



NAFO Northwest
Atlantic
Fisheries
Organization

Committed to
**Conservation and Management of
Fisheries and Ecosystems** in the **Northwest Atlantic**

NAFO

Presentation to Workshop on Linking Global and
Regional Levels in the Management of Marine
Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction

FAO Rome

19 February 2015

Fred Kingston, Executive Secretary , NAFO

Amended NAFO Convention

- “ ... to ensure the long term conservation and sustainable use of the fishery resources in the Convention Area and, in so doing, to safeguard the marine ecosystems in which these resources are found. ” (2007 NAFO Amended Convention)



NAFO Jurisdiction



NAFO Convention Area is the entire Northwest Atlantic

NAFO Regulatory Area is the international waters outside of the EEZs of Canada, Denmark (Greenland), France (St. Pierre et Miquelon), USA and Bermuda

This one of the few places where the continental shelf extends beyond 200-miles

NAFO fisheries are mainly bottom trawling

NAFO --Joint Fisheries Commission and Scientific Council Working Groups

In 2014 Groups met on:

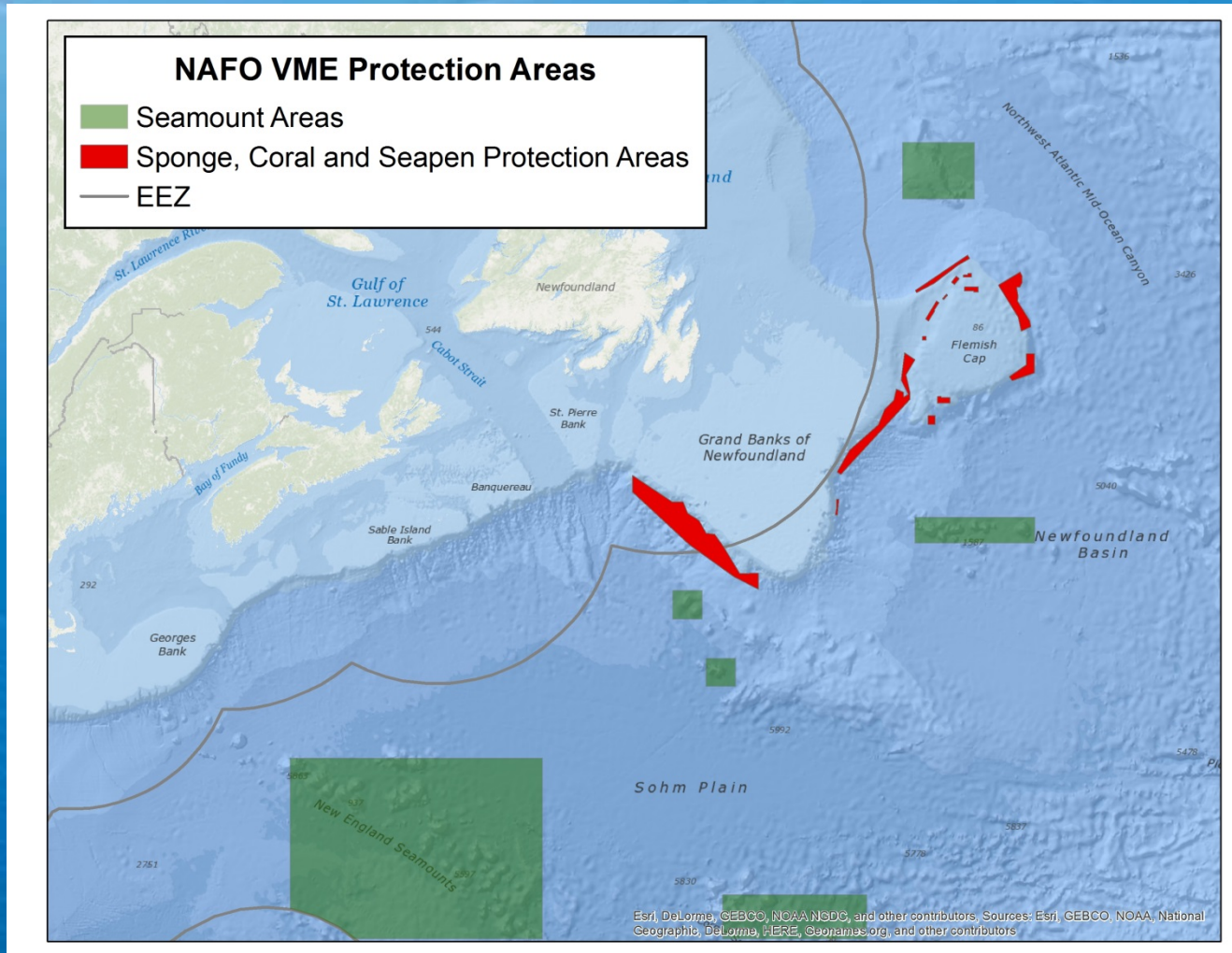
- **Catch Reporting** – more accurate data to base scientific advice and fisheries management decisions
- **Risk Based Management Strategies (RBMS)** – implementation of the Precautionary Approach to the reopening of fisheries
- **Ecosystem Approach Framework to Fisheries Management (EAFFM)** – VMEs and development of an Ecosystem Approach Roadmap

Also:

- **Fisheries Commission Working Group – Bycatches, Discards and Selectivity (BDS)** – FAO Guidelines on Bycatch management

VMEs -- Current NAFO closures

14 closed areas (sponge, sea pen and coral areas), plus 6 seamount areas where bottom fishing is restricted.



Offshore Oil and Gas Operations

- **Increasing Canadian oil and gas activity on the continental shelf beyond Canada's 200-mile limit**
- **Potential for overlaps with fishing activity and fishery research in international waters**
- **Proposed “information exchange mechanism” as a means to avoid potential overlapping activities**

THANK YOU