

**West Flemish Pass  
Exploration Drilling Program**

Chapter 7: Socio-economic  
Environment



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## 7.0 EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

The socio-economic environment includes a brief description of the urban and rural setting for this Project, and detailed information on commercial fisheries and other ocean users and Indigenous peoples and communities. These are described in the following sections.

### 7.1 Urban and Rural Setting

Newfoundland and Labrador (NL) is a Canadian province located along the East Coast and is bordered by the Atlantic Ocean. The province is comprised of an island portion (Newfoundland) and a mainland portion (Labrador), and has a total land area of approximately 405,690 km<sup>2</sup>, of which the majority (60%) is occupied by Labrador. Based on Statistic Canada census data (released every five years), the population increased by 1% from 514,536 in 2011 to 519,716 in 2016. Project-related activities are proposed to take place approximately 400 km northeast of the capital city St. John's and are not expected to have a large interaction with the urban and rural setting of the province, except for some interaction between supply vessels and the shorebase in the St. John's region. The closest permanent residence to the Project Area is within the city limits of St. John's. St. John's is the largest city in NL with a population in 2016 of 108,860. For the same year, the population of the St. John's Census Metropolitan Area was 205,955, representing approximately 40% of the total provincial population (Statistics Canada 2017). The port of St. John's is an important hub for servicing and support to the oil and gas industry, and more information is provided in Section 7.3.2. Outside St. John's, eastern Newfoundland is comprised of smaller rural communities along the coastline, which are comprised of aging populations that rely on industries such as tourism and fishing for subsistence.

The oil and gas industry is an important component of the provincial economy. According to the NL Department of Finance (April 2019), oil production totaled 84.0 million barrels in 2018, up 4.3% (or approximately 3.4 million barrels) relative to 2017. The oil and gas industry in the province accounts for approximately 15.6 % of the total nominal provincial gross domestic product (GDP). This was the largest overall contributor in the goods-producing sector, next to Construction, which accounted for 12.8% of the Provincial GDP in 2017. 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 (see Section 7.2). 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 domestic commercial fisheries.

### 7.2 Commercial Fisheries

The coastal and offshore areas of NL comprise important commercial fishing grounds for both domestic and international fleets. Fishing for commercial purposes has been, and continues to be an important activity, both economically and culturally, and plays an influential part in shaping the offshore marine environment. This section describes trends in commercial activity related to fishing within the Project Area



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### EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

and RAA, and offshore NL in general, including domestic commercial fishing, commercial fishing by foreign nations, aquaculture and recreational fishing.

#### 7.2.1 Approach and Key Information Sources

##### 7.2.1.1 Jurisdictions and Boundaries

There are two governing bodies that oversee commercial fisheries in the offshore region of NL: the Government of Canada (through DFO); and NAFO. The Government of Canada has jurisdiction over activities within the 200 nm EEZ, while NAFO manages activities outside the 200 nm limit out to 42° W longitude, in the region known as the NAFO Regulatory Area (Figure 7-1). Although fishing by Canadian fleets can occur within the NAFO Regulatory Area, fishing by foreign vessels is restricted within the Canadian 200 nm EEZ. Within the NAFO Regulatory Area there is a defined area known as the existing bottom fishing area, or NAFO Footprint. The NAFO Footprint is the portion of the NAFO Regulatory Area where most bottom fishing activity has historically occurred (NAFO 2019a).

Both governing bodies use the same administrative boundaries known as the NAFO Divisions, shown in Figure 7-1. The eastern offshore area of NL contains the following Divisions: 2GHJ; 3KLMNOP; and portions of 4V. NAFO Divisions 3P and 4V are further divided into subdivisions that include north and south portions (i.e., 3Pn, 3Ps, 4Vn and 4Vs). Each NAFO Division and subdivision is further broken down into Unit Areas.

Overlap of the Project EL and Project Area with the Canadian EEZ, NAFO Regulatory Area, and NAFO Footprint is shown in Table 7.1. Approximately 89.8% of the Project Area is within the NAFO Regulatory Area, with just 10.2% overlapping with the Canadian EEZ; approximately 52% of the Project Area overlaps with the NAFO Footprint.



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## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

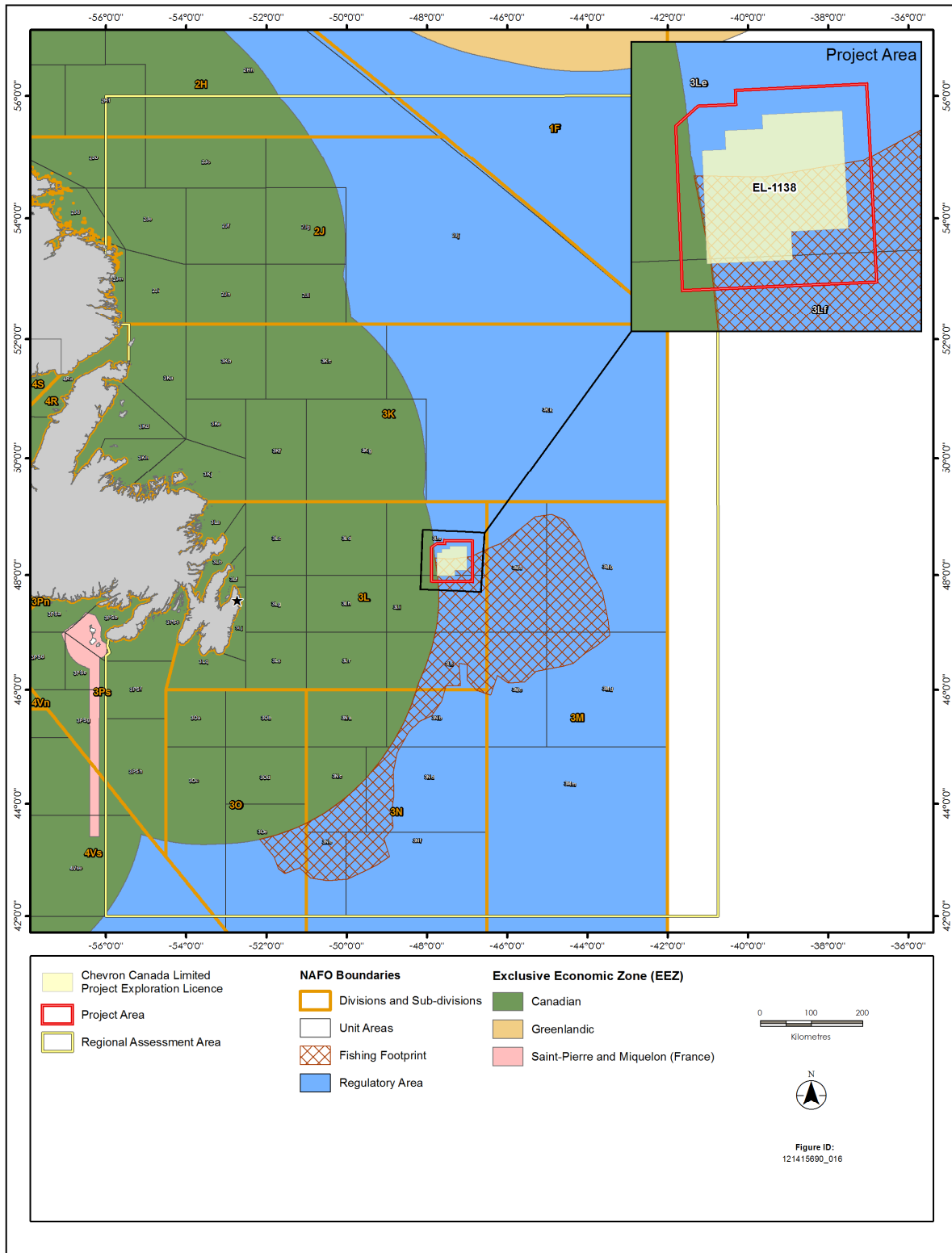


Figure 7-1 NAFO Boundaries and EEZs in Relation to the Project



# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

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**Table 7.1 Overlap of Project Boundaries with NAFO Boundaries and Canadian EEZ**

Project Boundary	EL		PA	
	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	%	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	%
NAFO Regulatory Area	2737.0	99.5	5120.1	89.8
Canadian EEZ	15.1	0.5	582.0	10.2
NAFO Footprint	1650.1	60.0	2962.2	51.9

The Project EL and Project Area are within NAFO Division 3L and contain portions of NAFO Unit Areas 3Le and 3Li. The RAA is inclusive of Unit Areas within NAFO Divisions 3K and 3L, and portions of 2JH, 3MNOP, 3Ps and 4Vs. All unit areas that partially or fully overlap with the RAA are listed in Table 7.2.

**Table 7.2 NAFO Divisions within the RAA**

NAFO Division	NAFO Unit Area	NAFO Division	NAFO Unit Area	NAFO Division	NAFO Unit Area
2Hf	2H	3La	3L	3Ma	3M
2Hh		3Lb		3Mb	
2Jb	3Lc	3Mc			
2Jc	3Ld	3Md			
2Jd	3Le	3Mm			
2Je	3Lf	3Na		3N	
2Jf	3Lg	3Nb			
2Ji	3Lh	3Nc			
2Jj	3Li	3Nd			
2Jl	3Lj	3Ne			
2Jm	3Lk	3Nf			
2Jn	3Ll	3Oa		3O	
3Ka	3Lm	3Ob			
3Kb	3Ln	3Oc			
3Kc	3Lo	3Od			
3Kd	3Lp	3Oe			
3Ke	3Lq	3Of			
3Kf	3K	3Lr	3PSc	3Ps	
3Kg		3Ls	3PSf		
3Kh		3Lt	3PSh		
3Ki			4VSc	4Vs	
3Kk			4VSe		



## WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

### EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

#### 7.2.1.2 Data Sources

NAFO and DFO each provide data on commercial fishing activity (Table 7.3). Each data set has its own unique limitations, scale, and restrictions. Each is used for different purposes in the discussion on domestic and international commercial fishing activity within the Project Area and RAA to provide information on important species or species groups, seasonality, and short-term and long-term trends for catch weight and/or value. These data sources will be referenced where appropriate.

### 7.2.2 Domestic Commercial Fishing Activity

#### Historic Overview

Fish harvesting for commercial purposes has and continues to be a large industry within NL. Historical data on catch weight (Figure 7-2) indicates that from 1980-1990, most of the domestic fishing activity (77%) in the offshore region of NL was for groundfish species (e.g., Atlantic cod and American plaice). From 2000-2009 and 2010-Present, groundfish accounted for only 13% and 15% of the catch weight, respectively, whereas shrimp and crab accounted for 58% of the catch weight in both cases. This shift from groundfish to shrimp and crab being the dominant fishery is also evident in Figure 7-3, which shows domestic fishing activity continuously from 1980-2018. The sharp decline in the amount of groundfish caught in the early 1990s is due to the collapse of several groundfish stocks, which subsequently led to a moratorium on cod, American plaice, and several other groundfish species. The moratorium on groundfish led to an increase in shrimp and crab fishing to supplement losses. Although shrimp and crab have filled this void for a while, the viability of those stocks are beginning to be questioned (DFO 2018a, 2018b), and declines in the catch weight of these species has been noted since 2015, as indicated in Figure 7-3. There currently are designated areas that are closed to shrimp fishing and more information can be found in Section 7.2.5.1.1. Most of the domestic commercial fishing activity has historically been and continues to be by fleets from NL (Figure 7-4).



## WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

### EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

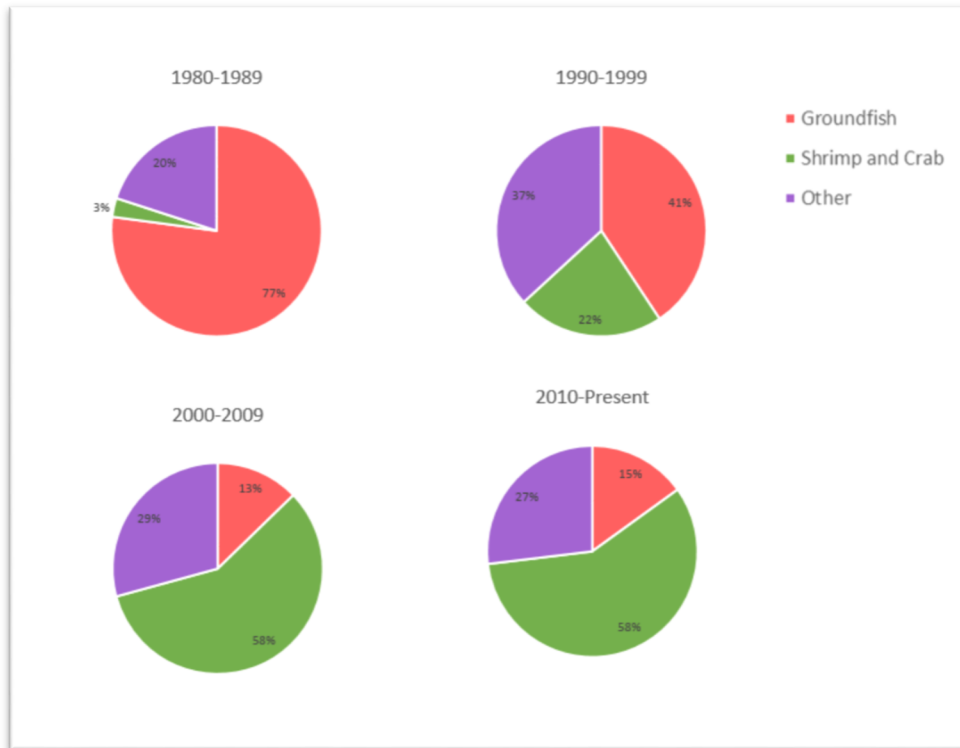
**Table 7.3 Data Sources for Commercial Fishing Activity and Their Metadata**

Source	Type	Source	Data	Temporal Scale	Smallest Unit	Purpose	Citation
NAFO	STATLANT 21A Database	Online	Annual catch weight (tonnes) by species, division, country, and year	1965-2018	NAFO Division	Historical trends of catch weight for commercial fishing activity (Domestic and International)	NAFO 2019b
	21B Database	Online	Monthly catch weight (tonnes) and effort (days, hours or time on ground) information by year, country, gear, main species, and division	2010-2016	NAFO Division	Seasonality (monthly counts) of international fishing activity for the most recent 5-year period (2013-2016)	NAFO 2019c
DFO	Tabular dataset	Economic Analysis and Statistics Division, DFO Ottawa	Weight (kg) and Value (\$CAD) of domestic fishing activity by Division, Unit Area, species, and gear type.	2013-2017	NAFO Unit Area	Weight and Value of domestic commercial fishing activity for the most recently available five-year period (2013-2017)	DFO 2019a
	Geo-spatial dataset	Economic Analysis and Statistics Division, DFO Ottawa	Fishing activity by year, month, species, Division, Unit Area, vessel length, and gear type.	2013-2017	Grid Cell (4nm x 6 nm)	Create figures showing location of domestic commercial fishing activity; seasonality (monthly counts) of domestic fishing activity for the most recently available 5-year period (2013-2017)	DFO 2019b



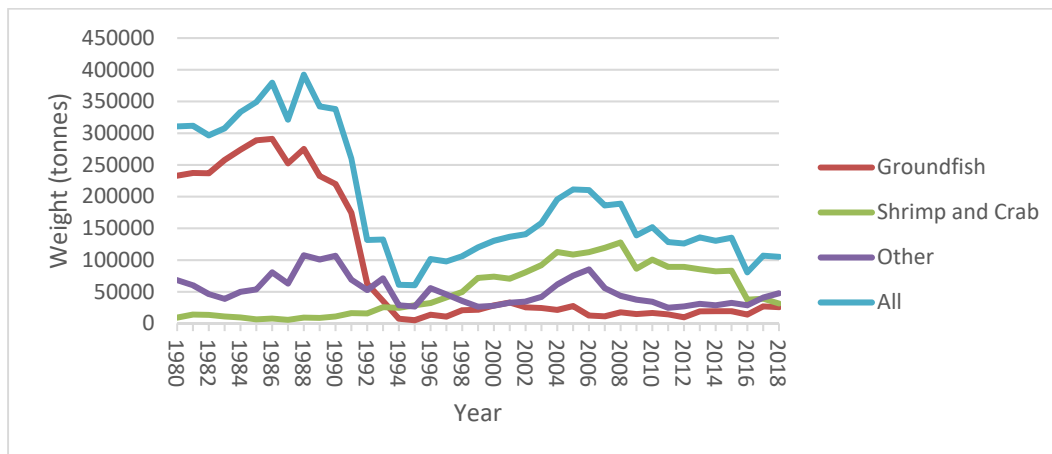
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## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT



Source: NAFO 2019b

**Figure 7-2** Catch Weight for Groundfish, Shrimp and Crab, and Other Species in NAFO Divisions 3K, 3L, 3M, 3N and 3O from 1980-Present by Decade



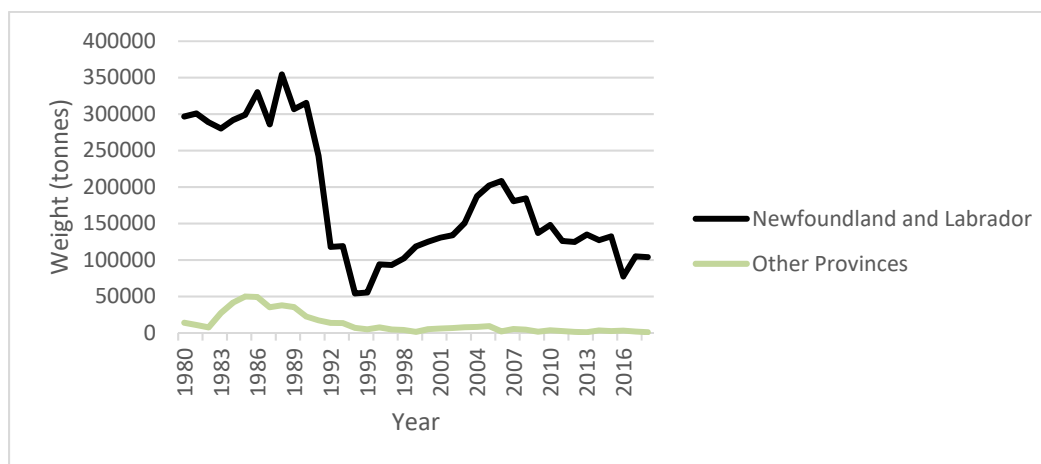
Source: NAFO 2019b

**Figure 7-3** Catch Weight (tonnes) by Species Group for Domestic Commercial Fishing Activity in NAFO Divisions 3KLMNOP, 1980-2018



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## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT



Source: NAFO 2019b

**Figure 7-4 Catch Weight (tonnes) for NL and All Other Provinces for Domestic Commercial Fishing Activity in NAFO Divisions 3K, 3L, 3M, 3N, and 3O, 1980-2018**

### 7.2.2.1 Domestic Fisheries within the Regional Assessment Area

All calculations in the preceding section are presented for NAFO Divisions or portions of Divisions that overlap with the RAA (see Table 7.2 above). Data in tables are extracted from the DFO Tabular Dataset (DFO 2019a) and, where mapped, the DFO geo-spatial dataset (DFO 2019b). The DFO geo-spatial dataset is also used to provide information about seasonality as requesting monthly values in the Tabular Dataset increase the amount of redacted information. Although comprehensive, the DFO Tabular Dataset is filtered for privacy reasons adhering to the rule of five, meaning that there must be at least five vessels fishing in the same Unit Area for the same species in order for data on weight and value to be included in the dataset (so as to protect the identity or activity of individual vessels or companies) (Butler and Coffen-Smout 2017). As a result, most of the data available pertain to the main fisheries that take place offshore, with multiple harvesters and large landings, such that information on weight and value for smaller fisheries (i.e., pelagic species), cannot be accurately presented. Data are only available up to 2017 as there is a lag time of when the data are submitted by vessels and when they are processed and released publicly by DFO.

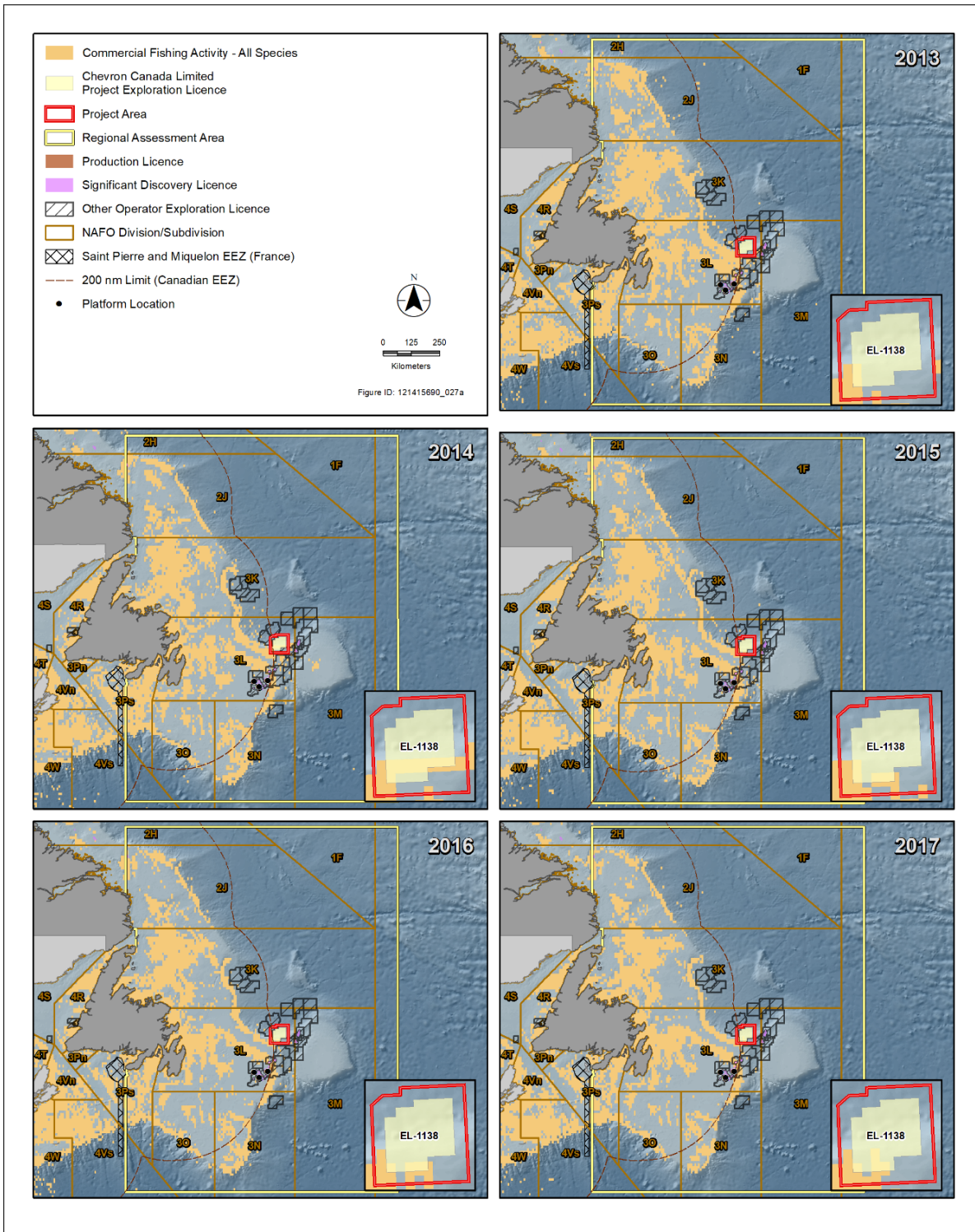
Domestic commercial fishing occurs throughout the RAA, from the bays surrounding the Avalon Peninsula, along the Grand Banks, within the Flemish Pass and contouring along the slopes of the Grand Bank and the Newfoundland and Labrador Slopes (Figure 7-5).

Between 2013 and 2017, there has been a decrease noted in catch weight from 165,262 tonne to 80,285 tonne, a decrease of approximately 51% (Table 7.4, Figure 7-6). There is also a slight decrease (approximately 2%) in the value of domestic commercial fishing activities from \$414,012,533 in 2013 to \$404,638,782 in 2017 (Table 7.4, Figure 7-7).



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Source: DFO 2019b

**Figure 7-5 Domestic Commercial Fishing Activity, All Species, 2013-2017**



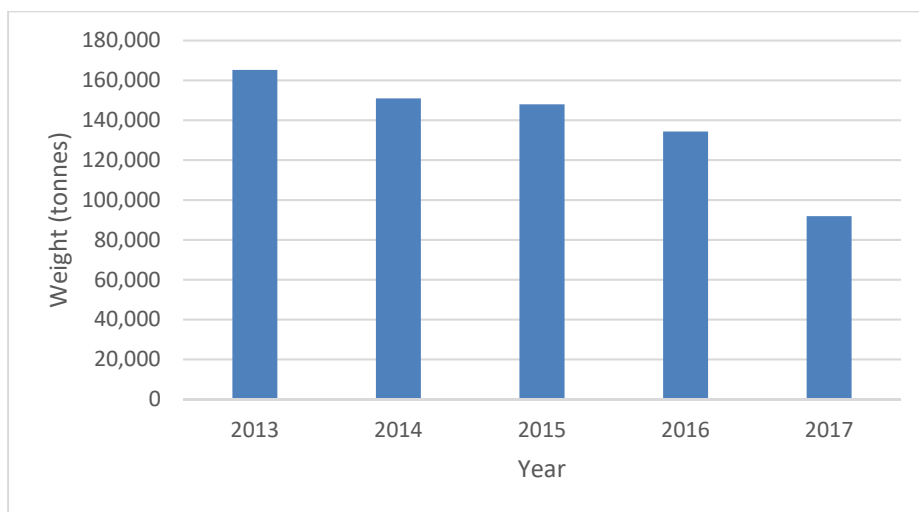
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**Table 7.4 Weight and Value of Domestic Commercial Fisheries with the RAA, 2013-2017**

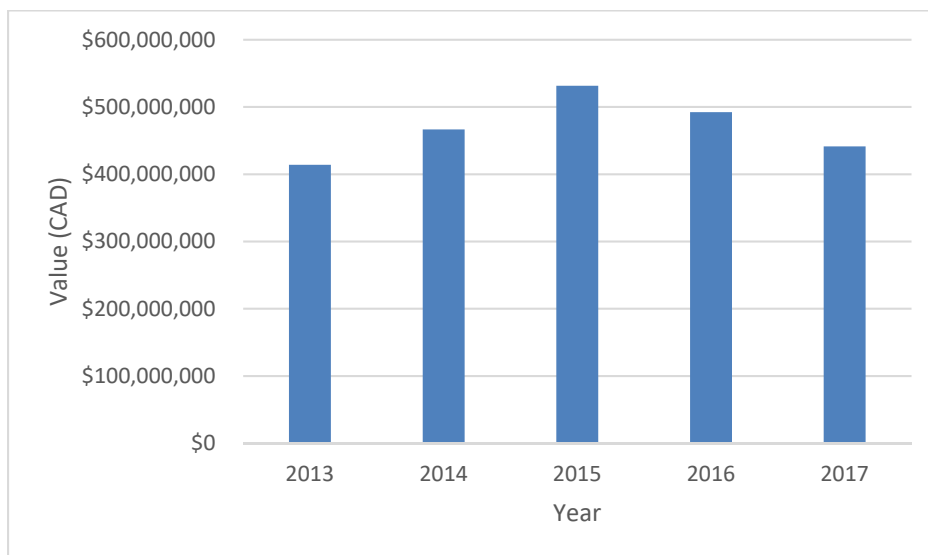
Unit	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Weight	165,262	150,992	147,998	134,359	91,891
Value	\$414,013,000	\$466,524,000	\$531,624,000	\$492,271,000	\$441,264,000

Source: DFO 2019a



Source: DFO 2019a

**Figure 7-6 Catch Weight (tonnes) for All Species within the RAA, 2013-2017**



Source: DFO 2019a

**Figure 7-7 Catch Value (CAD) for All Species within the RAA, 2013-2017**

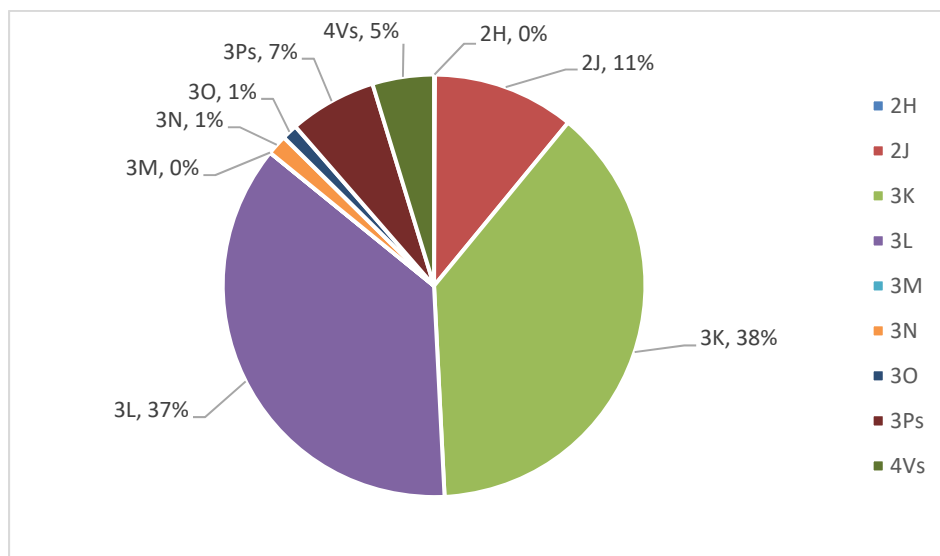


# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

### 7.2.2.2 Domestic Commercial Fishing by NAFO Divisions

Over the 5-year period (2013-2017), approximately 75% of the total weight and 68% of the total value for domestic commercial fishing in the RAA occurred within NAFO Divisions 3K and 3L (Figure 7-8 and Figure 7-9). The remaining NAFO Divisions that overlap with the Project Area, including 2J, 3N, 3O, 3Ps and 4Vs, account for 25% of the total domestic commercial fishing between 2013 and 2016 within the Unit Areas that overlap with the RAA. NAFO Unit Areas in Division 2H (Unit Areas 2Hf and Hh) and 3M (Unit Areas 3Ma, Mb, Mc, and Mm) are not included in the preceding discussion, as their contribution is near 0% (Figure 7-8 and Figure 7-9). The intensity and type of domestic commercial fishing activity varies within each of the NAFO Divisions that overlap with the RAA, thus they are discussed individually below. For simplicity, the data are summarized by species group (groundfish, pelagic, molluscs, and shellfish) and further discussion on individual species occur in Section 7.2.5. Figure 7-10 to Figure 7-13 show the location and percent of yearly catch weight by cell of domestic fishing activity (2013-2017) in the RAA for each of the species groups mentioned above.



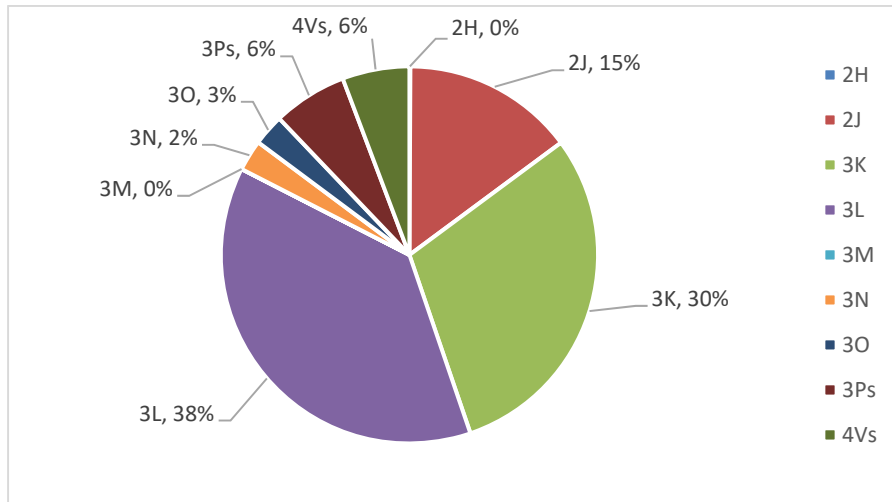
Source: DFO 2019a

**Figure 7-8** Catch Weight (tonnes) by NAFO Division within the RAA (2013-2017 combined)



# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT



Source: DFO 2019b

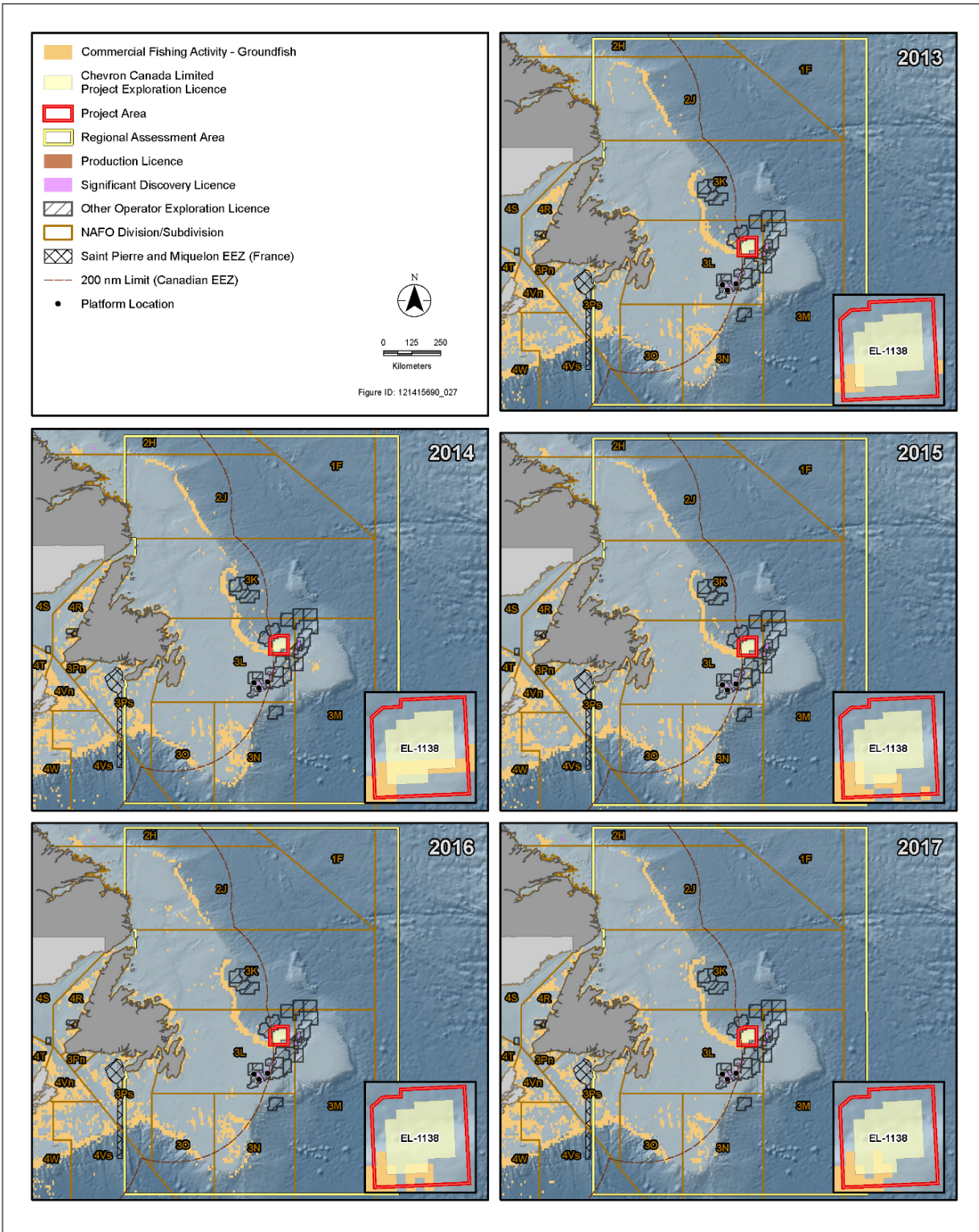
**Figure 7-9**

**Catch Value (CAD) by NAFO Division within the RAA (2013-2017 combined)**



# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT



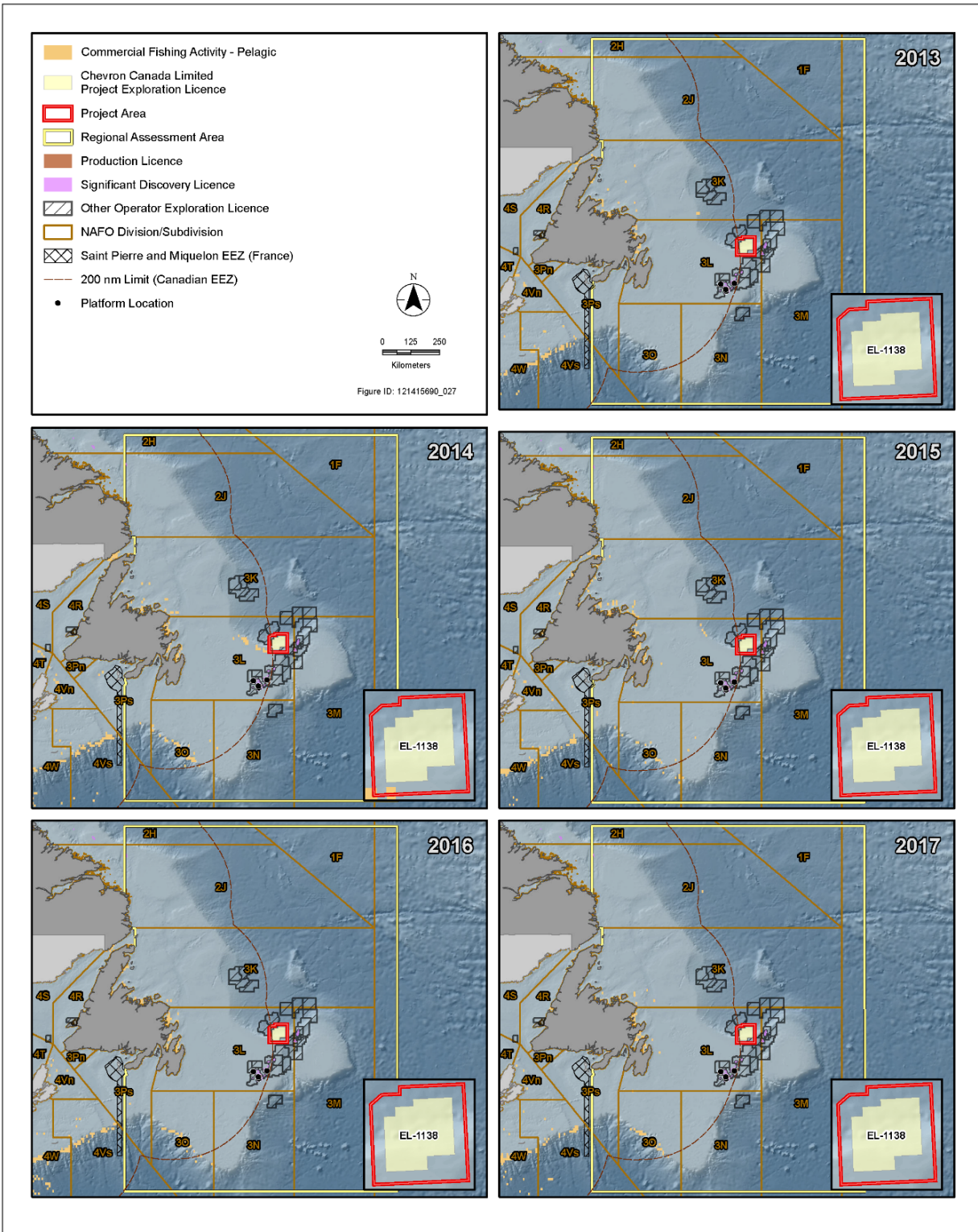
Source: DFO 2019b

**Figure 7-10 Domestic Commercial Fishing Activity, Groundfish Species, 2013-2017**



# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT



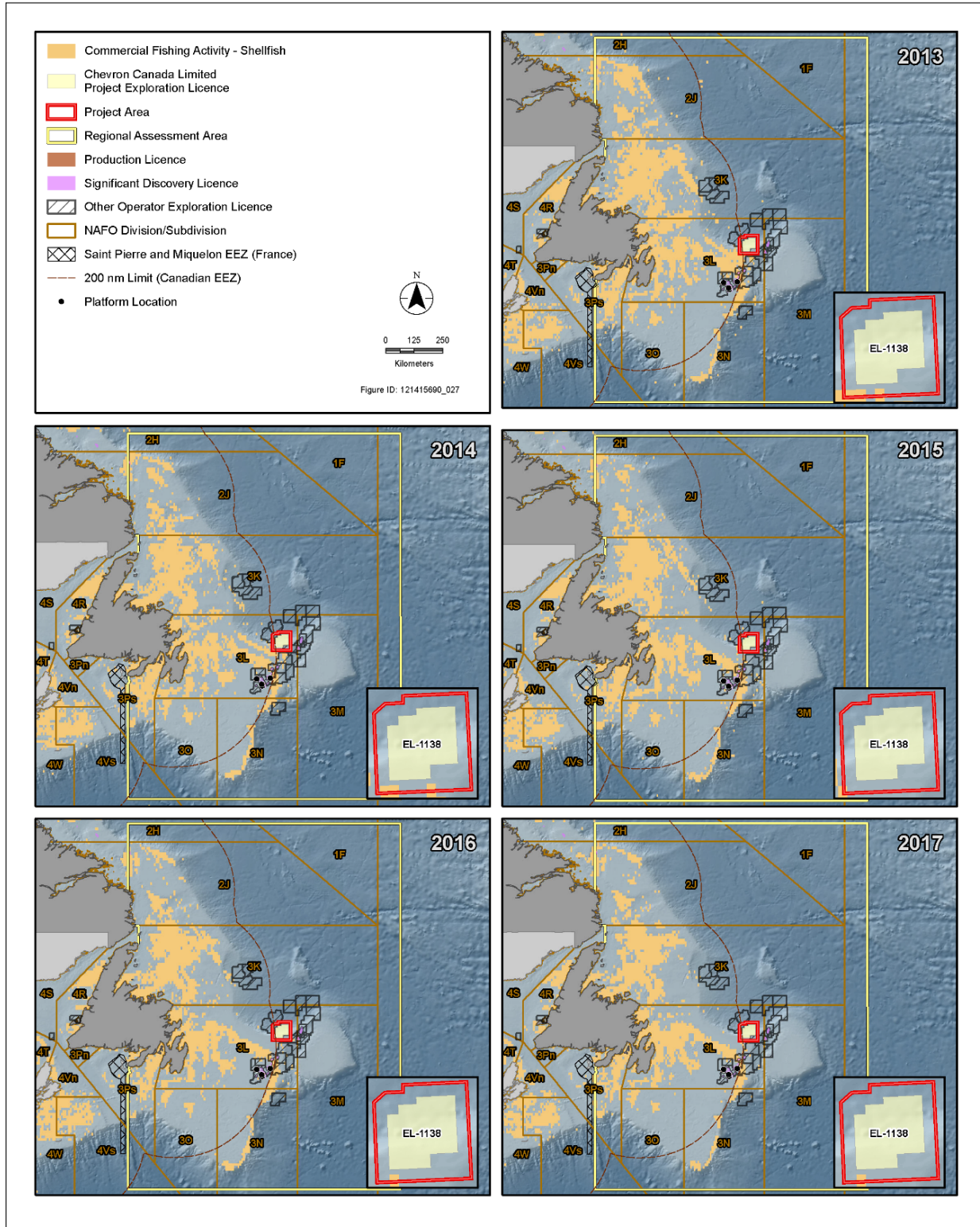
Source: DFO 2019b

**Figure 7-11 Domestic Commercial Fishing Activity, Pelagic Species, 2013-2017**



# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT



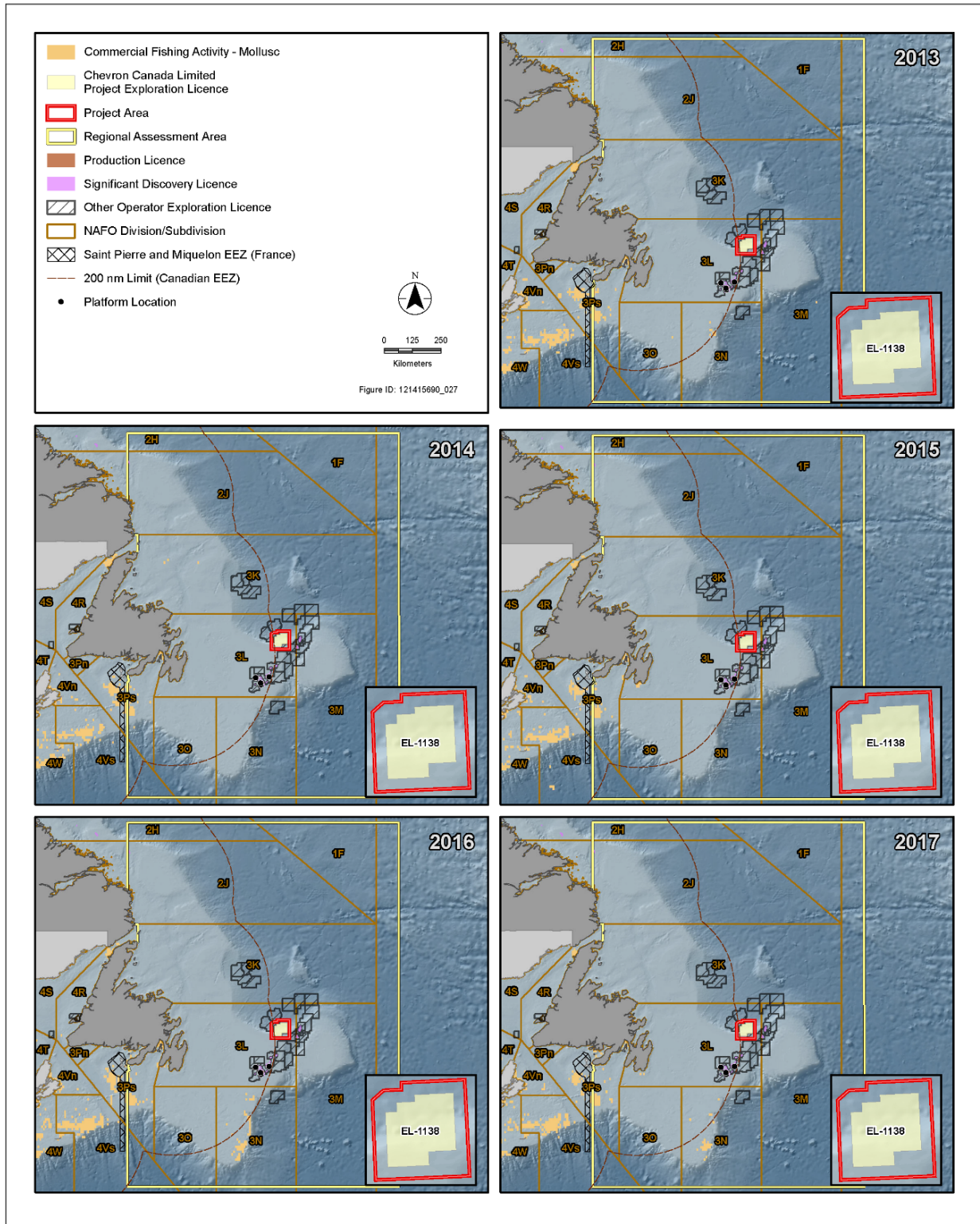
Source: DFO 2019b

**Figure 7-12 Domestic Commercial Fishing Activity, Shellfish, 2013-2017**



# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT



Source: DFO 2019b

**Figure 7-13 Domestic Commercial Fishing Activity, Molluscs, 2013-2017**

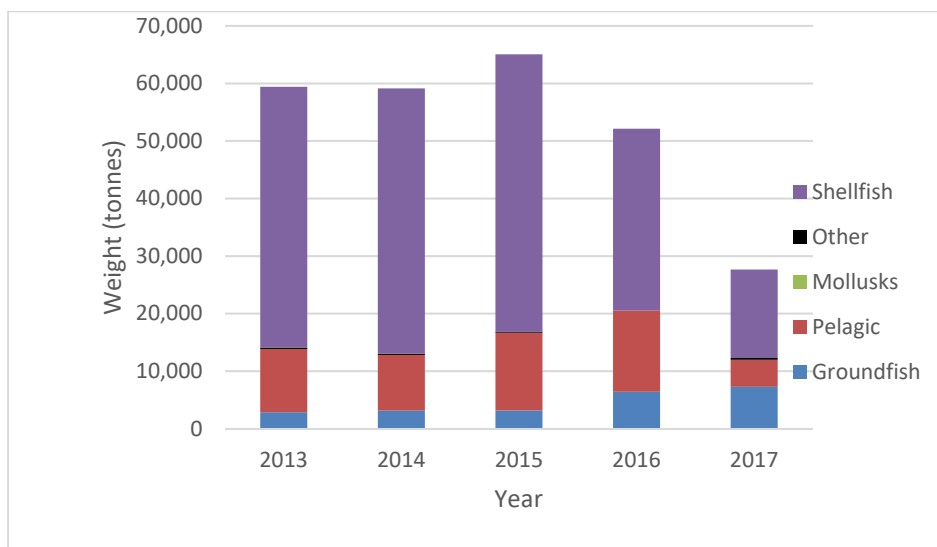


# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

### 7.2.2.2.1 NAFO Division 3K

Shellfish have been the most fished commercial species within Division 3K by weight and value (Figure 7-14 and Figure 7-15). Overall, shellfish accounted for 70% of the landed weight and 91% of the landed value between 2013 and 2017 (Table 7.5). Northern shrimp account for the majority (57%) of shellfish species, followed by snow crab, which accounted for 13% and 28% of the landed weight and value, respectively. Other shellfish species are commercially fished in small quantities in Division 3K, including lobster, spider crab, rock crab and pink – white shrimp, and account for less than 1% of the total landed weight and value. The top groundfish species include Greenland halibut and Atlantic cod. Most of the commercial fishing activity in NAFO Division 3K occurs from May to August (Figure 7-16). The seasonality is heavily influenced by snow crab and northern shrimp, as they are the dominant species fished in NAFO Division 3K.



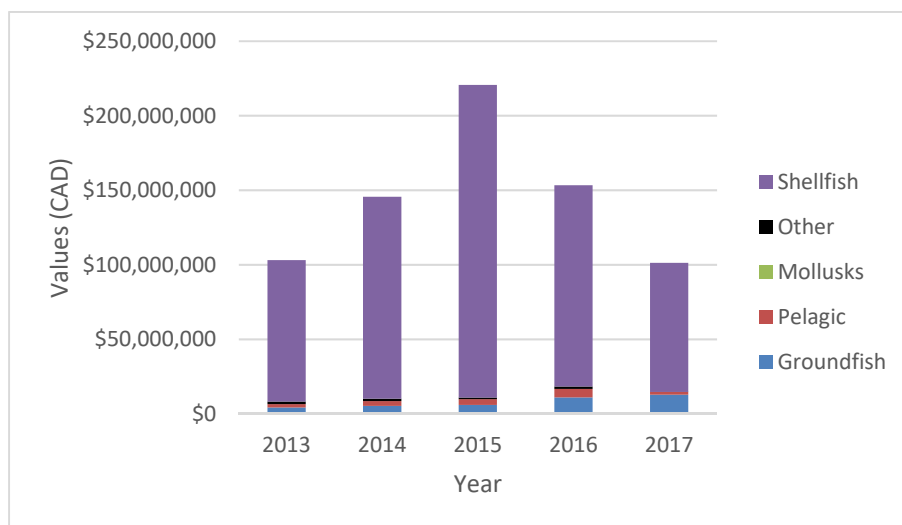
Source: DFO 2019a

**Figure 7-14** Catch Weight by Species Group per Year in NAFO Division 3K



## WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

### EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT



Source: DFO 2019a

**Figure 7-15 Catch Value by Species Group per Year in NAFO Division 3K**

**Table 7.5 Total Weight and Value and Percent Weight and Value for Commercially Fished Species within the RAA in Division 3K, 2013-2017**

Species	Group	Weight (t)	% Weight	Value (CAD)	% Value
Cod, Atlantic	Groundfish	17,780	7%	\$22,416,014	3%
Redfish		80	0%	\$75,092	0%
Halibut – Atlantic		X	X	X	X
American Plaice		X	X	X	X
Yellowtail Flounder		X	X	X	X
Greysole / Witch		X	X	X	X
Winter Flounder		X	X	X	X
Turbot / Greenland Halibut		4,915	2%	\$17,290,287	2%
Skate		X	X	X	X
Hake, White		X	X	X	X
Grenadier, Roughhead		X	X	X	X
Catfish (Striped Wolffish)		X	X	X	X
Herring, Atlantic		Pelagic	2,206	1%	\$741,886
Mackerel	3,155		1%	\$1,899,411	0%
Tuna, Bluefin	X		X	X	X
Eels	61		0%	\$313,045	0%
Capelin	47,575		18%	\$13,858,931	2%



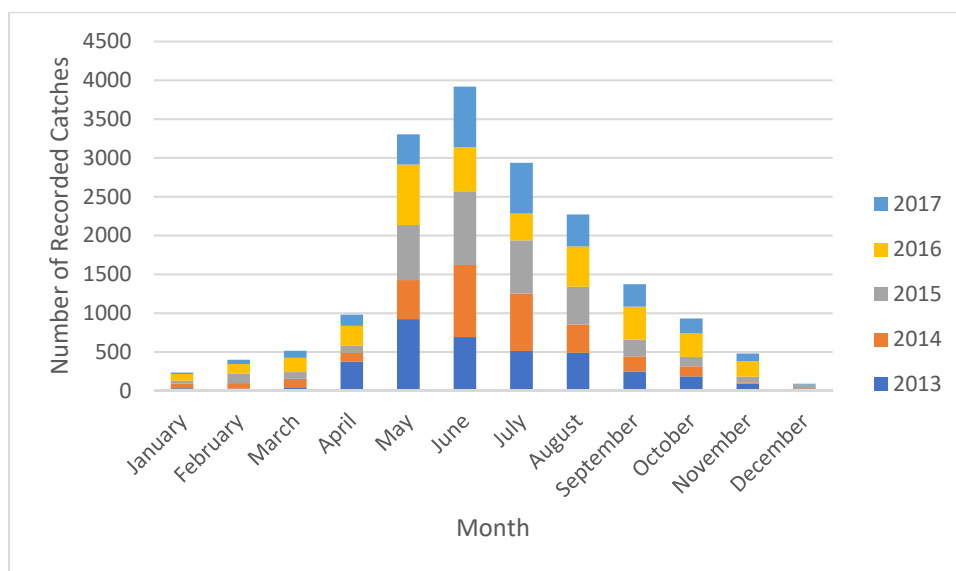
# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

**Table 7.5 Total Weight and Value and Percent Weight and Value for Commercially Fished Species within the RAA in Division 3K, 2013-2017**

Species	Group	Weight (t)	% Weight	Value (CAD)	% Value
Squid	Molluscs	231	0%	\$381,526	0%
Whelk		145	0%	\$274,831	0%
Scallop, Iceland		X	X	X	X
Sea Urchins		440	0%	\$727,431	0%
Lobster	Shellfish	364	0%	\$4,235,237	1%
Crab, Spider/Toad		467	0%	\$483,459	0%
Shrimp, <i>Pandalus borealis</i>		150,830	57%	\$450,018,109	62%
Crab, Atlantic Rock		187	0%	\$173,600	0%
Crab, Queen / Snow		34,524	13%	\$205,650,587	28%
Shrimp, <i>Pandalus montagui</i>		288	0%	\$982,177	0%
Shrimp, Pink-White		X	X	X	X
Other		915	0%	\$5,982,299	1%
<b>Total</b>		<b>264,162</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$725,503,921</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: DFO 2019a  
 Note: Data presented with an "X" have been redacted due to privacy screening. Data presented as 0 signify and actual value of 0.



