

# Oil and Marine Protection Don't Mix: Inconsistent Regulation Across Canada



## 1 Tallurutiup Imanga / Lancaster Sound

Proposed National Marine Conservation Area

In 2016, Shell Canada relinquished 30 offshore exploration permits (860,000 ha), allowing for expansion of proposed NMCA boundaries.<sup>[5]</sup>



## 2 Laurentian Channel

Proposed Marine Protected Area

Regulations proposed in 2017 would allow oil and gas drilling in 88% of the MPA.<sup>[6]</sup>



## 3 The Gully

Designated Marine Protected Area

The Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board has maintained a moratorium on activities within the Gully since 1998.<sup>[7]</sup>



## 4 Northeastern Newfoundland Slope

Designated Marine Refuge

In 2018, the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board put out a call for oil and gas exploration licences, permitting activity in 35% of the marine refuge area.<sup>[8]</sup>



## 5 Georges Bank

A jointly declared federal-provincial moratorium, in place since 1988 to protect this productive fishing area, has been extended until at least 2022.<sup>[9]</sup>



### Bill C-55 - An Act to amend the *Oceans Act* and the *Canada Petroleum Resources Act*

Proposed amendments to the *Canada Petroleum Resources Act* (CPRA) will allow the government to

- Issue an order to prohibit oil and gas activities within *Oceans Act* MPAs,
- Cancel oil and gas interests within certain Arctic areas

### Gaps remain:

Amendments do not automatically protect any MPAs from oil and gas development. The amendments will not protect MPAs in Nova Scotia and Newfoundland & Labrador from oil and gas development at all, or prevent environmentally harmful seismic testing anywhere in Canada.

[1] Map data retrieved from NRCan Grid Areas of the Canada Oil and Gas Land Regulations <<https://open.canada.ca/data/en/dataset/87ef7c55-23f1-4912-8dde-4941c99148b>> [2] BC Government <<http://www.empr.gov.bc.ca/Mining/Geoscience/MapPlace/thematicmaps/OffshoreMapGallery/Pages/chronologyofactivity.aspx>> [3] Government of Canada, 2016 <<https://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2016/12/20/united-states-canada-joint-arctic-leaders-statement>> [4] C-NLOPB <<http://www.cnlopb.ca/>>; CNSOPB <<https://www.cnsopb.ns.ca/>> [5] CBC, 2016 <<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/north/shell-lancaster-sound-permits-1.3620681>> [6] Hakai Magazine, 2017 <<https://www.hakaimagazine.com/news/canadas-new-marine-less-protected-it-could-have-been-area/>> [7] CNSOPB <<https://www.cnsopb.ns.ca/environment/marine-protected-area>> [8] CBC, 2018 <<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/marine-protected-areas-offshore-exploration-oil-gas-1.4647484>> [9] CBC, 2015 <<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/georges-bank-moratorium-extended-1.3338283>>