



DFO *Oceans Act* Marine Protected Areas Data Dictionary

Description:

Marine protected areas (MPAs) are one among a number of spatial management tools, and are defined as areas that are established for the long-term, and managed through legal or other effective means, to achieve the long-term conservation of nature with associated ecosystem services and cultural values.

Currently, Fisheries and Oceans Canada has a number of MPAs designated under the *Oceans Act* and Areas of Interest for new MPAs at various stages of progress towards designation. These areas are ecologically significant, with species and/or features that require special management consideration.

An *Oceans Act* MPA can be established for any of the six conservation purposes outlined in the Act:

- The conservation and protection of commercial and non-commercial fishery resources, including marine mammals, and their habitats;
- The conservation and protection of endangered or threatened marine species, and their habitats;
- The conservation and protection of unique habitats;
- The conservation and protection of marine areas of high biodiversity or biological productivity;
- The conservation and protection of any other marine resource or habitat as is necessary to fulfill the mandate of the Minister; and
- The conservation and protection of marine areas for the purposes of maintaining ecological integrity

Purpose:

The boundaries and attributes in this dataset are intended to provide a visual representation of the area and are for information purposes only, and *should not be considered legally authoritative*. Please refer to the legal regulations for official coordinates and information about *Ocean Act* Marine Protected Areas.

Attributes:

Field Name	Alias*	Type	Description
NAME_E	Name	String	Name of the protected area, in English
NAME_F	Nom	String	Name of the protected area, in French
ZONE_E	Zone_E	String	Zone of the MPA, in English if applicable
ZONE_F	Zone_F	String	Zone of the MPA, in French if applicable
URL_E	Webpage	String	Link to the description of the MPA on the DFO website, in English
URL_F	Page web	String	Link to the description of the MPA on the DFO website, in French
REGULATION	Regulation	String	Link to the MPA regulations, in English
REGLEMENT	Règlement	String	Link to the MPA regulations, in French
KM2	Km2	Double	Area coverage of the MPA in Km ² (Calculated in Canada Albers Equal Area Conic (NAD83 with central meridian at -96)

*Alias used in the ESRI REST and WMS formats only.

Coordinate System:

Format	Coordinate System
ESRI REST and WMS	NAD 1983 Canada Atlas Lambert (EPSG: 3978)
SHP and GDB	Canada Albers Equal Area Conic NAD 83 (ESRI: 102001)