**Figure 7-16 Seasonality of Commercial Fishing Activity within NAFO Division 3K**



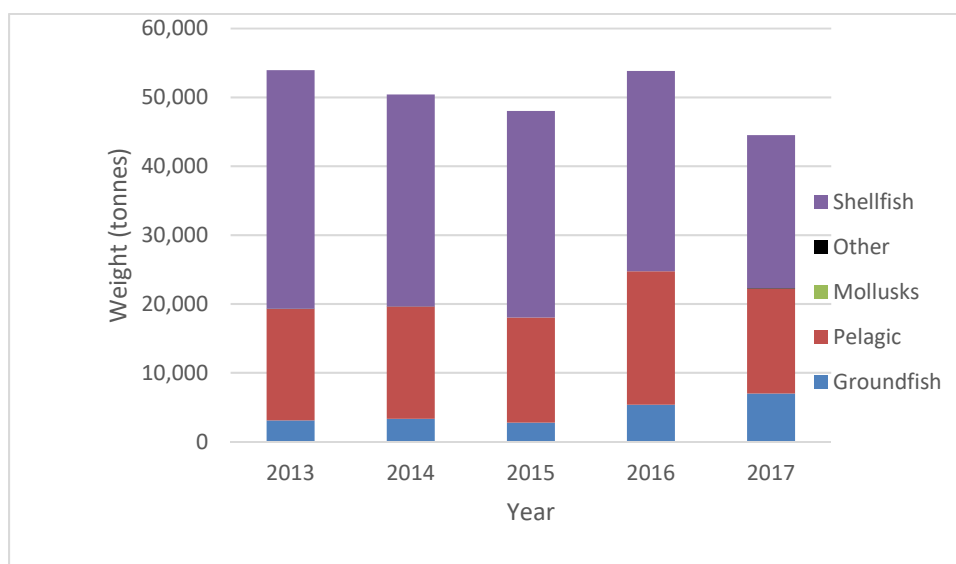
## WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

### EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

#### 7.2.2.2.2 NAFO Division 3L

Commercial fishing activity in Division 3L has been similar to 3K; shellfish is the dominant species group, accounting for 58% of the landed weight and 93% of the landed value from 2013-2017 (Figure 7-17 and Figure 7-18). However, the most fished species of shellfish is snow crab (90% of value), whereas northern shrimp only accounts for approximately 2% of the landed value (Table 7.6).

Atlantic cod and Greenland halibut are the top groundfish species, and although there are not sufficient data indicating the true catch weight and values of groundfish species due to redacted information, there is a greater number of different types of groundfish that are commercially fished (15 in total). The diversity in types of groundfish species is attributed to the differing types of habitats found with Division 3L, which includes the nearshore areas in and around the eastern coast of the Avalon Peninsula, and the offshore areas, including portions of the Grand Banks and the Flemish Cap. This geography is also why capelin account for 26% of the total catch weight from 2013-2017, as they are mostly caught in the inshore areas of the Avalon Peninsula. Minimal commercial fishing activity occurs within NAFO Division 3L from January to March, with most occurring from April to August (Figure 7-19).



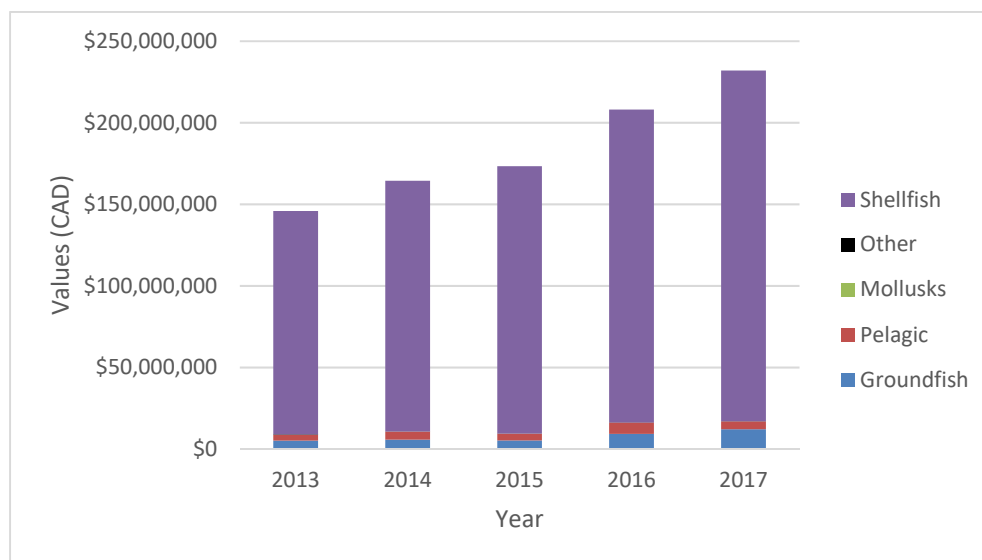
Source: DFO 2019a

**Figure 7-17** Catch Weight by Species Group per Year in NAFO Division 3L



# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT



Source: DFO 2019a

**Figure 7-18 Catch Value by Species Group per Year in NAFO Division 3L**

**Table 7.6 Total Weight and Value and Percent Weight and Value for Commercially Fished Species within the RAA in NAFO Division 3L, 2013-2017**

Species	Group	Weight (t)	% Weight	Value (CAD)	% Value
Cod, Atlantic	Groundfish	16,455	7%	\$21,072,742	2%
Cod, Rock		X	X	X	X
Haddock		X	X	X	X
Redfish		11	0%	\$7,533	0%
Halibut – Atlantic		1	0%	\$14,272	0%
American Plaice		1	0%	\$473	0%
Yellowtail Flounder		X	X	X	X
Greysole / Witch		X	X	X	X
Winter Flounder		187	0%	\$122,055	0%
Turbot / Greenland Halibut		4,816	2%	\$16,347,032	2%
Skate		X	X	X	X
Monkfish (American Angler)		X	X	X	X
Sculpin		X	X	X	X
Grenadier, Roughhead		X	X	X	X
Catfish (Striped /Wolfish)		X	X	X	X



**WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM**

EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

**Table 7.6 Total Weight and Value and Percent Weight and Value for Commercially Fished Species within the RAA in NAFO Division 3L, 2013-2017**

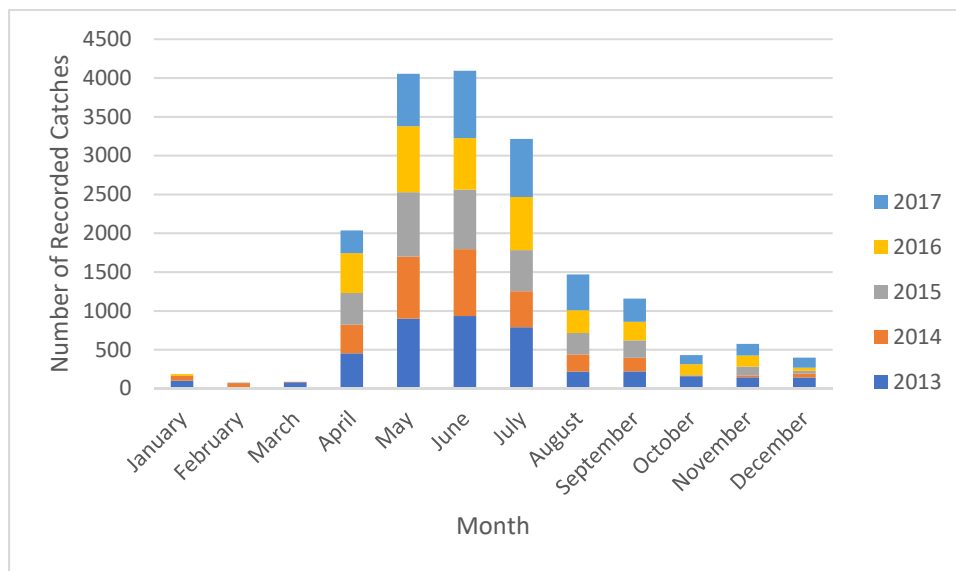
Species	Group	Weight (t)	% Weight	Value (CAD)	% Value
Herring, Atlantic	Pelagic	15,447	6%	\$4,112,992	0%
Mackerel		X	X	X	X
Tuna, Bluefin		X	X	X	X
Billfish		X	X	X	X
Argentine		X	X	X	X
Eels		X	X	X	X
Capelin		66,924	26%	\$20,220,618	2%
Shark, Blue		X	X	X	X
Shark, Mako		X	X	X	X
Shark, Unspecified		X	X	X	X
Clam, Propeller		X	X	X	X
Clam, Stimpson's Surf		X	X	X	X
Scallop, Sea		X	X	X	X
Squid, <i>Illex</i> / Shortfin		Molluscs	130	0%	\$200,458
Whelk	359		0%	\$767,599	0%
Cockle	X		X	X	X
Scallop, Icelandic	X		X	X	X
Sea Urchins		1,890	1%	\$3,536,234	0%
Lobster	Shellfish	453	0%	\$5,418,424	1%
Crab, Spider / Toad		59	0%	\$65,332	0%
Shrimp, <i>Pandalus borealis</i>		7,775	3%	\$16,177,068	2%
Crab, Atlantic Rock		76	0%	\$64,773	0%
Crab, Queen / Snow		138,426	55%	\$839,544,833	90%
Shrimp, <i>Pandalus montagui</i>		X	X	X	X
Other			145	0%	\$455,483
<b>Total</b>		<b>253,156</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$928,127,923</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: DFO 2019a  
 Note: Data presented with an "X" have been redacted due to privacy screening. Data presented as 0 signify and actual value of 0.



# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

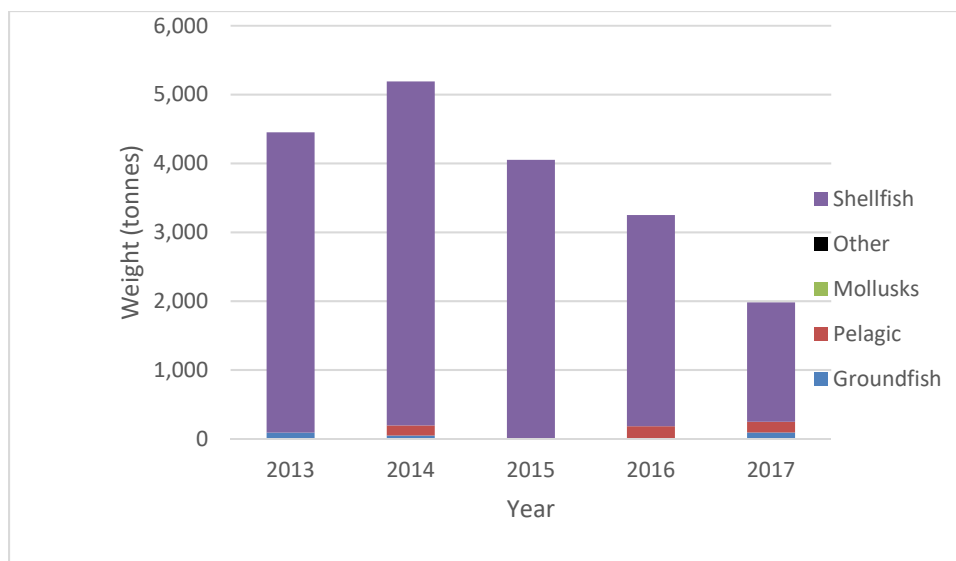


Source: DFO 2019b

**Figure 7-19 Seasonality of Commercial Fishing Activity within NAFO Division 3L**

### 7.2.2.2.3 NAFO Divisions 3NO

In NAFO Divisions 3NO, shellfish is the dominant species group that is commercially fished by weight and by value (Figure 7-20 and Figure 7-21). The species harvested is exclusively snow crab (Table 7.7), which accounts for 96% of the total weight and 94% of the total value. There are several groundfish and pelagic species that are fished within these divisions; however, the redacted data indicate that these fisheries are small (i.e., actively fished by less than five vessels). Commercial fishing activity occurs throughout the year within 3NO, with peak harvesting activity from April to August (Figure 7-22).



Source: DFO 2019a

**Figure 7-20 Catch Weight by Species Group per Year in NAFO Division 3NO**



# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT



Source: DFO 2019a

**Figure 7-21 Catch Value by Species Group per Year in NAFO Division 3NO**

**Table 7.7 Total Weight and Value and Percent Weight and Value for Commercially Fished Species within the RAA in Division 3NO, 2013-2017**

Species	Group	Weight (t)	% Weight	Value (CAD)	% Value
Cod, Atlantic	Groundfish	7	0%	\$13,911	0%
Haddock		X	X	X	X
Redfish		X	X	X	X
Halibut – Atlantic		189	1%	\$2,265,463	2%
American Plaice		X	X	X	X
Yellowtail Flounder		X	X	X	X
Greysole / Witch		X	X	X	X
Turbot / Greenland Halibut		X	X	X	X
Skate, Arctic		X	X	X	X
Skate		X	X	X	X
Dogfish		X	X	X	X
Pollock		X	X	X	X
Hake, White		34	0%	\$31,405	0%
Hake, Silver		X	X	X	X
Cusk		X	X	X	X
Monkfish (American Angler)		X	X	X	X
Grenadier, Roughhead		X	X	X	X
Catfish (Striped / Wolffish)		X	X	X	X



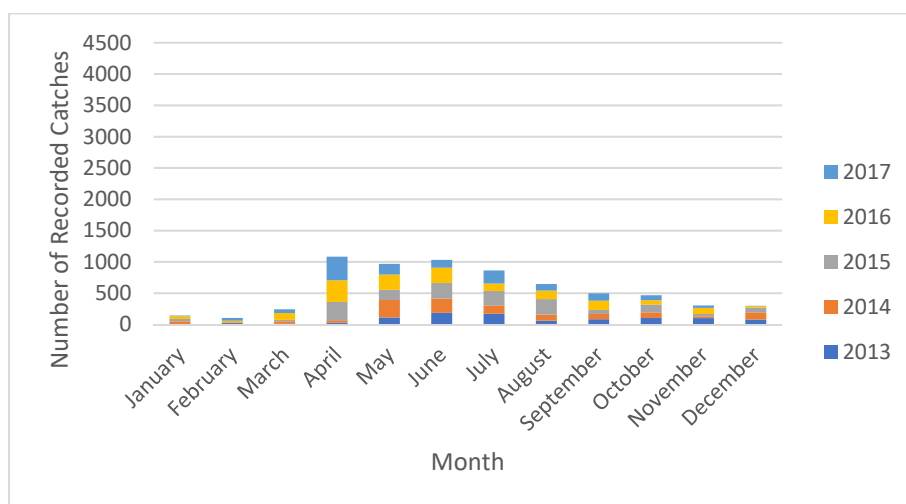
**WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM**

EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

**Table 7.7 Total Weight and Value and Percent Weight and Value for Commercially Fished Species within the RAA in Division 3NO, 2013-2017**

Species	Group	Weight (t)	% Weight	Value (CAD)	% Value
Swordfish	Pelagic	466	2%	\$4,562,254	4%
Tuna, Albacore		X	X	X	X
Tuna, Bigeye		X	X	X	X
Tuna, Bluefin		X	X	X	X
White Marlin		X	X	X	X
Mahi Mahi / Dolphin		X	X	X	X
Pelagics, Unspecified		X	X	X	X
Shark, Porbeagle		X	X	X	X
Shark, Mako		18	0%	\$48,869	0%
Shark, Unspecified		X	X	X	X
Clam, Propeller	Molluscs	X	X	X	X
Clam, Stimpson's Surf		X	X	X	X
Whelk		X	X	X	X
Cockle		X	X	X	X
Crab, Queen / Snow	Shellfish	18,211	96%	\$103,697,951	94%
<b>Total</b>		<b>18,924</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$110,619,852</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: DFO 2019a  
 Note: Data presented with an "X" have been redacted due to privacy screening. Data presented as 0 signify and actual value of 0.



Source: DFO 2019b

**Figure 7-22 Seasonality of Commercial Fishing Activity within NAFO Division 3NO, in Unit Areas that Overlap with the RAA**

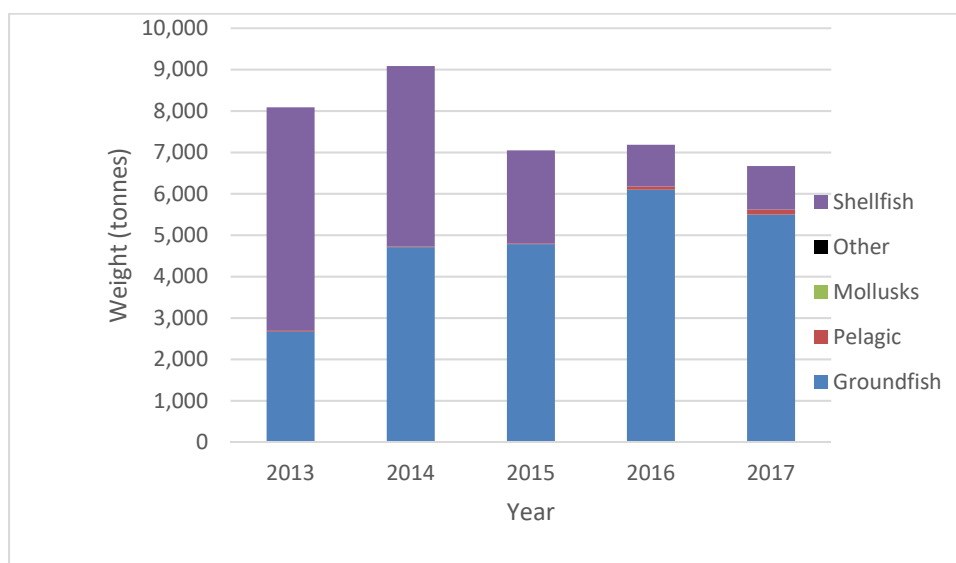


# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

### 7.2.2.2.4 NAFO Division 3Ps

Groundfish fisheries are the dominant commercial fishing activity in Unit Areas of NAFO Division 3Ps that overlap with the RAA, accounting for 51% of weight and 34% of value (Figure 7-23, Figure 7-24, and Table 7.8). Top groundfish fisheries include Atlantic cod (39%), haddock (2%) and Atlantic halibut (2%) (Figure 7-23 and Figure 7-24). Snow crab is the dominant fishery in terms of overall value, accounting for 55% between 2013 and 2017. NAFO Division 3Ps has the most diverse mollusc fisheries in NAFO Divisions that overlap with the RAA, which include species such as sea and Iceland scallop, whelk, and sea cucumber. Together they account for 18% of the total weight and 10% of the total value between 2013 and 2017. The marine waters in NAFO Division 3Ps are along the southern shore of Newfoundland, offering more protection and different habitats than NAFO Divisions located offshore. Placentia Bay offers habitat for whelk and sea cucumber fishing, while the St. Pierre Bank has a healthy scallop fishery. Commercial fishing activity in 3Ps occurs throughout the year, with peak months being from April to August (Figure 7-25).



Source: DFO 2019a

**Figure 7-23 Catch Weight by Species Group per Year in NAFO Division 3Ps**



# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

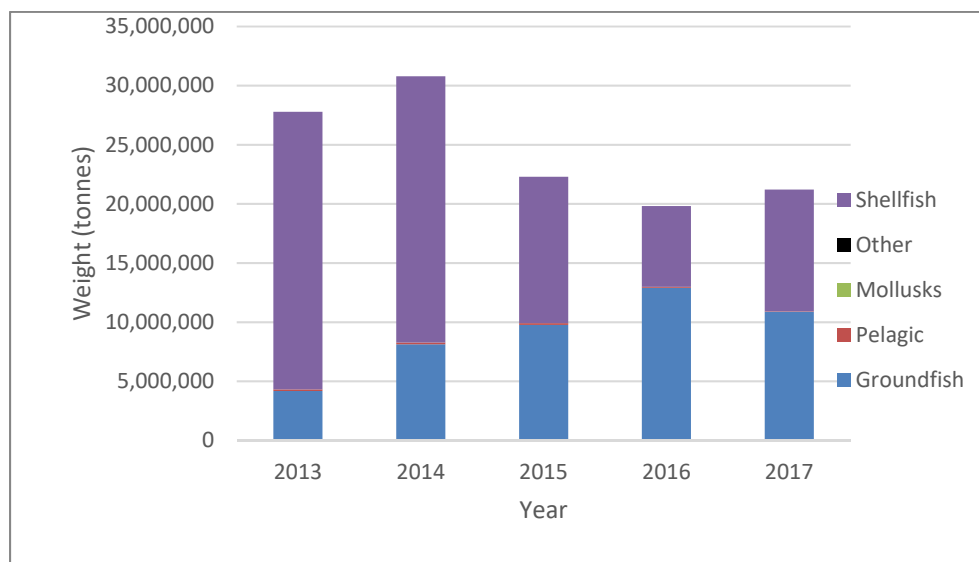


Figure 7-24 Catch Value by Species Group per Year in NAFO Division 3Ps

Table 7.8 Total Weight and Value and Percent Weight and Value for Commercially Fished Species within the RAA in Division 3Ps, 2013-2017

Species	Group	Weight (t)	% Weight	Value (CAD)	% Value
Cod, Atlantic	Groundfish	17,982	39%	\$27,593,133	20%
Haddock		794	2%	\$1,332,134	1%
Redfish		322	1%	\$391,170	0%
Halibut – Atlantic		1,031	2%	\$12,869,113	10%
American Plaice		288	1%	\$291,436	0%
Yellowtail Flounder		2	0%	\$1,114	0%
Greyscale / Witch		655	1%	\$971,304	1%
Winter Flounder		127	0%	\$80,957	0%
Turbot / Greenland Halibut		10	0%	\$36,666	0%
Flounder, Unspecified		X	X	X	X
Skate		210	0%	\$55,524	0%
Dogfish		X	X	X	X
Pollock		1,209	3%	\$1,030,248	1%
Hake, White		1,107	2%	\$1,177,280	1%
Hake, Silver		X	X	X	X
Cusk		7	0%	\$5,869	0%
Monkfish (American Angler)		14	0%	\$16,895	0%
Grenadier, Round-Nose		X	X	X	X
Hake, Red		X	X	X	X



**WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM**

EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

**Table 7.8 Total Weight and Value and Percent Weight and Value for Commercially Fished Species within the RAA in Division 3Ps, 2013-2017**

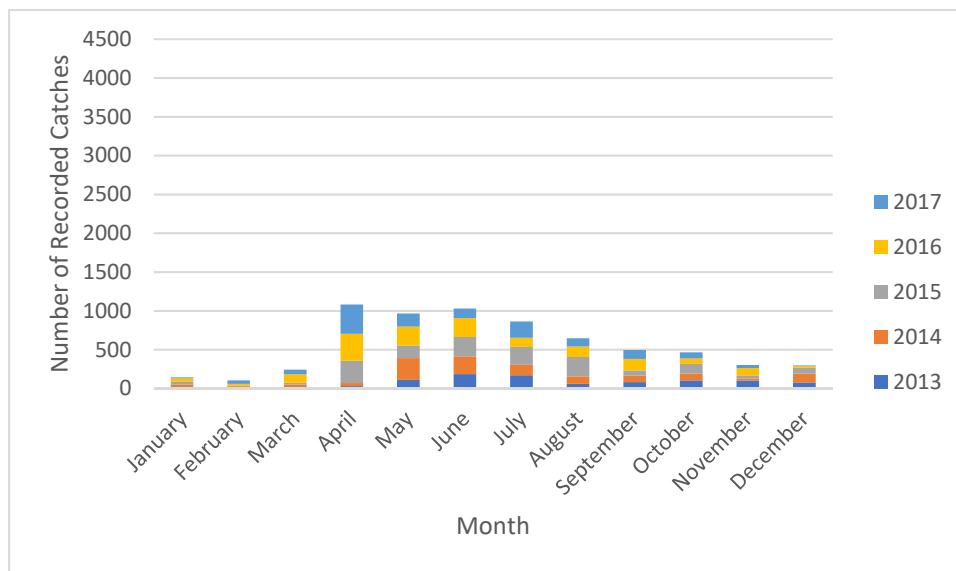
Species	Group	Weight (t)	% Weight	Value (CAD)	% Value
Sculpin	Groundfish	X	X	X	X
Catfish (Striped / Wolffish)		X	X	X	X
Hagfish/Slime Eel		X	X	X	X
Groundfish, Unspecified		X	X	X	X
Herring, Atlantic	Pelagic	186	0%	\$62,941	0%
Swordfish		X	X	X	X
Tuna, Albacore		X	X	X	X
Tuna, Bigeye		X	X	X	X
Tuna, Bluefin		72	0%	\$495,661	0%
Eels		X	X	X	X
Capelin		X	X	X	X
Shark, Porbeagle		X	X	X	X
Shark, Mako		X	X	X	X
Shark, Unspecified		X	X	X	X
Scallop, Sea		Molluscs	715	2%	\$1,852,141
Squid, <i>Illex</i> / Shortfin	X		X	X	X
Whelk	5,381		12%	\$9,433,668	7%
Scallop, Icelandic	48		0%	\$84,311	0%
Sea Cucumber	1,947		4%	\$1,835,531	1%
Sea Urchins		X	X	X	X
Lobster	Shellfish	111	0%	\$1,253,527	1%
Crab, Spider / Toad		X	X	X	X
Crab, Queen / Snow		13,950	30%	\$74,235,197	55%
Other		X	X	X	X
<b>Total</b>		<b>46,167</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$135,105,819</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: DFO 2019a  
 Note: Data presented with an "X" have been redacted due to privacy screening. Data presented as 0 signify and actual value of 0.



**WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM**

**EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT**



Source: DFO 2019b

**Figure 7-25 Seasonality of Commercial Fishing Activity within NAFO Division 3Ps, in Unit Areas that Overlap with the RAA**

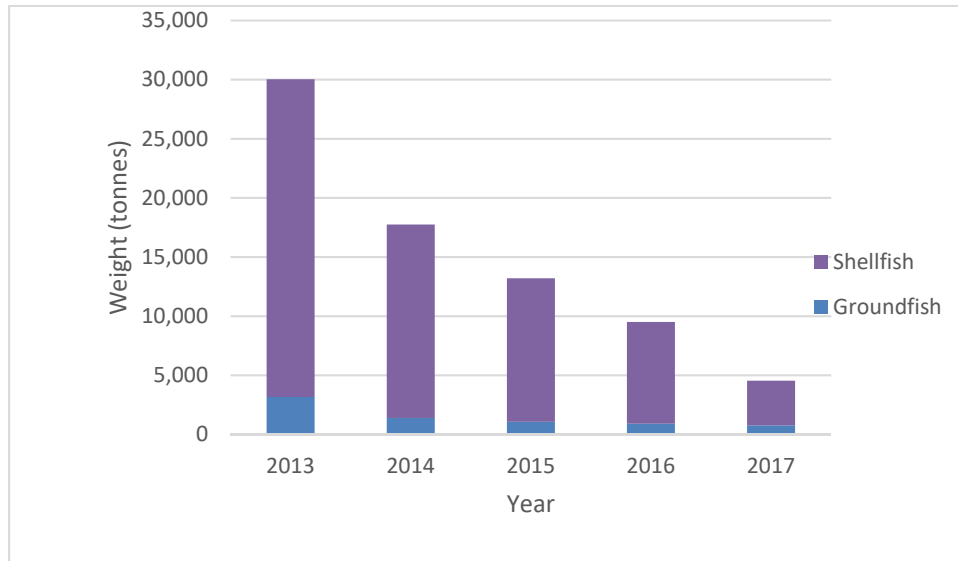
**7.2.2.2.5 NAFO Division 2J**

From 2013-2017 there has been a decrease in both landed weight (85%) and landed value (69%) in the portions of NAFO Divisions 2J that are within the RAA (Figure 7-26 and Figure 7-27). Northern shrimp account for 78% of the weight and 71% of the weight and values, respectively, during that same time frame (Table 7.9). Decreases in total allowable catches (TAC) set by DFO, and changes in the productivity state of northern shrimp in NAFO Division 2J and 3K (as noted in the most recent assessment of northern shrimp in Shrimp Fishing Areas (SFAs) 4-6 [DFO 2018a]), contributed to this decline. The peak months for commercial fishing activity in NAFO Division 2J is June to August; January to April has a small but sustained commercial fishing activity (Figure 7-28).



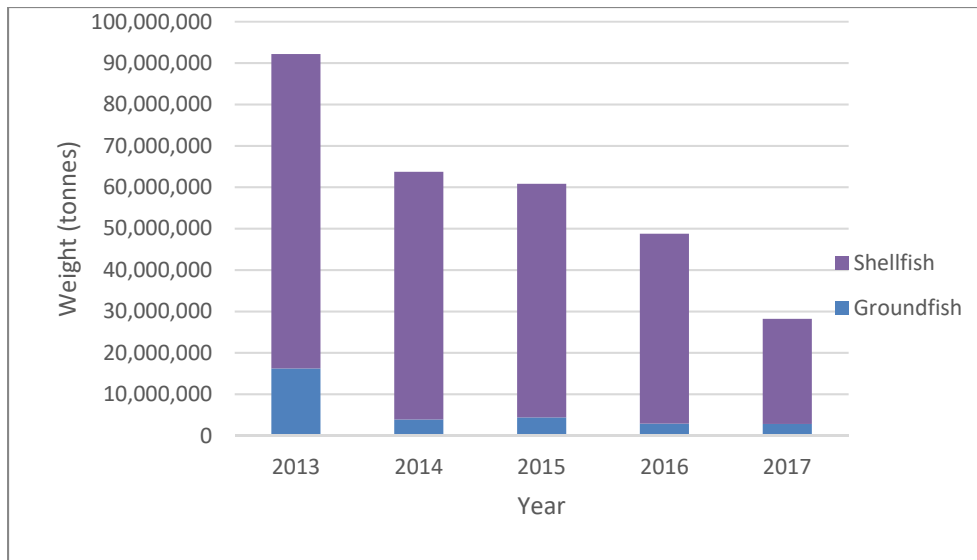
# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT



Source: DFO 2019a

**Figure 7-26 Catch Weight by Species Group per Year in NAFO Division 2J**



Source: DFO 2019a

**Figure 7-27 Catch Value by Species Group per Year in NAFO Division 2J**



**WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM**

EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

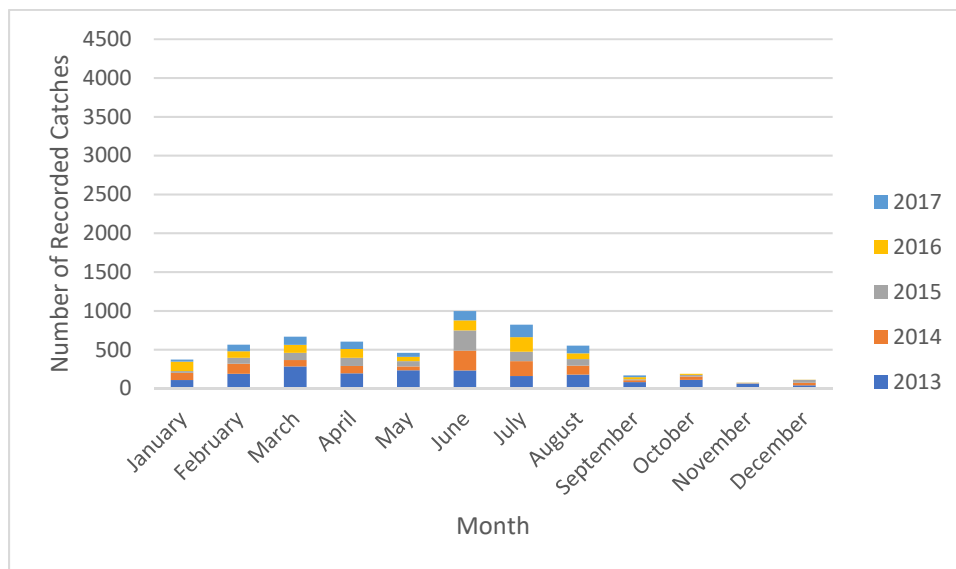
**Table 7.9 Total Weight and Value and Percent Weight and Value for Commercially Fished Species within the RAA in Division 2J, 2013-2017**

Species	Group	Weight (t)	% Weight	Value (CAD)	% Value
Cod, Atlantic	Groundfish	572	1%	\$684,810	0%
Redfish		X	X	X	X
Halibut – Atlantic		X	X	X	X
American Plaice		X	X	X	X
Greyscale / Witch		X	X	X	X
Turbot / Greenland Halibut		6,748	9%	\$29,626,220	10%
Skate		X	X	X	X
Grenadier, Roughhead		X	X	X	X
Herring, Atlantic		Pelagic	X	X	X
Mackerel	X		X	X	X
Capelin	X		X	X	X
Whelk	543		1%	\$724,897	0%
Scallop, Icelandic	X		X	X	X
Sea Urchins		X	X	X	X
Shrimp, <i>Pandalus borealis</i>	Shellfish	58,580	78%	\$209,535,659	71%
Crab, Queen / Snow		7,837	10%	\$48,799,381	17%
Shrimp, <i>Pandalus montagui</i>		1,293	2%	\$5,085,052	2%
Other		X	X	X	X
<b>Total</b>		<b>75,573</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$294,456,020</b>	<b>100%</b>
Source: DFO 2019a Note: Data presented with an "X" have been redacted due to privacy screening. Data presented as 0 signify and actual value of 0.					



# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT



Source: DFO 2019b

**Figure 7-28 Seasonality of Commercial Fishing Activity within NAFO Division 2J, in Unit Areas that Overlap with the RAA**

### 7.2.2.2.6 NAFO Division 4Vs

Unit Areas with NAFO Divisions 4Vs that overlap with the RAA include 4Vse and 4Vse. Both of these unit areas account for 4% of the landed weight (Figure 7-8) and 6% of the landed value (Figure 7-9) between 2013 and 2017; however, the geospatial data indicates that there was only one instance of groundfish being commercially fished in the region that specifically overlaps with the RAA. As noted in Figure 7-10 to Figure 7-13, most of the fishing activity occurring in 4VSc is along the Scotian Shelf along the western side of the St. Pierre and Miquelon EEZ, outside the RAA.

### 7.2.2.2.7 Gear Types

Table 7.10 indicates the gear type combinations, based on species group, that were used for domestic commercial fishing purposes within the RAA between 2013 and 2017. Pots, a fixed gear system used to catch snow crab, account for approximately 57% of the total value based on summed values between 2013 and 2017. Shrimp trawls, a mobile gear type for catching northern shrimp, account for approximately 32% of value. The remaining gear types make up just 11% of the total value of domestic commercial fishing between 2013 and 2017 with the NAFO Unit Areas that overlap with the RAA. The distribution of fixed gear and mobile gear commercial fishing activity are shown in Figure 7-29 and Source: DFP 2019b Figure 7-30.



**WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM**

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**Table 7.10 Percent Value of Gear Types Used for Commercial Fishing Purposes within the RAA, 2013-2017**

Group	Gear Type	% Value
Groundfish	Gillnet (set or fixed)	4%
	Hand line (baited)	0%
	Longline	2%
	Rectangular trap	0%
	Trap net	0%
	Bottom otter trawl (stern)	2%
	Pot	X
	Angling	X
	Purse seine	0%
	Danish seine	0%
	Shrimp trawl	X
	Harpoon and spear	X
	Hagfish Barrel	X
Pelagic	Trap net	0%
	Purse seine	1%
	Tuck seine	1%
	Gillnet (set or fixed)	0%
	Beach and bar seine	0%
	Longline	0%
	Hand line (baited)	X
	Harpoon and spear	X
	Troller lines	0%
	Electric harpoon	0%
	Angling	0%
Molluscs	Dredge (boat)	0%
	Mechanized squid jigger	0%
	Trap net	X
	Gillnet (set or fixed)	X
	Hand line (baited)	X
	Pot	1%
	Sea Cucumber drag	0%
	Diving with hand tool	0%
	Rope	X



**WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM**

EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

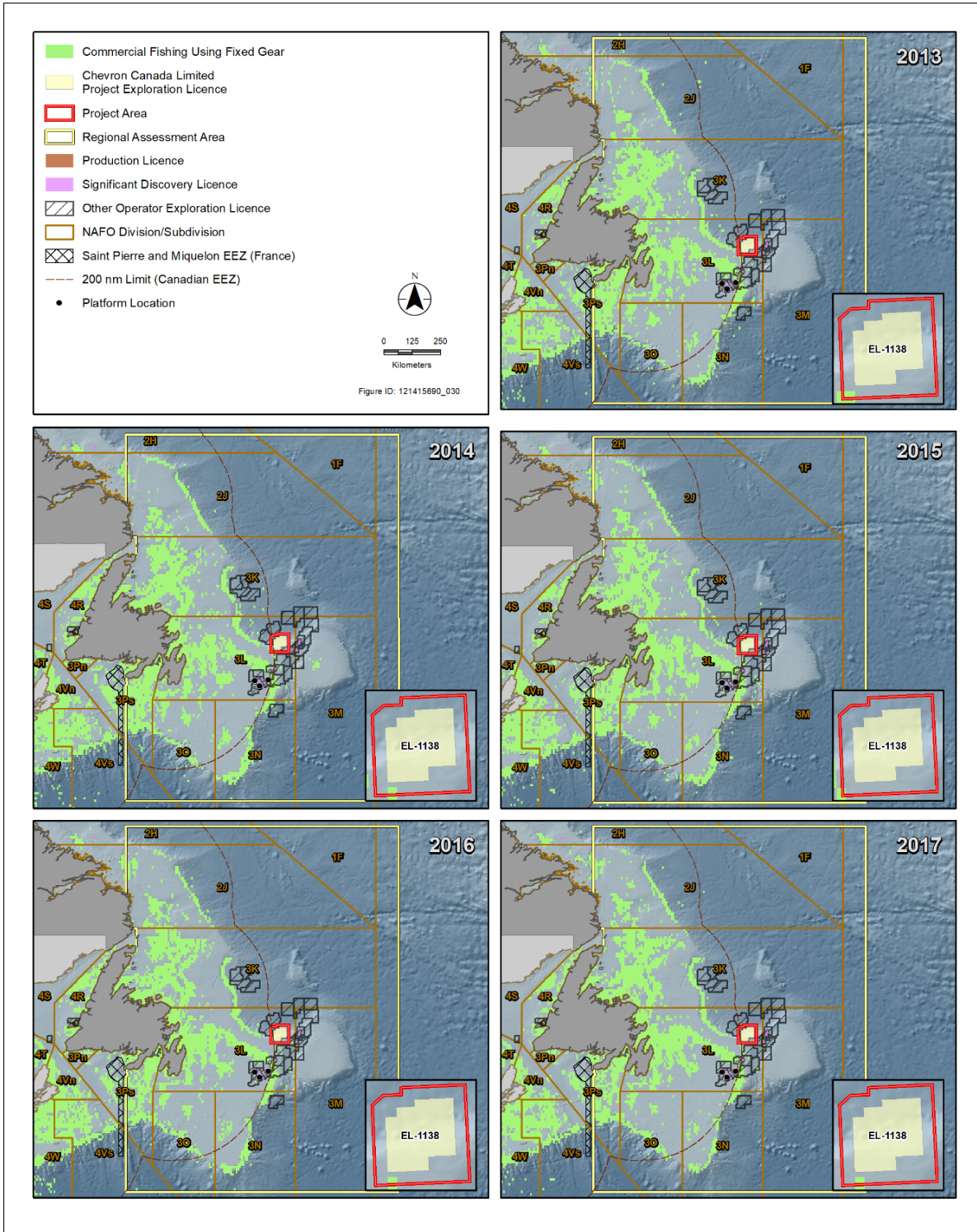
**Table 7.10 Percent Value of Gear Types Used for Commercial Fishing Purposes within the RAA, 2013-2017**

Group	Gear Type	% Value
Shellfish	Pot	57%
	Gillnet (set or fixed)	X
	Shrimp trawl	32%
	Unknown	X
	Japanese trap	X
Other	Seal hunting	0%
	Gillnet (set or fixed)	0%
	Pot	X
	Bottom otter trawl (stern)	X
	Longline	0%
	Dredge (boat)	X
Source: DFO 2019a Note: Data presented with an "X" have been redacted due to privacy screening. Data presented as 0 signify and actual value of 0.		



# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT



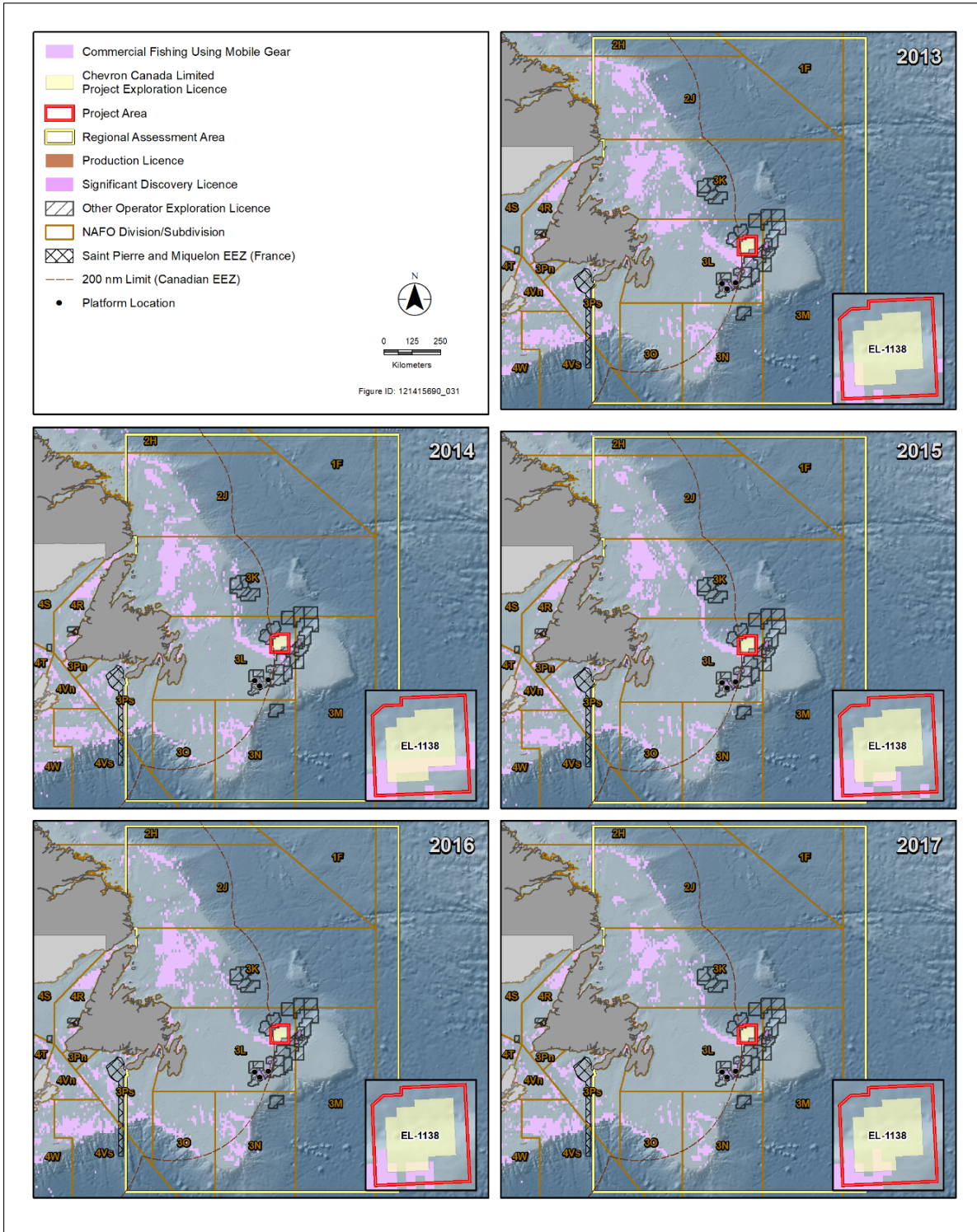
Source: DFO 2019b

**Figure 7-29 Domestic Commercial Fishing Activity, Fixed Gear, 2013-2017**



# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

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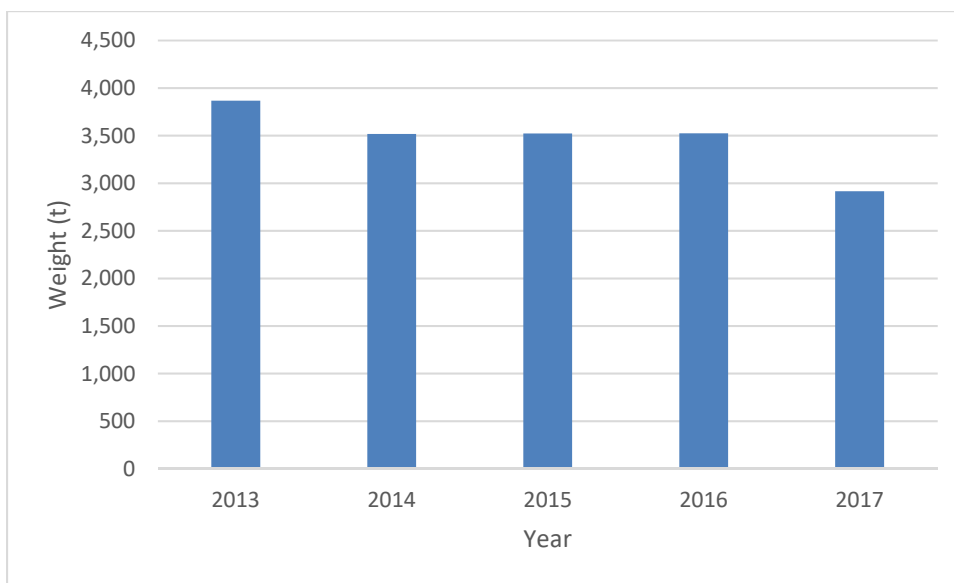
Source: DFP 2019b

**Figure 7-30 Domestic Commercial Fishing Activity, Mobile Gear, 2013-2017**



**7.2.2.3 Domestic Commercial Fishing within NAFO Unit Area that Overlap with the Project Area**

The Project Area intersects Unit Areas 3Le and 3Li within NAFO Division 3L. Focusing on the data within these Unit Areas provides a context for commercial fishing activity that occurs within the Project Area. From 2013 to 2017, the total catch weight decreased from 3,868 tonnes to 2,885 tonnes, a decrease of 25% (Figure 7-31). During the same time period, the value increased from \$15,810,110 to \$27,511,528 (Figure 7-32). The change in weight and values for each species and species group that is fished within the Project Area are shown in Table 7.11 and Table 7.12, respectively. They indicate that the decrease in weight is largely in part due the decrease in the amount of northern shrimp that was caught in 2013 and 2014, followed by an absence of commercial fishing of northern Shrimp in 2015 and 2016. Starting in 2016, SFA 7, which overlaps with NAFO Division 3L, was closed to shrimp fishing (see Section 7.2.5.1.1 for details). The lack of shrimp fishing saw an increase in the catch weight and value of snow crab. Seasonally, snow crab is fished from May-August within the Project Area, while Greenland halibut is fished throughout the year, with peak fishing occurring in August, September, and November (Figure 7-33).



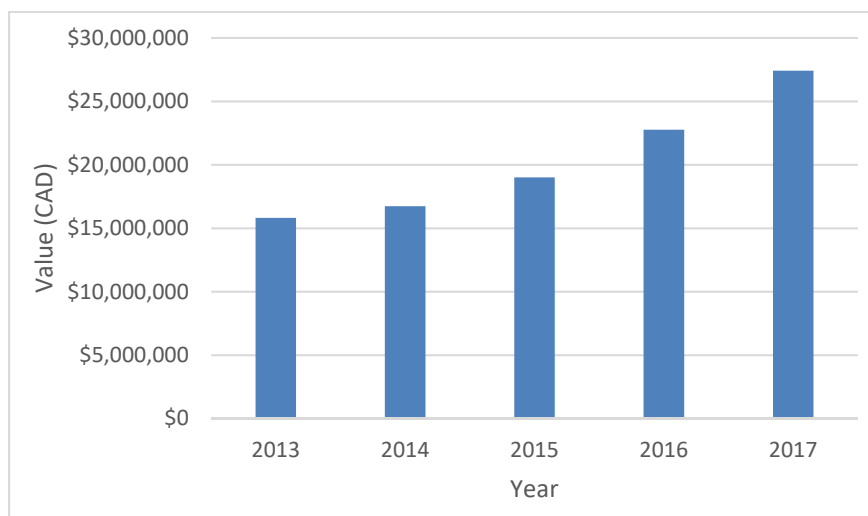
Source: DFO 2019a

**Figure 7-31 Catch Weight (tonnes) Domestic Fishing within NAFO Unit Areas 3Le and 3Li, 2013-2017**



# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT



Source: DFO 2019a

**Figure 7-32 Catch Value (CAD) of Domestic Fishing within NAFO Unit Areas 3Le and 3Li, 2013-2017**

**Table 7.11 Total Weight of Commercially Fished Species within NAFO Unit Areas 3Le and 3Li 2013-2017**

Species	Species Group	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Cod, Atlantic	Groundfish	X	X	X	X	X
Redfish		X	X	X	X	X
Halibut – Atlantic		X	X	X	X	X
American Plaice		X	X	X	X	0
Greyscale / Witch		X	X	X	X	X
Turbot / Greenland Halibut		111,434	192,831	121,314	102,947	112,013
Grenadier, Roughhead		X	X	X	0	0
Herring, Atlantic	Pelagic	X	X	0	0	0
Mackerel		0	0	X	0	0
Argentine		0	0	X	0	0
Scallop, Sea	Molluscs	X	0	0	0	0
Shrimp, <i>Pandalus borealis</i>	Shellfish	3,192,417	592,379	422,098	0	0
Crab, Queen / Snow		2,889,823	3,082,638	2,974,249	3,419,132	3,412,284
Shrimp, <i>Pandalus montagui</i>		0	X	0	0	0
Heads, Groundfish	Other	0	X	0	0	0

Source: DFO 2019a  
 Note: Data presented with an "X" have been redacted due to privacy screening. Data presented as 0 signify and actual value of 0.



