

How Has The Network Planning Process Considered Existing Fisheries Management?

The proposed NSB MPA Network and current fisheries management approaches complement each other

Current fisheries management approaches

Sustainable harvest of species for commercial, recreational, and Indigenous food, social, and ceremonial fisheries

Proposed NSB MPA Network approach

Protects and conserves biodiversity, habitats, and ecosystems from threats posed by multiple human activities

The Network process has considered the current management of fisheries in the following ways:

The Network was simplified by aggregating zones to reduce complexity. This will improve enforcement and compliance, and ultimately Network effectiveness

20-50% of the conservation areas in the Network are proposed to be 'highly protected'

The 20-50% design strategy was set in recognition that the Network is being proposed in an area of existing fisheries management and other conservation initiatives

Existing fisheries closures and other spatial management measures were considered during selection of Network zones/sites

Rockfish Conservation Areas (RCAs) have been incorporated and contribute to Network conservation targets and objectives

Input from fishing sectors was incorporated into the proposed network design

We need your involvement to inform these next steps during site implementation

Integration of existing management of fisheries with marine protected areas is a new and emerging field

Fisheries and Oceans Canada is exploring how other jurisdictions integrate fisheries management, MPAs, and MPA networks

This integration is a considerable challenge that is still being worked out around the world

First Nations, Provincial and Federal partners are collaboratively developing knowledge and leadership in this field

When creating fisheries management measures within an MPA, the risk posed by fisheries to the site's conservation objectives is determined. Then, the effectiveness of existing management to reduce or eliminate that risk is considered. If there is any remaining risk, new management measures are needed

Input from fishing sectors is essential during these activities

There will be additional opportunities for integrating fisheries management during Network implementation

Once a site is in place, a management plan must be created, and further integration of existing management approaches can occur