salmon, with little to no waste and any unusable parts would be buried so that the spirit and body of the salmon would be recycled (UINR 2015b; Denny and Fanning 2016). Netukulimk (traditional Mi'kmaq concept of conservation) was and continues to be the guiding principle to harvesting salmon, with fishers governing themselves in accordance with their interactions and relationships with their environment (Giles et al. 2016 in Denny and Fanning 2016). As shown in Table 6.6, Atlantic salmon is designated under COSEWIC, including several populations designated as endangered.

7.4.7.3 Hunting and Gathering

Hunting and gathering on land is also a key component of Indigenous groups harvest and includes such activities as hunting for birds, seals, rabbits, caribou and moose, and trapping (Nalcor 2011). Country food has value which cannot be replaced or substituted and cannot only be measured by market criteria, because the cultural, social, and nutritional qualities of country food are an integral part of the Inuit lifestyle. Given the offshore location of the Project, this section focuses on species that have potential to migrate through the Project Area. Migratory bird species hunted onshore have potential to migrate through the Project Area. Migratory birds represent an important component of the overall subsistence harvest (Natcher et al. 2010). Several migratory bird species (including species of waterfowl and murre) are hunted in marine and inland areas and have long been an important source of food in traditional diets (Amec 2014). Bird hunting is permitted in Canada under the *Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations*.

The migratory bird harvest is important for subsistence purposes (Natcher et al. 2010). Species commonly harvested by Indigenous groups include goose, ducks, loons, and seagulls, which are hunted year around when available (Nalcor 2011). Other migratory birds that are traditionally harvested include murre (also referred to as turrs), mergansers, and scoters (Sikumiut 2008). Within the RAA, murre have the potential to migrate through the area, most likely a thick-billed murre which is harvested off the coast of Labrador, north of Groswater Bay. Murre breed in the Arctic and migrate to or from their breeding

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ground along the coast of Labrador, where it has the potential to be harvested. The Canadian Arctic is estimated to host 1,080,000 breeding thick-billed murrelets, of which 178,399 (16.5%) may over-winter on the Grand Banks (Frederiksen et al. 2016).

Following the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement Act* which came into effect in 2005, the Nunatsiut Government undertook an initiative to determine the Inuit domestic harvest level, which included in a survey of migratory bird species commonly harvested by the Inuit. Between 2006 and 2007, the Nunatsiavut migratory bird harvest reported 5,468 birds, with common eiders representing 30%, followed by Canada geese (20%) and black ducks (19%) (Natcher et al. 2010). Approximately 75% of the migratory bird harvest occurs in the fall. In 2007, a survey was undertaken to understand the harvest of migratory bird eggs (Natcher et al. 2012). A total of 9,346 eggs were reported as being harvested, common eider eggs representing 36% of the eggs harvested, followed by gulls (32%), terns (20%), and common guillemot (12%) (Natcher et al 2012).

Berry picking is common throughout Labrador along access routes and river valleys in the mid- to late-summer and generally include blueberries, partridge berries and bakeapples (Nalcor 2011). Medicinal plants are also harvested, with some of the harvested components including the inner and outer bark of trees, herbs, flowers, berries, mosses, and lichens (Nalcor 2011).

In addition to the commercial communal fishery, Indigenous groups can harvest seals throughout the year for FSC purposes. The Northwest Atlantic harp seal population appears to have levelled off since 2008 at approximately 7.4 million (95 percent CI: 6,475,800-8,273,600; Hammill et al. 2015). Declines in sea ice associated with climate change may cause harp seals to use whelping areas farther to the north (Stenson and Hammill 2014). This population of harp seals are hunted for commercial (in their whelping locations) and subsistence purposes by Inuit in Labrador, Arctic Canada, and Greenland. The majority of the approximately 80,000 subsistence animals are harvested in Greenland. Hooded seals are likely to be common in the Project Area. Hooded seals outfitted with satellite relay data loggers showed movements throughout the Project Area during spring and late-fall / winter of 2004-2008 (Andersen et al. 2012, 2013, 2014). Andersen et al. (2012) suggested that hooded seals prefer areas with topographic and oceanographic conditions off the coast of Newfoundland that produce good feeding conditions.

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