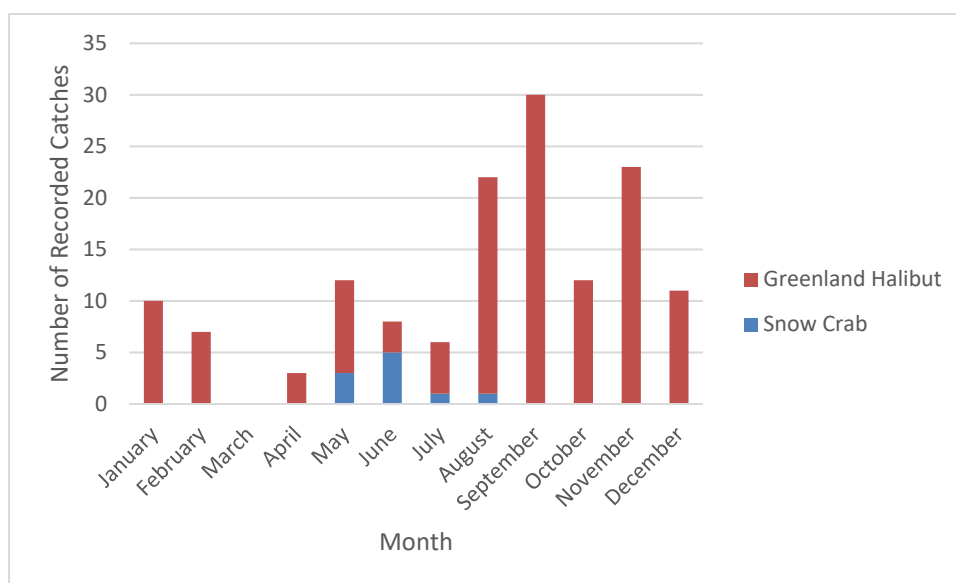
**WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM**

EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

**Table 7.12 Total Value of Commercially Fished Species with the Project Area, 2013-2017**

Species	Species Group	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Cod, Atlantic	Groundfish	X	X	X	X	\$247,379
Redfish		X	X	X	X	X
Halibut – Atlantic		X	X	X	X	X
American Plaice		X	X	X	X	X
Greysole / Witch		X	X	X	X	X
Turbot / Greenland Halibut		\$567,173	\$354,983	\$387,924	\$424,313	\$794
Grenadier, Roughhead		X	X	X	X	X
Herring, Atlantic	Pelagic	X	X	X	X	X
Mackerel		X	X	X	X	X
Argentine		X	X	X	X	X
Capelin		X	X	X	X	X
Scallop, Sea	Molluscs	X	X	X	X	X
Shrimp, <i>Pandalus borealis</i>	Shellfish	\$1,881,894	\$1,036,077	X	X	X
Crab, Queen / Snow		\$13,361,043	\$15,343,613	\$18,618,588	\$22,341,599	\$27,169,367
Shrimp, <i>Pandalus montagui</i>		X	X	X	X	X
Heads, Groundfish	Other	X	X	X	X	X

Source: DFO 2019a  
 Note: Data presented with an "X" have been redacted due to privacy screening. Data presented as 0 signify and actual value of 0.



Source: DFO 2019b

**Figure 7-33 Seasonality of Snow Crab and Greenland Halibut Commercial Fishery within NAFO Unit Areas 3Le and 3Li, Cumulative 2013-2017**



### 7.2.3 Current Foreign Fishing Activity with the RAA

Commercial fishing activity by countries other than Canada within NAFO Divisions 3KLMNO are considered within the context of the Project EL, Project Area, and RAA, as these boundaries overlap with known fishing grounds outside the Canadian 200 nm, including the NAFO fishing footprint (Figure 7-1, Table 7.2). The data presented below are extracted from two data sets provide by NAFO: STATLANT 21A dataset (NAFO 2019b) and NAFO 21B dataset (NAFO 2019c) (see Table 7.3 for further details). The data sets are referenced where appropriate below each graph or table. Data are summarized by NAFO division and calculations include data for the entire division. As values attributed to Canadian vessels have been removed from the dataset, it is assumed that the following section describes commercial fishing activity by foreign vessel outside the Canadian 200 nm limit, inclusive of the NAFO Regulator Area (Figure 7-1).

#### 7.2.3.1 Historical Overview

In the early 1980s there was little catch by foreign vessels in NAFO Divisions 3KLMNO. During the late 1980s, weight caught by foreign vessels was similar to that caught by domestic vessels (Figure 7-34). Leading up to the moratorium in 1992, fishing by foreign vessels declined. Restrictions during the moratorium included lower TAC for Atlantic cod and American plaice, and Canada also restricted fishing by foreign vessels within its 200 nm limit, leading to greater declines of foreign fishing during the early 1990s. As of 2018, fishing by foreign vessels accounts for approximately 25% of the total fishing activity within NAFO Unit Areas that overlap with the RAA (based on catch weight). Foreign vessels have historically fished for groundfish species in NAFO Divisions 3KLMNO (Source: NAFO 2019b

Figure 7-35). From 1992-2010 there was an increase in the weight of shellfish that was caught; however, those catches have been low in the past five years.



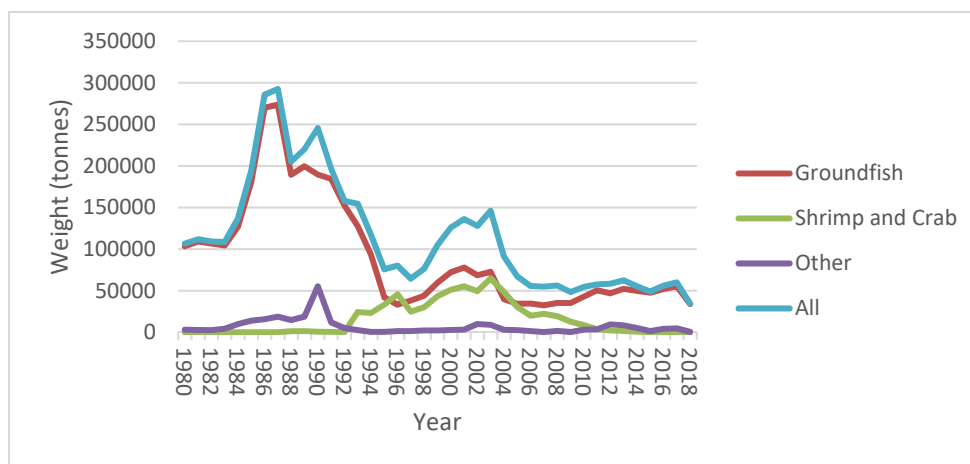
Source: NAFO 2019b

**Figure 7-34 Catch Weight (tonnes) for Canadian (Domestic) and International (Foreign) Commercial Fishing Activity in NAFO Divisions 3K, 3L, 3M, 3N and 3O, 1980-2018**



# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT



Source: NAFO 2019b

**Figure 7-35 Catch Weight (tonnes) by Species Group for Foreign Commercial Fishing Activity in NAFO Divisions 3K, 3L, 3M, 3N and 3O, 1980-2018**

### 7.2.3.2 Current Foreign Commercial Fisheries within the NAFO Regulatory Area in the NAFO divisions that overlap with the RAA

Commercial fishing activity from Portugal, Spain, and Russia accounted for 78% of the total catch weight by foreign vessels between 2012 and 2018 (Table 7.13). Table 7.14 and Figure 7-36 show the breakdown of catch weight by NAFO division and species group, indicating that the majority of commercial fishing activity is for groundfish within NAFO Divisions 3LMNO. Species currently managed by NAFO within the Regulatory Area include Atlantic cod, American plaice, yellowtail flounder, witch flounder, capelin, and thorny skate (Table 7.15). There are moratoria in place for shellfish and redfish. NAFO does not manage sedentary species (e.g., shellfish) and species managed by other fishery bodies, as outlined in Table 7.16

**Table 7.13 Catch Weight (tonnes) by Country in NAFO Divisions within the RAA, 2013-2018**

Country	Weight (tonnes)							Total	% Total
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018		
Portugal	16,111	18,011	19,149	16,901	18,221	19,448	18,321	126,162	33%
Spain	24,976	22,853	18,174	14,414	16,038	18,208	0	114,663	30%
Russia	6,970	8,678	7,762	8,426	8,737	7,824	6,098	54,495	14%
Estonia	1,902	4,529	3,307	3,149	3,284	4,740	5,556	26,467	7%
Faroe Islands	3,530	4,195	3,977	3,674	3,462	3,362	0	22,200	6%
Norway	820	1,343	1,358	1,307	1,350	1,253	1,046	8,477	2%
Japan	0	0	0	0	2,409	2,595	2,990	7,994	2%
United States of America	298	1,010	976	659	1,132	971	0	5,046	1%
United Kingdom	875	1,346	0	0	1,209	1,155	0	4,585	1%
France St. Pierre et Miquelon	1,095	316	214	443	207	331	416	3,022	1%



**WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM**

EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

**Table 7.13 Catch Weight (tonnes) by Country in NAFO Divisions within the RAA, 2013-2018**

Country	Weight (tonnes)								Total	% Total
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018			
Other (Cuba, Lithuania, Poland, Latvia, Iceland, Denmark)	1,851	92	421	3	0	0	11	2,378	1%	
Cuba	961	0	0	0	0	0	0	961	0%	
Lithuania	753	0	7	0	0	0	0	760	0%	
Poland	0	0	414	0	0	0	0	414	0%	
Latvia	137	0	0	0	0	0	0	137	0%	
Iceland	0	92	0	0	0	0	0	92	0%	
Denmark Greenland	0	0	0	3	0	0	11	14	0%	

Source: NAFO 2019b

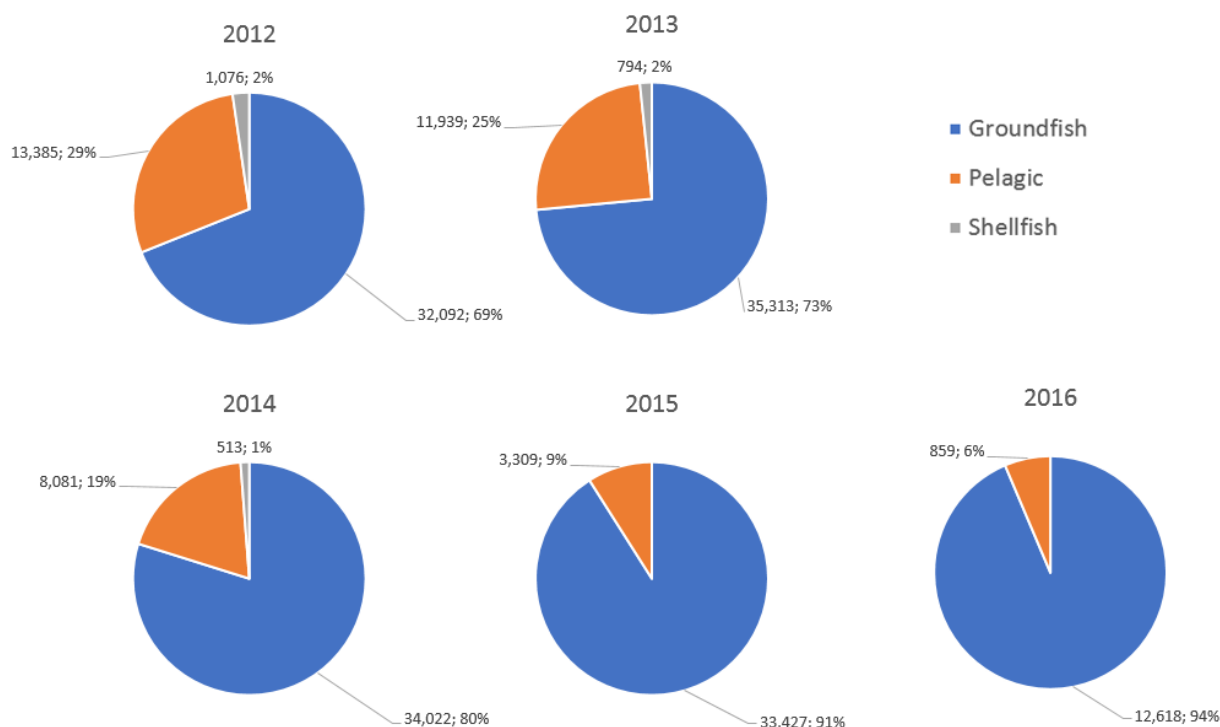
**Table 7.14 Catch Weight (tonnes) and Percent Weight for Foreign Commercial Fishing Activity by NAFO Division, 2013-2018**

NAFO Division	Groundfish		Pelagic		Shellfish	
	Weight (t)	% Weight	Weight (t)	% Weight	Weight (t)	% Weight
3K	0	0%	0	0%	8	0%
3L	27,072	18%	358	1%	2,383	100%
3M	72,780	49%	13,757	37%	0	0%
3N	16,338	11%	19,262	51%	0	0%
3O	31,282	21%	4,196	11%	0	0%
Total	147,472	100%	37,573	100%	2,391	100%



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Source: NAFO 2019c

**Figure 7-36 Catch Weight (tonnes) and Percent Catch Weight by International Fisheries for Species Groups with NAFO Divisions 3K,3L,3M,3N and 3O**

**Table 7.15 Stocks Managed by NAFO in the Regulatory Area**

Species	NAFO Division	Additional Information
Cod	3N, 3O	The stock occurs in Divisions 3NO, with fish occupying shallow parts of the bank, particularly the southeast shoal area (Division 3N) in summer and on the slopes of the bank in winter
Cod	3M	The cod stock in Flemish Cap (NAFO Division 3M) is considered to be a separate population
American plaice	3L, 3N, 3O	The management unit is NAFO Divisions 3LNO. The stock is distributed throughout Division 3LNO but historically most of the biomass was found in Division 3L
Yellowtail flounder	3L, 3N, 3O	The stock occurs in Divisions 3LNO mainly concentrated on the southern Grand Bank and is recruited from the Southeast Shoal area nursery ground
Witch flounder	3N, 3O	The management unit is NAFO Divisions 3NO. The stock mainly occurs in Division 3O along the southwestern slopes of the Grand Bank. In most years the distribution is concentrated toward the slopes but in certain years a higher percentage may be distributed in shallower water



## WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

### EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

**Table 7.15 Stocks Managed by NAFO in the Regulatory Area**

Species	NAFO Division	Additional Information
Capelin	3N, 3O	The capelin stock is distributed in Division 3NO
Thorny Skate	3L, 3M, 3N, 3O and 3Ps	The management unit is confined to NAFO Divisions 3LNO which is a portion of the stock that is distributed in NAFO Divisions 3LNO and Subdivision 3Ps
Source: NAFO 2019e		

**Table 7.16 Managing Organizations for Other Species**

Species	Managing Organization
Salmon	North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO)
Tuna / Marlin (including swordfish)	International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)
Whales	North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMCO)

#### 7.2.4 Fishery Closure Areas

Within the RAA, there are several areas that are currently closed to all or some commercial fishing activity. These restrictions are outlined in Table 7.17 and Figure 7-37. More detailed information on these areas can be found in Chapter 6 in the special area section (Section 6.4).



## WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

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**Table 7.17 Areas within the RAA that have Restrictions on Commercial Fishing Activity**

Closure Name	Closure Type	Jurisdiction	Fishery Restrictions	Dates of Imposed Restrictions	Source
Hawke Channel	Marine Refuge	DFO	Prohibits use of commercial fishing activity using bottom trawl, gillnet and longline	2018-present	DFO 2019c
Funk Island Deep			Prohibits use of commercial fishing activity using bottom trawl, gillnet and longline	2018-present	
Northeast Newfoundland Slope			All bottom fishing activities	2018-present	
Division 30 Coral			All bottom fishing activities	2018-present	
Hopedale Saddle			All bottom fishing activities	2018-present	
Lobster Closure Areas			Closed to fishing of lobster	2018-present	
Shrimp Fishing Area 7	Shrimp Fishing Area	DFO	Closed to fishing of northern shrimp	2016-present	DFO 2019d
Gilbert Bay	Marine Protected Area	DFO	Closed to commercial fishing activity using gillnets; no commercial fishing of cod is permitted	2012-present	c
Eastport	Marine Protected Area	DFO	All commercial and recreational fishing activities	2005 - present	DFO 2019e
Coral, Sponge and Seapen Closure	VME Closure Area	NAFO	All bottom fishing activities	2015 - present	NAFO 2019d
Seamount closure	VME Closure Area	NAFO	All bottom fishing activities	2015 - present	
Snow crab conservation	Exclusion Zones	DFO	Closed to fishing of snow crab	2018-present	DFO 2019f



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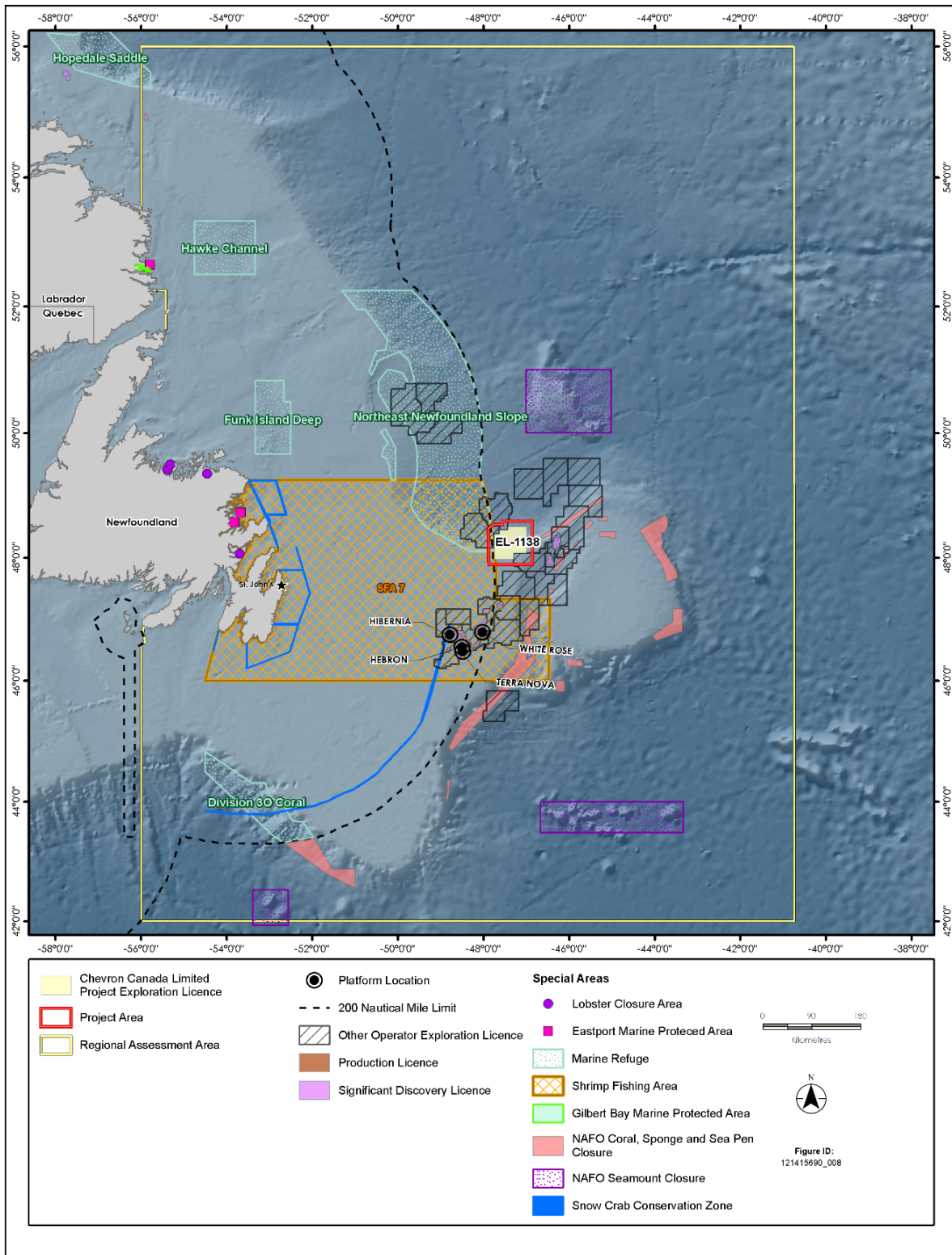


Figure 7-37 Areas with Commercial Fishing Restrictions within the RAA



#### 7.2.5 Description of Key Fisheries by Species and Potential Commercial Fisheries

Based on the data presented above for domestic and foreign commercial fishing activity within the Project Area and RAA, there are numerous species that are important for current commercial fishing activity and several that show trends of increased catch weight and value over time that may be indicative of fisheries that have the potential to be fished within the RAA during the lifetime of the Project. Species that fall into the first category include snow crab, northern shrimp, Greenland halibut (turbot), and Atlantic halibut. The latter category includes Atlantic cod, American plaice, redfish, and Arctic surf clams. Each species is discussed below within the species group that they belong to (shellfish, groundfish and molluscs).

The figures depicted in the following section indicate percent yearly catch weight <sup>1</sup>. Spatial information on foreign vessel is not available and therefore only domestic commercial fishing activity is shown on the figures.

##### 7.2.5.1 Shellfish

###### 7.2.5.1.1 Northern Shrimp

The northern shrimp fishery has historically been important in offshore area of NL. Preceding the moratorium on groundfish species in the early 1990s, northern shrimp began to climb and reached peak catch weight in 2003-2004 (Figure 7-38). Since 2004, the catch weight for Northern Shrimp has decreased steadily with current catch weight as of 2018 as approximately 7,800 tonnes.

Northern shrimp are managed within the EEZ by DFO and by NAFO in area outside the EEZ. DFO manages northern shrimp in SFAs (Figure 7-39). DFO manages the fishery by setting quotas and TACs for the SFAs. The Project Area overlaps slightly with SFA 7, while the RAA overlaps with a portion of SFA 5, and the entirety of SFA 6 and SFA 7. In SFA 6 from 2017 to 2018, the TAC was reduced by 63%, to 10,400 tonnes, and further, by 16%, to 8,730 tonne in 2019 (DFO 2019a). SFA 7 has been closed to the shrimp fishery since 2016 as a conservation measure (DFO 2019d). NAFO has also prohibited directed fishing for northern shrimp in NAFO Division 3LMNO (NAFO 2018a). Domestic commercial fishing of northern shrimp from 2013 to 2017 is shown in Figure 7-40. The closure in SFA 7 is reflected in the data as there is no fishing activity in that area beyond 2015. Shrimp fishing activity with the RAA mainly takes place along the Labrador and Fogo Shelves.

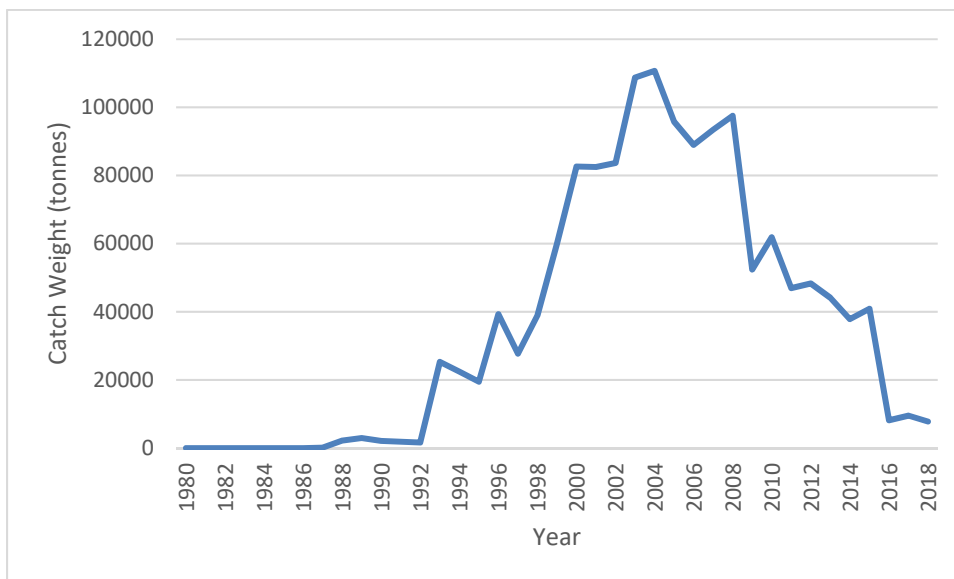
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<sup>1</sup> Percent of yearly catch weight as presented on the figures indicate the percent make-up of each grid cell that is contributed to a specific species or species group. For example, a value of 80% for northern shrimp indicates that 80% of fishing that occurred in that grid cell for the noted year is attributed to commercial fishing of shellfish.



# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

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**Figure 7-38 Catch Weight for Norther Shrimp, Domestic and Foreign Fleets, 1980-2018**

In SFA 6, the fishable biomass in SFA 6 declined 16% from 104,000 tonne in 2016, to 87,300 tonne in 2017 (DFO 2018a). This was the lowest observed levels between 1996 and 2017, where the total fishable biomass averaged 407,000 tonne. The Spawning Stock Biomass (SSB) also declined 19% from approximately 65,000 tonne in 2016, to 52,700 tonne in 2017. This was the lowest observed levels from 1996 to 2017, where the average SSB averaged 254,000 tonne and within the critical zone (DFO 2018a).

Within SFAs 4 and 5, shrimp stocks have been relatively healthy. Total fishable biomass in SFA 5 increased by 31% from 110,000 tonnes in 2016 to 140,000 tonnes in 2017, and the SSB also increased by 3% from 54,300 in 2016 to 55,700 tonnes in 2017 and is currently considered to be within the healthy zone (DFO 2018a).



# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

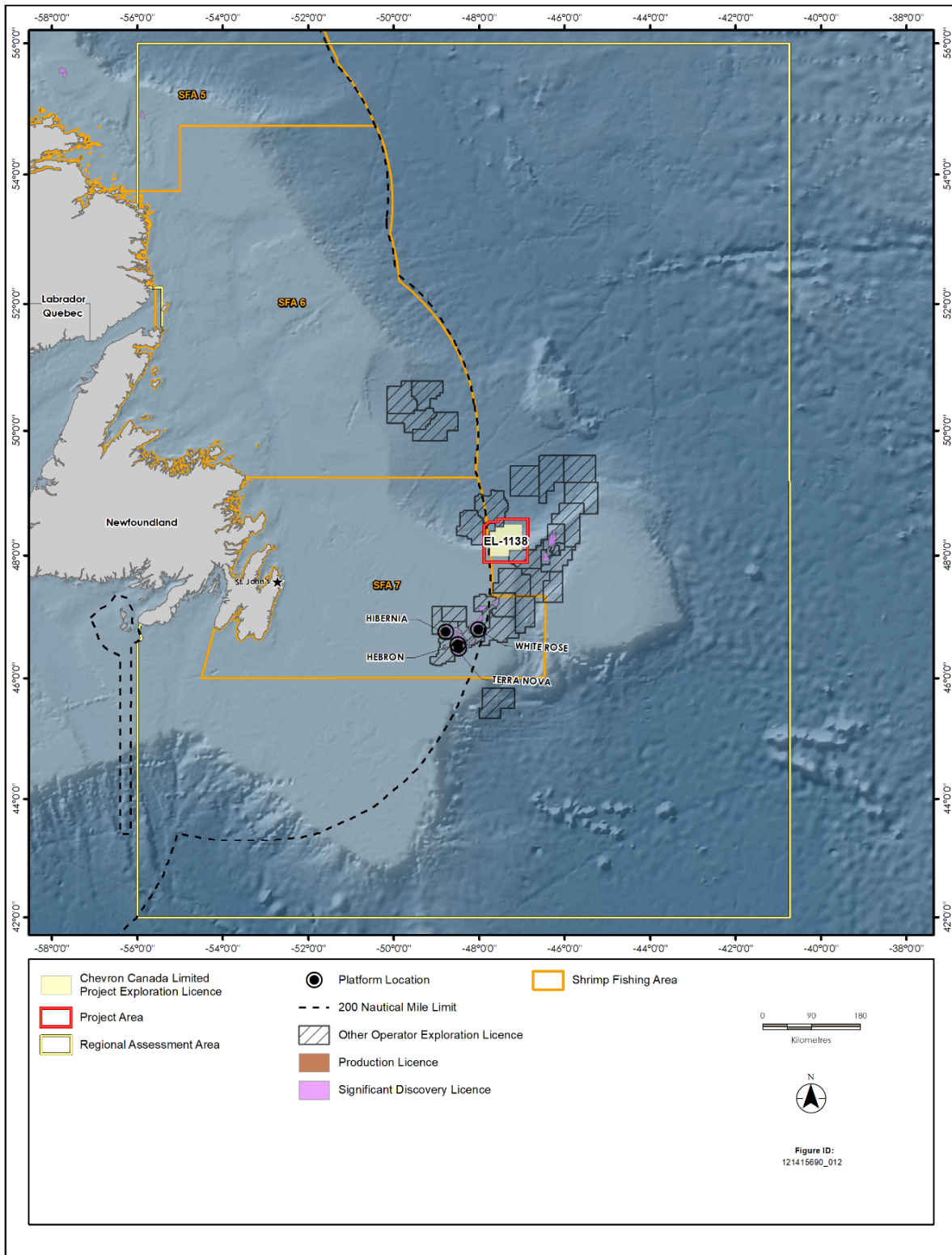


Figure 7-39 Shrimp Fishing Areas



# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

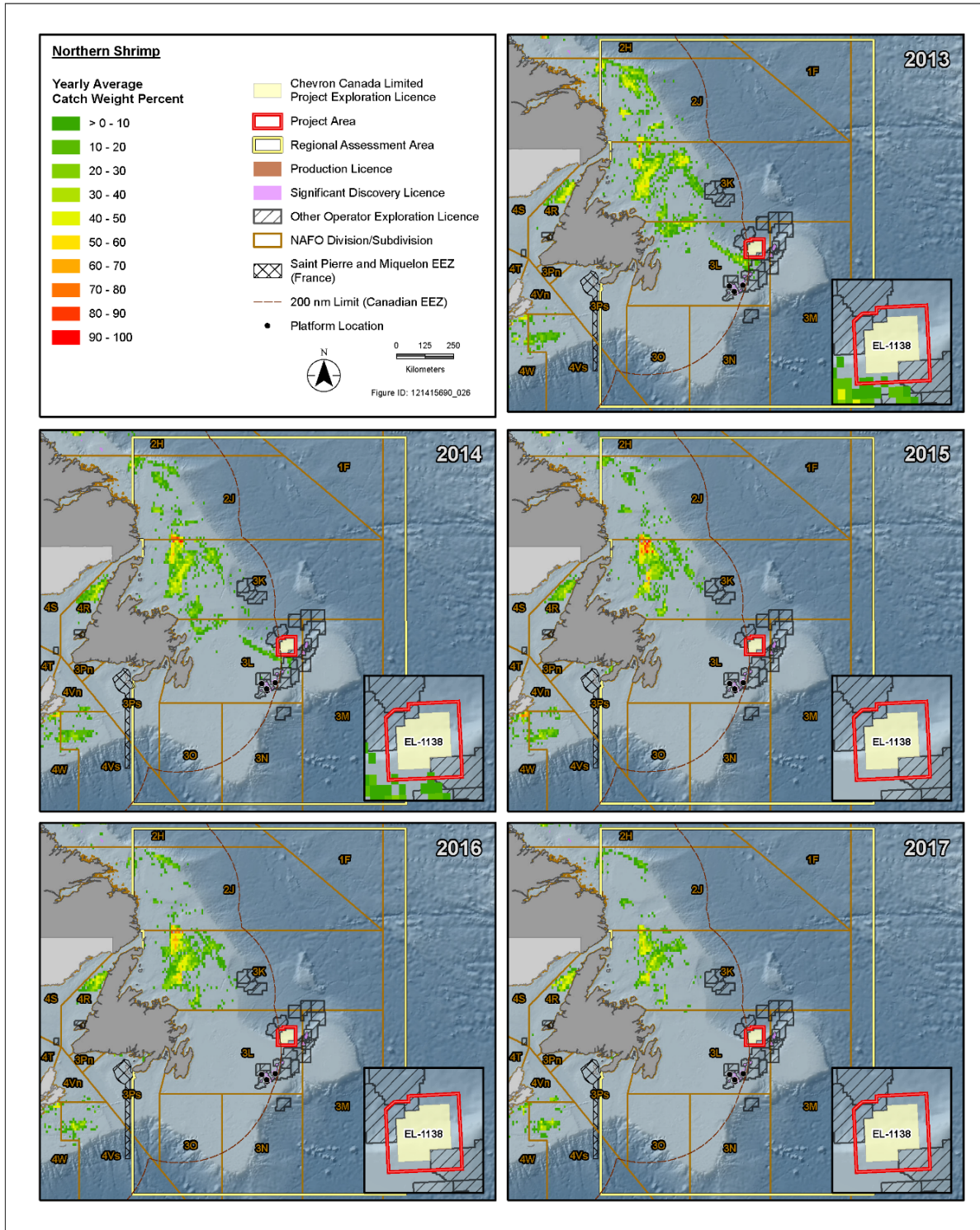


Figure 7-40 Domestic Commercial Fishing Activity for Northern Shrimp, 2013-2017

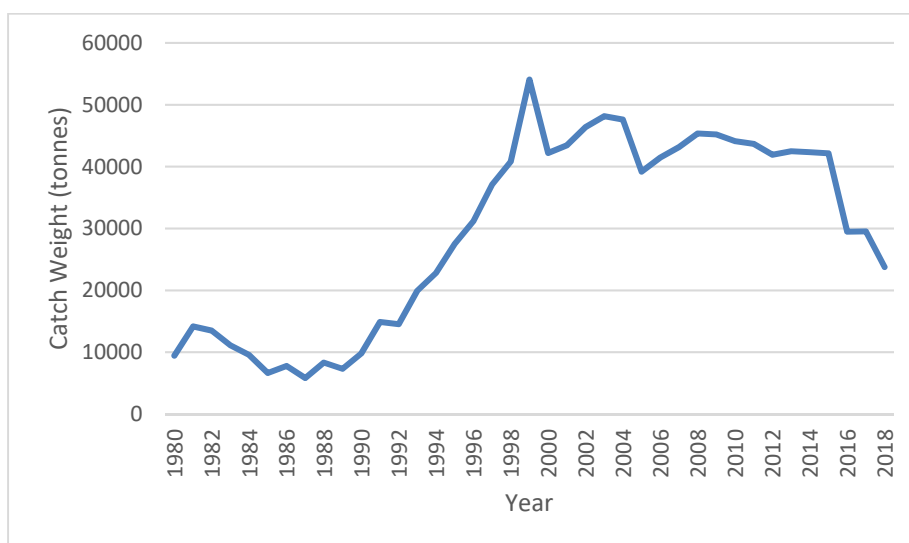


## WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

### EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

#### 7.2.5.1.2 Snow Crab Fishery

From 1980 to 1990 snow crab was fished in small quantities, with catch weights approximately 10,000 tonnes. Much like northern shrimp, after the groundfish moratorium was in place, the crab fishery began to replace much of that fishing effort (Figure 7-41). Crabs are harvested using crab pots, which are set along the seabed using buoys and markers to indicate their location. A quota system is in place for the snow crab fishery and are managed in units called Crab Management Areas (CMAs) (Figure 7-42). Each NAFO Division contains multiple CMAs, each with its own fleet sectors based on vessel size, quotas, and start and end dates. As mentioned in Section 7.2.1.1, DFO maintains jurisdiction over commercial fish species within Canada's 200 nm EEZ, and sedentary species that occur across the extent of Canada's continental shelf, which would include management of snow crab stocks both within and outside of the EEZ. Domestic harvesting locations for snow crab from 2013 to 2017 are shown in Figure 7-43. There is no overlap between domestic commercial fishing activity for snow crab and the Project Area. The nearest activity is along the nose of the Grand Banks, located approximately 30 km from the Project Area. As the Project Area is within the NAFO fishing footprint, it is expected that commercial fishing by international fleets may take place within the Project Area.



**Figure 7-41 Catch Weight for Snow Crab, Domestic and Foreign Fleets, 1980-2018**

The most recent (2016) DFO assessment of snow crab (DFO 2018b indicated total landings of snow crab in offshore NL (2HJ3KLNOP4R) peaked in 2009 at 53,500 tonnes, and then declined to 34,000 tonnes in 2017. The total exploitable biomass of snow crab has declined since 2013 and is now at its lowest observed levels (DFO 2018b). Snow crab landings in NAFO Divisions 2HJ have remained low, at less than 2,000 tonnes for the previous four years, and landings in NAFO Division 3K declined from 2009 to 2018 by 66% to 5,450 tonnes (DFO 2018b). Quotas set for 2019 are shown in Table 7.18 **Error! Reference source not found..**



# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

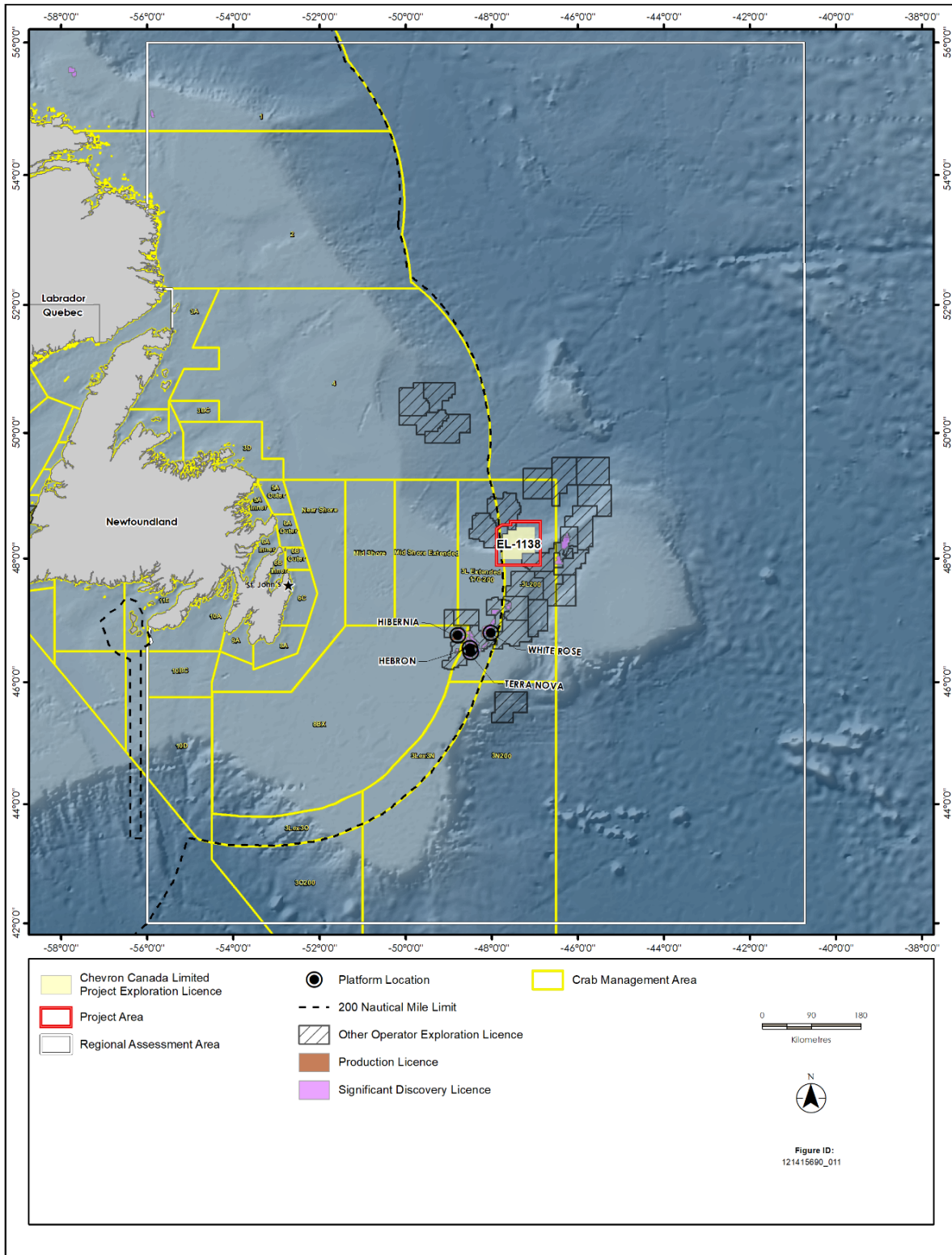


Figure 7-42 Crab Management Areas



# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

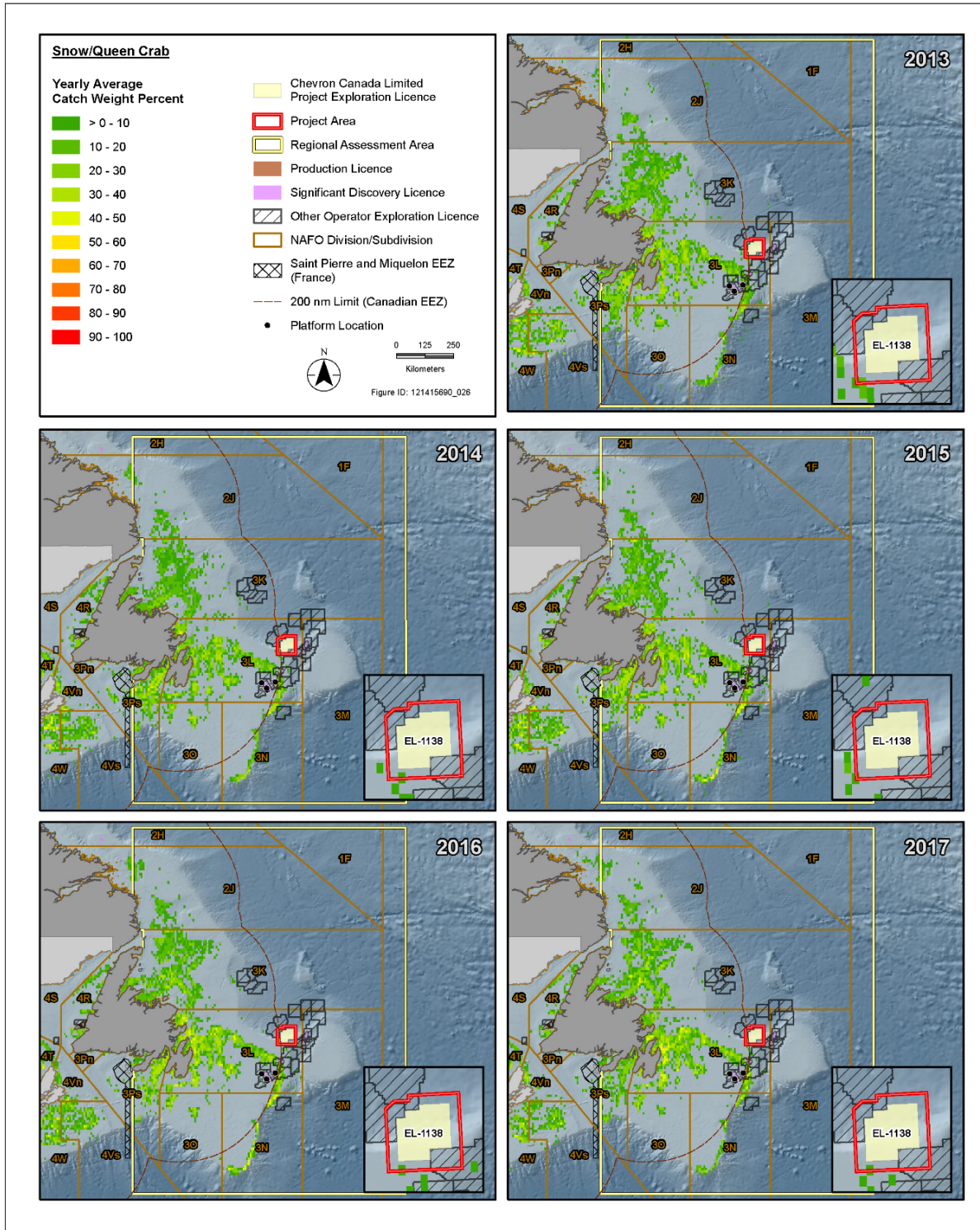


Figure 7-43 Domestic Commercial Fishing Activity for Snow Crab, 2013-2017



## WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

### EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

**Table 7.18 Allotted Quotas for Snow Crab Fishery, 2019**

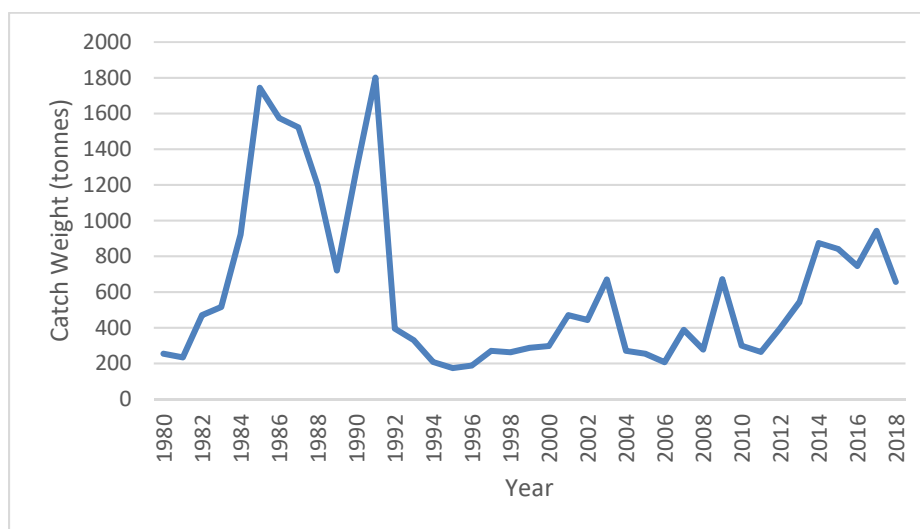
Area	Quota (t)
3K	5,690
3L	14,946
3N	496
3Ps	2533
Total	23,665

Source: DFO 2019

### 7.2.5.2 Groundfish

#### 7.2.5.2.1 Atlantic Halibut (Existing)

Variability of catch weight for Atlantic halibut since 1980 is shown in Figure 7-44, showing an increase in harvested weight since 2010. 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 2018 by DFO and indicated that Atlantic halibut was in a healthy state (DFO 2018d). NAFO does not manage Atlantic halibut stocks. Key locations for harvesting of Atlantic halibut include the NL shelves area near the top of the nose of the Grand Banks (Figure 7-45), near the Project Area. There is overlap between EL 1138 and the Project Area with known locations of domestic harvesting for Atlantic halibut. The location of harvesting activities for Atlantic halibut reflect those for other groundfish species discussed below, indicating a high occurrence of bycatch of these species from the Atlantic halibut fishery.



**Figure 7-44 Catch Weight for Atlantic Halibut, Domestic and Foreign Fleets, 1980-2018**



# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

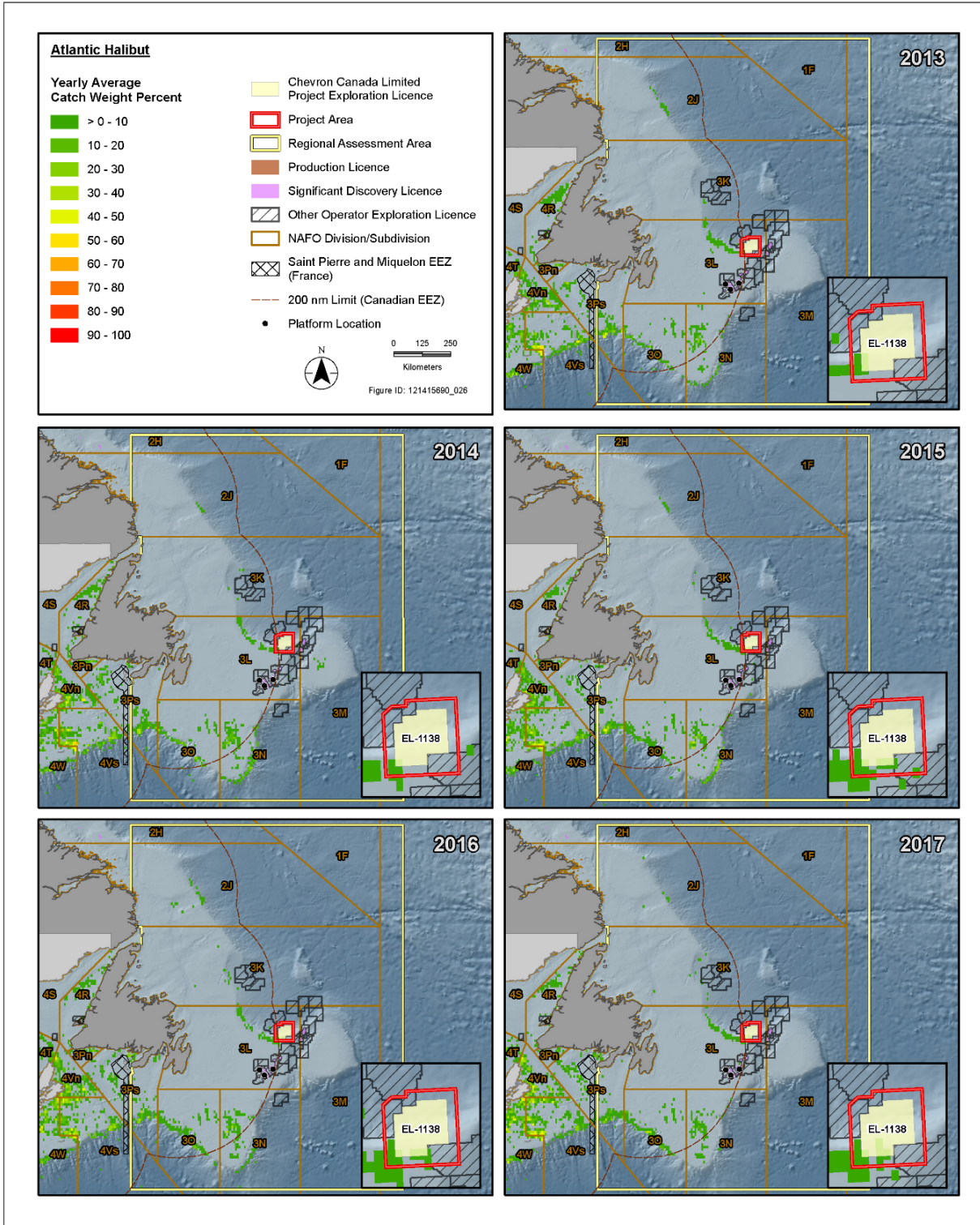


Figure 7-45 Domestic Commercial Fishing Activity, Atlantic Halibut, 2013-2017

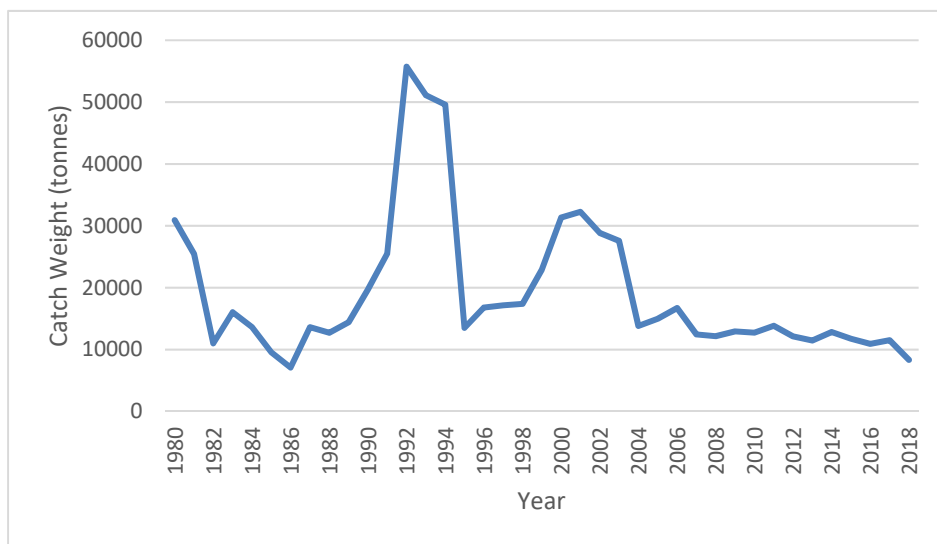


# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

### 7.2.5.2.2 Greenland Halibut (Turbot) (Existing and Potential)

Variability of catch weight for Greenland halibut since 1980 is shown in Figure 7-46, showing an decrease in harvested weight since 2006. 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 tonne. However, during NAFOs 39th annual meeting, NAFO members agreed on a TAC for Greenland halibut in 2+3KLMNO of approximately 16,500 tonne for 2018, representing an 11% increase (NAFO 2017). Of that amount, approximately 12,227 tonne (74%) was allocated to fisheries in 3LMNO. Domestic commercial harvesting for Greenland halibut is shown in Figure 7-47, and indicates that there is overlap between the Project Area and areas where Greenland halibut are harvested.



**Figure 7-46 Catch Weight for Greenland Halibut (Turbot), Domestic and Foreign Fleets, 1980-2018**



# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

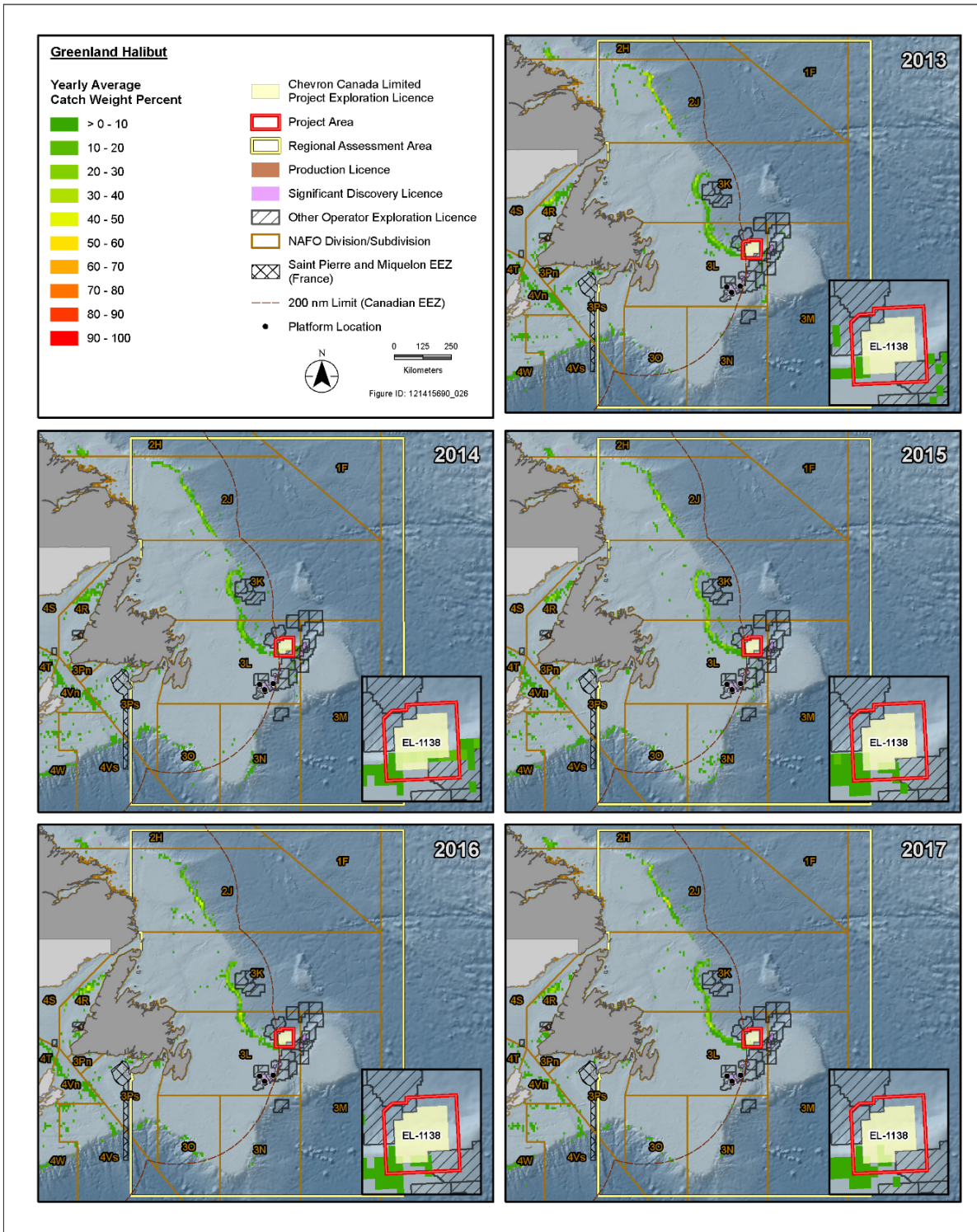


Figure 7-47 Domestic Commercial Fishing Activity, Greenland Halibut (Turbot), 2013-2017



## WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

### EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

#### 7.2.5.2.3 Atlantic Cod (Potential)

Catch weight for commercial fishing activity related to Atlantic cod has plateaued since the moratorium began in 1992 (Figure 7-48). The most recent assessment of Atlantic cod for NAFO Divisions 2J3KL (DFO 2018e) indicates that although the stock has increased over the past decade, it remains within the critical recovery zone. 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 Atlantic cod in NAFO Division 3Ps, with a quota of 2,043 tonnes for 2019. The commercial fishery for Atlantic cod in 3Ps consists of an inshore fishery that uses fixed gear only, and an offshore fishery, which uses both fixed and mobile gear types. The 2019 assessment for Atlantic cod in 3Ps (DFO 2019h) indicates that the SSB is in the cautious zone. There is also a northern cod stewardship fishery in Divisions 2J+3KL. In 2016 the TAC is set at 12,350 tonnes, a 30% increase from 2017 (TAC 9,500 tonnes) (DFO 2019i).

NAFO manages Atlantic cod for NAFO Divisions 3M and 3NO outside of the EEZ and within the Fishing Footprint. The 2017 stock assessment for Atlantic cod saw a TAC of 8,182 tonne 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 2019 (NAFO 2019e).

Domestic commercial fishing occurrence by Atlantic Cod from 2013-2017 are shown in Figure 7-49.

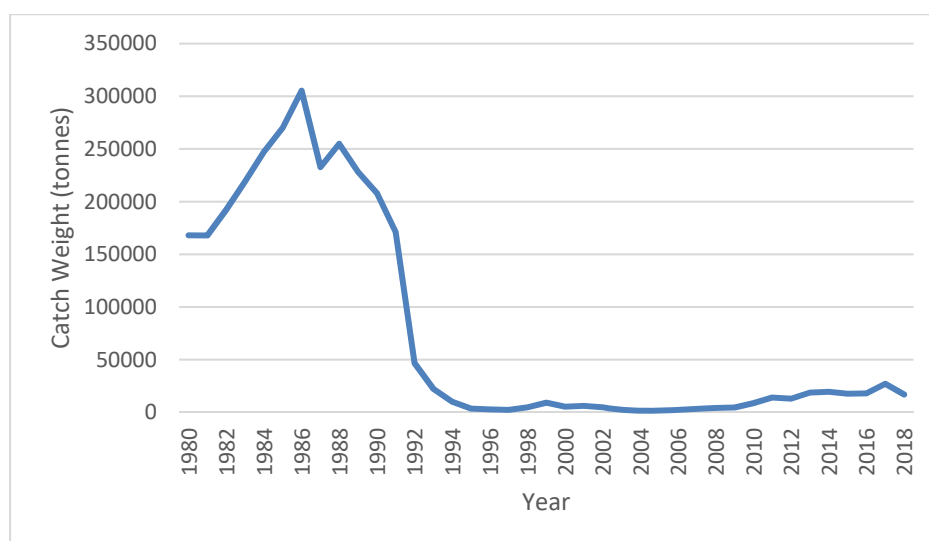


Figure 7-48 Catch Weight for Atlantic Cod, Domestic and Foreign Fleets, 1980-2018



# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

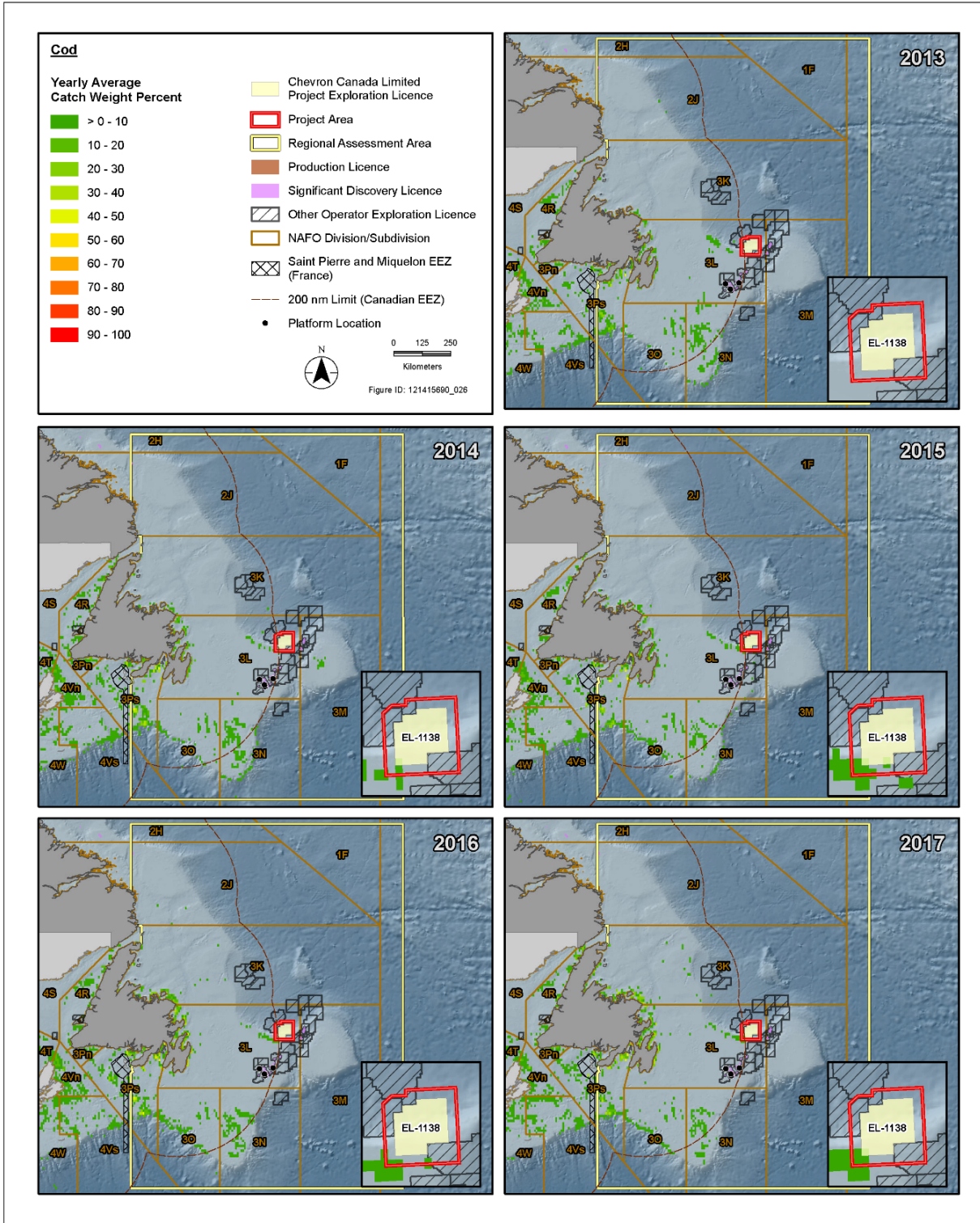


Figure 7-49 Domestic Commercial Fishing Activity, Atlantic Cod, 2013-2017

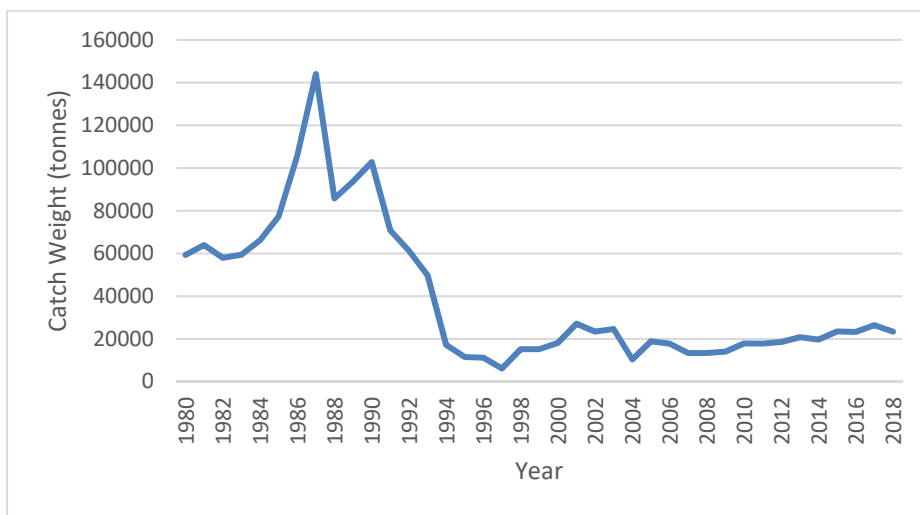


# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

### 7.2.5.2.4 Redfish (Potential)

Catch weight values from 1980-2018 indicates increasing commercial fishing occurrence of Redfish (Figure 7-50). Three species of redfish, including Acadian, golden, and deepwater, exist in offshore waters of NL. All three stocks are managed together as a single unit in each management area (NAFO n.d.). NAFO collectively manages the stocks of the 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 tonnes 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 2018c). Domestically, redfish is primarily fished along the shelf region and the bottom edge of the Newfoundland Slopes area near the nose of the Grand Banks (Figure 7-51). Catches of redfish in 2013-2017 overlap with the Project Area and EL 1138.



**Figure 7-50 Catch Weight for Redfish, Domestic and Foreign Fleets, 1980-2018**



# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

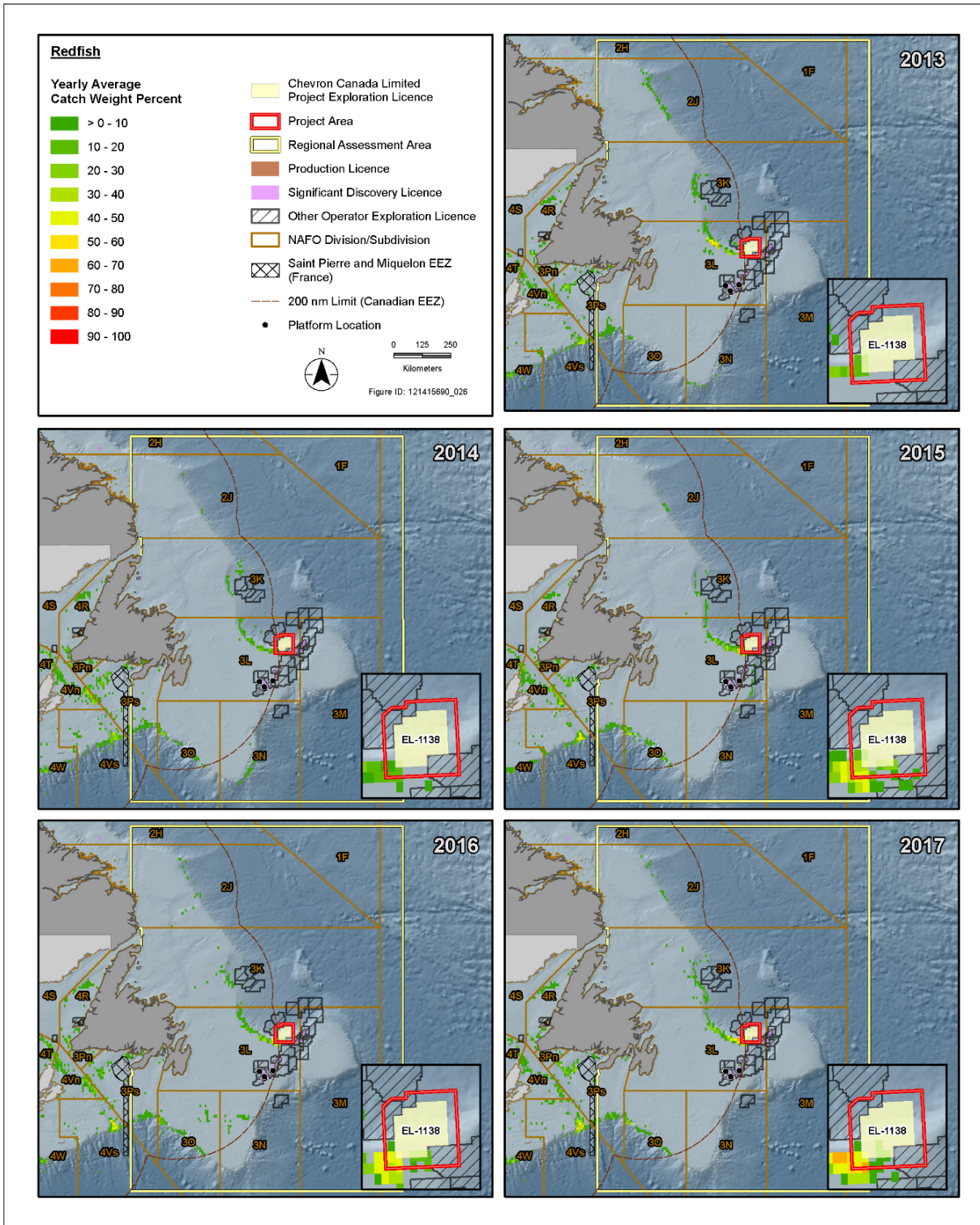


Figure 7-51 Domestic Commercial Fishing Activity, Redfish, 2013-2017



## WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

### EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

#### 7.2.5.2.5 American Plaice (Potential)

Since the groundfish moratorium, catch weight via the American plaice fishery has remained approximately 2,000 tonnes (Figure 7-52). Domestically, there is no directed commercial fishery for American plaice, and catches are typically recorded as bycatch from fishing activities for other groundfish species. NAFO manages American plaice within the NAFO footprint and in areas of 3LMNO outside of the EEZ. 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 2018d). The most recent assessment for the 3LNO stock in 2018 indicated that the population is still below levels that would warrant an opening of a commercial fishery and recommended no directed fishery for 2019 to 2021 (NAFO 2019f). Domestic catches of American plaice occur near the tail of the Grand Banks, and also intersect with the Project Area along the NL Shelves (Figure 7-53).

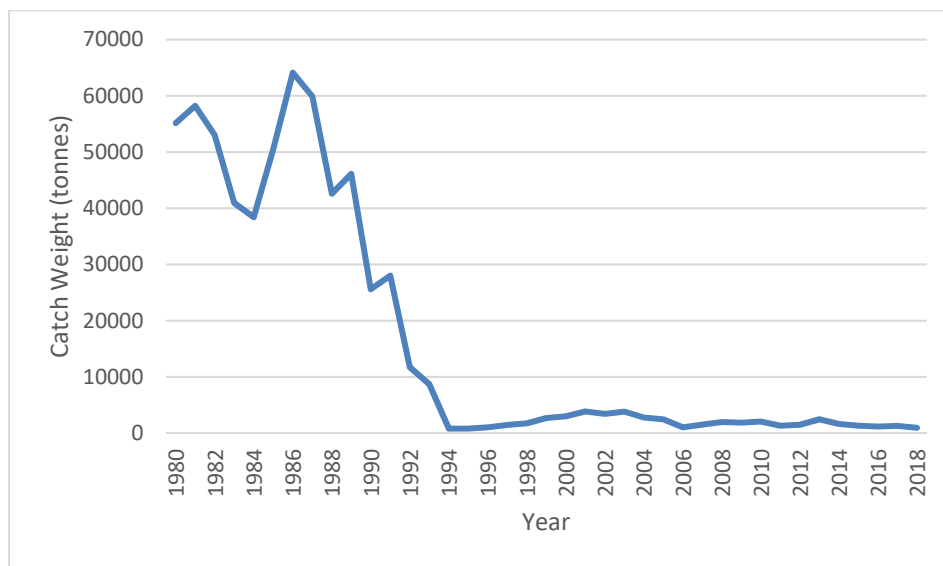


Figure 7-52 Catch Weight for American Plaice, Domestic and Foreign Fleets, 1980-2018



# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

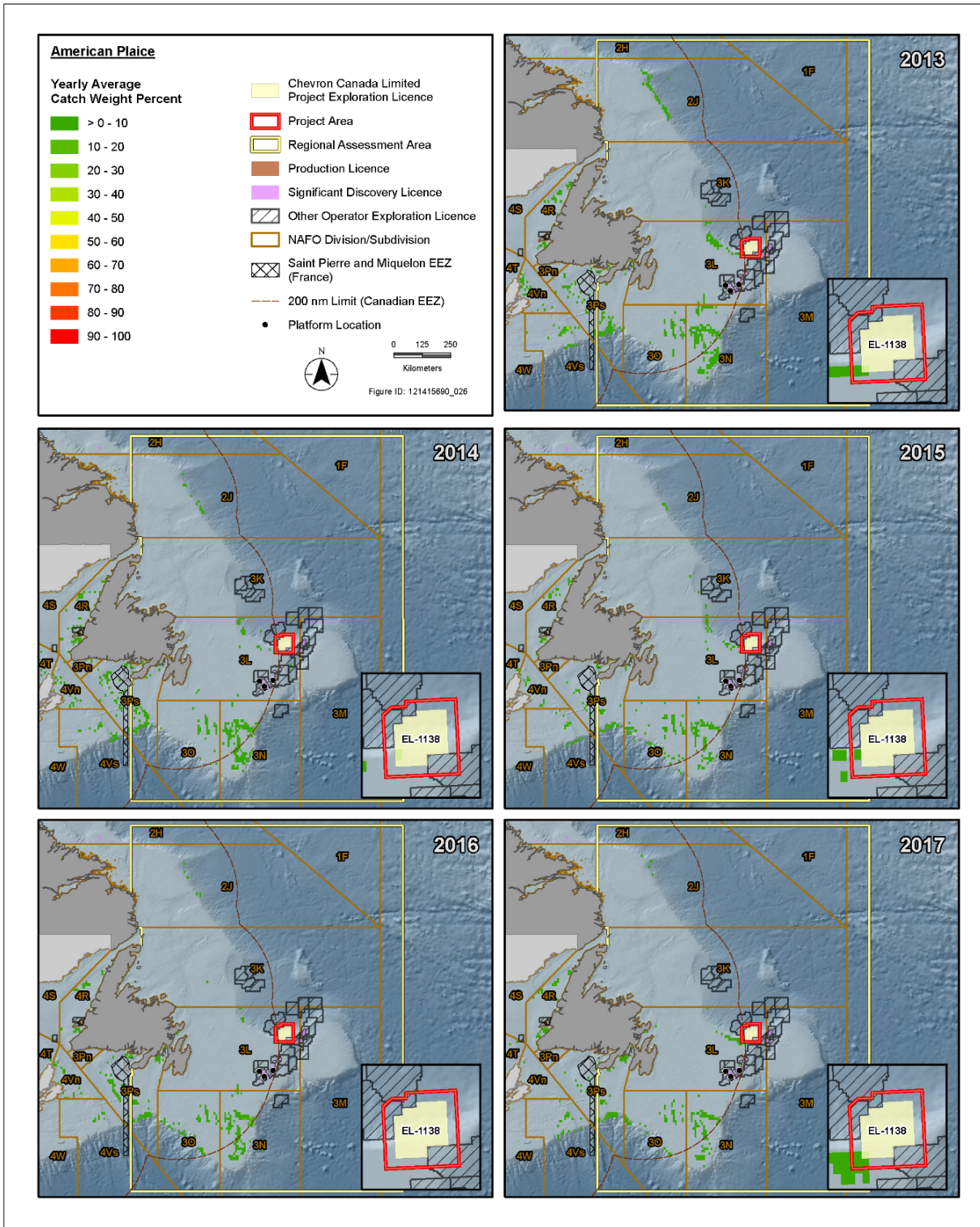


Figure 7-53 Domestic Commercial Fishing Activity, American Plaice, 2013-2017



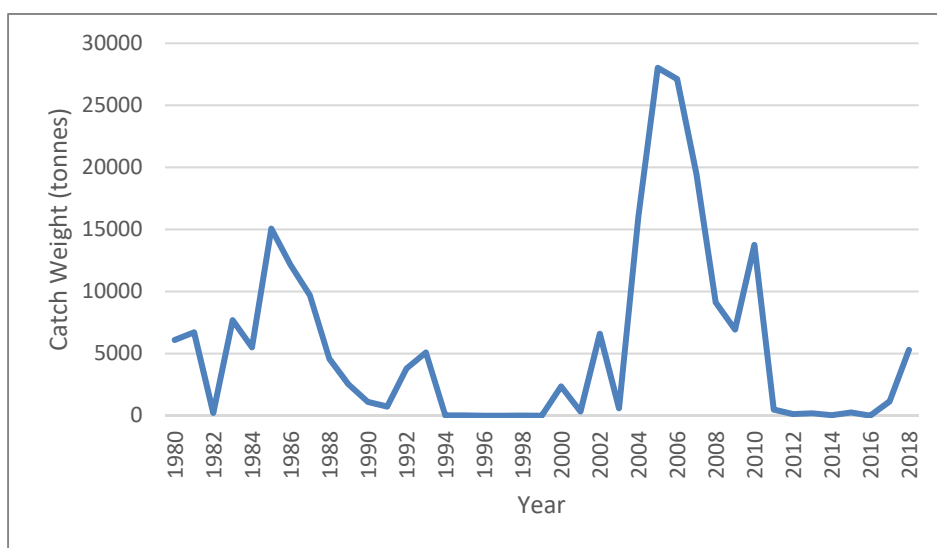
# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

### 7.2.5.3 Molluscs

#### 7.2.5.3.1 Surf Clams (Potential)

Surf clams have been harvested at least since 1980 in areas of offshore NL and peaked in harvested weight in 2005 (Figure 7-54). From 2012 to 2015 there was less than 100 tonnes harvested, but increases in harvest weight are noted in domestic data (DFO 2019a) and international data (NAFO 2019b) for 2017 and 2018. Although no domestic harvesting activities for surf clams take place near the Project Area (Figure 7-55), they are located within the RAA in the offshore environment.



**Figure 7-54 Catch Weight for Surf Clams, Domestic and Foreign Fleets, 1980-2018**



# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

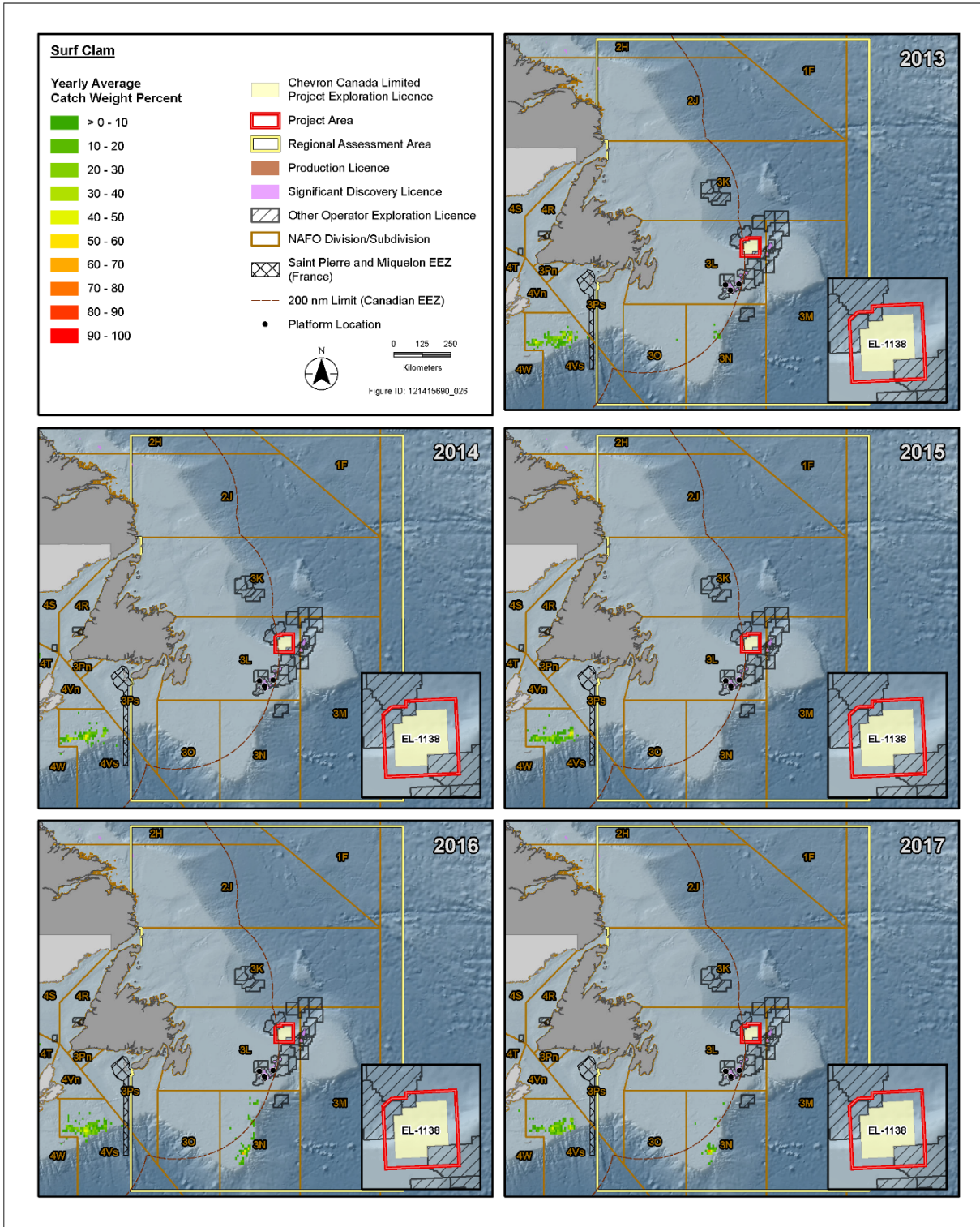


Figure 7-55 Domestic Commercial Fishing Activity for Surf Clams, 2013-2017



### **7.2.6 Aquaculture**

Aquaculture represented 17% of the total fish and seafood industry in NL in 2018, with a market value of approximately \$204 million (Table 7.19). There was a decrease in both weight and value from 2017 to 2018, largely attributed to a decrease in salmonid production. Atlantic salmon, steelhead trout, and blue mussels are the main species contributing to the values of the aquaculture industry in NL. Operations on the east coast of Newfoundland, within the RAA, and in the Atlantic Ocean include blue mussels, Atlantic cod, trout, and oysters (See Figure 7-56). There are no registered aquaculture operations in or near the Project Area or within St. John’s Harbour.

**Table 7.19 Total Harvested Weight and Value of Aquaculture in 2017 and 2018 in NL**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Weight (t)</b>	<b>Value (Millions CAD)</b>
2017	21,712	\$221
2018	17,987	\$204

Source: NL Department of Fisheries and Land Resources 2018

### **7.2.7 Indigenous Fishing**

Aboriginal food, social, and ceremonial (FSC) fisheries are present in areas of offshore NL. Various groups hold commercial communal fishing licenses for NAFO Divisions that overlap with the Project Area and RAA. A discussion on Indigenous fishing can be found in Section 7.4.

### **7.2.8 Recreational Fishing**

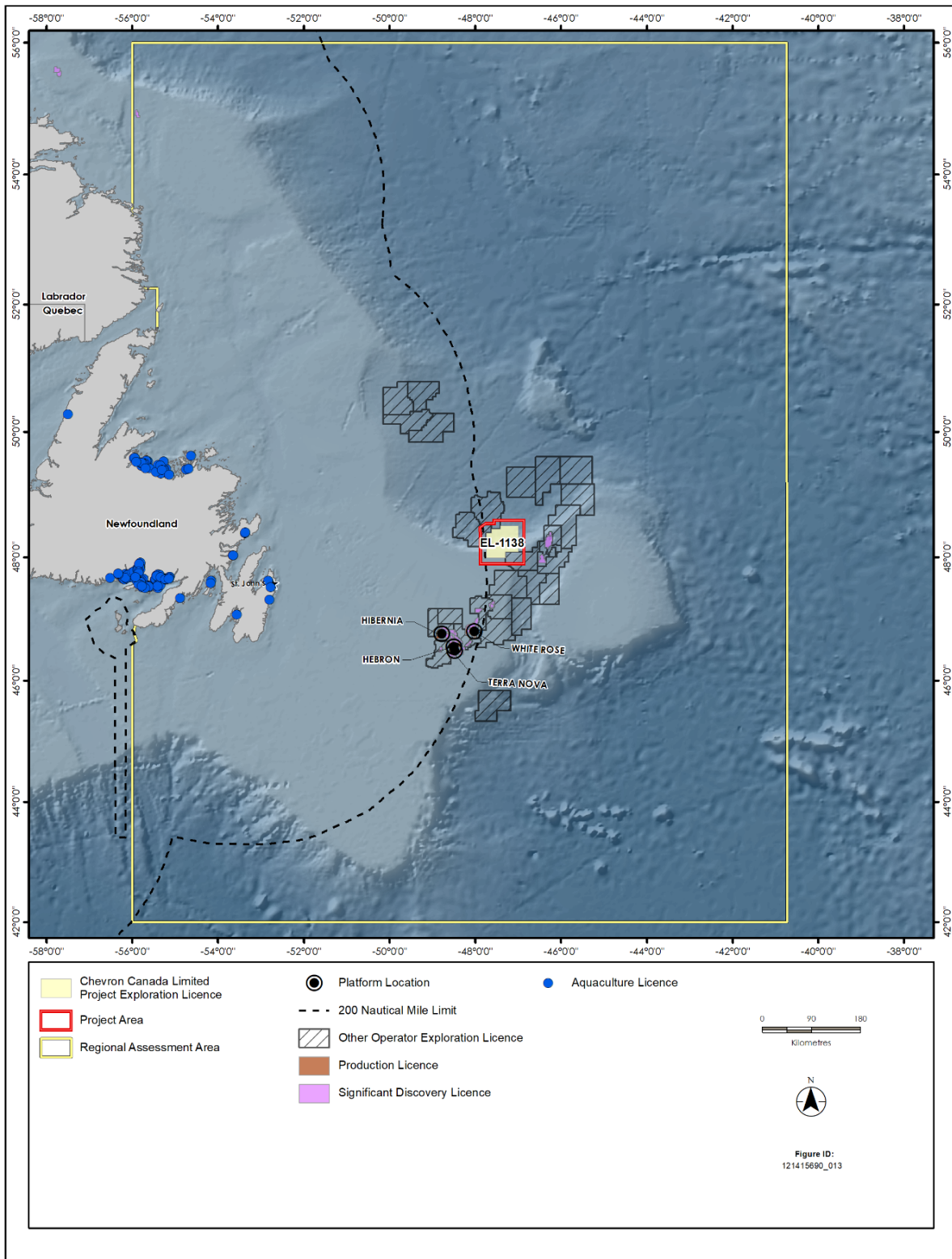
Recreational fisheries in NL take place in inland and coastal waters during certain months of the year. During the designated times in summer and fall, individuals may participate in a recreational fishery for groundfish species, including Atlantic cod (Table 7.20). The recreational fishery is open in coastal areas of NAFO Divisions 2GHJ, 3KL, 3Ps, 3Pn and 4R, except for MPAs (Gilbert Bay, Eastport and Laurentian Channel).

Recreational fishing also occurs for Atlantic salmon, and trout. Angling for smelt has no set bag limit for an individual fisher and can be fished year-round. Recreational fishing for salmon and trout are also permitted and catch limits are dependent on the time of year and the location of the river.



# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT



**Figure 7-56 Aquaculture Sites in Proximity to the Project Area and RAA**



## WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

### EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

**Table 7.20 Recreational Groundfish Harvesting Dates for 2019**

Season	Dates Open
Summer	Saturday, July 6, 2019 to Monday, July 08, 2019
	Saturday, July 13, 2019 to Monday, July 15, 2019
	Saturday, July 20, 2019 to Monday, July 22, 2019
	Saturday, July 27, 2019 to Monday, July 29, 2019
	Saturday, August 3, 2019 to Monday, August 5, 2019
	Saturday, August 10, 2019 to Monday, August 12, 2019
	Saturday, August 17, 2019 to Monday, August 19, 2019
	Saturday, August 24, 2019 to Monday, August 26, 2019
	Saturday, August 31, 2019 to Monday, September 2, 2019
Fall	Saturday, September 21, 2019 to Sunday, September 29, 2019
Source: DFO 2019j	

## 7.3 Other Human Components and Activities

The offshore area of NL hosts a range of other human-related activities that may interact with Project-related activities within the RAA and Project Area. These are discussed below and include marine research, shipping related activities, military operations, other offshore oil and gas projects, and marine infrastructure.

### 7.3.1 Marine Research

#### 7.3.1.1 Research Vessel

DFO conducts research trawls on the offshore area of NL to collect information on the marine environment and commercial fish species. The data from the surveys help in making decisions on the management and monitoring of resources. The Research Vessels (RV) *Teleost* and *Needler* are used to conduct the surveys. RV trawls conducted in the past five years are illustrated on Figure 7-28 and indicate the general areal coverage of surveys. Note that the surveys are only conducted inside the Canadian EEZ. The schedule for the 2019 survey area listed in Table 7.21.

DFO also collaborates with industry to conduct the post-season crab surveys within the Newfoundland region. Trap survey locations for 2019 in NAFO Divisions 2J3KLOPs4R are shown in Figure 7-57. The fixed locations are the same each year, other stations are selected using a random stratified method and vary in location each year. Based upon consultations with FFAW-Unifor, the location of the random stratified station may change slightly; however, they are assumed to be correct at the time of publication of this report.

Surveys are conducted each year for the Atlantic Halibut Survey conducted by DFO Maritimes. They include both fixed and random stratified stations. The locations for 2019 are shown on Figure 7-58.



## WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

### EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

**Table 7.21 DFO Research Vessel Schedule for 2019**

Activity	Start Date	End Date	Start Location	End Location	NAFO Area
<i>R/V Teleost</i> (Preliminary to 10 April 2019)					
Capelin Survey	30-Apr	20-May	St. John's	St. John's	3K + 3L
NL Fall Survey	19-Nov	03-Dec	St Anthony	St. John's	3K + 3L
NL Fall Survey	04-Dec	20-Dec	St. John's	St. John's	3K + 3L
<i>R/V Needler</i> (Preliminary to 22 January 2019)					
NL Spring Survey	23-Apr	07-May	Argentia	Argentia	3P + 3O
NL Spring Survey	08-May	21-May	Argentia	Argentia	3O + 3N
NL Spring Survey	22-May	04-Jun	Argentia	St. John's	3L + 3N
NL Spring Survey	05-Jun	18-Jun	St. John's	St. John's	3L
Maritimes Survey	03-Jul	13-Aug	Halifax	Halifax	4X + 4W + 4V
Shellfish Survey	30-Aug	10-Sep	St. John's	St. John's	3N
NL Fall Survey	11-Sep	24-Sep	St. John's	St. John's	3O
NL Fall Survey	25-Sep	08-Oct	St. John's	St. John's	3O + 3N
NL Fall Survey	09-Oct	22-Oct	St. John's	St. John's	3N + 3L
NL Fall Survey	23-Oct	05-Nov	St. John's	St. John's	3L
NL Fall Survey	06-Nov	19-Nov	St. John's	Lewisporte	3K + 3L
NL Fall Survey	20-Nov	03-Dec	Lewisporte	St. John's	3K + 3L
Source: J. Emberley, DFO, pers. comm. 2019					



# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

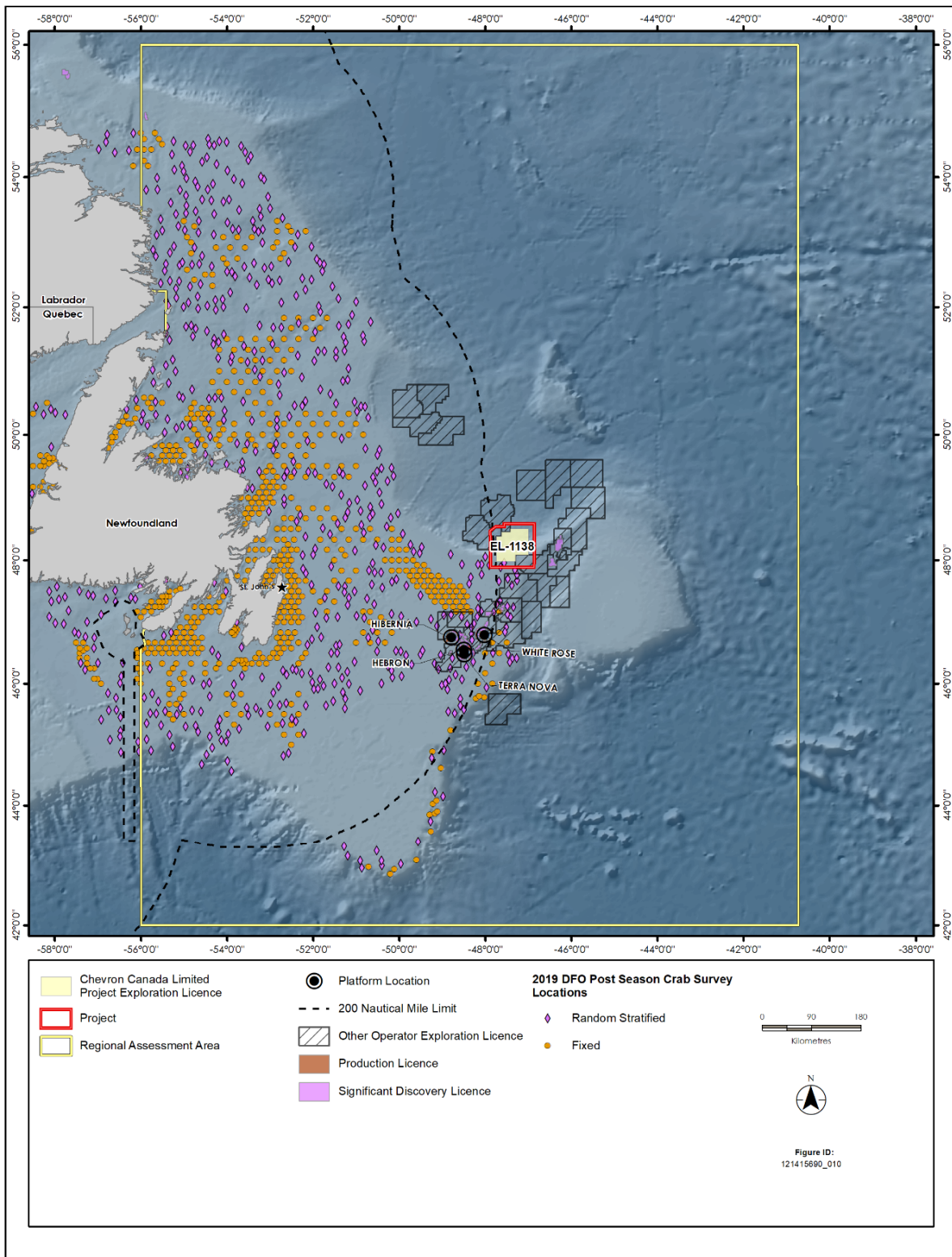


Figure 7-57 Location of 2019 Post-Season Crab Surveys in the Newfoundland Region



# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

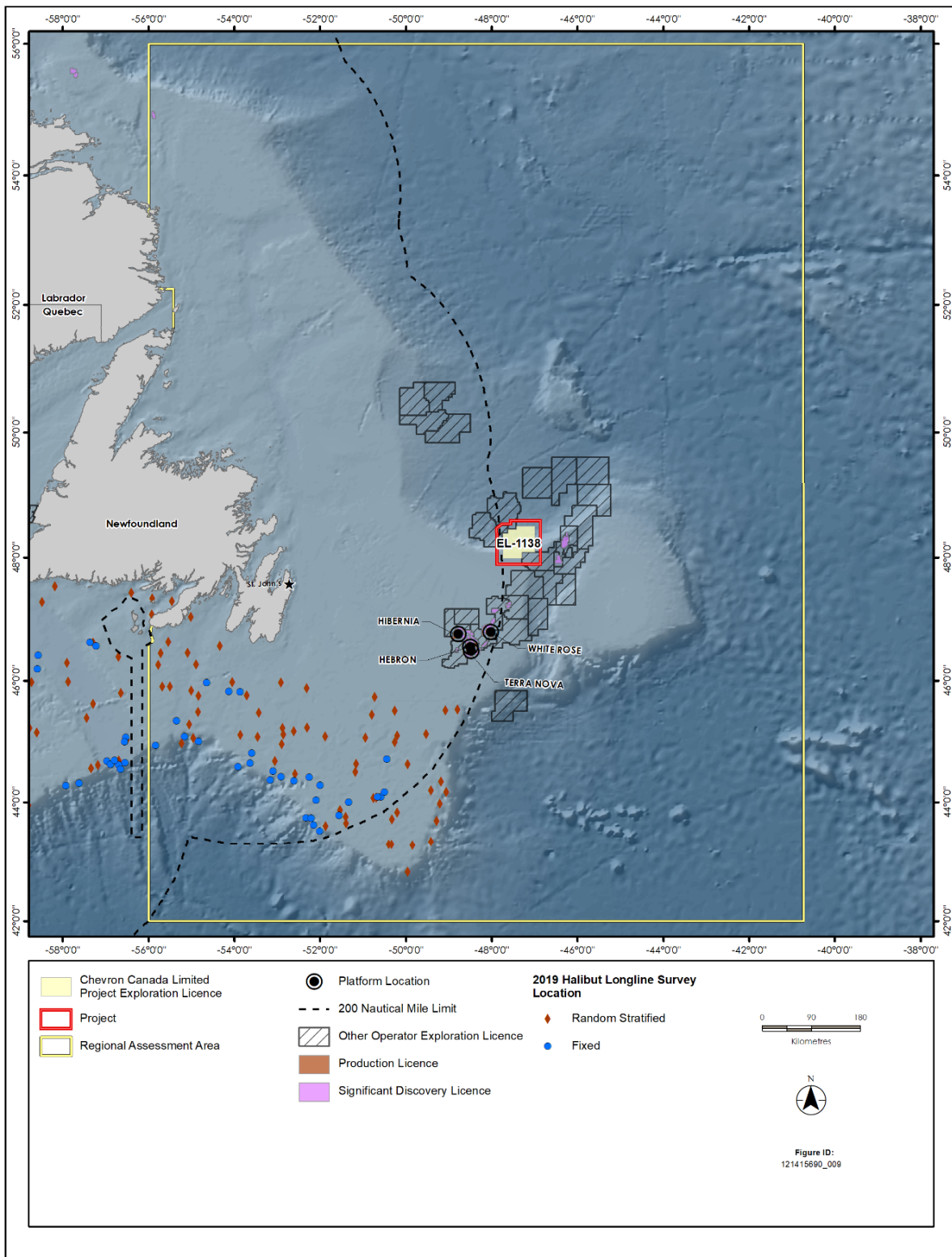


Figure 7-58 Locations for 2019 Atlantic Halibut Survey



## WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

### EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

Other known surveys that occur in the region include redfish surveys conducted by the Atlantic Groundfish Council. They redfish survey is conducted every two years and last took place in 2018. Another survey is expected in 2020; however, the locations are not yet known.

NAFO nations other than Canada also conduct research trawls to assess stock numbers / biomass for fish species. These would be located outside the Canadian EEZ and may occur within the Project Area as it overlaps with the NAFO Footprint. Spain RV trawls in 2017 (NAFO 2018e), but there is no indication of when the next survey may occur.

The Environmental Studies Research Fund (ESRF) also oversees marine research. One recent study conducted in conjunction with DFO examined the potential effects of geophysical surveys on commercial resources (Morris et al. 2018). ESRF encourages participation by various stakeholders such as harvesters and the petroleum industry. ESRF studies have and will likely continue to occur from time to time at various locations in the future.

#### 7.3.2 Marine Shipping

Vessel activity for 2017 is shown on Figure 7-59 (Marine Traffic 2019). The figure highlights the density of shipping activity within the RAA and includes vessels such as cargo, ferry, and offshore supply boats. The RAA intersects with one of the main trans-Atlantic shipping routes, and activity to and from existing platforms can be seen on the figure.

The port located in St. John's Harbour accommodates both domestic and foreign vessels and is the main service port for the offshore oil and gas industry. In 2017, the most recently available data, the Port of St John's accommodated 1,344 vessels and 1.7 million pounds of cargo (SJPA 2018).

#### 7.3.3 Other Offshore Oil and Gas Activities

There are currently four producing oil fields within its offshore waters of NL: Hibernia (Hibernia Management and Development Company); Terra Nova (Suncor Energy Inc.); White Rose (Husky Energy Inc.); and Hebron (ExxonMobil Canada Properties). The nearest producing oil field to the Project is White Rose, which is 137 km from EL 1138 and 126 km from the Project Area. The proposed Bay du Nord development project (Equinor), is in the Flemish Pass, approximately 46 km from EL 1138 and 30 km from the Project Area.

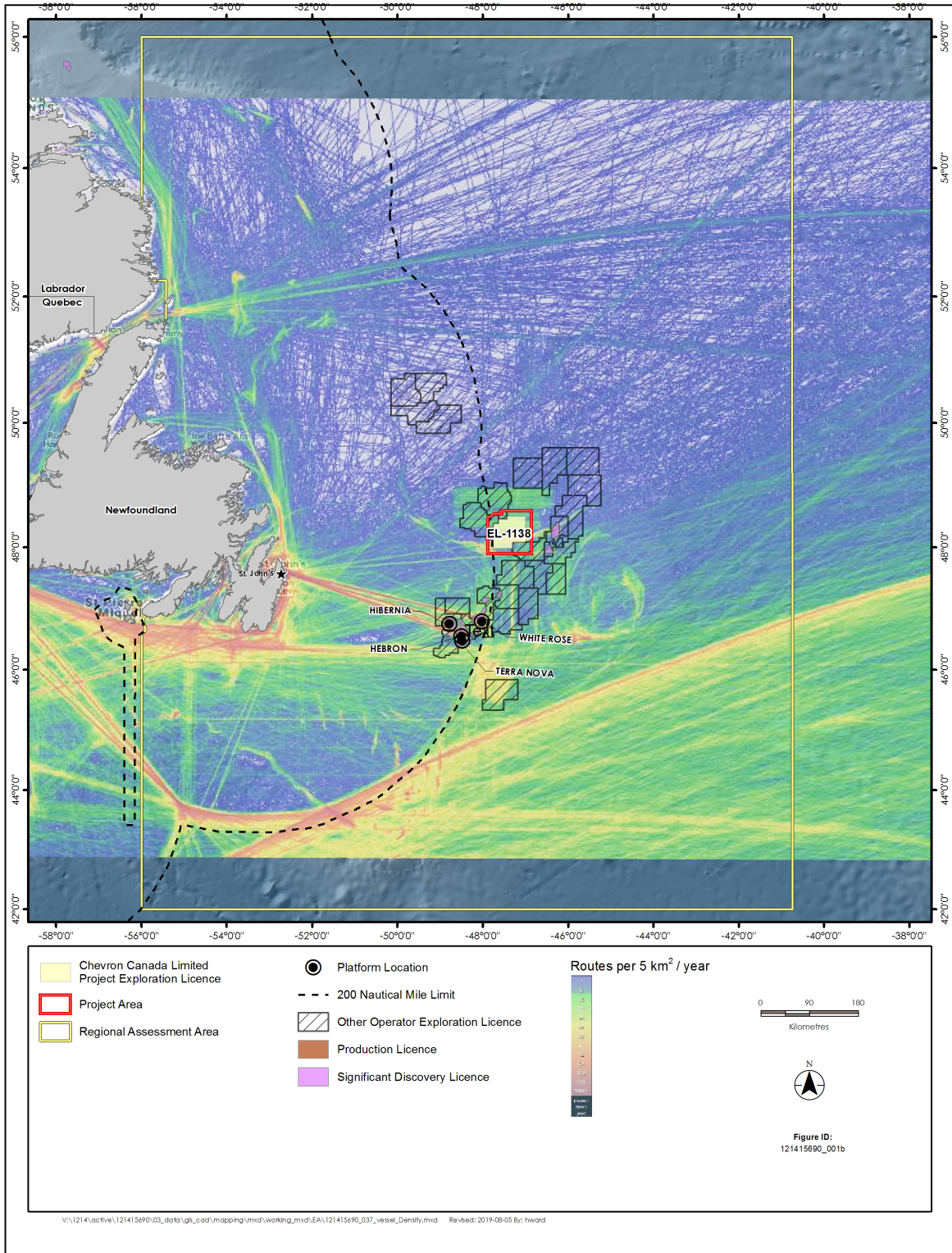
As of June 30, 2019, more than 464 wells have been drilled in the NL offshore, including 171 exploration wells, 57 delineation wells, and 237 development wells (C-NLOPB 2019a). As of July 30, 2019, there were 29 ELs, 56 SDLs and 12 Production Licenses (PLs) within offshore NL (C-NLOPB 2019b). There are no wells within the Project Area or Project EL. The nearest well is the FITZROYA A-12Z6 exploration well, which had a spud date of May 21, 2016. The well is 6 km from the Project Area and 19 km from EL 1138.

Seismic activity and collection of geophysical data and wells for geochemistry data occurs routinely in offshore NL. There are currently 15 EAs approved for offshore seismic activity spanning from 2012 to 2025, apart from the one seismic EA for Hibernia, which is valid for the life of the field.



# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT



Source: Marine Traffic 2019

**Figure 7-59 Marine Shipping Activity in 2017**



## WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

### EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

#### 7.3.4 Other Marine Infrastructure

The Department of National Defence (DND), including the Royal Canadian Navy and Air Force, conduct training exercises and surveillance operations in Canadian waters, including the waters of offshore NL 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.

Some of the 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. Figure 7-61 shows known legacy and shipwreck off the east coast of Newfoundland (Defense Construction Canada 2018). There are no known sites within the Project Area.

In addition to shipwrecks and legacy sites that may exist, multiple subsea cables, both active and abandoned, are in offshore NL. 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 7-62 shows marine cables in the waters of offshore NL. There is potentially one active subsea cable that intersects with the Project Area and appears to intersect EL 1138.



# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

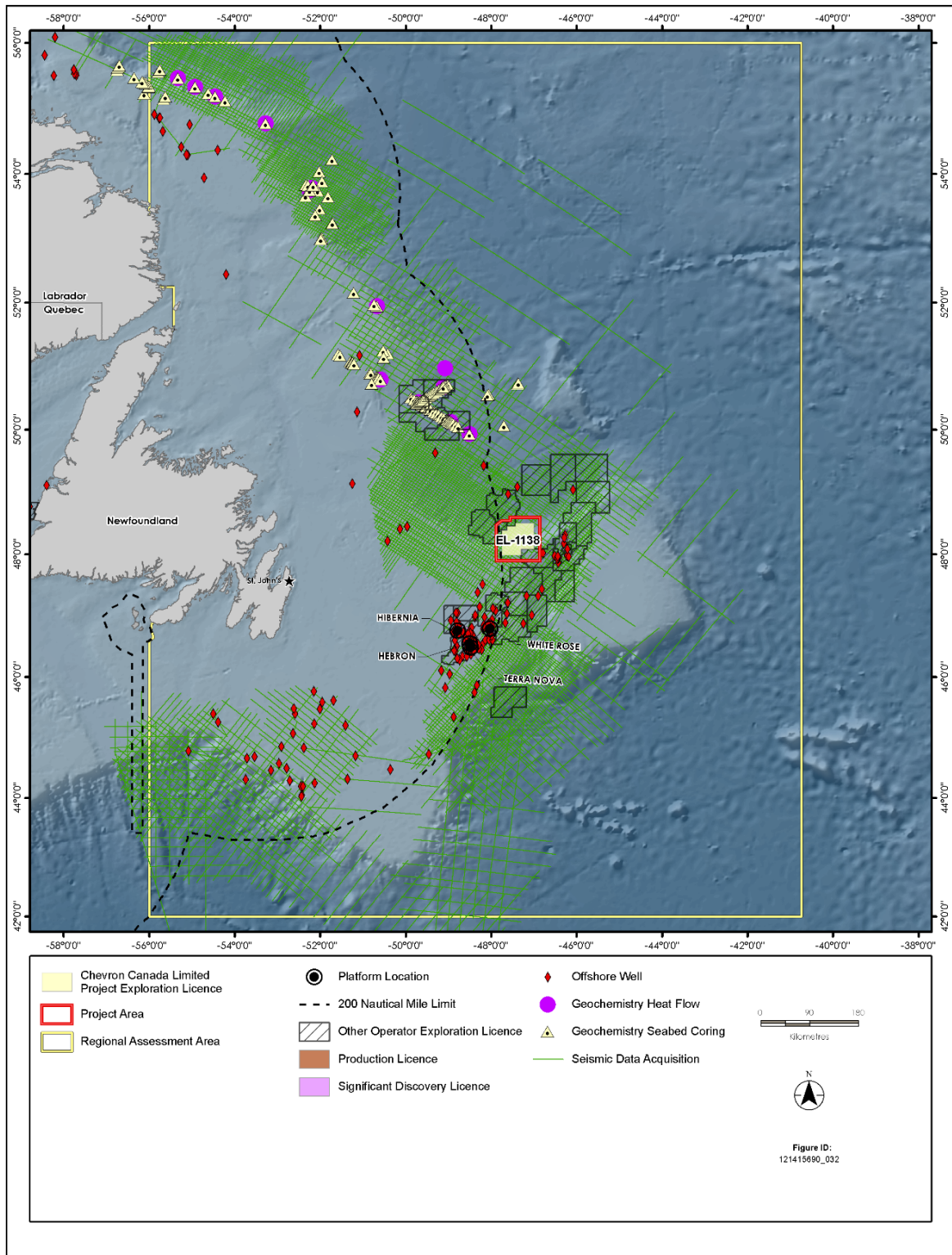


Figure 7-60 Seismic Activity and Exploration Wells Located in the Newfoundland Offshore



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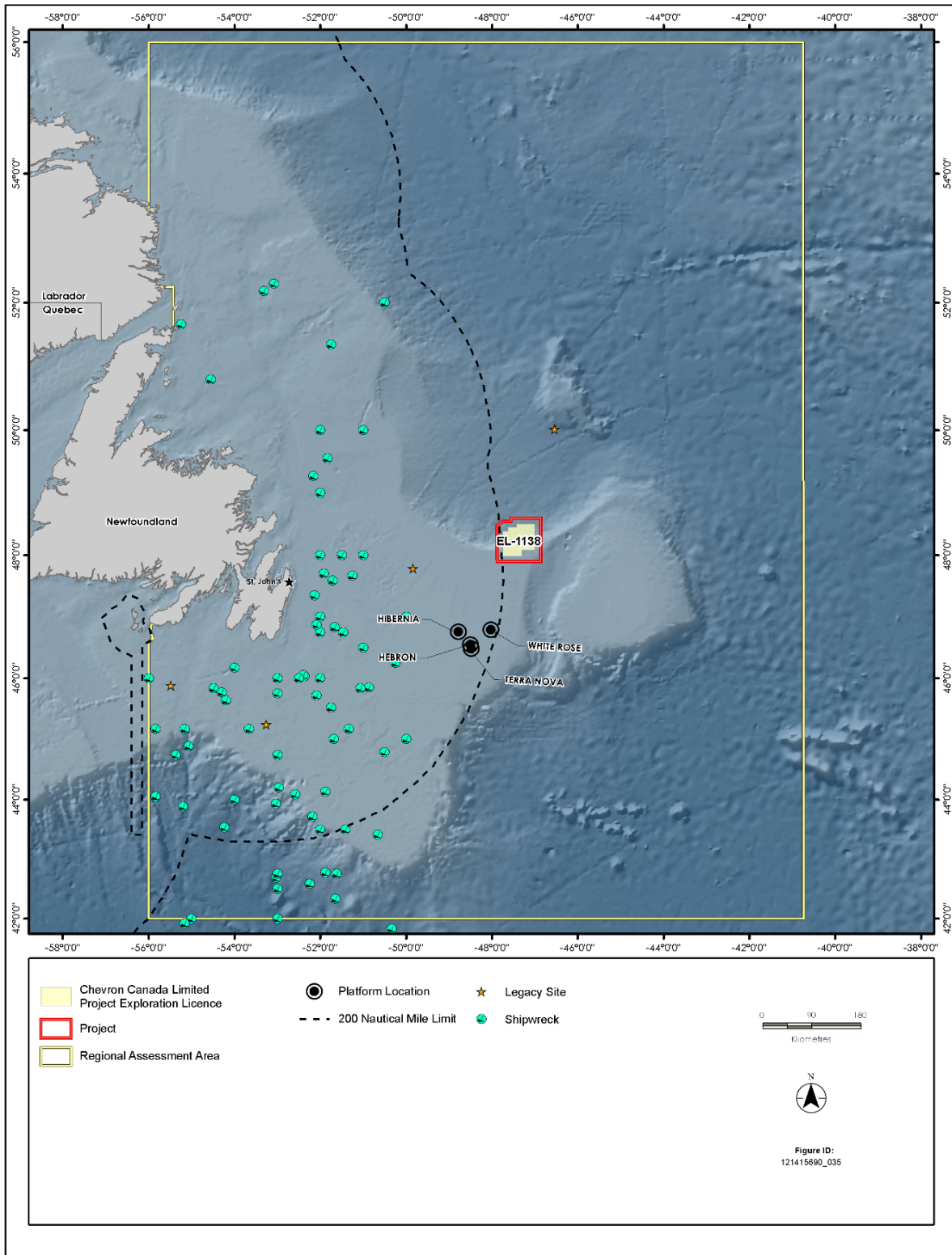


Figure 7-61 Known Shipwreck and Legacy Sites



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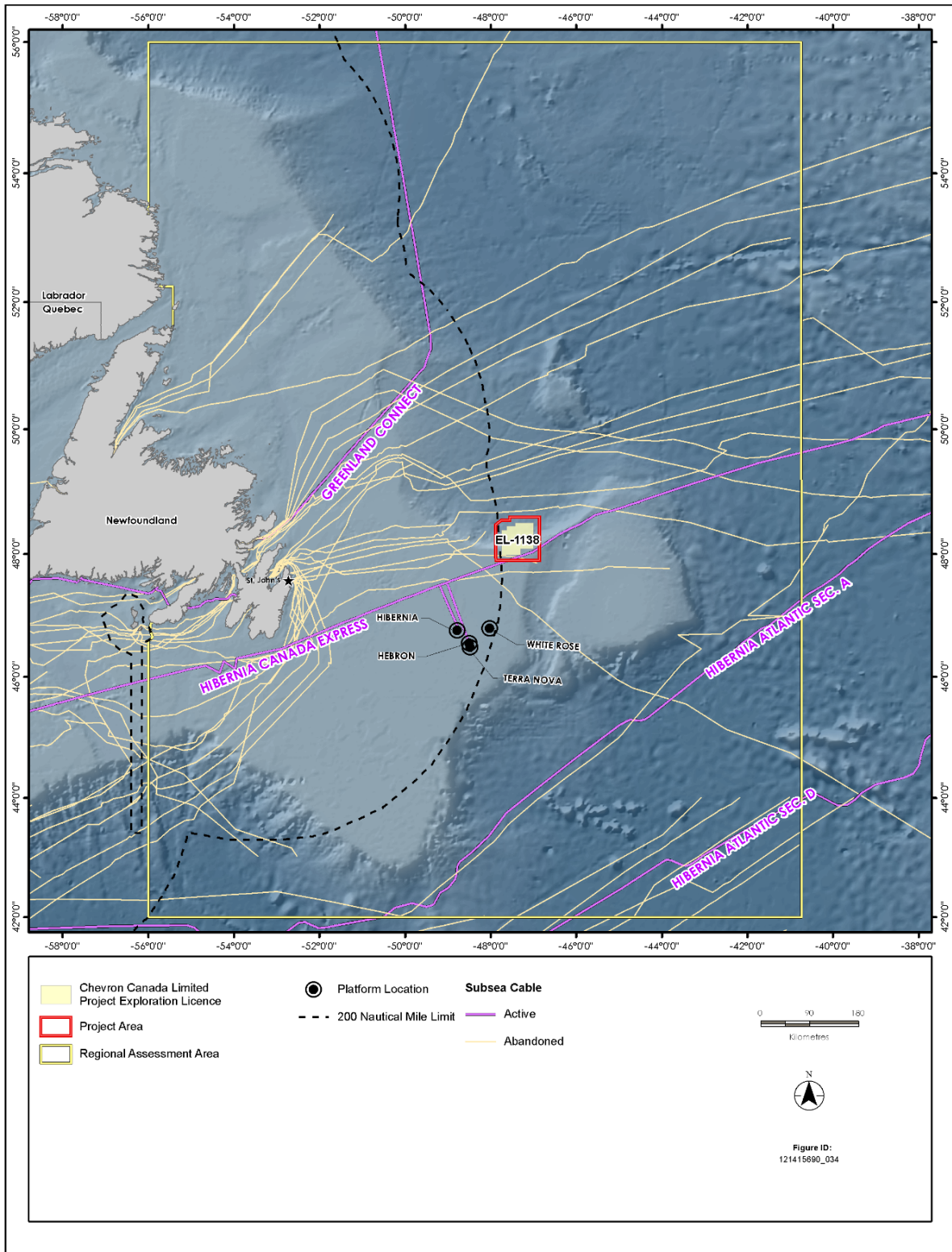


Figure 7-62 Subsea Cables



#### 7.4 Indigenous Communities and Activities

The information in Section 7.4.1 to 7.4.7 was provided to Chevron by Equinor Canada. The goal of using the same information prepared by Equinor Canada (and incorporating information provided by Indigenous groups who reviewed the tables in these sections) is to provide consistent information on the 41 Indigenous groups operators have engaged and continue to engage with during preparation for EAs for offshore exploration drilling projects.

Section 5 of the EIS Guidelines (Appendix A) directs an operator to engage with 41 Indigenous groups in NL, Nova Scotia (NS), New Brunswick (NB), Prince Edward Island (PEI), and Québec (QC). The EIS Guidelines indicate that the EIS is to provide information on baseline conditions of these identified groups to facilitate an assessment of Project effects upon potential or established Aboriginal or treaty rights under section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*. The EIS Guidelines also indicate that the EIS is to address potential Project effects on the following, as outlined in paragraph 5(1)(c) of CEAA 2012:

- Health and socioeconomic conditions
- Physical and cultural heritage
- The current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes
- Any structure, site or thing that is of historical, archaeological, paleontological or architectural significance

It is the operator's understanding that none of the listed Indigenous groups has asserted or established Aboriginal or treaty rights protected by Section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982* (Section 35 rights) in or to the lands and waters of eastern offshore NL where the Project components and activities will be located. As illustrated in Chapter 2 and throughout this section of the EIS, the Project components and activities will be located at a considerable distance from Indigenous groups and many of their harvesting activities and other known interests. However, the various Indigenous groups identified in the EIS Guidelines have asserted or established Section 35 rights to harvest for FSC purposes or to earn a moderate livelihood in their traditional territories. Various groups hold commercial communal fishing licenses for NAFO areas that overlap with the Project. In addition, migratory species (including fish, birds, and mammals) that move through the Flemish Pass may potentially be affected by Project activities and these species may be harvested by Indigenous groups in coastal areas through FSC fishing, commercial communal fishing or through other harvesting activities.

Indigenous peoples have historically relied on harvesting a variety of species (e.g., fish, birds, marine mammals, wildlife, plants) for sustenance, medicine, spiritual and cultural practices, and for trade. Indigenous people continue to engage in traditional land and resource use practices though the location, species and methods of harvesting may have changed over time.

In Canada, Section 35 rights to harvest for FSC purposes or to earn a moderate livelihood have been affirmed in various Supreme Court of Canada (SCC) decisions, such as the "Sparrow decision" (1990), and the "Marshall decision" (1999). DFO issues two types of communal fishing licenses to Indigenous groups: FSC and commercial communal. These licenses are held under the name of the Indigenous community, not under the name of a specific individual. Traditional harvesting (including FSC fishing) is an important component of Indigenous culture and sustenance, and central to community social and ceremonial



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activities. Revenue from commercial communal licences is used to provide programs and services in Indigenous communities.

In 1992, DFO introduced the Aboriginal Fisheries Strategy to provide a regulatory framework for FSC fishing. In Canada, following conservation measures, fishing for FSC purposes takes precedence over other fisheries, including commercial and recreational fisheries.

DFO implemented the Marshall Response Initiative (MRI) in 2000 to provide increased Indigenous access to the commercial fishery through commercial communal licenses. In 2007, the MRI was replaced by the Atlantic Integrated Commercial Fisheries Initiative (AICFI) to sustain the public investment in Indigenous commercial fisheries. The AICFI provided the 34 Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik First Nations, affected by the Marshall decision, with capacity-building support for commercial communal fisheries and Indigenous participation in fisheries co-management (DFO 2012a, 2012b, 2012c).

Since the inception of the MRI and AICFI initiatives, the value of commercial communal fisheries has increased, and growth is anticipated to continue. In the Atlantic region, commercial communal fisheries contribute \$100 million to the economies of Indigenous communities annually. Commercial communal fisheries are a high percentage of sole-sourced revenue for many Indigenous groups. Community ventures, social programs, and benefits are often funded from revenue generated by commercial communal fisheries. Therefore, potential effects on commercial communal fisheries may be broader than direct and indirect economic effects upon communities (DFO 2012a, 2012b, 2012c).

Through ongoing engagement and consultation for this Project and other offshore activities, Indigenous groups have communicated that their interests and concerns also extend beyond potential interactions and effects on commercial communal and FSC fishing practices. Several species that could occur in the eastern NL offshore area (and potentially interact with Project activities) are also of cultural or spiritual significance to Indigenous peoples. These may include species that have been traditionally harvested for food, medicinal, social or ceremonial purposes, and may also hold other cultural value. These concerns also relate to species that have value as contributing to ecosystem sustainability and which, if adversely impacted, could potentially affect asserted or established Indigenous rights.

The following sections provide an overview of available information on the history and current socio-economic conditions of each of the 41 identified Indigenous groups, focused on aspects that may have potential to interact with the Project and/or which are otherwise specified in the EIS Guidelines. Given that the Project is in the offshore NL marine environment and located at a considerable distance from the Indigenous communities listed in the EIS Guidelines (Appendix A), the description of baseline conditions, with specific reference to harvesting activity and the current use of land and resources for traditional purposes (i.e., 5(1)(c)(iii) of CEAA 2012), focuses on marine associated species of importance to Indigenous peoples, including species of importance for both FSC fishing and commercial communal fishing.



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#### 7.4.1 Newfoundland and Labrador

Indigenous groups in NL are:

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

The locations of Indigenous groups in NL are provided in Figure 7-63. Profiles for each NL Indigenous group are provided in the following sections (Table 7.22).

#### 7.4.2 The Mi'kmaq People of Eastern Canada

The earliest evidence of Indigenous peoples in the Maritimes Region shows that the Mi'kmaq people existed on the land for more than 11,000 years (Nova Scotia Office of Aboriginal Affairs [NS OAA] 2018). The first European contact with the Mi'kmaq occurred in the 16th and 17th centuries and at that time, the traditional Mi'kmaq territory (known as Mi'kma'ki) stretched from the southern portions of the Gaspé Peninsula eastward to most of modern-day NB, and NS and PEI (NS OAA 2018). The Mi'kmaq remain the predominant Indigenous group in NS as well as PEI, and have a substantial presence in NB, parts of northern Maine and eastern QC.

The Mi'kmaq people lived as fishers, hunters and gatherers throughout their territory within the context of seasonal cycles of the local vegetation, animals, and fish (Membertou Geomatics Solutions [MGS] 2016). The Mi'kmaq generally lived in semi-permanent or permanent settlements at resource-rich locations with summer villages typically located by a navigable body of water (Mi'kma'ki All Points Services 2013). In summer, areas around the coastal camps provided fish, shellfish, fowl, and eggs (MGS 2016). The Mi'kmaq conducted most of their game-harvesting during the colder months, moving inland from the 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 the encampment to a new location with the women being mainly responsible for breaking camp, transporting, and establishing the new camp (Robertson 1969, in MGS 2016; Speck 1922, in MGS 2016).



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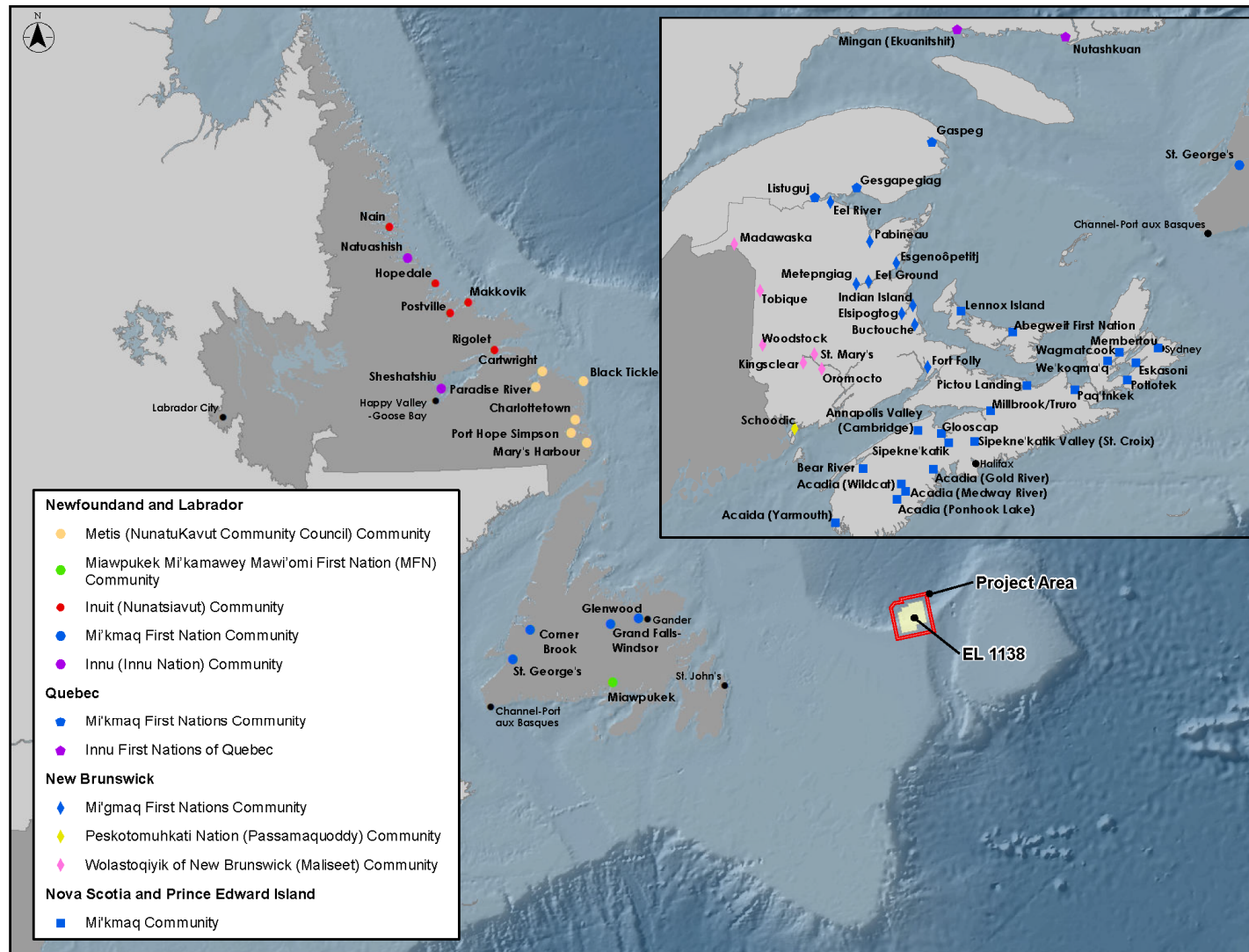


Figure 7-63 Indigenous Communities in Newfoundland and Labrador and the Maritime Provinces



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**Table 7.22 Newfoundland and Labrador Indigenous Groups Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
<b>Labrador Inuit (Nunatsiavut Government)</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	<p>The traditional territory of the Labrador Inuit extends from Cape Chidley in the north, to south of Groswater Bay in Labrador and includes a portion of the offshore area adjacent to northern QC (C. Sheppard, pers. comm. 2018). To the west, it extends to the QC-Labrador border. To the east, it includes the adjacent Tidal Waters of the Labrador coast, extending 12 NM offshore to encompass the marine area referred to as the “Zone” in Schedule 2A of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement (LILCA) (Nunatsiavut Government 2005). The Labrador Inuit Settlement Area (LISA) is approximately 905 km from the Project Area. Nunatsiavut Government beneficiaries live in the Inuit communities Nain, Hopedale, Makkovik, Postville and Rigolet (Figure 7-63), and elsewhere.</p>
General Overview	<p>The Nunatsiavut Government, an Inuit regional self-government, was established following three decades of land claims negotiations between the Labrador Inuit Association (LIA) and the Governments of Canada and NL.</p> <p>On December 1, 2005, the LILCA came into effect, establishing land ownership, resource-sharing, self-government and delivery of programs and services within the LISA, and providing for harvesting rights within and outside of the LISA in interior, coastal, and offshore areas of northern Labrador. The LISA is comprised of approximately 72,520 km<sup>2</sup> of land in northern Labrador, of which 48,690 km<sup>2</sup> is within the Labrador Sea. The LILCA is a modern, comprehensive treaty and land claims agreement within the meaning of Sections 25 and 35 of the <i>Constitution Act, 1982</i>. The LILCA gives the Nunatsiavut Government power and authority including administration, control, development, conservation and management of Labrador Inuit Lands (15,799 km<sup>2</sup>).</p> <p>The Project does not overlap with lands covered by the treaty.</p> <p>The Nunatsiavut Government represents Labrador Inuit beneficiaries who live in the five Inuit communities: Nunainguk (Nain), Agvitok (Hopedale), Maggovik (Makkovik), KipukKak (Postville) and Tikigiaksausugisik (Rigolet) and elsewhere (spelling provided by D.M. Webb). The Nunatsiavut Government also includes two Inuit Community Corporations that provide representation in the Nunatsiavut Assembly for members living outside of the LISA. These are the NunaKatiget Inuit Community Corporation that serves beneficiaries residing in Happy Valley-Goose Bay (HV-GB) and Mud Lake and the Sivunivut Inuit Community Corporation serving beneficiaries residing in North West River and Sheshatshiu (Sivunivut 2018). Some of the five Inuit communities are experiencing population growth while others have declined. From 2011 to 2016, the populations of Hopedale and Makkovik increased while the populations of Nain, Postville, and Rigolet decreased. The population of most of the Labrador Inuit communities is relatively young as the percentage of population under 15 years of age (between 18 and 23%) is higher and the median age (31 to 41.2 years) is lower than that of the NL population in general (i.e., 14.3% below 15 years and median age of 46 years) (Felt et al. 2012; Statistics Canada 2017; Nunatsiavut Government 2018). The Nunatsiavut Government reports that there are 7,133 beneficiaries of LILCA Canada-wide (C. Sheppard, pers. comm. 2018).</p>



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**Table 7.22 Newfoundland and Labrador Indigenous Groups Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	<p>The Nunatsiavut Government provides community infrastructure and services such as schools, firefighting, drinking water, recreation, health care, home care, health promotion, healing and mental health services to the Labrador Inuit communities. Policing is provided by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP).</p> <p>The Labrador Inuit communities are accessible seasonally (from July to November) by ferries operated by the Government of NL and Nunatsiavut Group of Companies (NGC). Regional airlines such as Air Borealis provide air transportation year-round (Statoil 2017). Labrador Winter Trails (funded by Provincial Government) provides grooming services for public trails to several communities throughout the winter.</p> <p>The NGC provides airline, helicopter, marine cargo, construction and other services to residents and industries such as mining and tourism.</p> <p>Common health-related issues across communities include, heart disease, diabetes, arthritis, high blood pressure, cancer, tuberculosis, high cholesterol, obesity, cigarette smoking, alcohol consumption, food insecurity, access to affordable housing and access to health services.</p> <p>Major employers include the Nunatsiavut Government, NGC, Torngat Fisheries Co-op, Inuit Community Governments, Torngat Regional Housing Association and the Voisey's Bay Mine / Mill near Nain.</p> <p>As described in more detail below, the Nunatsiavut Government has commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. The Torngat Fish Producers Co-operative owns and operates seafood processing plants in Nain and Makkovik (C. Sheppard, pers. comm. 2018).</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	<p>The Labrador Inuit are descendants of the pre-historic Thule people. The Labrador Inuit 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. The Labrador Inuit are the most southernly expansion of this culture (Fitzhugh 1977; Nunatsiavut Government 2018).</p> <p>The pre-contact Inuit lifestyle included harvesting throughout the year for food, clothing, shelter and tools and seasonal migration to follow the movements of the animals and fish upon which the Inuit depended. European immigration and establishment of Moravian missions beginning in 1771 and Hudson's Bay Company (HBC) fur-trading posts beginning in the 1830s resulted in permanent communities and dramatic changes in traditional Inuit culture, settlement, and subsistence patterns. In the late 19th century and early part of the 20th century, Inuit became increasingly involved in the market economy and adapted new practices to earn income from industries focused on trapping and seal harvesting, as well as fishing for cod, char, and salmon (Brice-Bennett 1977; Kaplan 2012).</p> <p>Based on current research, 3,424 archaeological sites have been identified within Labrador Innu Lands, LISA and Torngat Mountains National Park. There are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites within or near or near the Project Area (C. Sheppard, pers. comm. 2018).</p>
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	<p>Many Labrador Inuit continue to undertake traditional land and resource use activities within the LISA, including hunting, fishing, and trapping. Key species, identified as being harvested by 50% or more households in 2007, included Atlantic salmon, Arctic char, caribou, eider ducks and eggs (Felt et al. 2012). Caribou are currently under a harvesting ban but each year a quota is approved for sharing among Indigenous groups. Traditional food has important value beyond market criteria, because its cultural, social and nutritional qualities are an integral part of the Inuit lifestyle. In a 2012 health survey, 90% of Labrador Inuit (15 years of age and older) indicated that they had participated in hunting, fishing, trapping or gathering plants in the previous 12 months (Statistics Canada 2015).</p>



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**Table 7.22 Newfoundland and Labrador Indigenous Groups Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
	<p>Fishing activity is dispersed throughout the Labrador Shelf area, and is extensively fished for crab, rock cod, cod, Arctic char, sculpins, mussels, winkles and sea urchins (Sikumiut Environmental Management [SEM] 2008). Capelin is harvested for food within coastal waters around Hopedale, Postville, Sandy Beach, and Rapid Point area (SEM 2008). Capelin can be harvested in all communities and base camps. Salmon are also harvested by the Labrador Inuit (C. Sheppard, pers. comm. 2018).</p> <p>Although there is no commercial salmon fishery, an Indigenous traditional fishery for Atlantic salmon exists in Labrador. In 2012, approximately 14,200 salmon (36 tonnes) were harvested by Labrador Indigenous Groups (DFO 2015).</p> <p>Migratory birds are also an important part of the Labrador Inuit harvest. The Labrador Inuit traditionally harvest eider and black ducks, ptarmigan/grouse, Canada goose, murre, mergansers, scoters and loons. Important areas for migratory birds along the north coast of Labrador include areas from north of Hopedale to the former community of Davis Inlet, Island Harbour Bay, Tunungayualok Island, Mugford Tickle to Cape Kiglapait, Okak Bay, Tasiuyuk Bay, Napartok Bay to Kangalaksiorvik Fjord, Kaipokok Bay, White Bear Island, Hare Islands, Windsor Harbour south the Byron's Bay, Turnavik Islands area, Ailik Islands, Cape Makkovik, Island Harbour Bay, Dunn's Island, Adlavik and Ironbound Islands, Jako's Bight, Makkovik Bay, Jeanette Bay, Groswater Bay and Back Bay (Brice-Bennett 1977).</p> <p>Other important bird areas and surrounding waters used by the Labrador Inuit for traditional harvesting activities include the waters and islands of the Backway, Table Bay and St. Peter's Bay where sea ducks are harvested, and the waters of Point Amour where sea ducks and murre (also called turrs) are harvested (Intervale Associates Inc. 2012).</p> <p>Following the ice break-up in spring, the Inuit hunt or net harp seals as well as ringed, harbour, grey and bearded seals in the outer island areas and in the bays as the seals move with the tide. Important harbour seal harvesting areas include Tunungayualok Island and area, Shoal Tickle, Big Bay, Flowers Bay, Kikkektak and Ivjogiktok Islands, Okak Bay, Tasiuyak Bay, Amitok Island, Illuviktalik Island, Iglusuaktaliak Island, Tikkigaksuk Peninsula, Napartok Bay, Seal Bight, Cod Bag Harbour, Shark Gut Harbour, Saglek Fjord, Kaipokok Bay, Big Brook, Jeanette Bay (including Sandy Cove), and Jako's Bight. Grey seal harvesting occurs in areas around Tunungayualok Island and near Tasiuyak Bay (Brice-Bennett 1977; SEM 2008). Labrador Inuit also harvest seals within Hamilton Inlet and Lake Melville and in Back Bay, Head of Groswater Bay, Black Island, Island Harbour Bay, Jako's Bight, Makkovik Bay, Adlavik Bay, Saglek Fjord and Kanairiktok Bay (Brice-Bennett 1977; SEM 2008).</p> <p>Ringed seals are harvested for subsistence purposes in the early spring. Important ringed seal harvesting areas include locations from Hare's Ears and The Highlands to Back Bay, Groswater Bay in The Channel area, Double Mer, areas around Drunken Harbour Point and the Advalik Islands, Napartok Bay, Hebron Fjord, Saglek Fjord, Kangalaksiorvik Fjord, Okak Bay, Tasiuyak Bay, Mugford Bay, Anchorstock Bight, Aulatsivik Island area, Tunungayualok Island, Nain Bay, Voisey's Bay, Tikkoatokak Bay, Webb Bay, Anaktalak Bay, areas around Hopedale, Flowers Bay to Island Harbour Bay, and the Turnavik Islands (Brice-Bennett 1977; SEM 2008).</p>
Commercial Communal Fishing	<p>The Nunatsiavut Government currently holds several commercial communal fishing licences. Groundfish licences are held for NAFO Divisions 2GHJ, 3KL and Greenland halibut may be harvested in 2+3K, 3LMNO and 0B. Seal licences permit harvesting in Sealing Areas 4 through 33, which includes all of Atlantic Canada. Scallop licenses have been issued for Scallop Area 1 off the coast of northern Labrador. Snow crab licences include Snow Crab Areas 1 and 2 (Lake Melville Area) as well as an exploratory licence for NAFO 2H (Northern Labrador). Northern shrimp licences are held for Shrimp Areas 4 and 5 (Central Labrador) and Pikalujak Fisheries Ltd. (50/50 partnership Nunatsiavut Government and Ocean Prawns Canada Ltd.) holds a licence for Shrimp Areas 0-6 (D. Ball, DFO, pers. comm 2019). The group also has an Arctic char licence for the area from Cape Rouge to Cape Chidley in Northern Labrador (D. Ball, DFO, pers. comm. 2019; Statoil 2017).</p>



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Community Indicator	Description
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	The Nunatsiavut Government holds FSC fishing licences for salmon, trout, and Arctic char throughout the LISA. These three species as well as smelt and seal may be harvested in the Upper Lake Melville Area. As per the LILCA, 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.
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 FSC purposes in tidal waters of Upper Lake Melville, outside of LISA (12E area). The Aboriginal and treaty rights of the Labrador Inuit do not extend to the lands and waters in or near the Project Area.
<b>Labrador Innu (Innu Nation)</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	The Labrador Innu claim Aboriginal rights and title to much of Labrador and parts of QC. The Labrador Innu primarily reside in two communities: Sheshatshiu in central Labrador and Natuashish on the North Coast of Labrador (Figure 7-63). Small numbers of Innu also reside in HV-GB. Sheshatshiu is approximately 1,088 km from the Project Area and Natuashish is approximately 843 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	<p>In 1978, the Labrador Innu land claim was accepted for negotiation by the Government of Canada. In 1991, following the completion of a land use and occupancy study, formal negotiations with the Governments of Canada and NL began. In 1996, a self-government framework agreement was signed and ratified in 1997. In 2008, the Government of NL and Innu Nation announced the Tshash Petapen (translated as “New Dawn”) Agreement, which resolved key issues related to the land claim, as well as impacts and benefits related to past and proposed hydroelectric developments in Labrador (Intergovernmental and Indigenous Affairs Secretariat [IIAS] 2018).</p> <p>The three parties have completed detailed agreements, including a Land Rights Agreement-in-Principle (AIP), which was signed in 2011. Under the AIP, areas of Labrador have been designated as Labrador Innu Lands (Category 1), Labrador Innu Settlement Area (Category 2), Permit-Free Hunting Area (Category 3) or other designated lands under the AIP. The AIP is not legally binding and forms the basis of ongoing treaty negotiations that will result in a Final Agreement (IIAS 2018; Indian and northern Affairs Canada [INAC] 2018; Heritage NL 2018). The Project does not overlap with lands claimed by the Labrador Innu. The Sheshatshiu Innu and the Mushuau Innu of Natuashish are represented by Innu Nation in land claims negotiations and on other matters of common interest (INAC 2018). Sheshatshiu, located in central Labrador, was formerly part of North West River. In 1979, the Innu formed the community of Sheshatshiu, which is now a First Nation reserve with an elected Chief and Band Council (INAC 2017). The community of Natuashish was formed following the Innu’s relocation from the community of Utshimassit (Davis Inlet). Natuashish is a reserve with an elected Chief and Band Council (INAC 2018).</p> <p>The March 2018 registered population of the Labrador Innu was 2,728. Approximately 90% live on-reserve. Small numbers of Innu also reside in HV-GB and elsewhere. In 2016, the median age of the population of both First Nations (approximately 21.5 years) was less than half of that of the NL population in general (46 years) and the percentage of individuals below 15 years of age in Sheshatshiu (36.3%) and Natuashish (40.1%) was three times higher than that of the NL population (14.3%) (Statistics Canada 2017).</p>



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Community Indicator	Description
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	<p>Sheshatshiu and Natuashish are relatively small communities that offer services and infrastructure to their members and residents. Sheshatshiu is 40 km by road from the regional service centre of HV-GB and is accessible year-round. The Natuashish community is approximately 300 km north of HV-GB and is only accessible by plane or boat.</p> <p>Band Council and other agencies provide infrastructure and services such as schools, community recreation facilities, policing, firefighting and health care to both communities. Within Sheshatshiu, the RCMP and Health Canada have established a Sheshatshiu Crisis Intervention Team. 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 Mushuau Innu Health Commission, operates a community health clinic with an emergency room bed, basic trauma and resuscitation equipment and a defibrillator (Statoil 2017). Health issues within the communities include diabetes, youth mortality, teenage pregnancy and Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder.</p> <p>The Innu Business Development Centre was created in 2001 to establish businesses and contribute to Innu communities. The Centre maintains a database of registered Innu businesses to facilitate business opportunities, and approximately 125 businesses were registered in April 2018. Innu Nation has invested in a range of businesses and partnerships to provide services mainly in construction and industrial supply (Innu Business Development Centre 2018). Sheshatshiu Innu First Nation Band Council is a major employer. Major employers in Natuashish include the Mushuau Innu First Nation Band Council, Mushuau Innu Health Commission, Mushuau Innu General Store and the Natuashish Hotel. Other major employers include Voisey’s Bay and Muskrat Falls.</p> <p>As described in more detail below, Innu Nation holds several commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. Ueushuk Fisheries Ltd. holds a mid-shore groundfish licence for various areas and a shrimp licence.</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	<p>The Labrador Innu are descendants of Algonkian-speaking hunter-gatherers (Heritage NL 2018). The Innu were traditionally a nomadic people whose movements responded to the seasons and migrations of the animals (e.g., caribou) they relied upon for food and clothing. Labrador Innu culture and heritage are focused on their relationship to game animals most especially caribou, which is the focus of their philosophical and spiritual beliefs. For the Innu, Kanipinikassikueu (caribou master) is considered to be the most powerful of the animal masters.</p> <p>Archaeologists have documented Innu presence as early 1,500 A.D. at interior sites from Northwest River to Davis Inlet in Labrador. The Innu gathered in coastal areas in summer and spent the winter in the interior. During the 19th century, the life of the Innu people began to change with the establishment of European fur-trading posts and permanent settlements in Labrador (Fitzhugh 1977; Heritage NL 2018).</p> <p>Nearly 500 Innu archaeological sites are known to be located throughout northern, central and western Labrador. The identified sites are in inland and coastal areas and were often discovered in relation to developments such as communities, roads, railways, and mining areas. There are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites within or near the Project Area.</p>



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**Table 7.22 Newfoundland and Labrador Indigenous Groups Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
<p>Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes</p> <p>Marine Mammal Harvesting</p>	<p>Following establishment of a permanent settlement in Sheshatshiu, women and children began to remain in the community for most of the year and men spent less time on the land harvesting and trapping. Nonetheless, the Sheshatshiu Innu continued to harvest a range of resources including caribou, black bear, small game and fish, in a relatively wide-ranging area not necessarily restricted to the lands and waterways surrounding the community (Nalcor 2011).</p> <p>An Outpost Program was established in the 1970s to help finance travel by Innu families to and from camps in the interior of Labrador and to enable Innu to travel into the country as an educational opportunity and community activity and to practice their traditional activities. In a 1997 study, approximately 42% of the Innu Nation population that participated in the survey indicated that they partake in country-based harvests year-round. Spring is the most active season, with 48% of participants spending at least one week on the land hunting, fishing and gathering wild foods (Nalcor 2011).</p> <p>The Labrador Innu currently undertake land and resource use activities on their traditional lands within Labrador. The core areas traditionally used by Sheshatshiu Innu are the 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 QC. More recently, Labrador Innu have also harvested along the Trans Labrador Highway (TLH) between HV-GB and western Labrador. Various travel routes such as roads, snowmobile trails, walking trails, canoe and motorboat routes used by Labrador Innu have been recorded in southern Labrador, with a relatively high number of travel routes near the TLH between Churchill Falls and HV-GB and near Lake Melville (AIOC 2012).</p> <p>In 2010, an Innu traditional land use study was conducted for a travel corridor from central to western Labrador, for the period between 1990 and 2010. In this study, Innu stated that caribou is the priority large animal and caribou harvesting holds high cultural importance. Innu identified caribou harvesting sites in the study area between Tshiashku-nipi (Gull Lake) and Churchill Falls. Small animals and partridge harvested in the study area included snowshoe hare, porcupine, spruce grouse, ruffed grouse, and willow ptarmigan. A variety of furbearing animals were trapped, snared and shot within the study area including beaver, muskrat, river otter, marten, mink, red fox, and Canada lynx. For small game, beaver was the priority animal (mainly for edible meat) followed by marten. No kill sites were reported by respondents for weasel or wolf. A variety of migratory waterfowl were harvested in the study area including American black duck, black scoter, Canada goose, common loon, northern pintail, blue-winged teal, Harlequin duck, long-tailed duck, merganser, and surf scoter (Innu Nation 2010).</p> <p>The Innu hunt goose and duck near the TLH west of Churchill Falls, along the Churchill River and near Dominion Lake. Migratory waterfowl have been harvested around Crooks Lake and Parke Lake in southeastern Labrador, the shoreline of Lake Melville, along several roads between HV-GB and Sheshatshiu, on the south side of the Churchill River at Gull island, the Eagle River plateau, the Mud Lake/Upper Lake Melville area and near Sheshatshiu and North West River (AIOC 2012).</p> <p>Important bird areas and surrounding waters are known to be used by the Labrador Innu as part of their traditional harvesting areas and include the waters and islands of the Backway, Table Bay, St. Peter's Bay and the waters of Point Amour, which are used for sea duck and murre harvesting. Eider ducks, murre, and other species harvested around the Labrador Shelf, are an important source of food for Indigenous people (Intervale Associates Inc. 2012).</p> <p>Although there is limited publicly available information, it is understood that Innu harvest seals in coastal areas in the spring, summer and fall (Voisey's Bay Nickel Company Limited 1997).</p>



## WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

### EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

**Table 7.22 Newfoundland and Labrador Indigenous Groups Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
Commercial Communal Fishing	Innu Nation holds commercial communal licences for groundfish in NAFO 0, 2GHJ, 3KL, groundfish (mobile gear) in NAFO 2GHJ, 3KL, mackerel and capelin in Fishing Areas 1 to 11 (northern Labrador to Burgeo) and shrimp in Shrimp Area 4, 5, 6 (D. Ball, DFO, 2019 pers. comm.), which is roughly from Rigolet to Postville. Ueushuk Fisheries Limited holds a mid-shore groundfish licence for various areas. This provides for harvesting a variety of species, including Greenland halibut in NAFO 2+3K, 3LMNO and 0B; skates in 3LNO and in 3Ps, 4X, 5Y, 5Z (j,m) with by-catch permitted in several other areas; white hake in 3NO and 3Ps with by-catch permitted in other areas; Atlantic halibut in NAFO 3NOPs and 4VWX+5Zc with a science quota and a competitive reserve in other areas; and haddock in 5Z (j,m) with by-catch permitted in other areas. Ueushuk Fisheries also holds a shrimp licence for SFAs 6 and 7, which include areas from southern Labrador to southwest NL (D. Ball, DFO, pers. comm. 2019; Statoil 2017).
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Innu Nation holds FSC fishing licences for Sheshatshiu and Natuashish. The Sheshatshiu licence includes salmon, trout, and Arctic char in the area from Fish Cove Point north to Cape Harrison (between Rigolet and Postville), including Lake Melville and the inland waters of Little Lake and Grand Lake. The Natuashish FSC licence permits harvesting salmon, trout, and Arctic char in tidal waters of Labrador extending north and east from Cape Harrigan inclusive of Big Bay and south and east of Anaktalik Bay inclusive of Anaktalik and Anaktalik Bays, and the inland waters of Sango Pond and Big Sango Lake (D. Ball, DFO, pers. comm. 2019; Statoil 2017).
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	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. This claim does not extend to the lands or waters in or near the Project Area.
<b>NunatuKavut Community Council (NCC)</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	The NCC claims traditional territory that extends from central to southeastern Labrador. NCC members primarily reside in southern and central Labrador, along the southeast coast (Figure 7-63). The territory is approximately 650 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	<p>Originally established as the Labrador Metis Association in 1985, the NCC is the governing body of a membership of over 6,000 persons who reside primarily in southeastern and central Labrador and who are collectively known as the Southern Inuit of NunatuKavut. The NCC has asserted a land claim covering most of central and southeastern Labrador. While this claim has not been accepted for negotiation by the federal and provincial governments, on July 12, 2018, the Government of Canada and the NCC committed to work together to advance reconciliation and renew their relationship based on recognition of rights, respect, co-operation and partnership. The Project Area does not overlap with lands claimed by NCC.</p> <p>NCC members live throughout Labrador and elsewhere, mainly in communities along the southeast coast from Hamilton Inlet south to the Labrador Straits, including the towns of Cartwright, Charlottetown, Port Hope Simpson, St. Lewis and Mary's Harbour and the communities of Paradise River, Black Tickle-Domino, Norman Bay, Pinsent's Arm, Williams Harbour, and Lodge Bay, as well as in central and western Labrador and elsewhere.</p> <p>Census data are not available specifically for NCC members as a group. In 2016, the population of the identified communities ranged from 15 or fewer to 427, with five communities (Paradise River, Pinsent's Arm, William's Harbour, Norman Bay and Lodge Bay) having fewer than 100 people. Where data are available, the median age is somewhat comparable to, or higher than the NL population in general (Statistics Canada 2017).</p>



## WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

### EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

**Table 7.22 Newfoundland and Labrador Indigenous Groups Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	<p>The availability of community infrastructure within each community varies. For example, some communities have road access, airstrips, basic municipal services and nursing clinics, while others lack these services and residents must travel to other communities to access them (Martin et al. 2012). Health, policing, and education services also vary among the communities. 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 2011). Generally, a physician and dentist visit each community every six weeks. A 2012 Health Needs Assessment outlined common health concerns such as high blood pressure, allergies, high cholesterol, arthritis, asthma, and diabetes.</p> <p>The NCC is invested in seasonal and year-round businesses including accommodations, convenience stores, and gas bars.</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 Fishermen’s Union Shrimp Company 2014). Nunacor Development Corporation (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> <p>A Mineral Exploration Activities Agreement was signed between Search Minerals and NunatuKavut on Aug 22, 2012. The Environmental Assessment is currently underway for the proposed Foxtrot Rare Earth Element Mine Project near St. Lewis.</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	<p>In the 17<sup>th</sup> century, the Labrador Inuit first encountered Europeans. In southern Labrador, these interactions were based on trade with seasonal fishers and whalers, with the first European trading post being established in North West River in 1743 to 1744. Inter-marriage between the Labrador Inuit and European fur traders resulted in a generation of people of mixed descent who were born as early as 1775. Over time the population grew, and settlements were established throughout central and southern Labrador (Nalcor 2010; NCC 2018; Heritage NL 2018). Nearly 800 Inuit and Thule archaeological sites have been identified in northern, central and southern Labrador (the latter being the core area where most NCC members reside, and which is the focus of their land claim) and on the top of the Northern Peninsula on the island of Newfoundland. No known physical, cultural or heritage sites are located within or near the Project Area.</p>



# WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

**Table 7.22 Newfoundland and Labrador Indigenous Groups Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	<p>Members of the NCC place a high value on the importance of traditional foods, both in terms of their nutritional attributes and their cultural value. Members continue to rely upon the resources of the land, water and sea, and are known to undertake land and resource use activities throughout southern Labrador.</p> <p>They use the land in several ways as expressed through their movement along the overland and aquatic travel corridors, meeting in community gathering places, the establishment of habitation sites, trapper tilts and seasonal and permanent settlements (Clark and Mitchell 2010; Nalcor 2011; Martin et al. 2012). In 2014, the Iron Ore Company of Canada (IOC) gathered information from NCC members in Labrador West regarding their current land and resource use activities. Information gained from this study indicates that NCC members living in that region currently undertake a variety of land and resource use activities including hunting (i.e., big game, small game and waterfowl), trapping, fishing, ice fishing, cutting firewood and saw logs, collecting berries and medicinal plants, camping, boating, snowmobiling and all-terrain vehicle use. These activities occur throughout the western Labrador region, including areas adjacent to Labrador City and Wabush as well as at other locations along the TLH, roadways, the railway and snowmobile trails, near the Smallwood Reservoir and elsewhere. Some NCC members have cabins in Labrador West and around the Smallwood Reservoir but a larger number of cabins are located in central Labrador near their communities of origin (AMEC 2014). In this data collection exercise, 53% of Labrador West NCC members (of the 30 who participated in the survey) reported consuming traditional foods weekly. Species consumed include moose, caribou, bear, ptarmigan, grouse, hare, ducks, geese, porcupine, beaver, muskrat, squirrel, salmon, cod, trout, seal, partridgeberries, blueberries, bakeapples, black currants, red currants and squash berries. It should be noted that marine species (e.g. cod, salmon, seal) are not available in Labrador West and thus are harvested in coastal areas (AMEC 2014).</p> <p>A 2012 land use study also showed that members of NCC travel on the land and sea by truck, snowmobile, boat, foot, dog-team and snowshoes. Use of automobiles is currently the main mode of travel for accessing land use areas. In addition, NCC members use a network of snowmobile trails that connect North West River, HV-GB, Mud Lake and Churchill Falls with other communities in Labrador, including Labrador City, Wabush and Cartwright. These roads and trails are used by many Labrador residents, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous, for travel as well as to access land and resource use areas (NCC 2010; AIOC 2012).</p> <p>Traditional migratory bird harvesting areas in Labrador include the waters and islands of the Backway, Table Bay and St. Peter’s Bay, which are used for sea duck harvesting and the waters of Point Amour, which are used for sea duck and murre harvesting. The NCC has developed annual Spring Bird/Egg Harvest and Conservation Guidelines, which specify opening and closing dates, seasonal harvest of birds and gull eggs per household and associated restrictions. Members of NCC harvest a variety of birds, including geese and migratory birds such as black ducks (Intervale Associates Inc. 2012; AIOC 2012; NCC 2018).</p> <p>Members of NCC harvest marine mammals, with seals providing income and a source of meat.</p>
Commercial Communal Fishing	<p>The NCC is engaged in commercial communal fishing with licences held by the NCC or NDC Fisheries Limited. The NCC holds seal harvesting licences in Sealing Areas 4 to 33 (all of Atlantic Canada). NDC Fisheries operates enterprises for groundfish in NAFO 2GHJ, 3KL and 4RS; scallop in Scallop Areas 1 and 2 (most of coastal Labrador); shrimp in Shrimp Area 6 (southern Labrador and northern Newfoundland; whelk in NAFO 2J; holds licences for northern shrimp (SFA 5), snow crab, capelin, herring and toad crab in southern Labrador; and bait in the Area of Home Port (D. Ball, DFO, pers. comm. 2019; Statoil 2017).</p>



## WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

### EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

**Table 7.22 Newfoundland and Labrador Indigenous Groups Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	The NCC holds FSC fishing licences for a variety of species. A licence for salmon, trout, Arctic char, Atlantic cod, rock cod, herring, scallop, whelk, smelt, and seal is held for a coastal area from Fish Cove Point to Cape Charles (central to southern Labrador). The NCC also holds a licence for salmon, trout, and Arctic char in the tidal waters of Upper Lake Melville. The Atlantic salmon fishery remains an integral part of the way of life. NCC members have been documented as fishing throughout central and southeastern Labrador, including around HV-GB, Grand Lake and its tributaries, Sebaskachu Bay and Sebaskachu River, Mud Lake, Traverspine River, the mouths of Caroline Brook, McKenzie River and lakes south of the Churchill River, including Minipi Lake and Dominion Lake (AIOC 2012; D. Ball, DFO, pers. comm. 2019; Statoil 2017). The NCC also holds a licence for seals, which are harvested on the coast from Fish Cove Point to Cape Charles (NCC 2010; AIOC 2012; D. Ball, DFO, pers. comm. 2019; Statoil 2017).
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. This claim does not extend to the lands or waters in or near the Project Area.
<b>Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation (QMFN) Band</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	QMFN Band members live in 67 communities throughout NL and in other areas (Figure 7-63). The Band's main administrative office is in Corner Brook and satellite offices are in Glenwood, Grand Falls-Windsor and St. George's (QMFN 2016; INAC 2018). The QMFN community of Glenwood is approximately 522 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	In 1972, the Federation of Newfoundland Indians (FNI) was formed with the primary goal of obtaining recognition for Mi'kmaq people in NL under the <i>Indian Act</i> . In 2008, the Government of Canada signed an agreement with the FNI to establish a landless Band for the Mi'kmaq of NL. 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 for the Mi'kmaq of Newfoundland (QMFN 2016; INAC 2018). In September 2011, QMFN was established as an Indian Band under the <i>Indian Act</i> and 23,877 members were found eligible and registered as founding members (QMFN 2016). It is anticipated that the founding member list will be finalized in 2018 (INAC 2018). The QMFN has not signed treaties with the Crown and there is currently no land base associated with the QMFN Band.



## WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

### EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

**Table 7.22 Newfoundland and Labrador Indigenous Groups Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	<p>As QMFN members live in an identified 67 communities throughout NL and these communities are not exclusively occupied by Qalipu Mi'kmaq, consolidated information on infrastructure 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 service agencies in communities and regions where they reside.</p> <p>QMFN has identified health concerns such as chronic disease including diabetes, mental health and addictions, and communicable diseases.</p> <p>Economic and corporate development are led by the Qalipu Development Corporation (QMFN 2016). QMFN has several wholly-owned commercial enterprises including Mi'kmaq Commercial Fisheries Incorporated (MCF), Qalipu Management Services Incorporated, Qalipu Marine Holdings and Qalipu Project Support Services Limited. Business partnerships have been negotiated and implemented between QMFN and several different construction firms. Marine Contractors Inc. Qalipu was created as a partnership between QMFN and Marine Construction to enable QMFN 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 to 2017, the QMFN earned revenues of \$10.2 million and had total expenditures of \$9.6 million (QMFN 2017).</p> <p>As described in more detail below, the QMFN and MCF holds several commercial communal fishing licenses for a variety of fish and marine species. The QMFN and the MFN have a joint fisheries initiative, Mi'kmaq Alsumk Moiwimsikik Koqoey Association (MAMKA) which holds commercial communal licenses 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 NL by the 16<sup>th</sup> century; by the 17<sup>th</sup> century there are increasing historical references (Heritage NL 2018). 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, 21 known Mi'kmaq archaeological sites exist in interior and coastal NL between the Port au Port Peninsula and Clarendville (Inside NL Archaeology 2013). In terms of culture, QMFN's practices and resources are focused on the lands and waters of the Island of Newfoundland. There are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites within or near the Project Area.</p>
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	<p>The QMFN undertake current land and resource use activities on their traditional lands which are extensive areas of land, sea, and water. Important sources of traditional food include moose, caribou, partridge, snowshoe hare, salmon, trout, eel, shellfish, and wild berries. Migratory birds, seals, and groundfish are harvested but of lesser importance. Groundfish, pelagic fish, shellfish, and seal harvesting are also of importance to the Mi'kmaq on the west coast of NL. Qalipu Natural Resources is undertaking studies to understand and monitor specific species, including Arctic hare, woodland caribou, elver and glass eel, commercial eel, Atlantic salmon, and eelgrass, as well as invasive species such as golden star tunicate and the European green crab. Qalipu Natural Resources is also engaged in a DFO Aboriginal Fisheries Guardian Program in western and central NL (Emera NL 2013; QMFN 2016, 2017). Harvesting birds such as murre (also called turr) and seals are also considered important traditional activities.</p>



## WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

### EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

**Table 7.22 Newfoundland and Labrador Indigenous Groups Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
Commercial Communal Fishing	<p>QMFN and MCF hold commercial communal fishing licences. These include groundfish licences in NAFO 2J, 3Pn, 4RST, 2GHJ and 3KL. The QMFN also has licences to harvest lobster in Lobster Areas 3, 4B, 13A, 13B (eastern and western NL) and snow crab in Snow Crab Areas 3B, 4, 12, 12C, 12E and 12F (eastern and western NL). Various mackerel fishing licences are held in Mackerel Areas 1-11, 3, 4, 12, 13, 14 and 13B (coastal Labrador, and eastern and western NL). The Qalipu has licences for herring for Herring Area 3-8, 13 and 14 (western NL); squid in Squid Areas 3, 4 and 13 (eastern to western NL); scallop in Scallop Area 13 (western NL); capelin in Capelin Areas 1-11 and 12, 13, 14 (northern Labrador to western NL); whelk in Whelk Area 13 (western NL); shrimp in Shrimp Area 6 (northern NL) and licences to harvest bait in the Area of Home Port or Lobster Area. Qalipu First Nation also has licences for eel and smelt (D. Ball, DFO, pers. comm. 2019; Statoil 2017; QMFN 2017).</p> <p>MAMKA also holds commercial communal licences for a variety of species including groundfish in NAFO 2GHJ, 3KL, 3Pn, 3Ps in offshore NL and 4RST in western NL; whelk in NAFO 3Ps; snow crab in Snow Crab Areas 10, 11, 12 C and 12E (southern and western NL); herring in Herring Areas 10 and 13 (Placentia Bay and western NL); capelin in Capelin Area 10 (Placentia Bay); lobster in Lobster Areas 13A and 13B (western NL); and bait in the Area of Home Port or Lobster Area. MAMKA also hold a commercial communal scallop licence in 3Ps (D. Ball, DFO, pers. comm. 2019; Statoil 2017).</p>
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	There are currently no FSC licences issued for the QMFN (D. Ball, DFO, pers. comm. 2019).
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	It is the operator's understanding that the QMFN Band has not asserted or established Aboriginal or treaty rights in relation to the lands and waters in or near the Project Area.
<b>Miawpukek First Nation (MFN)</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Miawpukek Mi'kamawey Mawi'omi First Nation (Miawpukek First Nation or MFN) is comprised of one reserve, the Samiajij Miawpukek reserve, located at the mouth of the Conne River on the south coast of the Island of Newfoundland (Figure 7-52) (BP 2017; Statoil 2017). The community is approximately 577 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	<p>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 (MFN 2018). In 2004, self-government framework agreement negotiations began between MFN and the federal and provincial governments and an agreement was signed in 2005. In 2013, MFN signed a Self-Government AIP with the governments of Canada and NL. The AIP is not a treaty or a land claims agreement within the meaning of Sections 25 and 35 of the <i>Constitution Act, 1982</i>. The Agreement was an important step towards self-government and planning and management of economic opportunities and delivery of services to address community needs in culture and language, education, health, child and family services, land management, resource management, licensing, regulation and operation of business, and administration of justice. Progress is being made toward a final agreement (Government of NL 2013; MFN 2018; INAC 2018).</p> <p>The March 2018 registered population of MFN was 3,041 (INAC 2017). Approximately 27% live on-reserve. In 2016, the reserve population was 956, an increase of 3.9% since 2011. Overall, the population is younger than the NL population (Statistics Canada 2017; INAC 2018).</p>



## WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

### EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

**Table 7.22 Newfoundland and Labrador Indigenous Groups Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	<p>The MFN community is accessible year-round by road. In 2017, the MFN opened a new school in the community, accommodating 180 students from kindergarten to grade 12. The school also includes a dental office and daycare centre. Conne River Health and Social Services provides access to community health services, including a medical clinic, wellness centre, youth centre, nutrition centre, ambulance services and on-call nurses. The MFN community owns and operates small businesses such as Christmas tree farms, hunting camps and small fisheries, and the Miawpukek Gas Bar and Convenience Store (INAC 2012). The community has also partnered with several outside communities and corporations in ventures including tourism and aquaculture (INAC 2012). The MFN community also owns and operates the Jipuijij'kuei Kuespem Nature Park which provides camping, kayak/canoe rentals, walking trails and float plane charters (Explore NL 2010).</p> <p>As described in more detail below, the MFN holds several commercial communal licenses for a variety of fish and marine species.</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	<p>Some historical evidence demonstrates that the Mi'kmaq were present in NL by the 16<sup>th</sup> century; by the 17<sup>th</sup> century there are increasing historical references (Heritage NL 2018). Currently, 21 known Mi'kmaq archaeological sites exist in interior and coastal NL between the Port au Port Peninsula and Clarendville (Inside NL Archaeology 2013). There are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites in or near the Project Area.</p>
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	<p>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 for species such as Atlantic salmon; and harvesting of wild berries (Emera NL 2013). Salmon is important not only as a food source but is also important to the traditions and cultural identity of MFN.</p> <p>Harvesting birds such as murre (also called turr) and seals are also considered important traditional activities.</p>
Commercial Communal Fishing	<p>MFN is engaged in commercial communal fishing through its own licences and those held by MAMKA. MFN holds commercial communal licences for groundfish in NAFO 2GHJ, 3KL, 3Pn and 3Ps, groundfish (mobile gear) in 2GHJ, 3KL, 3Pn, 3Ps, 4R, bluefin tuna in NAFO 3LNOP, Atlantic and seal in Areas 4 to 33 (all of Atlantic Canada). The First Nation also holds licences for sea cucumber and whelk in NAFO 3Ps (southern NL); capelin in Areas 1-11 (northern Labrador to southern NL); herring in Area 11 (southern NL); mackerel in Areas 1-11 (northern Labrador to southern Newfoundland); snow crab in Areas 10 and 11 (southern NL); and squid in Squid Area 10 (Placentia Bay). The MFN also holds licences for other tuna species, swordfish, scallop, and bait. In addition, MFN also holds tuna and swordfish licences for the Scotia-Fundy region (D. Ball, DFO, pers. comm. 2019; Statoil 2017).</p>
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	<p>MFN holds FSC licences in the coastal waters of 3Ps, which is in southern NL. This licence includes scallop, lobster, mackerel, herring, rainbow trout, brook trout, Atlantic cod, eel, smelt, capelin, harp seal, grey seal, snow crab, and redfish (D. Ball, DFO, pers. comm. 2019; Statoil 2017). Fishing areas are in a designated area in Western Head, Hare Bay (D. Ball, DFO, pers. comm. 2019).</p>
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	<p>It is the operator's understanding that MFN has not asserted or established Aboriginal or treaty rights in relation to the lands and waters in or near the Project Area.</p>



## WEST FLEMISH PASS EXPLORATION DRILLING PROGRAM

### EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

Following European contact, the Mi'kmaq participated in fur and other internal trade activities and were historically tied with French colonial forces against the British. Conflict between the British and the French, and therefore the Mi'kmaq, led to the signing of Peace and Friendship Treaties between the Mi'kmaq and the British in 1726, 1749, 1752 and 1760-61. Following Confederation, the treaties became the responsibility of the government of Canada. Today, existing Aboriginal rights and treaty rights, such as those established in the Peace and Friendship Treaties, are recognized as constitutionally protected under Section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*. As affirmed by recent SCC decisions, these Treaties guarantee the right to harvest, fish and gather throughout the region to pursue a moderate livelihood (Section 7.4.4). Currently, Canada is working with Indigenous Groups to uphold treaty rights in NS, NB, PEI, and the Gaspé region of QC (INAC 2017). The Mi'kmaq also assert Aboriginal rights and title throughout their traditional territory.

Some Mi'kmaq First Nations hold commercial communal licences for NAFO divisions of eastern NL. In addition, Mi'kmaq First Nations may harvest marine migratory species (that use the Flemish Pass area during their life cycles and processes) in coastal areas through FSC or other traditional harvesting activities. The discussion of current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes by Mi'kmaq First Nations is focused on activities occurring in the marine environment, and species of cultural importance that may migrate through the marine environment in or near the Project Area.

#### 7.4.3 Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia

The 13 Mi'kmaq communities in NS are:

- Acadia First Nation
- Annapolis Valley First Nation
- Bear River First Nation
- Eskasoni First Nation
- Glooscap First Nation
- Membertou First Nation
- Paq'tnkek Mi'kmaw Nation
- Pictou Landing First Nation
- Potlotek First Nation
- Wagmatcook First Nation
- We'koqma'q (Waycobah) First Nation
- Sipekne'katik First Nation
- Millbrook First Nation

The Mi'kmaq of NS have an established Aboriginal right to hunt, trap, and fish on ancestral lands (including the right to fish for FSC purposes) as well as a treaty right to harvest, fish and gather for a moderate livelihood (i.e., commercial communal fishing), as established in the Peace and Friendship Treaties and assert Aboriginal title to the lands of NS and the adjacent offshore. The lands and waters in traditional territories are used by the Mi'kmaq for travel, harvesting, hunting and fishing for traditional and commercial purposes. The traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq does not extend to the Project Area, but some Mi'kmaq First Nations hold commercial communal licences for NAFO Unit areas that overlap with the Project Area.



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In addition, Mi'kmaq First Nations may harvest marine migratory species in coastal areas through FSC or other traditional harvesting activities.

In 2002, following the Marshall Decision, the Mi'kmaq and governments of NS and Canada signed an Umbrella Agreement to establish a “Made-in-Nova Scotia” negotiation process to resolve outstanding issues related to Mi'kmaq Aboriginal and treaty rights. This includes the interests of the Mi'kmaq with respect to land, resource management and environmental protection, among other issues. A Framework Agreement was signed in 2007, between the three parties to establish negotiations towards a resolution of issues respecting Mi'kmaq rights and title (NS OAA 2018).

In 2010, after a three-year pilot period, the Mi'kmaq communities, through the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Chiefs, signed an historic agreement with the Governments of Canada and NS. The Mi'kmaq-Nova-Scotia-Canada Consultation Terms of Reference establishes 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. The Terms of Reference were developed under the Umbrella Agreement. Additionally, the Mi'kmaq have signed agreements with the provincial and federal governments on national parks (2012) and education (1997) (INAC 2017).

Thirteen Mi'kmaq First Nation communities, with elected Chiefs and Councils, are located throughout the province from Cape Breton to the Yarmouth area. Eleven of those communities are currently represented by the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Chiefs (ANSMC). The Kwilmu'kw Maw-klusuaqn Negotiation Office (KMKNO), the administrative office of the Assembly, coordinates negotiations, and consultation on decisions / actions that may affect Mi'kmaq Aboriginal or treaty rights. In 2013 and 2016, respectively, Sipekne'katik and Millbrook First Nations withdrew from the ANSMC and now represent themselves in consultation. The Sipekne'katik First Nation and Millbrook First Nation assert the same rights as the other Mi'kmaq communities.

The locations of Mi'kmaq communities in NS are illustrated in Figure 7-63. Community profiles for the 13 Mi'kmaq communities located in NS are provided in the following sections (Table 7.23).

**Table 7.23 Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
<b>Acadia First Nation</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Acadia First Nation, which is centred in Queen's County in southwestern NS, has five reserves (i.e., Yarmouth 33, Ponhook Lake 10, Medway River 11, Wildcat 12, and Gold River 21) between Yarmouth and Halifax. These reserves are approximately 1,325 to 1,485 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Acadia First Nation is represented by the ANSMC. The March 2018 registered population of Acadia First Nation was 1,545. Approximately 15% (232 individuals) live on-reserve (INAC 2018). The median age of the on-reserve population ranges from 33.8 to 38.2 years, approximately 10% below that of NS in general, which was 45.5 years in 2016 (Statistics Canada 2017). No data are available for Medway River Reserve.



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**Table 7.23 Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	<p>The availability of infrastructure within each community varies. In general, Acadia First Nation has experienced infrastructure growth over the past decade, including the development of housing and roads (Acadia First Nation n.d.). Development and operation of community infrastructure, such as administrative buildings, health centres and gaming facilities, provide services and employment for community members and revenue for the First Nation.</p> <p>Acadia First Nation holds commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. Kespuwick Resources, established in 2001, has 53 harvesting licences for 13 species (Acadia First Nation 2018).</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical or architectural sites)	<p>Indigenous artifacts have been found along the Mersey River in Queen's County. An interpretive centre is being developed to display archaeological and cultural history of the First Nation.</p> <p>The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq of NS, therefore there are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites in or near the Project Area.</p>
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	<p>The Mi'kmaq of NS harvest Atlantic salmon as part of their Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes (Unama'ki Institute of Natural Resources [UINR] 2018). The practice of salmon fishing creates opportunities for traditional knowledge sharing and 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). American eel is also harvested within Aboriginal rights-based fisheries. 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, American eel is also used for medicinal purposes.</p>
Commercial Communal Fishing	<p>Acadia First Nation holds commercial communal licences for species including alewives / gaspereau, eel, crab, groundfish, herring, lobster, mackerel, marine worm, sea scallop, quahaug, clam, swordfish and bluefin tuna (Licensing Services, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). Lobster is licenced for Lobster Fishing Areas (LFAs) 33 and 34. These licences are located inshore and offshore NS, and thus not within or near the Project Area. The Acadia First Nation holds commercial communal licences for swordfish in NAFO divisions that overlap with the Project Area (C. MacDonald, DFO, pers. comm. 2019).</p>
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	<p>Acadia First Nation holds FSC fishing licences for blue shark, catfish, cod, crab (other than snow crab), eel, gaspereau, haddock, halibut, herring, lobster, mackerel, mussel, pollock, quahaug, razor clams, scallop, seals, shad, smallmouth bass, smelt, soft-shell clams, and striped bass (A. Newbould, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). Several species are harvested in inland and tidal waters of NS. Acadia First Nation also hold an FSC licence for NAFO Units in and around NS to harvest groundfish (cod and halibut), lobster and crab (other than snow crab). There are no location restrictions on fishing eel, shad and smelt. Acadia First Nation also has an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon (including landlocked salmon) for FSC purposes. Other species harvested include brook trout, periwinkle, rainbow trout, squid and tomcod.</p>
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	<p>The Mi'kmaq of NS 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. These rights do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area.</p>
<b>Annapolis Valley First Nation</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	<p>Annapolis Valley First Nation has two reserves located in Kings County in southwestern NS. The reserves are approximately 1,291 to 1,327 km from the Project Area.</p>



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**Table 7.23 Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
General Overview	<p>Annapolis Valley First Nation is represented by the ANSMC.</p> <p>The March 2018 registered population of Annapolis Valley First Nation was 292. Approximately 40% (119 individuals) live on-reserve (INAC 2018). The median age of the population of the reserves range from 29.5 to 37.2 years, approximately 12% below that of NS in general, which was 45.5 years in 2016 (Statistics Canada 2017).</p>
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	<p>The Annapolis Valley First Nation Health Centre, established in 1998, 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. The reserves do not have police detachments or fire halls (Annapolis Valley First Nation n.d.).</p> <p>Economic enterprises include Annapolis Valley First Nation Gaming, Annapolis Valley First Nation Smoke Shop, and Annapolis Valley First Nation Gas Bar.</p> <p>Annapolis Valley First Nation holds commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. The Annapolis Valley Commercial Fisheries enterprise operates one lobster fishing boat.</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical or architectural sites)	<p>Annapolis Royal and surrounding areas have a long history of Mi'kmaq presence and archeologists have identified several settlement patterns. When Europeans arrived, the Mi'kmaq lived in Annapolis Valley and their lifestyles were heavily influenced by the seasonal patterns of the ecosystems and a strong connection to the land.</p> <p>The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq of NS, therefore there are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites in or near the Project Area.</p>
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	<p>The Mi'kmaq of NS harvest Atlantic salmon as part of their Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes (UINR 2018). Salmon fishing creates opportunities for traditional knowledge sharing and 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, American eel is also used for medicinal purposes.</p>
Commercial Communal Fishing	<p>Annapolis Valley First Nation holds commercial communal licences for alewives / gaspereau, green crab, sea urchins, groundfish, herring, mackerel, lobster, marine worm, and sea scallop for inshore and offshore NS, and these do not intersect with the Project Area. Lobster is licenced for LFA 34 and 35 (Licensing Services, DFO, pers. comm. 2019).</p>
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	<p>Annapolis Valley First Nation holds FSC licences for clams, eel, flounder, gaspereau, halibut, herring, lobster, mackerel, mussels, pollock, scallop, shad, smelt, smallmouth bass, striped bass, chain pickerel, oysters. Fish and shellfish species, including trout, mussels, clams, mackerel, and herring are harvested in tidal waters of NS. Annapolis First Nation also holds an FSC licence to fish for groundfish, lobster and scallop in NAFO units in and around NS.</p> <p>Annapolis Valley First Nation also has an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon for FSC purposes (A. Newbould, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). As these licences are for areas around NS, none are located within or near the Project Area. Other species harvested include brown, rainbow, and speckled trout.</p>
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	<p>The Mi'kmaq of NS 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. These rights do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area.</p>



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**Table 7.23 Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
<b>Bear River First Nation</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Bear River First Nation (also known as L'sitkuk Mainland) is located in the Annapolis Valley between Annapolis Royal and Digby. Bear River has three reserves: Bear River, Bear River 6A (known as Lequille), and Bear River 6B (known as Graywood) (KMKNO n.d.; INAC 2018). Bear River First Nation is approximately 1,420 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	The Bear River reserve was founded in 1801, with 1,000 acres set aside for the Mi'kmaq in the County of Annapolis and an additional 600 acres requested at the forks of the river (Mainland Mi'kmaq Development Inc. 2016). Bear River First Nation is represented by the ANSMC. The March 2018 registered population of Bear River First Nation was 343. Approximately 32% (111 individuals) live on-reserve (INAC 2018). The median age (i.e., 29.7 years) of the population was approximately 16% below that of NS in general, which was 45.5 years in 2016 (Statistics Canada 2017).
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	Most community members live on Bear River 6 (Mainland Mi'kmaq Development Inc. 2016). Community infrastructure includes Treaty Gas Bar, a seasonal Heritage and Cultural Centre, a Learning Centre that provides space for educational activities, and a Health Centre. An RCMP satellite office recently opened, and there are plans for a Fitness Centre. Revenue is generated through the Gas Bar and Heritage and Cultural Centre. As described in more detail below, Bear River First Nation holds commercial communal licences for lobster and tuna.
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical or architectural sites)	For thousands of years, the Bear River Mi'kmaq have lived and travelled in what is now known as Digby and Annapolis counties. 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). The traditional economy was based on hunting, fishing, and gathering, with people travelling a great deal in search of game. Bear River appeared to have been a capital village for the southwestern bands and central meeting place for the Mi'kmaq due to the location on traditional water routes. Bear River First Nation members are known for their artwork, specializing in embroidering porcupine quills on birchbark, leatherwork, and basketry (Mainland Mi'kmaq Development Inc. 2016). The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq of NS, therefore there are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'kmaq of NS harvest Atlantic salmon as part of their Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes (UINR 2018). Salmon fishing creates opportunities for traditional knowledge sharing and 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, American eel is also used for medicinal purposes.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Bear River First Nation holds commercial communal licences for clams, lobster and bluefin tuna. These licences are located inshore and offshore NS and do not overlap with the Project Area. Lobster fishing is licenced in LFA 34 and 35 (Licensing Services, DFO, pers. comm. 2019).



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### EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

**Table 7.23 Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Bear River First Nation holds FSC fishing licences for bar clams, crab (other than snow crab), eel, gaspereau, groundfish, herring, landlocked salmon, salmon, lobster, mackerel, mussels, quahaug, razor clams, scallop, seals, shad, smallmouth bass, smelt, soft-shell clams, and striped bass. These include licences to harvest species within the inland and tidal waters of NS. Bear River holds a licence to fish for other species in NAFO units in and around NS. Species include groundfish, lobster and crab (other than snow crab). There are no restrictions on the fishing of eel, shad and smelt. Bear River First Nation also has an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon for FSC purposes (A. Newbould, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). Trout was also harvested by Bear River Nation. None of these licences overlap with the Project Area.
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The Mi'kmaq of NS 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. These rights do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area.
<b>Eskasoni First Nation</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Eskasoni First Nation is comprised of three reserves (Eskasoni 3, Eskasoni 3A, and Malagawatch 4) located along the shore of the Bras d'Or Lakes in Cape Breton. Eskasoni First Nation is approximately 997 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Eskasoni First Nation is represented by the ANSMC. The March 2018 registered population of Eskasoni First Nation was 4,535. Approximately 85% (3,857 individuals) live on-reserve (INAC 2018). The median age of the population (i.e., 23.5 years) is approximately 22% below that of NS in general, which was 45.5 years in 2016 (Statistics Canada 2017).
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	Eskasoni First Nation has community-owned infrastructure including a school for students from kindergarten to grade 12, a supermarket, ice rink, a cultural centre, and a fire department. The community operates Crane Cove Seafoods, which has 13 vessels. More than 100 community members are employed in fishing, with an additional 35 working in the processing plant. Eskasoni First Nation holds commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. Harvesting takes place throughout NS from Ingonish to Yarmouth.
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical or architectural sites)	Eskasoni First Nation was first chartered in 1832 and became an official reserve in 1834. The population of Eskasoni grew in the 1940s because of a Department of Indian Affairs policy to centralize Indigenous people (Eskasoni First Nation n.d.). Eskasoni First Nation began controlling their own affairs in the 1950s 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 NS, therefore there are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'kmaq of NS harvest Atlantic salmon as part of their Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes (UINR 2018). Salmon fishing creates opportunities for traditional knowledge sharing and 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, American eel is also used for medicinal purposes.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Eskasoni First Nation holds commercial communal licences for alewives / gaspereau, snow crab, eel, groundfish, herring, lobster, mackerel, and shrimp. These licences are in inshore and offshore areas of NS. Lobster fishing is licenced in LFA 28 (Licensing Services, DFO, pers. comm. 2019).



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**Table 7.23 Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Eskasoni First Nation holds FSC fishing licences for clams (bar clams, bay quahaugs, razor clams and soft-shell clams), cod, eel, flounder, haddock, herring, lobster, mackerel, mussels, salmon, scallop, shad, smelt, trout, smallmouth bass, striped bass, white perch, yellow perch, chain pickerel, pollock, and oyster within the inland and tidal waters of Cape Breton. Eskasoni holds a FSC licence to fish other species including groundfish and lobster in NAFO units in and around NS. Eskasoni First Nation also has an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon for FSC purposes (A. Newbould, DFO, pers. comm. 2019).
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The Mi'kmaq of NS 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. These rights do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area.
<b>Glooscap First Nation</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Glooscap First Nation, comprised of one reserve (Glooscap 35), is located northwest of Halifax near Hantsport, approximately 1,297 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Glooscap First Nation is represented by the ANSMC. The March 2018 registered population of Glooscap First Nation was 380. Approximately 25% (95 individuals) live on-reserve (INAC 2018). The median age (i.e., 32.5 years) is approximately 13% below that of NS in general, which was 45.5 years in 2016 (Statistics Canada 2017).
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	<p>Although there are no schools on-reserve, the Glooscap First Nation has appointed an education director to oversee primary and secondary education for on-reserve members who attend school off-reserve. Health care services are provided through an on-reserve health and healing centre.</p> <p>Glooscap Ventures, created in 2014, is responsible for on-reserve businesses including a variety store / gas bar, gaming facility, and commercial fisheries. The First Nation is in the process of developing Glooscap Landing, a 27-acre parcel of land along Highway 101 for retail purposes.</p> <p>Glooscap First Nation holds commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species.</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical or architectural sites)	<p>In June 1984, Glooscap First Nation (formerly known as Horton) became the thirteenth Mi'kmaq band in NS.</p> <p>The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq of NS, therefore there are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites in or near the Project Area.</p>
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	Glooscap First Nation's traditional activity is focused on harvesting marine species. The Mi'kmaq of NS harvest Atlantic salmon as part of their Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes (UINR 2018). Salmon fishing creates opportunities for traditional knowledge sharing and 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, American eel is also used for medicinal purposes.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Glooscap First Nation holds commercial communal licences for alewives / gaspereau, groundfish, lobster, herring, mackerel, marine worm, swordfish, green crab, and tuna (including bluefin tuna in the Gulf Region) (Licensing Services, DFO, pers. comm. 2019; S. Curry, DFO pers. comm. 2019). Most of these licences are located inshore and offshore NS. Glooscap holds commercial communal licences for swordfish and tuna within NAFO Units that overlap with the Project Area (C. MacDonald, DFO, pers. comm. 2019).



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**Table 7.23 Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Glooscap First Nation holds FSC fishing licences for brown bullhead, chain pickerel, cod, eel, gaspereau, haddock, halibut, lobster, mackerel, mussels, pollock, scallop, shad, smallmouth bass, salmon, smelt, soft-shell clams, striped bass, white perch, and yellow perch. These include harvesting in the inland and tidal waters of NS. Glooscap First Nation also holds a FSC licence to fish for other species, including groundfish and lobster, in NAFO units in and around NS. There are no restrictions on the fishing of eel, shad and smelt. Glooscap First Nation also has an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon for FSC purposes (A. Newbould, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). Other species harvested include flounder, lake whitefish, trout and white sucker fish.
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The Mi'kmaq of NS 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. These rights do not extend to land or waters in or near the Project Area.
<b>Membertou First Nation</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Membertou First Nation is comprised of four reserves (i.e., Membertou 28B, Sydney 28A, Caribou Marsh 29, and Malagawatch 4) located in northeastern and southwestern Sydney. Membertou First Nation is 961 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Membertou First Nation is represented by the ANSMC. The March 2018 registered population of Membertou First Nation was 1,534. Approximately 60% (920 individuals) live on-reserve (INAC 2018). The median age of the population (i.e., 26.9 years) is approximately 19% below that of NS in general, which was 45.5 years in 2016 (Statistics Canada 2017).
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	Membertou First Nation has a gas station, church, medical clinic, community centre, band office, boxing gym, a business park which includes the Membertou Trade and Convention Centre, Membertou Heritage Park and Petroglyphs Gift Shop, hotel, a restaurant, Membertou Entertainment Centre, and other private businesses. Membertou has a school, Maupeltuewey Kina'matno'kuom, for kindergarten to grade 6 and a Sport and Wellness Centre. Membertou First Nation owns and operates First Fishermen Seafoods. Membertou 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)	Membertou First Nation, formerly Kings Road Reserve, was originally located along the banks of Sydney Harbour. In 1926, it was moved to its present location. The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq of NS, therefore there are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'kmaq of NS harvest Atlantic salmon as part of their Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes (UINR 2018). Salmon fishing creates opportunities for traditional knowledge sharing and 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, American eel is also used for medicinal purposes.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Membertou First Nation holds commercial communal licences for alewives / gaspereau, rock crab, snow crab, eel, groundfish, herring, lobster, mackerel, sea scallop, sea urchins, shrimp, squid and bluefin tuna (Licensing Services, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). Membertou First Nation also holds commercial communal licences for bluefin tuna in the Gulf Region (S. Curry, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). Most of these licences are located inshore and offshore NS.



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**Table 7.23 Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Membertou First Nation holds FSC fishing licences for clams (bar clams, bay quahaugs, razor clams, and soft-shell clams), cod, crabs, eel, flounder, haddock, halibut, lobster, mackerel, mussels, oysters, pollock, salmon, smelt, and striped bass. These include harvesting in the tidal waters of Cape Breton and the Bras d'Or Lakes. Membertou First Nation holds an FSC licence to fish for other species in defined NAFO units in and around NS, including lobster and scallop. Membertou First Nation also has an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon for FSC purposes (A. Newbould, DFO, pers. comm. 2019).
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The Mi'kmaq of NS 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. These rights do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area.
<b>Paq'tnkek Mi'kmaw Nation</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Paq'tnkek Mi'kmaw Nation is comprised of three reserves (i.e., Franklin Manor 22, Paq'tnkek-Niktuek 23, and Welnek 38) located southeast of Amherst and east of Antigonish. Paq'tnkek Mi'kmaw Nation is approximately 1,094 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Paq'tnkek Mi'kmaw Nation is represented by the ANSMC. The March 2018 registered population of Paq'tnkek Mi'kmaw Nation was 595. Approximately 70% (421 individuals) live on-reserve (INAC 2018). The median age (i.e., 24.4 years) of the population is approximately 21% below that of NS in general, which was 45.5 years in 2016 (Statistics Canada 2017).
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	The Paq'tnkek Pre-School has been in operation in Afton, NS since the early 1980s. The Paq'tnkek Health Centre, which opened in 2008, is a multi-purpose facility that delivers health programs to the community, as well as offering a boardroom, classrooms, and space for private functions. An Economic Development Department manages development including the Paq'tnkek Entertainment Centre. The First Nation holds commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species, and Paq'tnkek Fisheries Enterprise employs 20 community members.
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical or architectural sites)	Paq'tnkek, meaning "by the bay", was established in March 1820 in Antigonish County, and (given its central location) has been a traditional stopping point for Mi'kmaq travelling to and from Unama'ki and a location where Chiefs would meet (Paq'tnkek Mi'kmaw Nation n.d.). The Paq'tnkek engage in important cultural and traditional practices, such as harvesting eels, salmon, and rabbits. The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq of NS, therefore there are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'kmaq of NS harvest Atlantic salmon as part of their Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes (UINR 2018). Salmon fishing creates opportunities for traditional knowledge sharing and 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, American eel is also used for medicinal purposes.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Paq'tnkek Mi'kmaw Nation holds commercial communal licences for rock crab, eel, groundfish, herring, lobster, mackerel, marine plant, oysters, scallop, smelts, snow crab, squid, and swordfish for areas of inshore NS. Paq'tnkek holds commercial communal licences for swordfish within NAFO Units that overlap with the Project Area (S, Curry, DFO, pers. comm. 2019).



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**Table 7.23 Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Paq'tnkek Mi'kmaw Nation members harvest marine fish and shellfish resources along the coast, including along the southern Chedabucto coastline where the waters generally do not freeze, offering unimpeded fishing during the winter months (Mi'kma'ki All Points Service 2013). Mackerel, herring, cod, haddock, urchins, mussels, oysters, clams are harvested on the Chedabucto coastline, and snow crab are fished in deeper waters (Mi'kma'ki All Points Service 2013). Freshwater species include salmon, trout, and eel (Mi'kma'ki All Points Service 2013). Paq'tnkek Mi'kmaw 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 NS 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. These rights do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area.
<b>Pictou Landing First Nation</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Pictou Landing First Nation is located on the south shore of the Northumberland Strait in Pictou County. The reserves include Franklin Manor 22 (also affiliated with Paq'tnkek Mi'kmaw Nation), Fisher's Grant 24, Boat Harbour West 37, Fisher's Grant 24G, and Merigomish Harbour 31. Pictou Landing First Nation is approximately 1,157 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Pictou Landing First Nation is represented by the ANSMC. The March 2018 registered population of Pictou Landing First Nation was 668. Approximately 73% of these (487 individuals) live on-reserve (INAC 2018). The median age (i.e., 28.4 years) of the population is approximately 17% below that of NS in general, which was 45.5 years in 2016 (Statistics Canada 2017).
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	The community has a church, gas bar, health centre, and primary to Grade 6 elementary school, Pictou Landing First Nation School. Pictou Landing First Nation holds commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. Fishing is the main industry, and close to 100 people (full / part time) are employed each year in harvesting lobster, rock crab, snow crab, mackerel, herring and tuna.
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical or architectural sites)	Pictou Landing First Nation lived, on a seasonal basis, in and around a small tidal estuary connected by a narrow channel to the Northumberland Strait. The area provided a variety of resources including fish, eels, crustaceans, and shellfish as well as areas for harvesting and trapping near the shore. The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq of NS, therefore there are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'kmaq of NS harvest Atlantic salmon as part of their Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes (UINR 2018). Salmon fishing creates opportunities for traditional knowledge sharing and 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, American eel is also used for medicinal purposes.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Pictou Landing First Nation holds commercial communal licences for alewives / gaspereau, clams, rock crab, spider / toad crab, eel, groundfish, herring, lobster, mackerel, marine plant, oysters, sea scallop, seal, smelts, snow crab, squid, swordfish, and bluefin tuna. Most of these licences are located inshore and offshore NS and NB, with licences for swordfish in NAFO Units that overlap with the Project Area (S. Curry, DFO, pers. comm. 2019).



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### EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

**Table 7.23 Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Pictou Landing First Nation holds FSC licences for salmon, striped bass, eel and trout (S. Curry, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). 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 NS 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. These rights do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area.
<b>Potlotek First Nation</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Potlotek First Nation is comprised of two reserves (Chapel Island 5 and Malagawatch 4) located southwest of Sydney. Potlotek First Nation is approximately 1,018 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Potlotek First Nation is represented by the ANSMC.  The March 2018 registered population of Potlotek First Nation was 739. Approximately 76% (562 individuals) live on-reserve (INAC 2018). The median age (i.e., 24.2 years) of the population is approximately 21% below that of NS in general, which was 45.5 years in 2016 (Statistics Canada 2017).
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	Potlotek First Nation has a day care, preschool program, and Mi'kmawey School. Other facilities include the Chapel Island Community Hall / Kateri Chapel, youth centre, RCMP building, medical centre, a store / gas bar and fire hall. Potlotek First Nation holds commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. Fisheries is a key industry, including oyster cultivation. Apaqtukewaq Fisheries Co-op was formed in 1995, with four members employed fulltime in the co-op and seven during the peak season. Apaqtukewaq also manages lobster, snow crab, and tuna fishing.
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical or architectural sites)	Potlotek First Nation is a traditional meeting place for Mi'kmaq in the Maritimes and is one of the oldest reserves in Cape Breton. The Chapel Island Reserve, formerly Barra Head, became a reserve in 1834, following the receipt of a land grant.  The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq of NS, therefore there are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'kmaq of NS harvest Atlantic salmon as part of their Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes (UINR 2018). Salmon fishing creates opportunities for traditional knowledge sharing and 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, American eel is also used for medicinal purposes.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Potlotek First Nation holds commercial communal licences for alewives / gaspereau, eel, snow crab, groundfish, herring, mackerel, lobster, sea urchins and shrimp (Licensing Services, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). Potlotek First Nation also holds commercial communal licences for bluefin tuna in the Gulf Region (S. Curry, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). These licences are located inshore and offshore NS and do not overlap the Project Area.
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Potlotek First Nation holds FSC fishing licences for capelin, cod, eel, flounder, haddock, herring, lobster, mackerel, mussels, pollock, quahaug, salmon, scallop, shad, smelt, soft-shell clams, striped bass, and trout. These species are harvested in inland and tidal waters of mainland NS and Cape Breton. Potlotek holds a FSC licence to fish for other species including lobster and scallop in NAFO units in and around NS. Potlotek First Nation also has an



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### EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

**Table 7.23 Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
	Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon for FSC purposes (A. Newbould, DFO, pers. comm. 2019).
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The Mi'kmaq of NS 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. These rights do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area.
<b>Wagmatcook First Nation</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Wagmatcook First Nation is comprised of three reserves (Malagawatch 4, Margaree 25, and Wagmatcook 1) located within the Bras d'Or Lakes region of Cape Breton. Wagmatcook First Nation is approximately 1,016 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Wagmatcook First Nation is represented by the ANSMC. The March 2018 registered population of Wagmatcook First Nation was 878. Approximately 74% (645 individuals) live on-reserve (INAC 2018). The median age (i.e., 25.6 years) of the population is approximately 20% below that of NS in general, which was 45.5 years in 2016 (Statistics Canada 2017).
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	Wagmatcook First Nation has a day care centre, kindergarten to Grade 12 First Nation school, and a fire hall. Community services and economic initiatives include a gas station, restaurant, grocery store, wharf and warehouse, Cultural and Heritage Centre, post office and community cable television network. Wagmatcook First Nation holds commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. The commercial fishery, established in 1990, is an important communally-owned industry that employs up to 41 people each season.
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 NS, therefore there are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'kmaq of NS harvest Atlantic salmon as part of their Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes (UINR 2018). Salmon fishing creates opportunities for traditional knowledge sharing and 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, American eel is also used for medicinal purposes.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Wagmatcook First Nation holds commercial communal licences for alewives / gaspereau, snow crab, eel, groundfish, herring, lobster, mackerel, sea urchins, seals, squid, and swordfish in the Maritimes Region (Licensing Services, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). Wagmatcook First Nation also holds commercial communal licences for rock crab, spider / toad crab, groundfish, lobster, mackerel, smelts, snow crab, squid, and swordfish in the Gulf Region (S. Curry, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). Most of these licences are for inshore and offshore NS. Wagmatcook First Nation holds commercial communal licences for swordfish in NAFO Units that overlap with the Project Area (C. MacDonald, DFO, pers. comm. 2019).



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### EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

**Table 7.23 Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Wagmatcook First Nation holds FSC fishing licences for cod, eel, flounder, haddock, herring, lobster, mackerel, mussels, pollock, salmon, scallop, shad, smelt, striped bass, trout, and clams (bar clams, bay quahaugs, razor clams, and soft-shell clams) within the tidal waters of Cape Breton. Wagmatcook First Nation holds licences to harvest lobster around Cape Breton in LFAs 27, 28, 29 and 30. Wagmatcook First Nation also has an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon for FSC purposes (A. Newbould, DFO, pers. comm. 2019).
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The Mi'kmaq of NS 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. These rights do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area.
<b>We'ko'kmaq (Waycobah) First Nation</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	We'ko'kmaq (Waycobah) First Nation is comprised of two reserves (Malagawatch 4 and Whycocomagh 2) located within the village of Whycocomagh in Cape Breton. Waycobah First Nation is approximately 1,036 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Waycobah First Nation is represented by the ANSMC. The March 2018 registered population of Waycobah First Nation was 1,000. Approximately 89% (886 individuals) live on-reserve (INAC 2018). The median age (i.e., 23.1 years) of the population is approximately 22% below that of NS in general, which was 45.5 years in 2016 (Statistics Canada 2017).
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	Community infrastructure includes a primary-12 school, health centre, RCMP station, and volunteer fire department. Economic initiatives include a convenience store and gas bar, fitness centre, and a gaming centre. Waycobah First Nation holds commercial communal licences for lobster, shrimp, crab, groundfish, and elver (eel), as well as inactive licences for tuna, whelk, urchin, mackerel, and herring. In 2011, a trout farm, owned by Cold Water Fisheries, was re-established in Waycobah and most staff are Waycobah First Nation members.
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical or architectural sites)	Waycobah First Nation (formerly We'ko'kmaq) was first established in the early 1800s. In the 1940s, the community experienced a decline in population with many members moving to the community of Eskasoni. The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq of NS, therefore there are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'kmaq of NS harvest Atlantic salmon as part of their Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes (UINR 2018). Salmon fishing creates opportunities for traditional knowledge sharing and 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, American eel is also used for medicinal purposes.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Waycobah First Nation holds commercial communal licences for snow crab, eel, groundfish, herring, lobster, mackerel, sea urchin, seal, shrimp, and swordfish. Most of these licences are located inshore and offshore NS, with swordfish licences in NAFO Unit 3LM in offshore NL (Licensing Services, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). Waycobah First Nation also holds commercial communal licences for bluefin tuna in the Gulf Region (S. Curry, DFO, pers. comm. 2019).



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**Table 7.23 Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Waycobah First Nation holds FSC fishing licences for clams (bar clams, bay quahaugs, razor clams, and soft-shell clams), cod, eel, flounder, haddock, herring, lobster, mackerel, mussels, pollock, salmon, scallop, shad, smelt, trout, and striped bass for the tidal waters of Cape Breton (A. Newbould, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). Waycobah First Nation also has an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon for FSC purposes (A. Newbould, DFO, pers. comm. 2019).
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The Mi'kmaq of NS 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. These rights do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area.
<b>Millbrook First Nation</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Millbrook First Nation has seven reserves. Truro 27A, Truro 27B, Truro 27C and Millbrook 27 are near Truro, and Beaver Lake 17, Cole Harbour 30, and Sheet Harbour 36, near Halifax. Millbrook First Nation is approximately 1,218 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	<p>Since 2016, Millbrook First Nation has chosen to independently represent itself in consultation and is not currently represented by the ANSMC. Millbrook First Nation asserts the same rights as other Mi'kmaq communities in NS.</p> <p>The March 2018 registered population of Millbrook First Nation was 1,868. Approximately 48% (894 individuals) live on-reserve (INAC 2018). The median age (i.e., 32.4 years) of the population is approximately 13% below that of NS in general, which was 45.5 years in 2016 (Statistics Canada 2017).</p>
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	<p>Facilities and services include the band office, community hall, ballfield, gym, early education centre, health centre, senior's centre and a church. Economic initiatives include the fishing industry, apartment buildings, a gaming centre, and a retail park.</p> <p>Millbrook First Nation holds commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. Millbrook Fisheries is an important part of the local economy, with eight vessels, 52 commercial communal licences province-wide, and more than 40 employees throughout the year.</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical or architectural sites)	<p>During the late 1700s and the early 1800s, the Mi'kmaq near Truro settled along the banks of the Salmon River and were later relocated to their current reserve at Millbrook.</p> <p>The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq of NS, therefore there are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites in or near the Project Area.</p>
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'kmaq of NS harvest Atlantic salmon as part of their Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes (UINR 2018). Salmon fishing creates opportunities for traditional knowledge sharing and 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, American eel is also used for medicinal purposes.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Millbrook First Nation holds commercial communal licences for alewives / gaspereau, clams, snow and Jonah crab, eel, groundfish, hagfish, herring, lobster, mackerel, scallop, sea urchins, seals, swordfish, and tuna. Most of these licences are for inshore and offshore NS in the Maritimes Region (Licensing Services, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). Millbrook First Nation also holds commercial communal licences for alewives / gaspereau, eel, groundfish, herring, lobster, mackerel, oysters, scallop, smelts, squid, and bluefin tuna in the Gulf Region (S. Curry, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). Millbrook First Nation holds commercial communal licences for tuna and swordfish within NAFO Units that overlap with the Project Area.



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**Table 7.23 Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Millbrook First Nation holds FSC fishing licences for chain pickerel, eel, lobster, quahaug, oysters, scallop, smallmouth bass, smelt, clams (bar clams, bay quahaugs, razor clams, and soft-shell clams), and striped bass in inland and tidal waters of NS, including the tidal water of the Bay of Fundy (A. Newbould, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). Millbrook First Nation holds an FSC licence to fish for herring, lobster, mackerel, ocean quahaug, oysters, and scallops in NAFO units in and around NS. Millbrook First Nation also has an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon for FSC purposes. Other species harvested include brown trout, grey trout, lake trout, speckled trout and rainbow trout.
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The Mi'kmaq of NS 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. These rights do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area.
<b>Sipekne'katik First Nation</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Sipekne'katik First Nation (also known as Indian Brook or Shubenacadie) is comprised of five reserves (Indian Brook 14, Wallace Hills 14A, Shubenacadie 13A, Pennal 19, and New Ross 20) in Hants County, near Shubenacadie. Sipekne'katik First Nation is approximately 1,256 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	<p>In 2013, Sipekne'katik First Nation chose to independently represent itself in consultation, and currently is not represented by the ANSMC. The First Nation asserts the same rights as other Mi'kmaq communities in NS.</p> <p>The March 2018 registered population of Sipekne'katik First Nation was 2,692. Approximately 48% live on-reserve (INAC 2018). The median age (i.e., 27.7 years) of the population is approximately 21% below that of NS in general, which was 45.5 years in 2016 (Statistics Canada 2017).</p>
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	<p>Sipekne'katik First Nation has a primary-12 school, the gas bar, tobacco shop, gaming room and convenience store, a multi-purpose centre, the Sipekne'katik Entertainment Centre and the Sipekne'katik Health Centre.</p> <p>The fishery is an important industry for the community, and Sipekne'katik First Nation holds 33 commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species.</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical or architectural sites)	<p>In 1820, Sipekne'katik First Nation was officially established as a reserve and given the name 'Indian Brook'. According to Mi'kmaq oral history, this area has been used for centuries as a sacred site to prepare for ceremonies and for harvesting and fishing trips. In 1752, one of the most important Peace and Friendship Treaties was signed at Shubenacadie District (Sipekne'katik First Nation 2016).</p> <p>The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq of NS, therefore there are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites in or near the Project Area.</p>
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'kmaq of NS harvest Atlantic salmon as part of their Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes (UINR 2018). Salmon fishing creates opportunities for traditional knowledge sharing and 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, American eel is also used for medicinal purposes.



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### EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

**Table 7.23 Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
Commercial Communal Fishing	Sipekne'katik First Nation holds commercial communal licences for alewives / gaspereau, clams, snow crab, groundfish, herring, mackerel, lobster, sea scallop, sea urchins, swordfish and tuna (Licensing Services, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). Most of these licences are located inshore and offshore NS. Sipekne'katik also holds commercial communal licences for swordfish and tuna within NAFO Units that overlap with the Project Area (C. MacDonald, DFO, pers. comm. 2019).
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Sipekne'katik First Nation holds FSC fishing licences for bar clams, crab (other than snow crab), eel, gaspereau, herring, landlocked salmon, lobster, mackerel, mussels, quahaugs, razor clams, seals, shad, smallmouth bass, smelt, soft-shell clams, striped bass, and groundfish (A. Newbould, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). Harvesting occurs in inland and tidal waters of NS. Sipekne'katik First Nation holds an FSC licence for crab, lobster, scallops and unspecified groundfish in NAFO units in and around NS. There are no restrictions on the fishing of eel, shad and smelt. Other species harvested include trout and scallop.
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The Mi'kmaq of NS 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. These rights do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area.

#### 7.4.4 Mi'kmaq of Prince Edward Island

Abegweit and Lennox Island First Nations are the two Mi'kmaq communities located in PEI, represented by the L'Nuey Mi'kmaq Rights Initiative, a newly-established organization (September 2019) (formerly the Mi'kmaq Confederacy of Prince Edward Island [MCPEI]). MCPEI was established in 2002 as a service delivery organization, but expanded to include economic development, integrated resource management, government advisory services, and consultation and engagement on behalf of the two Mi'kmaq First Nations (MCPEI n.d.).

The Mi'kmaq of PEI and the federal and provincial governments signed a Partnership Agreement in 2007 to establish a cooperative process for addressing matters of concern, including health, education, economic development, justice, and child and family services, for the First Nations.

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

The PEI Mi'kmaq are known to occupy and use the land and waters around PEI including use for travel corridors, land harvesting, and fishing for traditional purposes. The Project Area does not overlap with the traditional territory of the PEI Mi'kmaq, and Project components and activities will be located at a considerable distance from the Indigenous groups and associated communities. The discussion of current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes is focused on activities in the marine environment and species of interest that may migrate through the marine environment. The current use of lands and



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resources section therefore includes a discussion of FSC and commercial communal harvesting in nearshore and offshore areas.

Table 7.24 provides community profiles for each Indigenous group. The locations of Mi'kmaq communities in PEI are illustrated in Figure 7-63.

**Table 7.24 Mi'kmaq of Prince Edward Island Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
<b>Abegweit First Nation</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Abegweit First Nation is comprised of three reserves (Morell Rear Reserve 2; Rocky Pont Reserve 3; and Scotchfort Reserve 4), on the eastern portion of PEI, approximately 1,156 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Abegweit First Nation is governed by an elected Chief and two Councillors and represented by the MCPEI in consultation and engagement.  The March 2018 registered population of Abegweit First Nation was 381. Approximately 57% (218 individuals) live on-reserve (INAC 2018). The median age of the population of the three reserves ranges from 27.0 to 32.2 years, approximately 15% below that of PEI in general, which was 44.5 years in 2016 (Statistics Canada 2017).
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	Abegweit First Nation plays a substantial role in education from Kindergarten to Grade 12. The Mi'kmaq Wellness Centre has an interdisciplinary team consisting of a registered nurse, licenced practical nurse, registered dietician, native alcohol and drug addiction counselor, and community health representative.  Abegweit First Nation operates several businesses and community initiatives including Epekwit Gas Bar, Redstone Truck and Marine, commercial fisheries, Epekwit Gardens and Preserves, Abegweit Biodiversity and Enhancement Hatchery, Stream Enhancement, and Forestry.  Abegweit First Nation holds commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species.
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical or architectural sites)	Abegweit First Nation was created following the separation of PEI Mi'kmaq bands in 1972. The first election for the Abegweit First Nation occurred in May 1972.  The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq of PEI, therefore there are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'kmaq of PEI are known to occupy and use the land and waters around PEI, including use for travel corridors, land-based harvesting and fishing for traditional purposes.  Refer below for details on FSC fishing practices.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Abegweit First Nation holds commercial communal licences for clams, rock crab, spider / toad crab, eel, groundfish, herring, lobster, mackerel, mussels, oysters, sea scallop, seal, silverside, smelts, squid, swordfish, and bluefin tuna (S. Curry, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). Most licences are located in inshore and offshore PEI. Abegweit holds commercial communal licences for swordfish within NAFO Units that overlap with the Project Area (C. MacDonald, DFO, pers. comm. 2019).
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Abegweit First Nation holds FSC licences for clams (bar clams, razor clams, and soft-shell clams), eel, gaspereau, herring, lobster, mackerel, mussels, oysters, quahaug, rock crab, salmon, scallops, seals, silversides, smelts, striped bass, toad crab, and trout (S. Curry, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). Abegweit First Nation has an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon (outer Bay of Fundy population) for FSC purposes.



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**Table 7.24 Mi'kmaq of Prince Edward Island Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The Mi'kmaq of PEI have a right to fish for a “moderate livelihood” which flows from the Peace and Friendship Treaties and assert an Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes. These rights do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area.
<b>Lennox Island First Nation</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Lennox Island First Nation has one reserve, on the northwestern portion of PEI, facing the Gulf of St. Lawrence approximately 1,221 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Lennox Island First Nation is represented in consultation and engagement by the MCPEI.  The March 2018 registered population of Lennox Island First Nation was 967. Approximately 41% (393 individuals) live on-reserve (INAC 2018). The median age (i.e., 29.9 years) of the population is approximately 15% below that of PEI in general, which was 44.5 years in 2016 (Statistics Canada 2017).
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	Lennox Island First Nation has an elementary school, health centre, and fire department. The Lennox Island Development Corporation was established to further economic development and expansion of community businesses and resources.  Lennox Island First Nation holds commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. Fisherman’s Pride Inc. harvests and sells inshore seafood. Minigoo Fisheries, established in 2010, processes lobster for international markets.
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 PEI, therefore there are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'kmaq of PEI are known to occupy and use the land and waters around PEI, including use for travel corridors, land harvesting and fishing for traditional purposes. Refer below for details on FSC fishing practices.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Lennox Island First Nation holds commercial communal licences for clams, rock crab, eel, groundfish, herring, lobster, mackerel, mussels, quahaug, oysters, sea scallop, seal, shark, silverside, smelts, snow crab, squid, swordfish, bluefin tuna, and whelks (S. Curry, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). Most of these licences are located inshore and offshore PEI. Lennox Island First Nation also holds commercial communal licences for swordfish within NAFO Units that overlap with the Project Area (C. MacDonald, DFO, pers. comm. 2019).
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Lennox Island First Nation holds FSC licences for shellfish, clams (bar clams, razor clams, quahaug, and soft-shell clams), eel, gaspereau, groundfish, herring, lobster, mackerel, mussels, oysters, quahaug, rock crab, salmon, scallops, seals, smelt, and trout (S. Curry, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). The 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 PEI have a right to fish for a “moderate livelihood” which flows from the Peace and Friendship Treaties and assert an Aboriginal right to fish for FSC purposes. These rights do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area.

### 7.4.5 Indigenous Peoples of New Brunswick

There are three Indigenous Nations in NB: the Mi'gmaq, Wolastoqiyik, and Peskotomuhkati Nation at Skutik (Passamaquoddy). As previously described in Section 7.4.3 the first European contact with the Mi'gmaq occurred in the 16th and 17th centuries. Between 1725 and 1779 the British Crown signed several Peace



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and Friendship Treaties with the Mi'gmaq, Maliseet (Wolastoqiyik), and Passamaquoddy, which have been affirmed by various Supreme Court decisions. The treaties guarantee rights to hunt, fish and gather throughout the region to pursue a moderate livelihood (INAC 2017).

#### 7.4.5.1 Mi'kmaq of New Brunswick

The nine Mi'gmaq First Nations of NB are listed below:

- Elsipogtog First Nation
- Amalamgog (Fort Folly) First Nation
- Natoaganeg (Eel Ground) First Nation
- Oinpegitjoig (Pabineau) First Nation
- Esgenoôpetitj (Burnt Church) First Nation
- L'nui Menikuk (Indian Island) First Nation
- Ugpi'ganjig (Eel River Bar) First Nation
- Metepenagiag (Red Bank) Mi'gmaq Nation
- Tjipôgtôtjig (Buctouche) First Nation

In 2011, the Governments of Canada, NB and the Mi'gmaq and Wolastoqiyik Nations of New Brunswick signed the Mi'gmaq, Wolastoqiyik / NB / Canada Umbrella Agreement to establish a process towards the conclusion of a Framework Agreement on Aboriginal Treaty Rights, as well as self-government and consultation. The Mi'gmaq, Wolastoqiyik / NB / Canada Interim Consultation Protocol was signed in 2014 to facilitate consultation activities undertaken by governments with the signatory Mi'gmaq and Wolastoqiyik First Nations and the parties are currently finalizing a Framework Agreement (INAC 2017).

The Mi'gmawe'l Tplu'taqnn Incorporated (MTI) represents eight of the nine Mi'gmaq communities in NB (the exception is Elsipogtog First Nation). MTI was formed in late 2015, and is a not-for-profit organization established to manage consultation for the member First Nations in NB, and to promote and support the recognition, affirmation, exercise and implementation of the 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.

Seven of these First Nations are members of the North Shore MicMac District Council. The North Shore MicMac District Council was established in 1987 to provide advisory and technical assistance to member First Nations. This assistance originally included finance, capital works (i.e., water and sewer), economic development and Band governance; it was expanded to include post-secondary education, child and family services, housing inspection, human resources, Indigenous fisheries, and other services. Three First Nations (i.e., Elsipogtog, Esgenoôpetitj, and Tobique) are members of the Mawiw Tribal Council, which provides services in education, health care and healing to member communities (INAC 2017).

The Mi'gmaq of NB are known to occupy and use the land and waters around NB, including use for travel corridors, harvesting, and fishing under treaty or for traditional purposes. The traditional territory does not overlap with the Project Area, but several NB First Nations hold commercial communal fishing licences in NAFO 3LM in offshore NL. Given that Project components and activities will be located at a considerable distance from the Indigenous groups and associated communities, the discussion of current use of lands



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and resources for traditional purposes is focused on activities in the marine environment, and species of interest that may migrate through the marine environment. The current use of lands and resources section therefore includes a discussion of FSC and commercial communal harvesting.

The locations of Mi'gmaq communities in NB are illustrated in Figure 7-63. The following sections provide community profiles for each Indigenous group (Table 7.25Table 7.25).

**Table 7.25 Mi'gmaq of New Brunswick Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
<b>Elsipogtog First Nation</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Elsipogtog First Nation has two reserves (Richibucto and Soegao) located near Rexton and Moncton. Elsipogtog First Nation is approximately 1,307 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Elsipogtog First Nation is affiliated with the Mawiw Tribal Council (the governing body for Elsipogtog, Tobique and Esgenoôpetitj) (Energy East Pipeline Ltd. 2016). The March 2018 registered population of Elsipogtog First Nation was 3,365. Approximately 77% (2,576 individuals) live on-reserve (INAC 2018). The median age (i.e., 29.9 years) of the population is approximately 16% below that of NB in general, which was 45.7 years in 2016 (Statistics Canada 2017).
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	Richibucto Reserve has a school for Kindergarten to Grade 8, a police detachment, and fire hall. The two primary economic development initiatives are a supermarket and pharmacy.
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 NB, therefore there are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'gmaq of NB are known to occupy and use the land and waters around NB primarily for travel corridors, harvesting and fishing for traditional purposes. Salmon and American eel have been identified as species of particular importance to the Mi'gmaq of NB. Refer below for information on FSC fishing practices.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Elsipogtog First Nation holds commercial communal licences for alewives / gaspereau, bar clams, rock crab, eel, groundfish, herring, lobster, mackerel, marine plant, mussels, oysters, quahaugs, sea scallop, seal, smelts, snow crab, soft-shell clams, and bluefin tuna (S. Curry, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). These licences are issued for inshore and offshore NS and NB and do not overlap the Project Area.
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Elsipogtog First Nation holds FSC licences for clams (bar clams, razor clams, and soft-shell clams), eel, gaspereau, herring, lobster, mackerel, mussels, oysters, bay quahaug, rock crab, salmon, scallops, seals, shad, smelts, striped bass, and trout (S. Curry, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). The 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 NB 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. These rights do not extend to waters in or near the Project Area.



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**Table 7.25 Mi'gmaq of New Brunswick Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
<b>Amlamgog (Fort Folly) First Nation</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Fort Folly First Nation has one reserve, located near Dorchester in Westmorland County, approximately 1,287 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Fort Folly First Nation is affiliated with the North Shore MicMac District Council and is represented in consultation and engagement by MTI. The March 2018 registered population of Fort Folly First Nation was 131. Approximately 27% (35 individuals) live on-reserve (INAC 2018). The median age (i.e., 46.0 years) of the population is similar to that of NB in general, which was 45.7 years in 2016 (Statistics Canada 2017).
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	Fort Folly First Nation has a school offering a head start and kindergarten program. Fort Folly First Nation holds commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. The First Nation supports economic development in the fishing industry, with two lobster boats, one of which also carries a scallop licence.
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical or architectural sites)	In 1918, community members from the Fort Folly lands were relocated to the Robinson land outside of Richibucto. The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'gmaq of NB, therefore there are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'gmaq of NB are known to occupy and use the land and waters around NB primarily for travel corridors, harvesting and fishing for traditional purposes. Salmon and American eel have been identified as species of particular importance to the Mi'gmaq of NB. Refer below for information on FSC fishing practices.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Fort Folly First Nation holds commercial communal licences for alewives / gaspereau, eel, groundfish, herring, mackerel, lobster, sea scallop, swordfish, and tuna in th Maritime Region (Licensing Services, DFO, pers. comm. 2019) and lobster in the Gulf Region (S. Curry, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). Most of these licences are located inshore and offshore NS and NB. Fort Folly holds commercial communal licences for swordfish and tuna in NAFO Units that overlap with the Project Area (C. MacDonald, DFO, pers. comm. 2019).
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Fort Folly First Nation holds FSC fishing licences for LFA 35 (Bay of Fundy) for lobster (A. Newbould, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). Fort Folly 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 NB have a right to harvest for a "moderate livelihood" which flows from the Peace and Friendship Treaties and an Aboriginal right to harvest for FSC purposes. These rights do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area.
<b>Natoaganeg (Eel Ground) First Nation</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Eel Ground First Nation has three reserves (Big Hole Tract 8, Eel Ground 2, and Renous 12) located along the Miramichi River near Newcastle. Eel Ground First Nation is approximately 1,344 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Eel Ground First Nation is affiliated with the North Shore MicMac District Council and represented in consultation and engagement by MTI. The March 2018 registered population of Eel Ground First Nation was 1,062. Approximately 54% (577 individuals) live on-reserve (INAC 2018). The median age (i.e., 31.0 years) of the population is approximately 15% below that of NB in general, which was 45.7 years in 2016 (Statistics Canada 2017).



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**Table 7.25 Mi'gmaq of New Brunswick Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	Eel Ground First Nation has a band hall, community development centre, group home and health centre. In 2015, the First Nation built a school to accommodate students from kindergarten to grade 8. Economic initiatives include a lumber production business. Eel Ground First Nation holds 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 NB, therefore there are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'gmaq of NB are known to occupy and use the land and waters around NB primarily for travel corridors, harvesting and fishing for traditional purposes. Salmon and American eel have been identified as species of particular importance to the Mi'gmaq of NB. Refer below for information on FSC fishing practices.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Eel Ground First Nation holds commercial communal licences for alewives / gaspereau, groundfish, herring, lobster, mackerel, marine plants, oysters, sea urchins, snow crab, striped bass, and soft-shell clams (S. Curry, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). These licences are located inshore and offshore NS and NB and thus not near the Project Area.
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Eel Ground First Nation holds FSC licences for clams, mussels, eel, gaspereau, herring, mackerel, oysters, quahaug, salmon, shad, smelts, striped bass, and brook trout (S. Curry, pers. comm. 2019). Eel Ground 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 NB 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. These rights do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area.
<b>Oinpegitjoig (Pabineau) First Nation</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Pabineau First Nation has one reserve, located south of Bathurst approximately 1,332 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Pabineau First Nation is affiliated with the North Shore MicMac District Council (Energy East Pipeline Ltd. 2016) and represented in consultation and engagement by MTI. The March 2018 registered population of Pabineau First Nation was 318. Approximately 33% (104 individuals) live on-reserve (INAC 2018). The median age (i.e., 35.5 years) of the population is approximately 10% below that of NB in general, which was 45.7 years in 2016 (Statistics Canada 2017).
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	Pabineau First Nation has a police detachment. An Economic Development Officer works to increase local employment. Pabineau First Nation owns and operates a seafood restaurant and a smoke shop and gas bar. Pabineau First Nation holds 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 NB, therefore there are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites in or near the Project Area.



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**Table 7.25 Mi'gmaq of New Brunswick Community Profiles**

<b>Community Indicator</b>	<b>Description</b>
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'gmaq of NB are known to occupy and use the land and waters around NB primarily for travel corridors, harvesting and fishing for traditional purposes. Salmon and American eel have been identified as species of particular importance to the Mi'gmaq of NB. Refer below for information on FSC fishing practices.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Pabineau First Nation holds commercial communal licences for rock crab, groundfish, herring, lobster, mackerel, oysters, sea scallop, snow crab, and bluefin tuna (S. Curry, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). These licences are for inshore and offshore NS and NB and do not overlap the Project Area.
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Pabineau First Nation holds FSC licences including for clams (bar clams, razor clams, quahaug and soft-shell clams), herring, mackerel, mussels, oysters, salmon, striped bass and trout (S. Curry, DFO, pers. comm 2019). Pabineau 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 NB 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. These rights do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area.
<b>Esgenoôpetitj (Burnt Church) First Nation</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Esgenoôpetitj First Nation has three reserves (Esgenoôpetitj Indian Reserve 14, Pokemouche 13, and Tabusintac 9), located southwest of the village of Neguac in Kent County. Esgenoôpetitj is approximately 1,300 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Esgenoôpetitj First Nation is affiliated with the Mawiw Tribal Council (Energy East Pipeline Ltd. 2016) and represented in consultation and engagement by MTI. The March 2018 registered population of Esgenoôpetitj First Nation was 1,927. Approximately 69% (1,337 individuals) live on-reserve (INAC 2018). The median age (i.e., 30.6 years) of the population is approximately 15% below that of NB in general, which was 45.7 years in 2016 (Statistics Canada 2017).
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	Esgenoôpetitj First Nation has a school for Kindergarten to Grade 8 and a fire hall. Esgenoôpetitj First Nation holds 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 NB, therefore there are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'gmaq of NB are known to occupy and use the land and waters around NB primarily for travel corridors, harvesting and fishing for traditional purposes. Salmon and American eel have been identified as species of particular importance to the Mi'gmaq of NB. Refer below for information on FSC fishing practices.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Esgenoôpetitj First Nation holds commercial communal licences for bar clams, rock crab, spider / toad crab, eel, groundfish, herring, lobster, mackerel, marine plants, mussels, oysters, quahaugs, smelts, snow crab, soft-shelled clams, and bluefin tuna for inshore and offshore NS and NB and these do not overlap the Project Area (S. Curry, DFO, pers. comm. 2019).



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**Table 7.25 Mi'gmaq of New Brunswick Community Profiles**

<b>Community Indicator</b>	<b>Description</b>
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Esgenoôpetitj First Nation holds FSC licences for clams (bar clams, bay quahaug and soft-shell clams), eel, herring, mackerel, mussels, oysters, salmon, smelts, striped bass, and brook trout (S. Curry, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). 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'gmaq of NB 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. These rights do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area.
<b>Tjipôgtôjtjg (Bouctouche) First Nation</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Bouctouche First Nation has one reserve (Bouctouche 16) located near the town of Bouctouche. Bouctouche First Nation is approximately 1,292 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Bouctouche First Nation is affiliated with the North Shore MicMac District Council (Energy East Pipeline Ltd. 2016) and is represented in consultation and engagement by MTI.  The March 2018 registered population of Bouctouche First Nation was 124. Approximately 65% (80 individuals) live on-reserve (INAC 2018). The median age (i.e., 28.2 years) of the population is approximately 18% below that of NB in general, which was 45.7 years in 2016 (Statistics Canada 2017).
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	Bouctouche First Nation has a kindergarten, pre-school, and a fire hall. The Bouctouche MicMac Band Forestry Department administers the distribution of the royalties that are received from the Band's annual allocation by the province of NB. Bouctouche First Nation also owns and operates a gas bar.  Bouctouche First Nation holds commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species.
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical or architectural sites)	Bouctouche First Nation was established in 1810. It was abandoned in 1924 until a family moved back to the reserve in 1958. Traditional fishing, trapping, and harvesting territories extended to the western portion of PEI, through the coast of NB from the Miramichi Bay along the Northumberland Strait, southeast between NS on the Bay of Fundy to Maine. In the winter, the traditional territory also encompassed inland areas around Fredericton, Grand Lake, Moncton and Miramichi (Bouctouche First Nation n.d.).  The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'gmaq of NB, therefore there are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'gmaq of NB are known to occupy and use the land and waters around NB primarily for travel corridors, harvesting and fishing for traditional purposes. Salmon and American eel have been identified as species of particular importance to the Mi'gmaq of NB. Refer below for information on FSC fishing practices.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Bouctouche First Nation holds commercial communal licences for alewives / gaspereau, bar clams, rock crab, spider / toad crab, groundfish, herring, lobster, mackerel, oysters, sea scallop, seal, shark, smelts, snow crab, soft-shell clams, and bluefin tuna (S. Curry, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). These licences are located in inshore and offshore NS and NB and do not overlap the Project Area.
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Bouctouche First Nation holds FSC licences for clams, eel, mackerel, oysters, salmon, striped bass, and brook trout (S. Curry, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). Bouctouche First Nation also has an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon (outer Bay of Fundy population) for FSC purposes.



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**Table 7.25 Mi'gmaq of New Brunswick Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The Mi'gmaq of NB 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. These rights do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area.
<b>L'nui Menikuk (Indian Island) First Nation</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Indian Island First Nation has one reserve located near Miramichi Bay on the eastern coast of NB. Indian Island First Nation is approximately 1,289 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Indian Island First Nation is affiliated with the North Shore MicMac District Council (Energy East Pipeline Ltd. 2016) and is represented in consultation and engagement by the MTI.  The March 2018 registered population of Indian Island First Nation was 200. Approximately 54% (108 individuals) live on-reserve (INAC 2018). The median age (i.e., 29.0 years) of the population is approximately 16% below that of NB in general, which was 45.7 years in 2016 (Statistics Canada 2017).
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	The Indian Island Aquaculture Development Corporation has been producing oysters since 2007 and currently has approximately 2.6 million oysters on-site in various stages of growth. The Development Corporation employs five seasonal employees with additional students in the summer; employees are community members.  Indian Island First Nation holds 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 NB, therefore there are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'gmaq of NB are known to occupy and use the land and waters around NB primarily for travel corridors, harvesting and fishing for traditional purposes. Salmon and American eel have been identified as species of particular importance to the Mi'gmaq of NB. Refer below for information on FSC fishing practices.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Indian Island First Nation holds commercial communal licences for alewives / gaspereau, rock crab, eel, groundfish, herring, lobster, mackerel, oysters, sea scallop, smelts, snow crab, soft-shell clams, and bluefin tuna (S. Curry, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). These licences are located in inshore and offshore NS and NB and do not overlap the Project Area.
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Indian Island First Nation holds FSC licences for clams, mussels, eels, gaspereau, herring, mackerel, oysters, quahaug, salmon, smelts, striped bass, and trout (S. Curry, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). Indian Island 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 NB 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. These rights do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area.
<b>Ugpi'ganjig (Eel River Bar) First Nation</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Eel River Bar First Nation is comprised of three reserves (Eel River 3, Indian Ranch, and Moose Meadows 4) located near Dalhousie. Eel River Bar First Nation is approximately 1,380 km from the Project Area.



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**Table 7.25 Mi'gmaq of New Brunswick Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
General Overview	<p>Eel River Bar First Nation is affiliated with the North Shore MicMac District Council (Energy East Pipeline Ltd. 2016) and is represented in consultation and engagement by the MTI.</p> <p>The March 2018 registered population of Eel River Bar First Nation was 747. Approximately 47% (348 individuals) live on- reserve (INAC 2018). The median age of the population of the reserves ranges from 33.1 to 33.7 years, approximately 12% below that of NB in general, which was 45.7 years in 2016 (Statistics Canada 2017).</p>
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	<p>Eel River Bar First Nation operates a pre-school.</p> <p>The community continues to make a living from traditional resource-based industries, such as fishing and forestry, and non-traditional sectors such as local government, housing construction, trades, small business, and band-based business operations.</p> <p>Eel River Bar First Nation holds 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 area around the Benjamin and Eel Rivers was traditionally used by Mi'gmaq families as a summer encampment for completing their annual migration. The Benjamin River was a rich farming area and the Eel River provided a variety of fish. The area provided access to Heron Island, where it is thought that traditional burials took place. Historically, Eel River Bar First Nation would harvest resources of the land, ocean, 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, due to the construction of a dam, flooding resulted in the loss of fishing and clam harvesting along Eel River (Eel River Bar First Nation 2018).</p> <p>The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'gmaq of NB, therefore there are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites in or near the Project Area.</p>
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	<p>The Mi'gmaq of NB are known to occupy and use the land and waters around NB primarily for travel corridors, harvesting and fishing for traditional purposes. Salmon and American eel have been identified as species of particular importance to the Mi'gmaq of NB. Refer below for information on FSC fishing practices.</p>
Commercial Communal Fishing	<p>Eel River Bar First Nation holds commercial communal licences for rock crab, groundfish, herring, lobster, mackerel, mussels, oysters, sea scallop, shrimp, smelts, snow crab, soft-shell clams, and bluefin tuna. These licences are for inshore and offshore NS and NB and do not overlap the Project Area.</p>
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	<p>Eel River Bar First Nation holds FSC licences for soft-shell clams, herring, salmon, and striped bass (S. Curry, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). 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 NB 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. These rights do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area.</p>
<b>Metepenagiag Mi'kmaq Nation (Red Bank)</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	<p>Metepenagiag Mi'kmaq Nation has four reserves. These include Big Hole Tract 8 (North Half), Indian Point 1, Red Bank 4, and Red Bank 7, on the Miramichi River near Newcastle. Metepngiag First Nation is approximately 1,363 km from the Project Area.</p>



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**Table 7.25 Mi'gmaq of New Brunswick Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
General Overview	Metepenagiag Mi'kmaq Nation is affiliated with the North Shore Micmac District Council (Energy East Pipeline Ltd. 2016) and is represented in consultation and engagement by MTI. The March 2018 registered population of Metepenagiag Mi'kmaq Nation was 690. Approximately 64% (444 individuals) live on-reserve (INAC 2018). The median age of the population of these reserves ranges from 36.9 to 37.2 years, approximately 9% below that of NB in general, which was 45.7 years in 2016 (Statistics Canada 2017).
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	Metepenagiag School serves students from kindergarten to Grade 6. Metepenagiag Mi'kmaq Nation holds 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 (Metepenagiag Mi'kmaq First Nation n.d.). Metepenagiag Mi'kmaq Nation has developed a heritage park, which contains two important Indigenous heritage archeological sites: the Augustine Mound National Historic Site and Oxbow National Historic Site. Archeological findings at these sites prove that this location has been continuously inhabited by the Mi'gmaq people for over 3,000 years. The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Mi'gmaq of NB, therefore there are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	The Mi'gmaq of NB are known to occupy and use the land and waters around NB primarily for travel corridors, harvesting and fishing for traditional purposes. Salmon and American eel have been identified as species of particular importance to the Mi'gmaq of NB. Refer below for information on FSC fishing practices.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Metepenagiag Mi'kmaq Nation holds commercial communal licences for alewives / gaspereau, rock crab, herring, lobster, mackerel, oysters, scallops, shrimp, and snow crabs. Lobster is licenced for LFA 25 (S. Curry, DFO, pers. comm. 2019).
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Metepenagiag Mi'kmaq Nation holds FSC licences for eel, salmon, shad, striped bass, and brook trout (S. Curry, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). Metepenagiag Mi'kmaq 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 NB 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. These rights do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area.

#### 7.4.5.2 Wolastoqiyik of New Brunswick (Maliseet)

The Wolastoqiyik Nation is comprised of six Indigenous groups located in the Saint John River Valley (Wolastoq) and along its tributaries. The six Wolastoqiyik First Nations are:

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



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There are two additional Wolastoqey communities. Maliseet Viger First Nation is located in QC (Maliseet Viger First Nation n.d.) and Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians is located in the State of Maine, USA (Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians n.d.).

Archaeological evidence from across Wolastoqey territory in NB, Maine, and QC indicates that the Wolastoqey homeland has been inhabited for millennia. For instance, a recently discovered archaeological site near St. Mary's First Nation indicates that the region was inhabited for 12,600 to 12,700 years (CBC News 2017a). A comprehensive discussion of archaeological discoveries in Wolastoqey territory is beyond the scope of this document. For additional information on archaeological research in the Wolastoqey territory, refer to Blair (2003, 2004) and Burke (2009).

During the era of first contact with Europeans, the Wolastoqiyik obtained their livelihood from a mix of hunting, fishing, horticulture, and gathering activities. They also traded with other Indigenous nations (Erickson 1978; Bourque 1994; Hall 2015; McFeat 2018).

The Peace and Friendship Treaties that the Mi'gmaq, the Wolastoqiyik, and the Peskotomuhkati signed with British authorities between 1725 and 1779 included terms intended to establish peace and trade relations (Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada 2013). As affirmed by recent SCC decisions, these treaties continue to guarantee the Mi'gmaq, the Wolastoqiyik, and the Peskotomuhkati the rights to hunt, fish and gather throughout the region to pursue a moderate livelihood.

In 2011, the Governments of Canada, NB and the Mi'gmaq and Wolastoqiyik Nations of NB signed the Mi'gmaq, Wolastoqiyik / NB / Canada Umbrella Agreement to establish a process towards the conclusion of a Framework Agreement on Aboriginal Treaty rights, as well as self-government and consultation. The Mi'gmaq, Wolastoqiyik / NB / Canada Interim Consultation Protocol was signed in 2014 to facilitate consultation activities undertaken by governments with the signatory Mi'gmaq and Wolastoqiyik First Nations and the parties are currently finalizing a Framework Agreement (INAC 2017).

NB currently has six Wolastoqey communities which are referred to as "First Nations" by the Government of Canada, although the six communities are part of the Wolastoqey (Maliseet) Nation. Each of the six communities / First Nations in NB are described in more detail below. Four of the communities are members of the Wolastoqey Tribal Council Inc. (St. Mary's, Oromocto, Kingsclear, and Madawaska), and five of the six (St. Mary's, Oromocto, Kingsclear, Madawaska, and Tobique) are members of the Wolastoqey Nation in New Brunswick (WNNB). The WNNB was established in 2016 and provides technical support and advice on consultation and engagement files. The Resource Development Consultation Coordinators (RDCCs) are the primary consultation body for these communities. The exception is Woodstock First Nation, which handles its own consultation and engagement, although WNNB and Woodstock sometimes combine efforts on specific consultation files. In the future, the Wolastoqiyik may consider a title claim to the western part of NB (CBC News 2017b).

The Wolastoqiyik have occupied and used land and waters in NB as well as adjacent areas in Maine and QC for many centuries. The Wolastoqiyik use the landscapes and waterscapes of their homeland for travel corridors, harvesting, gathering, wood harvesting, and fishing for traditional purposes (Maliseet First Nations 2016). They also have deep spiritual and cultural connections with the waterscapes and landscapes of their homeland, as well as the animals and plants they interact with. For instance, analysis of Wolastoqey



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traditional stories indicate that Wolastoqiyik considered the Atlantic Ocean to be an important cultural waterscape that was modified for their benefit by Klouskap, their cultural hero (WNNB 2018).

Given that the Project activities will be located at a considerable distance from the Wolastoqey homeland, the discussion of current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes is focused on activities in the marine environment, and species of interest to NB Indigenous groups that may migrate and feed throughout the marine environment. The current use of lands and resources section therefore includes a discussion of FSC and commercial communal harvesting. The current FSC and commercial communal harvesting schemes do not represent the species, abundance, or management regimes that Wolastoqiyik used traditionally (WNNB 2018).

Brief community profiles are provided for each Indigenous group in the following sections (Table 7.26). The locations of Wolastoqey communities in NB are illustrated in Figure 7-63. The Wolastoqey communities in NB continue to use lands, waters, plants, and animals throughout their traditional territory (Maliseet First Nations 2016).

**Table 7.26 Wolastoqiyik of New Brunswick Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
<b>Kingsclear First Nation</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Kingsclear First Nation is comprised of two reserves - The Brothers 18 [also affiliated with Woodstock First Nation, Tobique First Nation, and Madawaska First Nation], as well as Kingsclear 6 which is located in York County along the Saint John River directly downstream of the Mactaquac Dam. The Brothers 18 is a Wolastoqey reserve composed of 2 small islands situated above the Reversing Falls inside the city limits of Saint John, NB. This reserve is located in tidal waters at the mouth of the Kennebecasis River in close proximity to the Bay of Fundy (Maliseet First Nations, 2016). Kingsclear First Nation is approximately 1,461 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Kingsclear is affiliated with the Wolastoqey Tribal Council. Kingsclear is represented in consultation through their RDCC, although WNNB offers technical advice on consultation (WNNB 2018). The March 2018 registered population of Kingsclear First Nation was 1,046. Approximately 70% (735 individuals) live on-reserve (INAC 2018). The median age (i.e., 31.8 years) of the population is approximately 14% below that of NB in general, which was 45.7 years in 2016 (Statistics Canada 2017).
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	Kingsclear has a health centre, fire department, convenience store and band-operated school. Kingsclear First Nation is engaged in the forestry industry, and the allocation is generally cut by contractors under agreement with the First Nation. Kingsclear First Nation holds commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. Kingsclear has been exploring opportunities to expand the fishing industry, whale watching tourism, and guided tours along the Saint John River (Kingsclear First Nation 2014).
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical or architectural sites)	The community of Kingsclear was officially founded in 1795 (Nicholas 2005). However, the history of the Wolastoqiyik in this area goes back thousands of years as evidenced by the discovery of a fluted point approximately 11,000 years old (Kingsclear First Nation 2014). Before settling at the current location, many Wolastoqiyik in this region lived in a village called Ekwpahak, located a few miles downriver from Kingsclear. Wolastoqiyik lived here during the late spring and summer when they speared salmon, bass, and sturgeon; planted and tended maize fields; and gathered foods such as fiddleheads, berries, butternuts, and grapes (Nicholas 2005).



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**Table 7.26 Wolastoqiyik of New Brunswick Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
	The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Wolastoqiyik, therefore there are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites in or near the Project Area aside from the Atlantic Ocean itself which the Wolastoqiyik consider to be an important cultural waterscape (see above discussion). Further analysis of the important array of physical and cultural heritage associated with Kingsclear First Nation is beyond the scope of this summary description (WNNB 2018).
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	The Wolastoqiyik were known to be traditional hunters, trappers, horticulturalists, gatherers, and fishermen / fisherwomen who travelled throughout the Saint John River valley and adjacent interior and coastal regions depending on the season to find sustenance, shelter, and to trade with Europeans and other Indigenous nations (WNNB 2018). Wolastoqey First Nations have traditionally, and 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. Salmon is historically and culturally important to the Wolastoqey Nation. Refer below for information on FSC fishing.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Kingsclear First Nation holds commercial communal licences for rock crab, groundfish, herring, lobster, sea scallop, and sea urchins (Licensing Services, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). These licences are located inshore and offshore NS and NB and do not overlap the Project Area.
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Kingsclear First Nation holds FSC fishing licences for striped bass and lobster (A. Newbould, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). Harvesting of striped bass is limited to the portion of the Saint John River from head of the tide at McKinley Ferry to the Mactaquac Dam. Lobster harvesting occurs in LFA 36 and 38, located along the NB coastal area. Kingsclear 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 Wolastoqiyik 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. These rights do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area.
<b>Madawaska Maliseet First Nation</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Madawaska First Nation is comprised of two reserves - The Brothers 18 [a reserve also affiliated with Kingsclear First Nation, Tobique First Nation, and Woodstock First Nation] as well as St. Basile 10 which is located along the Saint John River near the mouth of the Madawaska River (WNNB 2018). Madawaska First Nation is located approximately 1,526 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	<p>Madawaska is affiliated with the Wolastoqey Tribal Council and represented in consultation through their RDCC, although WNNB offers technical advice on consultation files (WNNB 2018).</p> <p>The March 2018 registered population of Madawaska Maliseet First Nation was 375. Approximately 41% (154 individuals) live on-reserve (INAC 2018). The median age (i.e., 45.6 years) of the population is similar to that of NB in general, which was 45.7 years in 2016 (Statistics Canada 2017).</p>
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	<p>The community has a Health Centre, which is staffed by a doctor and a nurse (WNNB 2018).</p> <p>The Madawaska Maliseet Economic Development Corporation is focused on business development. Businesses include Grey Rock Power Centre (along the Trans-Canada Highway), which has gas stations, restaurants, car dealerships, and the Grey Rock Casino (WNNB 2018).</p> <p>Madawaska Maliseet First Nation holds commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species.</p>



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**Table 7.26 Wolastoqiyik of New Brunswick Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical or architectural sites)	Historic writings record Wolastoqiyik at the mouth of the Madawaska as early as the 1690s, and oral traditions indicate a much longer Wolastoqey tenure in the region (WNNB 2018). The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Wolastoqiyik, therefore there are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites in or near the Project Area aside from the Atlantic Ocean itself which the Wolastoqiyik consider to be an important cultural waterscape (see above discussion). Further analysis of the important array of physical and cultural heritage associated with Madawaska Maliseet First Nation is beyond the scope of this document (WNNB 2018).
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	The Wolastoqiyik were known to be traditional hunters, trappers, horticulturalists, gatherers, and fishermen / fisherwomen who travelled throughout the Saint John River valley and adjacent interior and coastal regions depending on the season to find sustenance, shelter, and to trade with Europeans and other Indigenous nations (WNNB 2018). Wolastoqey First Nations have traditionally harvested, and continue to harvest, hunt and consume traditional foods including moose, deer, fish, fiddleheads and berries, and to use resources from the local landscape for medicinal and ceremonial purposes. Refer below for information on FSC fishing.
Commercial Communal Fishing	Madawaska Maliseet First Nation holds commercial communal licences for rock crab, groundfish, herring, lobster, mackerel, and sea scallop for inshore and offshore areas of NS and NB (S. Curry, DFO, pers. comm. 2019).
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Madawaska Maliseet First Nation holds FSC licences for lobster, salmon, brook trout and lake trout (S. Curry, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). Madawaska 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 Wolastoqiyik 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. These rights do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area.
<b>Oromocto First Nation</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Oromocto First Nation has one reserve (Oromocto 26) located in Sunbury County near the mouth of the Oromocto River (WNNB 2018). It is approximately 1,437 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Oromocto First Nation is affiliated with the Wolastoqey Tribal Council (Energy East Pipeline Ltd. 2016). Oromocto is represented in consultation through their RDCC, although WNNB offers technical advice on consultation files (WNNB 2018). The March 2018 registered population of Oromocto First Nation was 707. Approximately 45% (321 individuals) live on-reserve (INAC 2018). The median age (i.e., 29.2 years) of the population is approximately 16% below that of NB in general, which was 45.7 years in 2016 (Statistics Canada 2017).
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	Oromocto First Nation has a health centre and a pre-school. Oromocto has fisheries and forestry departments and also holds commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species.



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**Table 7.26 Wolastoqiyik of New Brunswick Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical or architectural sites)	<p>Although land at Oromocto was not set aside as a reserve until 1895, there had been a Wolastoqey settlement in the area since at least 1835 (Pawling 2017). Moreover, a Wolastoqey burial site in the community that was unearthed and looted by non-Indigenous road construction workers circa 1842 contained remains and burial items from the early contact period (circa 16<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> century) (Gesner 1842).</p> <p>The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Wolastoqiyik, therefore there are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites in or near the Project Area aside from the Atlantic Ocean itself which the Wolastoqiyik consider to be an important cultural waterscape (see above discussion). Further analysis of the important array of physical and cultural heritage associated with Oromocto First Nation is beyond the scope of this document (WNNB 2018).</p>
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	<p>The Wolastoqiyik were known to be traditional hunters, trappers, horticulturalists, gatherers, and fishermen / fisherwomen who travelled throughout the Saint John River valley and adjacent regions depending on the season to find sustenance, shelter, and to trade with Europeans and other Indigenous nations (WNNB 2018). Wolastoqey First Nations have traditionally, and 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 commercial communal licences for alewives / gaspereau, groundfish, herring, mackerel, lobster, sea scallop, shad, smelts, and sea urchins (Licensing Services, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). These licences are located inshore and offshore NS and NB and do not overlap the Project Area.</p>
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	<p>Oromocto First Nation holds FSC fishing licences for burbot, catfish, eel, gaspereau, lobster, perch (white and yellow), chain pickerel, shad, smelt, striped bass, sturgeon, and trout (A. Newbould, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). Most of these species are harvested within inland and tidal areas in NB. Lobster are harvested in LFA 36, in the Inner Bay of Fundy. Oromocto First Nation also has an Aboriginal right to fish for Atlantic salmon (outer Bay of Fundy population) for FSC purposes. Other species harvested include chub, lamprey, muskellunge, pike, sucker fish, sunfish and whitefish.</p>
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	<p>The Wolastoqiyik 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. These rights do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area.</p>
<b>Tobique First Nation</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	<p>Tobique First Nation is comprised of two reserves - the Brothers 18 near Saint John, and Tobique 20 in Victoria County at the mouth of the Tobique River. Tobique First Nation is approximately 1,500 km from the Project Area.</p>
General Overview	<p>Tobique First Nation is affiliated with Mawiw Tribal Council (Energy East Pipeline Ltd. 2016).</p> <p>Tobique is represented in consultation through their RDCC, although WNNB offers technical advice on consultation files.</p> <p>The March 2018 registered population of Tobique First Nation was 2,469. Approximately 63% (1,552 individuals) live on-reserve (INAC 2018). The median age (i.e., 31.9 years) of the population is approximately 14% below that of NB in general, which was 45.7 years in 2016 (Statistics Canada 2017).</p>



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**Table 7.26 Wolastoqiyik of New Brunswick Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	<p>Tobique First Nation has a wellness centre and a school for students from kindergarten to Grade 8. Community-owned enterprises include a gaming centre, bingo hall, restaurants, youth centre and a convenience store and gas bar. There are several other community businesses, including tobacco shops, take-out restaurants, and convenience stores.</p> <p>Tobique First Nation holds 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 Wolastoqiyik were known to be traditional hunters, trappers, horticulturalists, gatherers, and fishermen / fisherwomen who travelled throughout the Saint John River valley and adjacent interior and coastal regions depending on the season to find sustenance, shelter, and to trade with Europeans and other Indigenous nations.</p> <p>Lands were initially set aside for the Wolastoqiyik along the Wolastoq at the mouth of the Tobique River by the NB government in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. The Tobique reserve is now much smaller than the initial lands set aside by the colonial government as non-Indigenous squatters unlawfully took ownership of a large portion of reserve lands in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and hydroelectric dams flooded additional lands in the 20<sup>th</sup> century (Cuthbertson 2015; Maliseet First Nations 2016).</p> <p>The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Wolastoqiyik, therefore there are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites in or near the Project Area aside from the Atlantic Ocean itself which the Wolastoqiyik consider to be an important cultural waterscape (see above discussion). Further analysis of the important array of physical and cultural heritage associated with Tobique First Nation is beyond the scope of this summary description (WNNB 2018).</p>
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	<p>Wolastoqey First Nations have traditionally, and continue to harvest, hunt and consume traditional foods including moose, deer, fish, fiddleheads and berries, and use local natural resources from for medicinal and ceremonial purposes. Refer below for information on FSC fishing.</p>
Commercial Communal Fishing	<p>Tobique First Nation holds commercial communal licences for Jonah crab, groundfish, herring, lobster, quahaug, mackerel, sea scallop, and sea urchin in the Maritimes Region (Licensing Services, DFO, pers. comm. 2019) and bluefin tuna in the Gulf Region (S. Curry, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). These licences are located inshore and offshore NS and NB and do not overlap the Project Area.</p>
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	<p>Tobique First Nation holds FSC licences for smallmouth bass and trout (S. Curry, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). Tobique 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 Wolastoqiyik 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. These rights do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area.</p>
<b>St. Mary's First Nation</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	<p>St. Mary's First Nation has two reserves (Devon and St. Mary's 24) in the Saint John River Valley near Fredericton, approximately 1,442 km from the Project Area.</p>



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**Table 7.26 Wolastoqiyik of New Brunswick Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
General Overview	<p>St. Mary's First Nation is affiliated with the Saint John River Valley Tribal Council (Energy East Pipeline Ltd. 2016). St. Mary's is represented in consultation through their RDCC, although WNNB offers technical advice on consultation files (WNNB 2018).</p> <p>The March 2018 registered population of St. Mary's First Nation was 1,928. Approximately 46% (881 individuals) live on-reserve (INAC 2018). The median age (i.e., 27.9 years) of the population is approximately 18% below that of NB in general, which was 45.7 years in 2016 (Statistics Canada 2017).</p>
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	<p>The Chief Harold Sappier Memorial Elementary provides education for students from kindergarten to Grade 5. Businesses include the St. Mary's Entertainment Centre, St. Mary's Retail Sales and St. Mary's Tree Service. St. Mary's started a logging program in 1998. The program is self-sufficient and has sustained itself on the royalties that the program generates.</p> <p>St. Mary's First Nation holds commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. St. Mary's First Nation currently owns six active commercial fishing vessels.</p>
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical or architectural sites)	<p>The Wolastoqiyik were known to be traditional hunters, trappers, horticulturalists, gatherers, and fishermen / fisherwomen who travelled throughout the Saint John River valley and adjacent interior and coastal regions depending on the season to find sustenance, shelter, and to trade with Europeans and other Indigenous nations (WNNB 2018).</p> <p>Although the St. Mary's community was not officially recognized by the colonial government until 1867, the first painting of a wigwam on the site was dated 1818. The site was thought to be of regular use as a campground since the 1800s. Many of the Wolastoqiyik settled at St. Mary's maintained the migratory aspects of their traditional lifestyle by hunting, fishing and trapping when they could, and by traveling each summer to other areas within and beyond the St. John River Valley to make and sell their wares (Nicholas 2005).</p> <p>The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Wolastoqiyik, therefore there are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites in or near the Project Area aside from the Atlantic Ocean itself which the Wolastoqiyik consider to be an important cultural waterscape (WNNB 2018).</p>
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	<p>Wolastoqey First Nations have traditionally, and 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>St. Mary's First Nation holds commercial communal licences for alewives / gaspereau, herring, lobster, sea scallop, sea urchin, shad, shrimp, tuna and swordfish (Licensing Services, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). Most of these licences are located inshore and offshore NS and NB. St. Mary's holds commercial communal licences for tuna and swordfish within NAFO Units that overlap with the Project Area (C. MacDonald, DFO, pers. comm. 2019).</p>
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	<p>St. Mary's First Nation holds FSC fishing licences for eels, gaspereau, groundfish, lobster, scallop, shad, smallmouth bass, soft-shell clams, striped bass, and trout (A. Newbould, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). St. Mary's 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 Wolastoqiyik 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. These rights do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area.</p>



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**Table 7.26 Wolastoqiyik of New Brunswick Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
<b>Woodstock First Nation</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Woodstock First Nation has two reserves (The Brothers 18 [also affiliated with Kingsclear, Tobique and Madawaska Maliseet First Nation communities] and Woodstock 23), located on the Saint John River near Woodstock approximately 1,513 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Woodstock First Nation is affiliated with the Saint John River Valley Tribal Council (Energy East Pipeline Ltd. 2016). Woodstock represents itself in consultation and engagement. The March 2018 registered population of Woodstock First Nation was 1,072. Approximately 27% (291 individuals) live on-reserve (INAC 2018). The median age (i.e., 36.9 years) of the population is approximately 9% below that of NB in general, which was 45.7 years in 2016 (Statistics Canada 2017).
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	Woodstock First Nation has a pre-school. Economic enterprises include three gas stations / convenience stores, Eagle's Nest Gaming Palace, and Woodstock First Nation Logging. Woodstock First Nation holds commercial communal licences for a variety of fish and marine species. The fishing industry has been an important source of revenue and employment for the First Nation. The fishing enterprise harvests scallop, lobster, sea urchins, swordfish, and tuna.
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical or architectural sites)	The people of Woodstock First Nation are descendants of the Wulustukwiak people who have traditionally occupied southwestern NB along the Saint John River to Kittery, Maine, USA. The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of the Wolastoqiyik, therefore there are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	Wolastoqey First Nations have traditionally, and continue to harvest, 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 commercial communal licences for groundfish, herring, mackerel, lobster, sea scallop, sea urchins, swordfish and tuna (Licensing Services, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). Most of these licences are located inshore and offshore NS and NB, with licences for swordfish and tuna in NAFO Units that overlap with the Project Area (C. MacDonald, DFO, pers. comm. 2019).
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Woodstock First Nation holds FSC fishing licences for eels, landlocked salmon, chain pickerel, gaspereau, lobster, scallop, smallmouth bass, smelt, striped bass, and trout (A. Newbould, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). These include FSC licences for inland and tidal areas of NB. Woodstock First Nation holds an FSC licence to fish for other species such as lobster and scallop in NAFO units in and around NB. Woodstock 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 Wolastoqiyik 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. These rights do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area.



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#### 7.4.5.3 Peskotomuhkati Nation (Passamaquoddy)

The traditional territory of the Peskotomuhkati Nation (Passamaquoddy) included all lands and waters of the St. Croix River watershed, Machias River watershed and the Magaguadavic River watershed, draining into the Bay of Fundy and Gulf of Maine (Bassett 2014, in MGS and UINR 2016). The territory was bordered on the northeast by the Wolastoqiyik traditional territory (i.e., all lands and waters draining the Saint John River watershed) and bordered on the west by the Penobscot traditional territory - the Penobscot River watershed and Union River watershed in Maine, USA (MGS and UINR 2016).

The Peskotomuhkati Nation asserts title to territories along the Maine and NB border, with most of the members currently living on the USA side. The Passamaquoddy are specifically named in the Marshall decision based on the Peace and Friendship Treaties, which provides them the treaty right to fish. The Passamaquoddy have submitted a land claim to the federal government which has currently been accepted for review.

The community profile for Peskotomuhkati Nation at Skutik is provided in the following sections (Table 7.27 Table 7.27). The Peskotomuhkati Nation community is located in NB (Figure 7-63).

**Table 7.27 Peskotomuhkati of New Brunswick Community Profile**

Community Indicator	Description
<b>Peskotomuhkati Nation at Skutik (Passamaquoddy)</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Peskotomuhkati Nation at Skutik is located in St. Andrews approximately 1,504 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	<p>The homeland of the Peskotomuhkati people is located along the Passamaquoddy Bay, with drainage area of the Schoodic (St. Croix) River and the Fundy Islands (RSF n.d.). In 2013, it was estimated that the Schoodic Band numbered 300 members in NB.</p> <p>At least three Peskotomuhkati Reserves were established in Charlotte County, NB in the 19th and early 20th centuries, including the Schoodic Reserve, located in present day Milltown, NB. This community was established in 1785 on land adjacent to the Schoodic Falls, which was an important fishing place and tribal burial ground. The Canoose Reserve was established in 1851 at the confluence of the Canoose and Schoodic Rivers. The St. Croix Reserve was created in 1881 on the St. Croix River, near the outlet to the Chiputneticook Lakes. At least two other tracts of land, located at Qonasqamkuk (St. Andrews) and Grand Manan Island, known to be Peskotomuhkati gathering places, were the subject of various petitions for reserve status, but were never formalized as reserve lands (RSF n.d.). Reserve lands became occupied by British Loyalist settlers while the Peskotomuhkati were absent during seasonal harvesting and fishing migrations (RSF n.d.). A claim submitted to the Canadian government has currently been accepted for review (INAC 2017). No census information is available specifically for Peskotomuhkati Nation in NB.</p>
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	Limited information is available on the health and socioeconomic conditions of the Peskotomuhkati as a group because they do not live on a reserve or in a separate community.



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**Table 7.27 Peskotomuhkati of New Brunswick Community Profile**

Community Indicator	Description
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical or architectural sites)	Evidence shows that the ancestors of the Peskotomuhkati have inhabited their traditional territory for the last 13,000 years from Machias, Maine to Point Lepreau, NB (RSF n.d.). The point of land jutting into Passamaquoddy Bay (now occupied by the Town of St. Andrews, NB), was an important meeting place where sacred ceremonies, burial of chiefs and other activities occurred. The Project does not overlap with the traditional territory of Peskotomuhkati, therefore there are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites in or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	Seasonal journeys within their traditional territory extended inland north along the Schoodic River to the Chipputnecook Lakes, and typically involved harvesting various natural resources at different times of the year. In the spring, many Peskotomuhkati people occupied a field at Salmon Falls on the Schoodic River, taking advantage of the runs up-river by salmon, eels, and alewives. Much of the harvest was processed/dried for the following winter. Passamaquoddy Bay was also important for its abundance of pollock (RSF n.d.).
Commercial Communal Fishing	Peskotomuhkati Nation has no commercial communal licences.
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Peskotomuhkati Nation holds FSC licences for striped bass, smallmouth bass, eel, gaspereau, white perch, yellow perch, shad, rainbow smelt, sturgeon, brook trout, brown trout, lake trout, burbot, whitefish, landlocked salmon, and chain pickerel (A. Newbould, DFO, pers. comm. 2019). Peskotomuhkati Nation also has an Aboriginal right to fish Atlantic salmon for FSC purposes.
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	The Peskotomuhkati's claim has been accepted for review by the Canadian government (INAC 2017). The Peskotomuhkati 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. These rights do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area.

#### 7.4.6 Mi'kmaq First Nations of Quebec

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

- Micmacs de Gesgapegiag
- La Nation Micmac de Gespeg
- Listuguj Mi'gmaq Government (LMG)

These Indigenous groups are represented by the Mi'gmawei Mawiomni Secretariat (MMS) in the negotiation with the Governments of Canada and QC. The MMS formally submitted a statement of claim to the federal and provincial governments in 2007. The Mi'kmaq, QC, 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 AIP that should eventually lead to a final land claim agreement (INAC 2014, 2016; MMS 2018).

The primary land claim area includes, but is not limited to, all the territory of Gesgapegiag. It covers the entire Gaspé Peninsula and extends westward along the St. Lawrence River past Rimouski, QC. The



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primary land claim also includes Anticosti Island and an area north and north-east of Edmundston, NB. A potential secondary claim has been identified but is not presently being pursued (MMS 2018).

DFO is working with Indigenous groups in QC to implement initiatives to enhance the participation of these communities in the fisheries in keeping with treaty requirements and Supreme Court decisions regarding FSC and commercial communal fishing rights. This includes Mi'kmaq First Nations on the Gaspé Peninsula and Innu First Nations on the Lower North Shore. DFO and the Indigenous groups are negotiating agreements to increase Indigenous involvement in resource management and to develop skills and capacity to engage in commercial fisheries and management of fishery-based businesses (DFO 2015).

Community profiles for each QC Indigenous group identified in the EIS Guidelines are provided in the following sections (Table 7.28). The locations of these Indigenous groups in QC are provided in Figure 7-63.

**Table 7.28 Mi'kmaq First Nations of Québec Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
<b>Micmacs de Gesgapegiag</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Micmacs de 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 ( <b>Error! Reference source not found.7-63Error! Reference source not found.</b> ). The reserve is approximately 1,339 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	The Micmacs de Gesgapegiag has a Chief and eight Councillors and is represented by the MMS in land claims negotiations and consultation and engagement. The March 2018 population of Micmacs de Gesgapegiag was 1,538 (INAC 2018). Approximately 45% live on-reserve. The population of the Gesgapegiag community decreased between 2011 and 2016, which may be attributed to lower birth rates or possibly out-migration as approximately half of the registered population live off-reserve (Nexen 2018). The on-reserve population is younger than that of the QC population, as a whole (Statistics Canada 2017; INAC 2018; Micmacs of Gesgapegiag [MOG] 2018).
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	<p>The Micmacs de Gesgapegiag Band Council and other agencies provide services and infrastructure to the community in education, health care, social services, public security (fire and police), public works, economic development (e.g., forestry and commercial fisheries), addictions treatment and employment. Identified health issues include healing, diabetes, mental health and addictions. The Wejgwapniag School provides primary and secondary education. Established in 1996, the Gesgapegiag Health and Community Services provides programs and services through a medical centre, healing lodge, and youth centre (MOG 2018). In addition, there is also a treatment centre in Gesgapegiag, the Mawiommi Treatment Centre, which specializes in the treatment of substance, drug, and alcohol abuse (Statoil 2017). The Walgwan Treatment Centre is one of a network of nine First Nation treatment centres in Canada that provide culturally-based treatment services for dependence on solvents and other substances as well as addictive behavior to First Nations and Inuit youth (Statoil 2017).</p> <p>The Micmacs de Gesgapegiag are active 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 to 30 individuals on a seasonal basis. Other economic activities include construction, tourism, handicraft production and outfitting services for sport fishing and hunting (Commission des droits de la personne et des droits de la Jeunesse [CDPDJ] 2009). In</p>



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**Table 7.28 Mi'kmaq First Nations of Québec Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
	<p>2011, the largest employer was Public Administration, employing approximately 42% of the workforce.</p> <p>As described in more detail below, the Micmacs de 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 (Mi'gmaq Maliseet Aboriginal Fisheries Management Association [MMAFMA] 2017). Established in 2012, the MMAFMA, in partnership with the QC School of Fisheries and Aquaculture, assists the Micmacs de 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 licenses. The boat is also used for training programs in groundfish (Atlantic halibut, Greenland halibut, redfish) fisheries through a program with QC School of Fisheries and Aquaculture. The Micmac de Gesgapegiag are also engaged in a joint aquaculture initiative to grow and process kelp products. The Micmacs de Gesgapegiag co-manage sport salmon fishing in the Cascapedia River through Société Cascapedia inc. (Samon Quebec 2017; MOG 2018). The Gesgapegiag Fisheries Department manages the Band's participation in commercial seafood harvesting. The Gesgapegiag Fisheries Department 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'gmaq lived by hunting, fishing, and gathering throughout their territory which included the southeastern portion of the Gaspé Peninsula, NS, PEI, most of NB and southern NL. As fishers, hunters and gatherers, the people used their intimate knowledge of the land and seasonal cycles of vegetation, animals and fish to meet their physical and spiritual needs. Mi'gmaq 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 QC Mi'kmaq were located along the shores of the St. Lawrence River. There are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites within or near the Project Area.</p>
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	<p>Historically, the Mi'gmaq of the Gulf of St. Lawrence region harvested various fish species through the seasons. The fishing season began in the spring with the break-up of shore and river ice when the Mi'gmaq moved to coastal areas and river mouths such as the estuaries of the Restigouche and Cascapédia Rivers that flow into the Baie des Chaleurs. Fishing began with shallow water fish species exposed by the melting ice, the most important of which was winter flounder. The next fishing period included spawning runs of fish that were migrating from fresh water to the sea or the reverse. These species included smelt in March, alewife in April and sturgeon in May. Typically, salmon were harvested in May as well as July and August, eel in September, and Atlantic tomcod as late as December (Conseil des Innu de Ekuanitshit and Mi'gmawei Mawiomí Secretariat [CIE] 2014). Fish spawning seasons were accompanied by the spring migration of seabird species that nested in the same areas. Seabird eggs were also collected from offshore islands in spring and seabird harvesting took place in early fall during the southern migration. During spring and summer, the Mi'gmaq harvested marine shellfish including oysters, scallops, quahogs, clams, American lobster, and northern crab. Oysters harvested from the southern Gulf of St. Lawrence were used for food and the shells were used for wampum (currency). During whelping season, the Mi'kmaq also harvested marine mammals such as walrus and seal on the Gaspé Peninsula (CIE) 2014).</p> <p>The Micmacs de Gesgapegiag traditionally used Atlantic salmon for barter, spiritual or ceremonial practices, bait (salmon skin), and crafts. Salmon fishing methods evolved from harpoons to gill nets and cages for communal fishing and fly-fishing rods for recreational fishing. Fishing occurred from late May to early November. Members of Gesgapegiag have caught salmon in the mouth of the Cascapédia River and upstream, as well as in neighbouring rivers (Petite rivière Cascapédia, Bonaventure, Nouvelle and Hall) (MMAFMA 2017). Annual subsistence harvests of salmon by the Micmacs de Gesgapegiag in the</p>



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**Table 7.28 Mi'kmaq First Nations of Québec Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
	<p>Cascapédia River were reported for the 1984-2008 period. Gesgapegiag has not taken salmon in the Cascapédia River since 2009 pursuant to an agreement with the Government of QC to cease fishing salmon in return for monetary compensation (MMAFMA 2017).</p> <p>Eel harvesting is a traditional Mi'kmaq activity, beginning in May and ending when the ice cover forms. According to members of the Micmacs de Gesgapegiag, eel is mostly taken in the mouth and estuary of the Cascapédia River. Harvesting sites extend along the coast from Carleton to Bonaventure, including the Nouvelle area (MMAFMA 2017).</p> <p>Cod fishing is also considered important to the economic and cultural landscape of the Gaspé Peninsula but is now restricted because of low cod stocks.</p> <p>Members of the Micmacs de Gesgapegiag have also reported that striped bass is mostly captured as by-catch in the Cascapédia River estuary and along the shoreline near Carleton and New Richmond. Striped bass is generally harvested between May and October and consumed or used as bait to catch smelt. The marine area of the Banc des Américains is of economic, ecological and cultural importance for the Mi'kmaq communities. The area and its periphery are used to harvest crab, lobster, mackerel, herring, cod, and waterfowl (MMAFMA 2017).</p>
Commercial Communal Fishing	The Micmacs de Gesgapegiag holds commercial communal licences for cod, turbot, halibut, mackerel, shrimp and winter flounder (Morrison 2018).
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	The Micmacs de 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 Cascapédia River mouth as well as the Petite riviere Cascapédia 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'kmaq 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. The asserted or established Aboriginal and treaty rights of the Mi'kmaq do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area.
<b>La Nation Micmac de Gespeg</b>	
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 (Figure 7-63). La Nation Micmac de Gespeg is approximately 1,364 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	La Nation Micmac de Gespeg is governed by a Chief and eight Councillors and is also represented by the MMS in matters relating to land claims negotiations, and consultation and engagement (INAC 2015, 2018). The March 2018 population of La Nation Micmac de Gespeg was 829, living throughout the Gaspé Peninsula and in other areas. No additional census information is available specifically for La Nation Micmac de Gespeg.
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	<p>Publicly-available information of the health and socioeconomic conditions of La Nation Micmac de Gespeg could not be found.</p> <p>As described in more detail below, La Nation Micmac de Gespeg is active in commercial fisheries through the MMAFMA. 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 licenses. The boat is also used for training programs in groundfish (Atlantic halibut, Greenland halibut, redfish) fisheries through a program with QC 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>



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**Table 7.28 Mi'kmaq First Nations of Québec Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	Traditionally, the Mi'gmaq lived by hunting, fishing, and gathering throughout their territory which included the southeastern portion of the Gaspé Peninsula, NS, PEI, most of NB and southern NL. As fishers, hunters and gatherers, the people used their intimate knowledge of the land and seasonal cycles of vegetation, animals and fish to meet their physical and spiritual needs. Mi'gmaq 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 QC Mi'gmaq were located along the shores of the St. Lawrence River. There are no known physical, cultural or heritage sites within or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	<p>Traditionally, various fish species have been fished by the Mi'gmaq in the Gulf of St. Lawrence through the seasons. The fishing season began in the spring with the break-up of shore and river ice when the Mi'gmaq moved to coastal areas and river mouths such as the estuaries of the Restigouche and Cascapédia Rivers that flow into the Baie des Chaleurs. Fishing began with shallow water fish species exposed by the melting ice, the most important of which was winter flounder. The next fishing period included spawning runs of fish that were migrating from fresh water to the sea or the reverse. These species included smelt in March, alewife in April and sturgeon in May. Typically, salmon were harvested in May as well as July and August, eel in September, and Atlantic tomcod as late as December (CIE 2014). Fish spawning seasons were accompanied by the spring migration of seabird species that nested in the same areas. Seabird eggs were also collected from offshore islands in spring and seabird harvesting took place in early fall during the southern migration. During spring and summer, the Mi'kmaq harvested marine shellfish including oysters, scallops, quahogs, clams, American lobster, and northern crab. Oysters harvested from the southern Gulf of St. Lawrence were used for food and the shells were used for wampum (currency). During whelping season, the Mi'kmaq also harvested marine mammals such as walrus and seal (CIE 2014).</p> <p>La Nation Micmac de Gespeg traditionally used Atlantic salmon for barter, spiritual or ceremonial practices, bait (salmon skin), and crafts. Salmon fishing methods have evolved from harpoons to gill nets and cages for communal fishing and fly-fishing rods for recreational fishing. Fishing occurred from late May to early November. Members of La Nation Micmac de Gespeg took salmon in the Saint-Jean, Dartmouth, York, and Malbaie Rivers, and in the mouth of the Dartmouth River (MMAFMA 2017).</p> <p>Eel harvesting is a traditional Mi'gmaq activity, beginning in May and ending when the ice cover forms. Eel harvesting sites reported by La Nation Micmac de Gespeg include the shoreline between Gaspé and Percé.</p> <p>Cod fishing is also considered important to the economic and cultural landscape of the Gaspé Peninsula but is now restricted because of low cod stocks. According to some members of La Nation Micmac de Gespeg, cod is often taken in the Gaspé Bay, at the northern extremity, as well as along the southern part, along the Sandy Beach pier.</p> <p>Other fishing areas identified by La Nation Mimac de Gespeg include Rivière-au-Renard, the Malbaie River estuary, Percé and the Banc des Américains. Members of La Nation Micmac de Gespeg harvest striped bass at locations between Gaspé and the Malbaie River estuary generally between May and October. Other fishing areas identified by La Nation Micmac de Gespeg include Rivière-au-Renard, the Malbaie River estuary, Percé and the Banc des Américains.</p>
Commercial Communal Fishing	The MMAFMA holds several commercial communal licenses for mackerel, herring, and bluefin tuna (Nexen 2018). Commercial harvesting of groundfish (e.g., Atlantic halibut, Greenland halibut, redfish) is planned.



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**Table 7.28 Mi'kmaq First Nations of Québec Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	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 La Nation Micmac de Gespeg include the shoreline between Gaspé and Percé.
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'kmaq 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. The asserted or established Aboriginal and treaty rights of the Mi'kmaq do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area.
<b>Listuguj</b>	
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 (Figure 7-63) (INAC 2018). Listuguj is approximately 1,402 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	Listuguj is governed by a Chief and eight Councillors and is also represented by MMS in matters relating to land claims negotiations, and consultation and engagement (INAC 2015; INAC 2018). The Listuguj reserve was established in 1853. The March 2018, Listuguj population was 4,061. Approximately 50% live on-reserve. The population of Listuguj decreased from 2011 to 2016, which may be a result of out-migration because half of the registered population live off-reserve. The population of the Listuguj is younger than that of QC population, as a whole (Statistics Canada 2017; INAC 2018).
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	<p>LMG and other agencies provide community members with facilities and programs in housing, education, community and social services, health, community health, women's shelter, long-term care facility for the elderly, a youth group home, fire safety, policing, restorative justice, drinking water, wastewater management, solid waste management, roads and natural resource management. The Alaqsitew Gitpu School, established in 1997, accommodates 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 2016).</p> <p>Identified health and social issues include chronic illness, mental health and addictions, diabetes, foster care, care of the elderly, physical inactivity and family issues.</p> <p>The LMG is actively involved in the forestry industry, with community members being employed in the LMG silviculture and forestry operations and as independent loggers (LMG 2016). In 2011, the largest employer in the Listuguj community was Public Administration, employing approximately 31% of the workforce.</p> <p>As described in more detail below, Listugui holds commercial communal fishing licences for a variety of fish and marine species. Listuguj Fisheries directly employs community members and owns 13 fishing vessels (Listuguj Fisheries 2014). Listuguj Fisheries is also involved in fisheries training and policy development (Listuguj Fisheries 2014).</p>



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**Table 7.28 Mi'kmaq First Nations of Québec Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
Physical and Cultural Heritage (including archaeological, paleontological, historical, or architectural sites)	Traditionally, the Mi'gmaq lived by hunting, fishing, and gathering throughout their territory which included the southeastern portion of the Gaspé Peninsula, NS, PEI, most of NB and southern NL. As fishers, hunters and gatherers, the people used their intimate knowledge of the land and seasonal cycles of vegetation, animals and fish to meet their physical and spiritual needs. Mi'gmaq harvesters 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 QC Mi'gmaq were located along the shores of the St. Lawrence River. No known physical, cultural or heritage sites are within or near the Project Area.
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	Traditionally, various fish species have been fished by the Mi'gmaq in the Gulf of St. Lawrence through the seasons. The fishing season began in the spring with the break-up of shore and river ice when the Mi'gmaq moved to coastal areas and river mouths such as the estuaries of the Restigouche and Cascapédia Rivers that flow into the Baie des Chaleurs. Fishing began with shallow water fish species exposed by the melting ice, the most important of which was winter flounder. The next fishing period included spawning runs of fish that were migrating from fresh water to the sea or the reverse. These species included smelt in March, alewife in April and sturgeon in May. Typically, salmon were harvested in May as well as July and August, eel in September, and Atlantic tomcod as late as December (CIE 2014). Fish spawning seasons were accompanied by the spring migration of seabird species that nested in the same areas. Seabird eggs were also collected from offshore islands in spring and seabird harvesting took place in early fall during the southern migration. During spring and summer, the Mi'gmaq harvested marine shellfish including oysters, scallops, quahogs, clams, American lobster, and northern crab. Oysters harvested from the southern Gulf of St. Lawrence were used for food and the shells were used for wampum (currency). During whelping season, the Mi'gmaq also harvested marine mammals such as walrus and seal (CIE 2014).  Since 1984, Listuguj has taken approximately 1,000 salmon annually in the Restigouche River for subsistence purposes. Eel harvesting is a traditional Mi'gmaq activity that begins in May and ends when the ice cover forms (MMAFMA 2017).
Commercial Communal Fishing	Listuguj holds commercial fishing licences for cod, turbot and halibut and commercial communal licenses for snow crab (Morrison 2018).
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Listuguj participates in communal fishing for FSC purposes with licenses 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. The asserted or established Aboriginal and treaty rights of the Mi'gmaq do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area

### 7.4.7 Innu First Nations of Quebec

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

- Les Innus de Ekuanitshit
- Première Nation des Innus de Nutashkuan

The Innu people were traditionally nomadic and depended on the products of hunting (mainly barren-ground caribou, moose and small game), fishing (including Atlantic salmon) and gathering activities (e.g., eggs,



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berries) for their subsistence. Their ancestral territory covers the region from Québec City extending north of Schefferville, and the southern part of Labrador. At the end of the 19th century, participation in the fur trade, settlement, the expansion of the forestry and mining industries, and interventions by the Canadian and QC Governments led to establishment of permanent Innu communities, mainly in the south of their territory. However, the occupation of the ancestral territory of Nitassinan and traditional Innu Aitun practices such as hunting and fishing still continue today. In northern parts of the territory, the process of settlement began in the 20th century, and in many cases not until after 1950 (CDPDJ 2009).

In 1979, QC Innu land claim negotiations were first initiated by the Atikamekw and Montagnais Council, which was established in 1975 to represent the nine QC Innu Nations and the three Atikamekw Nations. Due to differences of opinion, mainly with respect to recognition of Indigenous rights and certainty, the Atikamekw and Montagnais Council was dissolved. In 2004, the Mamuitun mak Nutashkuan Tribal Council completed negotiations on behalf of the Innu First Nation communities of Essipit, Mashteuiatsh, Nutashkuan and Pessamit and signed an Agreement-in-Principle of General Nature with the governments of QC and Canada (Tremblay 2011). The Agreement-in-Principle of General Nature is important in that the Innu First Nations would not surrender title over their traditional territory and would no longer be subject to the Indian Act (National Post 2016). Instead, a form of self-government would be determined. The Mamuitun mak Nutashkuan Tribal Council has continued to represent the other three First Nations, including the Innus de Nutashkuan (Regroupement Petapan 2017). In 2010, this Tribal Council was renamed the Regroupement Petapan Inc. Negotiations towards a final agreement in the form of a treaty are well advanced (INAC 2016).

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. In 1994, the Mamu Pakatatau Mamit Assembly was created to represent the Innu communities of Ekuanitshit, Unamen Shipu and Pakua Shipu in land claims negotiations, which took place from 1995 to 2007 with Canada and QC. In 2008, however, the three member-communities ceased the negotiation process in favour of a litigation approach (INAC 2016).

Information on land and resource use activities of the Innu groups is mainly based on a 1983 study by the Conseil des Atikamekws et des Montagnais (CAM). Information from Hydro-Québec Production's (HQP) environmental impact study for the Complexe de la Romaine Project was also accessed. Additional sources of information include a publication on Indigenous fisheries in eastern QC, an overview of salmon fishing in QC in 2016 (MMAFMA 2017) and the technical report by the Agence Mamu Innu Kaikusseth (AMIK) called "NUTASHKUAN. Portrait-diagnostic de la pêche et de la gestion du saumon atlantique".

Community profiles for Nutashkuan and Ekuanitshit are provided in the following sections (Table 7.29). The locations of these Indigenous groups are provided in Figure 7-63.



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**Table 7.29 Innu First Nations of Québec Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
<b>Les Innus de Ekuanitshit</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	Les Innus de Ekuanitshit is comprised of one reserve, at the confluence of the Mingan River and the Gulf of St. Lawrence (Figure 7-63). Ekuanitshit community is approximately 1,184 km from the Project Area.
General Overview	<p>Les Innus de Ekuanitshit is governed by a Band Council with a Chief and four Councillors and is represented by the MICT. The Mingan reserve was established in 1963 for the Innus de Ekuanitshit and settled mainly by Innu families who traditionally travelled the Magpie, Saint-Jean, and Romaine Rivers (Musée régional de la Côte-Nord [MRCN] 2010; INAC 2018).</p> <p>The September 2018 population of Les Innus de Ekuanitshit was 655. Approximately 92% live on reserve. The population of the Mingan Reserve has increased since the 2011 census. The median age is at least 10 years younger than the median age of the QC population (Statistics Canada 2017; INAC 2018). The percentage of population under 15 years of age is also higher than that of the general QC population (Statistics Canada 2017; INAC 2018).</p>
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	<p>The Conseil des Innus de Ekuanitshit and other agencies provide community members with social development, finance and administration, patient services, social services, technical services, advisory services and health care. 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 Conseil des Innus de Ekuanitshit 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 Les Innus de Ekuanitshit. The main economic activities include arts and handicrafts, commercial fishing, outfitting (fishing for salmon, ouananiche, and brook trout), tourism, trapping and service businesses. In 2011, the largest employer for community members was Public Administration, employing approximately 31% of the workforce.</p> <p>As described in more detail below, economic activity includes commercial fishing. Les Innus de Ekuanitshit operate six boats and its commercial fishing activities employ approximately 40 persons on a full- or part-time basis (Nexen 2018). Les Innus de Ekuanitshit commercially harvest scallops, crab, halibut, sea cucumber and whelk.</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, including caribou and salmon. The Innu people traditionally travelled over a vast territory encompassing the entire St. Lawrence catchment area between the Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean and Labrador. Families also occasionally crossed the St. Lawrence Estuary to hunt in the Bas-du-Fleuve area (MRCN 2010; Verreault et al. 2013). Les Innus de Ekuanitshit participate in a spring harvest of migratory birds, seal and Atlantic salmon (Englobe 2018). Numerous coastal sites exist dating from approximately a thousand years ago demonstrate intensive spring harvesting of migratory bird species, including the Canada Goose and common eider (Englobe 2018). Of the approximately 8,000 archaeological sites discovered in QC, 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. No known physical, cultural or heritage sites are within or near the Project Area.</p>



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**Table 7.29 Innu First Nations of Québec Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	<p>Traditional hunting, fishing and gathering activities continue to support the domestic economy as well as local traditions for the Innus de Ekuanitshit (Englobe 2018). The Innu continue to use the resources of the St. Lawrence River 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 eggs of other bird species on the islands; hunting waterfowl (e.g., goose and black guillemot); gathering edible plants (e.g., black crowberry and small cranberries) that grow along the River banks and in the peat bogs; fishing for lobster and scallops with harpoons; and collecting other shellfish along the coast (AMIK 2016; CIE 2014).</p> <p>Fishing, mainly for Atlantic salmon, traditionally played and continues to play, an important role in Innu life on the North Shore of the St. Lawrence River and estuary. The Innus de Ekuanitshit have identified 35 harvesting areas and 21 camps for salmon fishing along the Romaine River and its main tributary, the Puyjalon River. The Innus de Ekuanitshit also harvest salmon in the Jupitagon, Magpie, Saint-Jean, Mingan and Manitou Rivers. Harpoons and fishing rods are used to take salmon in the Manitou River, while nets were used in the Romaine River. Salmon fishing (subsistence and sport) in the Romaine River is now closed because of the scarcity of the population (HQP 2007; Charest et al. 2012; Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs 2017). Salmon fishing appears to be more valued by the Innus de Ekuanitshit for social and cultural reasons than economic ones, although the latter should not be under-estimated because salmon remains an important source of high-quality food. A 2013 study of fishing and community management of salmon by the Innus of Ekuanitshit concluded that, for those who took part, the most important values were sharing and respect, shown through conservation and avoiding waste (HQP 2007; CIE 2014).</p> <p>On the Romaine River, immediately downstream of Grande Chute, hunting is practiced by the Innus de Ekuanitshit in a long corridor using motorized canoe and snowmobile. Trapping focuses on beaver and certain other furbearers (e.g., otter, muskrat). Canada geese, small game, and salmon are also harvested. Various species of ducks are harvested in areas such as Grande Hermine Bay, west of Baie-Johan-Beetz, and in the mouths of the Romaine and Mingan Rivers (HQP 2007).</p>
Commercial Communal Fishing	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 (Ekuanitshit Innu Council, pers. comm. 2018).
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	Les Innus de Ekuanitshit has no FSC licenses. However, Atlantic salmon, herring, brook trout, lobster, scallop and other shellfish are known to be important species for FSC purposes.
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	Les Innus de Ekuanitshit assert Aboriginal rights, including the right to hunt, fish, and gather throughout its traditional territory. Les Innus de Ekuanitshit claim a territory that extends over parts of Labrador and QC, including Anticosti Island in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The asserted or established Aboriginal and treaty rights do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area.
<b>Première Nation des Innus de Nutashquan</b>	
Location and Proximity to Project Area	The Première Nation des Innus de Nutashquan has one reserve, located at the mouth of the Natashquan River in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The Nutashquan reserve is approximately 1,032 km from the Project Area.



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**Table 7.29 Innu First Nations of Québec Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
General Overview	<p>The Première Nation des Innus de Nutashkuan is governed by a Chief and four Councillors and is represented by MICT (INAC 2018). The Nutashkuan reserve was established in 1952. The March 2018 population of the Première Nation des Innus de Nutashkuan was 1,168. Approximately 91% lived on-reserve. The on-reserve population declined slightly in 2016. In 2016, the median age of the on-reserve population was approximately 10 years younger than the median age of the QC population (Statistics Canada 2017). The percentage of the population under 15 years of age was also higher than that of the general QC population (Statistics Canada 2017).</p>
Health and Socioeconomic Conditions	<p>The Band Council and other agencies provide community members with education, medical care, fire protection, social development, finance and administration, patient services, social services, technical services and advisory services.</p> <p>Ecole Uauitshitun accommodates students from kindergarten to secondary V (grade 11). 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. The Première Nation des Innus de Nutashkuan has managed health services since this responsibility was transferred by Health Canada. Identified health issues include type 2 diabetes, obesity, and addictions.</p> <p>The Première Nation des Innus de Nutashkuan has established an Economic Development Office. Economic initiatives include handicraft production, trapping, tourism, construction, transportation, outfitting and forestry. In 2011, the largest employer for community members was Public Administration, employing approximately 31% of the workforce.</p> <p>The First Nation has commercial fishing enterprises, with several fishing licences. The Première Nation des Innus de Nutashkuan fish crab, clams, lobster and groundfish commercially and owns two fishing vessels (Nexen 2018). Pêcheries Commerciales Nutashkuan, which was established by the Band Council in 1994, employs between six and 25 individuals (First Nations of Québec and Labrador Economic Development Commission 2010).</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, including caribou and salmon. The Innu people traditionally travelled over a vast territory encompassing the entire St. Lawrence catchment area between the Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean and part of Labrador. Families also occasionally crossed the St. Lawrence Estuary to hunt in the Bas-du-Fleuve area (MRCN 2010; Verreault et al. 2013). The spring harvest for migratory birds, seal harvesting, and fishing for Atlantic salmon has been practiced by the Innus de Nutashkuan for several thousand years. Numerous coastal sites exist dating from approximately a thousand years ago demonstrating intensive spring harvesting of migratory bird species, including the Canada Goose and common eider (Englobe 2018). Of the approximately 8,000 archaeological sites discovered in QC, over 1,600 are in the traditional territory of the Innus de Nutashkuan. Two important Innu sites have been discovered, including one on an island located in the western part of the Nitassinan of Nutashkuan. No known physical, cultural or heritage sites are within or near the Project Area.</p>



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**Table 7.29 Innu First Nations of Québec Community Profiles**

Community Indicator	Description
Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes	<p>The Innus de Nutashkuan continue to use the resources of the St. Lawrence River 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 eggs of other bird species on the islands; hunting waterfowl (e.g., goose and black guillemot); gathering edible plants (e.g., black crowberry, small cranberries, red berries and cloudberry) that grow along the River banks and in the peat bogs; fishing for lobster and scallops with harpoons; and collecting other shellfish along the coast (AMIK 2016; CIE 2014). Fishing, including fishing 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 Première Nation des Innus de Nutashkuan, in addition to the Gulf of St. Lawrence, include the Natashquan, Romaine, De la Corneille, Piashti, Quetachou, Nabisipi and Aguanish Rivers. The southern portion of the land use area extends from the coast to Wakeham, Forgues, Pauline and Métivier Lakes. Trapping and small game hunting in that area is facilitated by good transportation routes (Route 138 and many snowmobile trails) and even terrain. 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 harvested from the shoreline or by motorized boat, and waterfowl are harvested along the shore. Many harvesting areas and encampments are located at the Grande Hermine and Nickerson Bays, as well as on the coastal plain of the Romaine River, on either side of Route 138. Beaver trapping and gathering of small fruit occur on the Romaine coastal plain. Porcupine is often harvested near the shore along Route 138 and other roads leading north. The contemporary land use model of the Première Nation des Innus de Nutashkuan is similar to that of the Innus de Ekuanitshit. Members from both communities at times harvest together or rely one another (HQP 2007).</p> <p>The Première Nation des Innus de Nutashkuan has continued to be mobile and still cover a large territory but travels are not as expansive as they have been historically.</p>
Commercial Communal Fishing	<p>The Première Nation des Innus de Nutashkuan has commercial 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).</p>
Food, Social, Ceremonial Fishing	<p>The Première Nation des Innus de Nutashkuan has no FSC licenses. However, Atlantic salmon, herring, brook trout, lobster, scallops, and other shellfish are understood to be important FSC species for the Innu.</p>
Asserted or Established Aboriginal and / or Treaty Rights	<p>The Première Nation des Innus de Nutashkuan asserts Aboriginal rights, including the right to hunt, fish, and gather throughout its Nitassinan. The Première Nation des Innus de Nutashkuan claim a territory that extends over parts of Labrador and QC, including part of Anticosti Island and Jacques Cartier Strait in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The asserted or established Aboriginal and treaty rights do not extend to lands or waters in or near the Project Area.</p>

### 7.4.8 Harvested Species

The Project is located 375 km offshore, which is approximately 575 km from the nearest Indigenous community. Due to the offshore location and distance from Indigenous communities, Project interactions with species of cultural or commercial importance for Indigenous peoples (either migrating through, or resident within the RAA) would mainly be limited to adverse effects in the unlikely event of a major spill.



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Refer to Section 15.2 for more information on fate and behaviour of spills and likelihood and locations of potential shoreline interactions.

#### 7.4.8.1 Commercial Communal Fisheries

Commercial fishing activity for several different species, including species that Indigenous groups may hold commercial communal licences to harvest, occurs within the waters of offshore NL, and within the Project Area and the RAA. Sections 7.4.1 to 7.4.7 summarizes commercial communal fishing activity and licences for Indigenous groups. The Indigenous groups within NL which hold commercial communal licences within the RAA are outlined in Table 7.30. Species harvested for commercial communal purposes within the RAA include capelin, groundfish, herring, mackerel, seal, shrimp, snow crab, tuna, and whelk.

**Table 7.30 Commercial Communal Fishing Licences Issued to Newfoundland and Labrador Indigenous Groups for Fishing in the RAA**

Indigenous Group	Commercial Communal Fishing Licence								
	Capelin	Groundfish	Herring	Mackerel	Seal	Shrimp	Snow Crab	Tuna	Whelk
	Capelin Fishing Area	NAFO Unit	Herring Fishing Area	Mackerel Fishing Area	Sealing Area	Shrimp Management Area	Crab Fishing Area	NAFO Unit	NAFO Unit
Innu Nation	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, <b><u>7</u></b> , <b><u>8</u></b>	2J, 3K, <b><u>3L</u></b>	-	3, 4, 5, 6, <b><u>7</u></b> , <b><u>8</u></b>	-	<b><u>6</u></b> , <b><u>7</u></b>	-	-	-
Nunatsiavut Government	-	2J, 3K, <b><u>3L</u></b>	-	-	4, 5, <b><u>6</u></b> , <b><u>7</u></b>	-	2	-	-
NunatuKavut Community Council	2	2J, 3K, <b><u>3L</u></b>	-	-	4, 5, <b><u>6</u></b> , <b><u>7</u></b>	<b><u>6</u></b>	2	-	2J
Miawpukek First Nation (MFN)	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, <b><u>7</u></b> , <b><u>8</u></b>	2J, 3K, <b><u>3L</u></b> , 3N	-	3, 4, 5, 6, <b><u>7</u></b> , <b><u>8</u></b>	4, 5, <b><u>6</u></b> , <b><u>7</u></b>	-	-	3LMNOPs, 4Vs	-
Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation (QMFN) Band	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, <b><u>7</u></b> , <b><u>8</u></b>	2J, 3K, <b><u>3L</u></b> , 3N	3, 4, 5, 6, <b><u>7</u></b> , <b><u>8</u></b>	3, 4, 5, 6, <b><u>7</u></b> , <b><u>8</u></b>	-	<b><u>6</u></b>	4	-	-
Mi'kmaq Alsumk Mowimsikik Koqoey Association <sup>1</sup>	-	2J, 3K, <b><u>3L</u></b> , 3N	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Notes:  
<sup>1</sup> formed by MFN and QMFN Band under DFO's Aboriginal and Aquatic Resources Management Program  
**Bolded** text indicates areas within the Project Area.  
 Data provided by D. Ball, DFO, pers. comm. 2019 and C. MacDonald, pers. comm. 2019

Key species commercially fished in and near the Project Area, include shrimp, snow crab, and groundfish, while species such as capelin, herring, and mackerel are generally harvested in coastal areas. In offshore



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NL, the type of commercial fishing gear used typically depends on the species that is being harvested, except for groundfish which often uses a combination of stern otter trawls, mobile or fixed gillnets, or longlines (e.g., baited hooks). Crab pots and shrimp trawls are used for snow crab and northern shrimp, respectively. Harvesting usually occurs between April and August, with some activity occurring year around (refer to Section 7.2.2).

Indigenous groups harvest harp, grey, hooded, and ringed seals between late March and mid-May; however, this can vary by species, and environmental and biological conditions (DFO 2011). The primary seal species harvested by the Inuit is the ringed seal (DFO 2011). In Greenland, the harp seal is commonly harvested and the harvest has surpassed the Canadian commercial harvest in recent years because Inuit harvesters tend to harvest older animals, unavailable in the Canadian commercial harvest (DFO 2011). Subsistence harvesters in Greenland, particularly the Inuit along the east coast, also harvest hooded seals (DFO 2011). Grey seals are generally harvested around the Gulf of St. Lawrence and coastal areas of NS. In addition to the commercial communal fishery, Indigenous groups can harvest seals throughout the year for FSC purposes.

Indigenous groups within the Maritime provinces also hold commercial communal licences which are located within the RAA. This includes commercial communal licences for swordfish and tuna. Table 7.31 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 7.31 Commercial Communal Fishing Licences Issued to Maritime Indigenous Groups for Fishing in the RAA**

Indigenous Group	Swordfish	Tuna
	NAFO Unit	NAFO Unit
Glooscap First Nation	3LMNOPs, 4Vs	3LMNOPs, 4Vs
Membertou Band Council	-	4Vs
Millbrook First Nation	3LMNOPs, 4Vs	3LMNOPs, 4Vs
Mime'j Seafoods Ltd (NCNS)	3LMNOPs, 4Vs	3LMNOPs, 4Vs + Gulf Region*
Paqtnekek First Nation	3LMNOPs, 4Vs	-
Pictou Landing First Nation	3LMNOPs, 4Vs	Gulf Region*
Sipekne'katik First Nation	3LMNOPs, 4Vs	3LMNOPs, 4Vs
Wagmatcook First Nation	3LMNOPs, 4Vs	Gulf Region*
Waycobah First Nation	3LMNOPs, 4Vs	Gulf Region*
Abegweit Band	3LMNOPs, 4Vs	Gulf Region*
Acadia First Nation	3LMNOPs, 4Vs	3LMNOPs, 4Vs
Lennox Island First Nation	3LMNOPs, 4Vs	Gulf Region*
Native Council of PEI	3LMNOPs, 4Vs	Gulf Region*
Bouctouche Micmac Band	-	Gulf Region*
Eel River Bar First Nation	-	Gulf Region*
Elsipogtog First Nation	-	Gulf Region*



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**Table 7.31 Commercial Communal Fishing Licences Issued to Maritime Indigenous Groups for Fishing in the RAA**

Indigenous Group	Swordfish	Tuna
	NAFO Unit	NAFO Unit
Esgenoopetitj First Nation	-	Gulf Region*
Fort Folly First Nation	<b>3LMNOPs, 4Vs</b>	<b>3LMNOPs, 4Vs</b>
Indian Island First Nation	-	Gulf Region*
Pabineau First Nation	-	Gulf Region*
St. Mary's First Nation	<b>3LMNOPs, 4Vs</b>	<b>3LMNOPs, 4Vs</b>
Tobique First Nation	-	Gulf Region*
Woodstock First Nation	<b>3LMNOPs, 4Vs</b>	<b>3LMNOPs, 4Vs</b>
Bear River First Nation	-	4Vs

Notes:  
**Bolded** text indicates areas within the Project Area.  
 \*Data for bluefin tuna licences in the Gulf Region did not include fishing area details  
 Data provided by DFO (Licensing Services, DFO, pers. comm. 2019; S. Curry, pers. comm. 2019; C. MacDonald, pers. comm. 2019)

#### 7.4.8.1.1 Swordfish

Swordfish, which sometimes occur in offshore NL waters, are a migratory species that are distributed widely throughout the Atlantic Ocean. Commercial communal fishing licences for swordfish have been issued to several Indigenous groups in NAFO Areas that overlap with the Project Area and the RAA, including NAFO subdivisions 3LMNO (Table 7.31). Therefore, Project activities have the potential to interact with swordfish harvesting activities. As seen in Figure 7-64, the primary commercial landing locations for swordfish, between 2013 and 2017, including those landings fished under a commercial communal licence, have been 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. Based on DFO research surveys, swordfish have not been found in the Project Area and the potential for occurrence within the Project Area is considered low. However, there is some potential for swordfish to move throughout the Project Area during certain times of the year.

#### 7.4.8.1.2 Tuna

Indigenous groups within Atlantic Canada also hold commercial communal licences to harvest species of tuna. As illustrated by Figures 7-65 to 7-67, like swordfish, most offshore NL commercial landings for tuna species, have generally been concentrated within NAFO Area 3O, which is outside of the Project Area, and within the southwest portion of the RAA. Since tuna have been found in the offshore waters of NL and are a highly migratory species, there is potential that they could migrate through the Project Area in search of prey species. Based on DFO RV survey results, tuna species have not been observed in the Project Area (refer to Section 6.1.7); therefore, DFO noted that the potential for occurrence within the Project Area was low.



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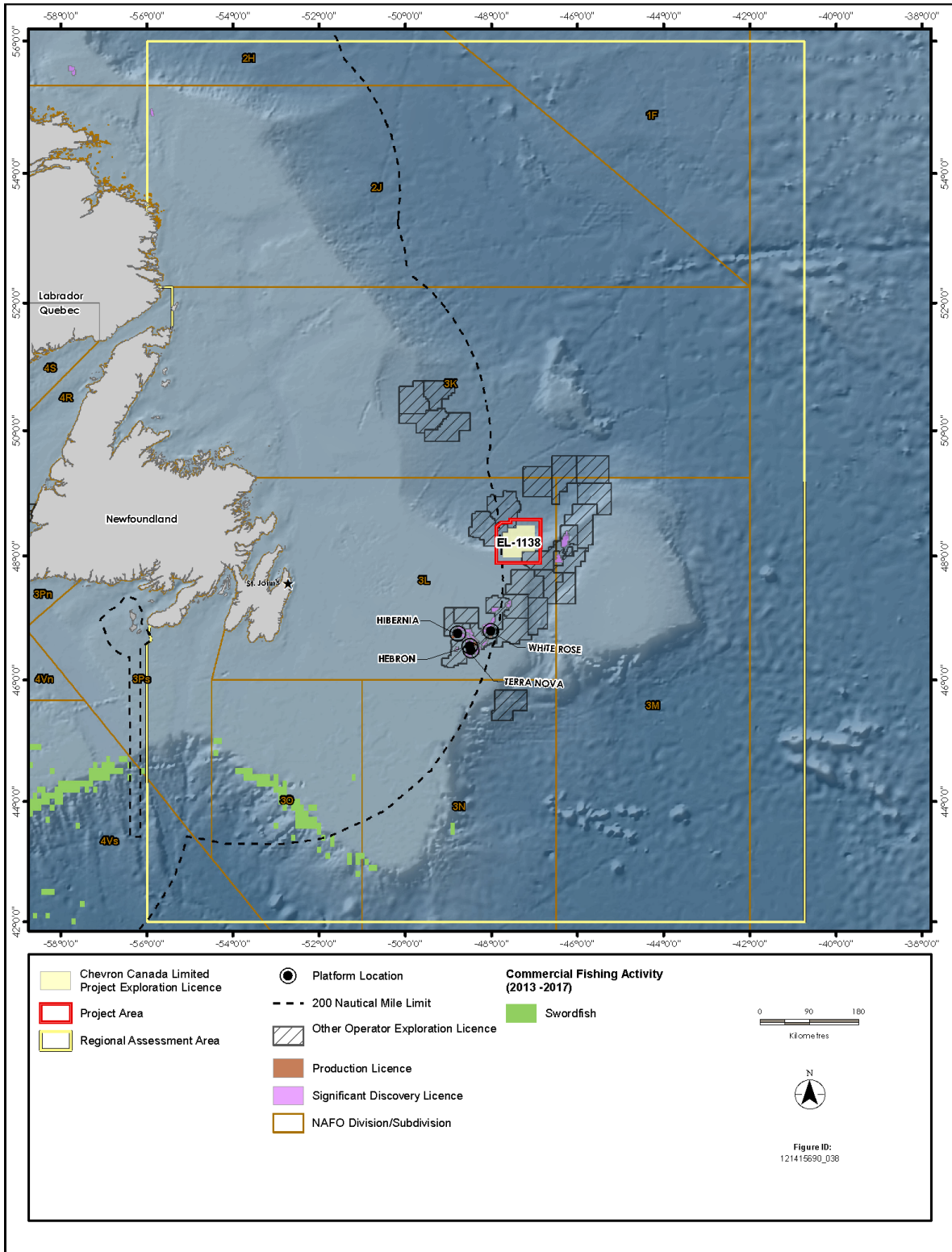
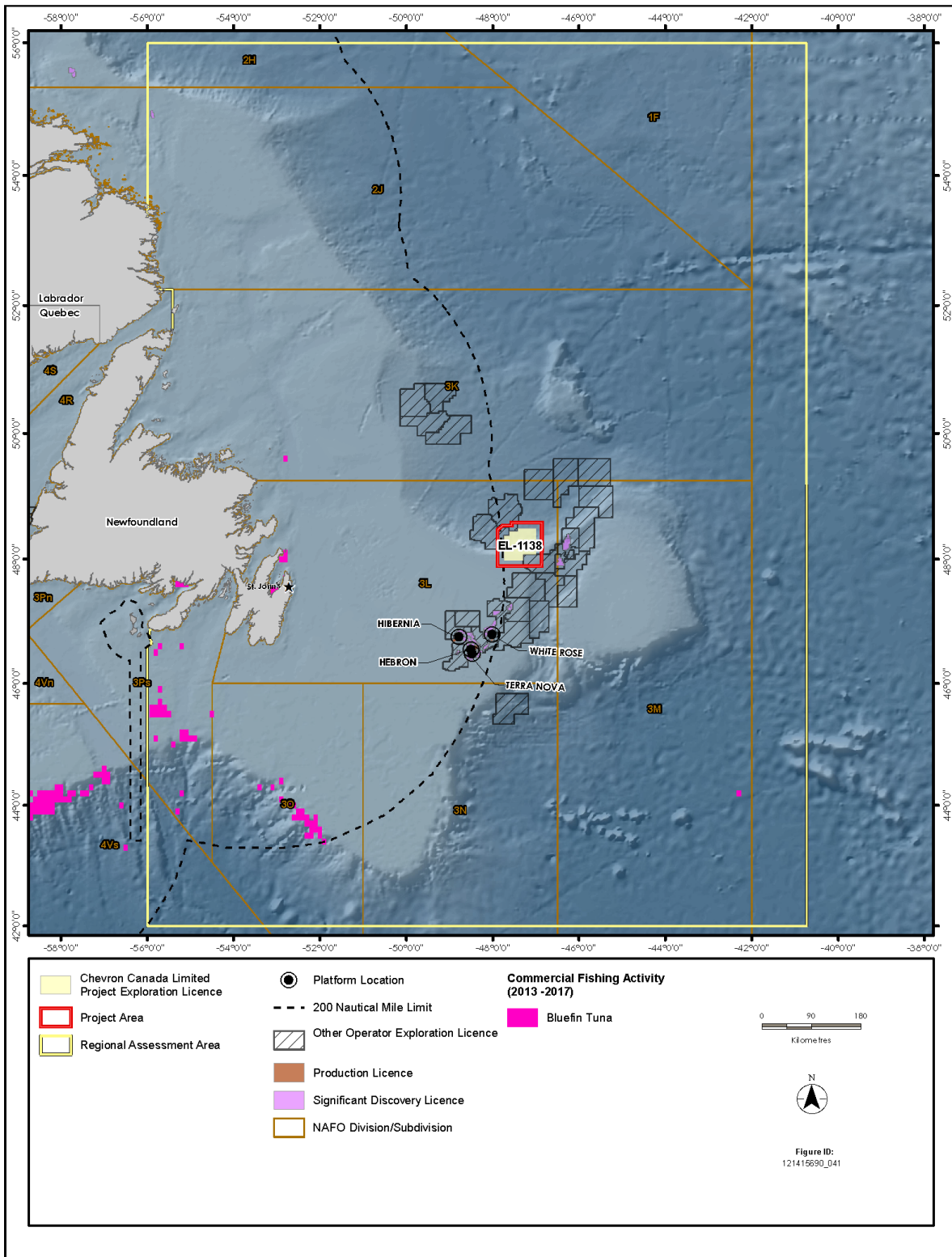


Figure 7-64 Domestic Harvesting Locations, Swordfish, 2013 to 2017



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**Figure 7-65 Domestic Harvesting Locations, Bluefin Tuna, 2013 to 2017**



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## EXISTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

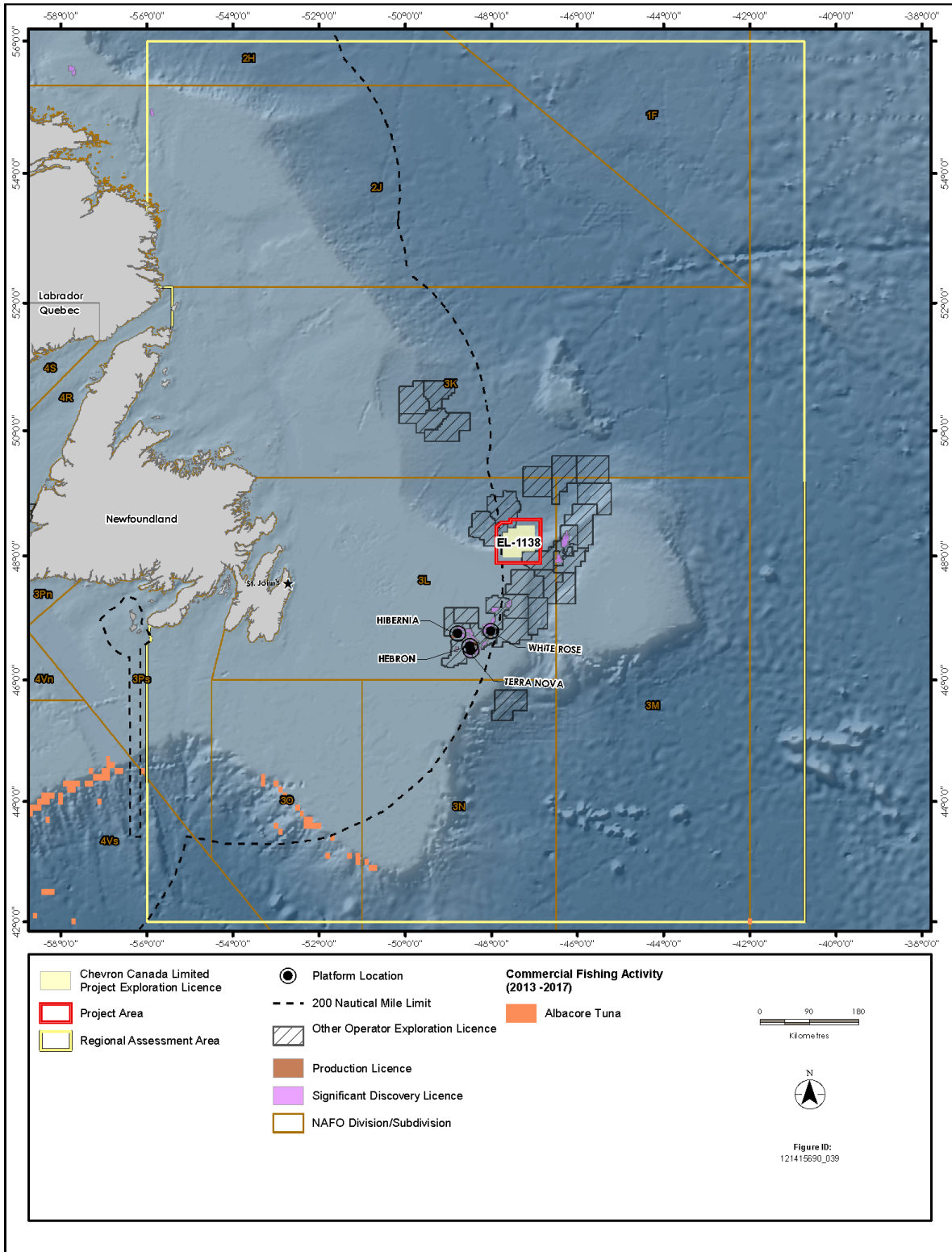
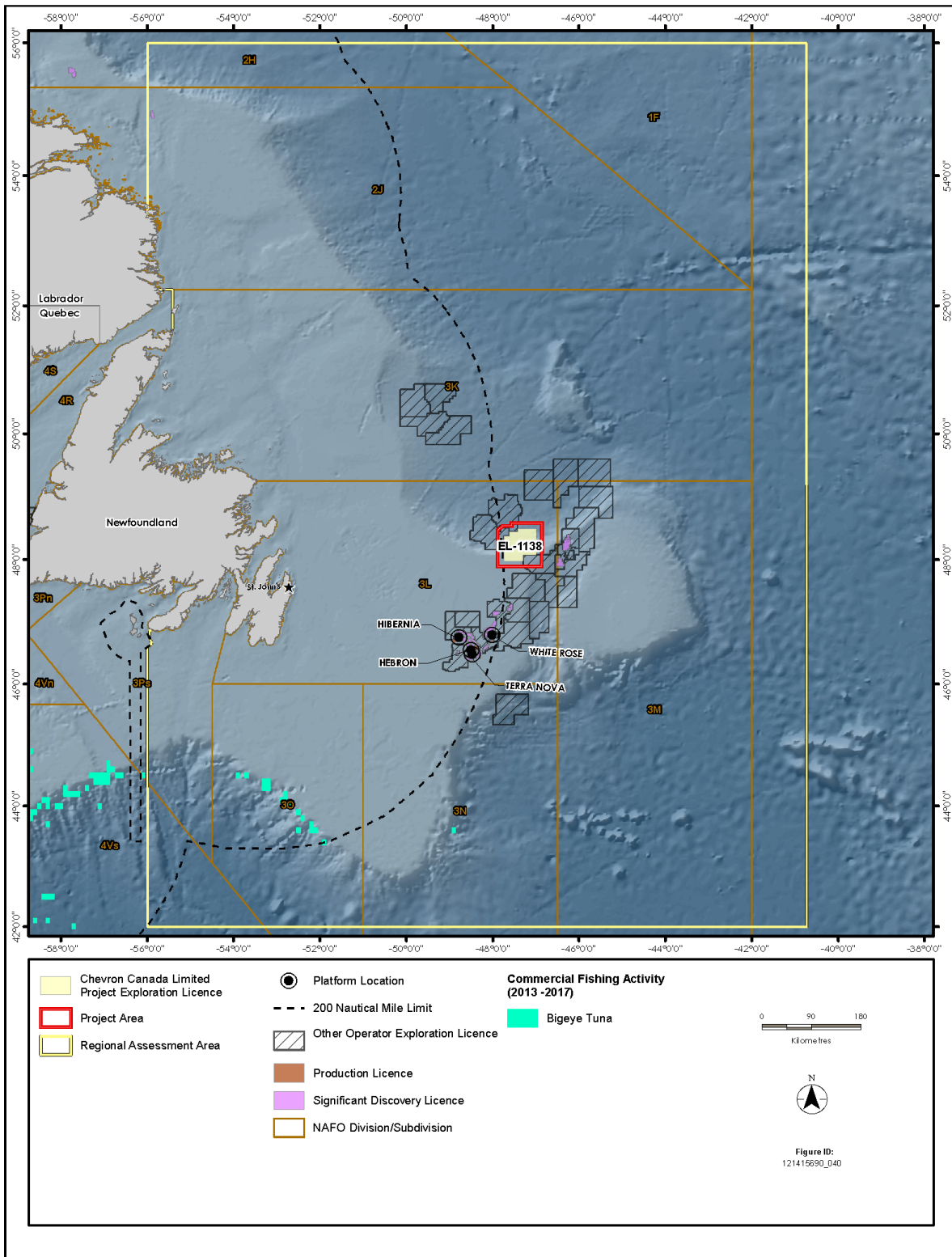


Figure 7-66 Domestic Harvesting Locations, Albacore Tuna, 2013 to 2017



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**Figure 7-67 Domestic Harvesting Locations, Bigeye Tuna, 2013 to 2017**



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#### 7.4.8.2 Food, Social, Ceremonial Fisheries

The various species harvested by Indigenous groups for FSC purposes were outlined in Sections 7.4.1 to 7.4.7. They primarily include 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. Typically, fishing areas for FSC fisheries are near shore and/or in freshwater systems and therefore would not be expected to interact with Project activities. However, there is potential of migration of some anadromous species, such as salmon, through the RAA and/or Project Area. During Indigenous engagement, concern was expressed regarding the potential interaction of Project activities and the migration of two migratory fish species, the American eel and Atlantic salmon. The significance of these species to Indigenous peoples and their potential for occurrence in the RAA, is described below.

##### 7.4.8.2.1 American Eel

The American eel (Katew), found primarily in freshwater, coastal marine waters and estuaries, is a catadromous (i.e., migrating down rivers to the sea to spawn) fish with a geographic range spanning from Venezuela to Greenland and Iceland in the northwest Atlantic (COSEWIC 2012). The most recent DFO RV surveys for 2016 / 2017 did not identify American eel in the survey sets, therefore, the potential for occurrence within the Project Area is 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 expected that currents would play a role in their movement towards Greenland, Iceland, or NL.

Katew is an important traditional food source with medicinal properties and has spiritual significance to the Mi'kmaq, Wolastoqiyik and Passamaquoddy (Prosper and Paulette 2002; UINR 2015a; Parks Canada 2017). Katew is fished using various types of tools, including stone eel weirs and different types of spears depending on the season (Prosper and Paulette 2002). Traditionally, the entirety of the eel was used and it was never over-exploited or wasted by the Mi'kmaq, as they practiced "take what is needed" ethics (Denny 2014). Eel skin is used as boot/moccasin soles, ties, and bindings and used to wrap sprains and provide relief from cramps, rheumatism, headaches, and lameness (Prosper and Paulette 2002; UINR 2015a; Parks Canada 2017) and 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). Because the eel is available year-round, it was often the main source of food during the winter, consumed three times a day for days to weeks, and remains a dependable, important source of food (Denny 2014).

Due to extreme declines in portions of the American eel distribution, COSEWIC has designated it as threatened (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; COSEWIC 2012; Parks Canada 2017). A relatively new threat of an exotic swim bladder nematode parasite has been identified as having a potential adverse effect on the eel (COSEWIC 2012; Parks Canada 2017). Mi'kmaq eel fishers have observed declines in traditional fishing areas, evident from the increase in time that it takes them to get enough eels to feed their families and provide for cultural events (Wagner et al. 2004, in Denny and Kavanagh 2018; Denny et al. 2012, in Denny and Kavanagh 2018).



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#### 7.4.8.2.2 Atlantic Salmon

North American Atlantic salmon breed and spend the early part of their life cycle in freshwater systems throughout Atlantic Canada, eastern QC, and the northeastern seaboard of the United States. Salmon spend most of their lives in brooks and rivers, with a rocky bottom (UINR 2015b) and are generally fished using rods, spear, snare, seines, or weirs. Salmon (or Plamu as it is known to the Mi'kmaq) are an important food source for the Mi'kmaq and were historically a staple, dependable and predicable food source (Denny and Fanning 2016). Rivers were often fished on a rotational basis and were shared among families, and sometimes other tribes (Ladner 2005, Marshall 2014, in Denny and Fanning 2016). In an effort to conserve the salmon populations, 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). Harvesting salmon is part of the Mi'kmaq culture and the overall experience is important, as Mi'kmaq grew up harvesting Plamu with family, learning the harvesting practices and about sustainability (UINR 2015b). Mi'kmaq waste little to no salmon when harvesting, and unusable parts would be buried so that the spirit and body of the salmon would be recycled (UINR 2015b; Denny and Fanning 2016). Mi'kmaq fishers govern themselves in accordance with their interactions and relationships with their environment. This is known as Netukulimk (traditional Mi'kmaq concept of conservation) and continues to be the guiding principle to harvesting salmon (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.

#### 7.4.8.3 Hunting and Gathering

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

Species commonly harvested by Indigenous groups include goose, ducks, loons, and seagulls, which are hunted year-round when available (Nalcor 2011). Other migratory birds that are traditionally harvested include murre (also referred to as turrs), mergansers, and scoters (SEM 2008). Murre (particularly a thick-billed murre which is harvested off the coast of Labrador, north of Groswater Bay) have the potential to migrate through the RAA. Murre migrate to or from their breeding grounds in the Arctic via the coast of Labrador, where harvesting activities occur. The Grand Banks may be an over-wintering area for thick-billed murre, with a migration of 16.5% of the estimated 1,080,000 breeding thick-billed murre in the Canadian Arctic. (Frederiksen et al. 2016).

Following the *Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement Act*, which came into effect in 2005, the Nunatsiavut Government undertook an initiative to determine the Inuit domestic harvest level. A survey was conducted between 2006 and 2007, of the migratory bird species commonly harvested by the Inuit. The Nunatsiavut



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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 and a total of 9,346 eggs were reported as being harvested, of which 36% were common eider eggs, 32% gulls, 20% terns, and 12% common guillemot (Natcher et al. 2012).

In addition to egg harvesting, berry harvesting is also common in the mid- to late-summer throughout Labrador, along access routes and river valleys and typically includes bakeapples, partridge berries and blueberries (Nalcor 2011). Medicinal plants, such as the inner and outer bark of trees, herbs, flowers, berries, mosses, and lichens, are also harvested (Nalcor 2011).

Seals are also an important harvest for Indigenous groups and can be harvested throughout the year for FSC purposes. The most recent population estimates of the Northwest Atlantic harp seal population, which has levelled off since 2008, is approximately 7.4 million (95% Confidence Interval: 6,475,800 to 8,273,600; Hammill et al. 2015). Climate change associated declines in sea ice may cause harp seals to use whelping areas farther north (Stenson and Hammill 2014). This population of harp seals is hunted for subsistence Inuit in Labrador, Arctic Canada, and Greenland, and commercially in their whelping locations. The majority of the approximately 80,000 subsistence animals are harvested in Greenland. 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), and hence are likely to be common in the Project Area. Andersen et al. (2012) suggested that off the coast of NL, hooded seals prefer areas with topographic and oceanographic conditions that produce good feeding conditions.

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