

Towards a National Network of Marine Protected Areas in Canada

Presentation to the Marine Protected Areas Federal Advisory
Committee

San Mateo, California
November 18, 2003

National System of Marine Protected Areas

- *Oceans Act 1997*
- For the purposes of integrated management plans...the Minister will lead and coordinate the development and implementation of a national system of marine protected areas...

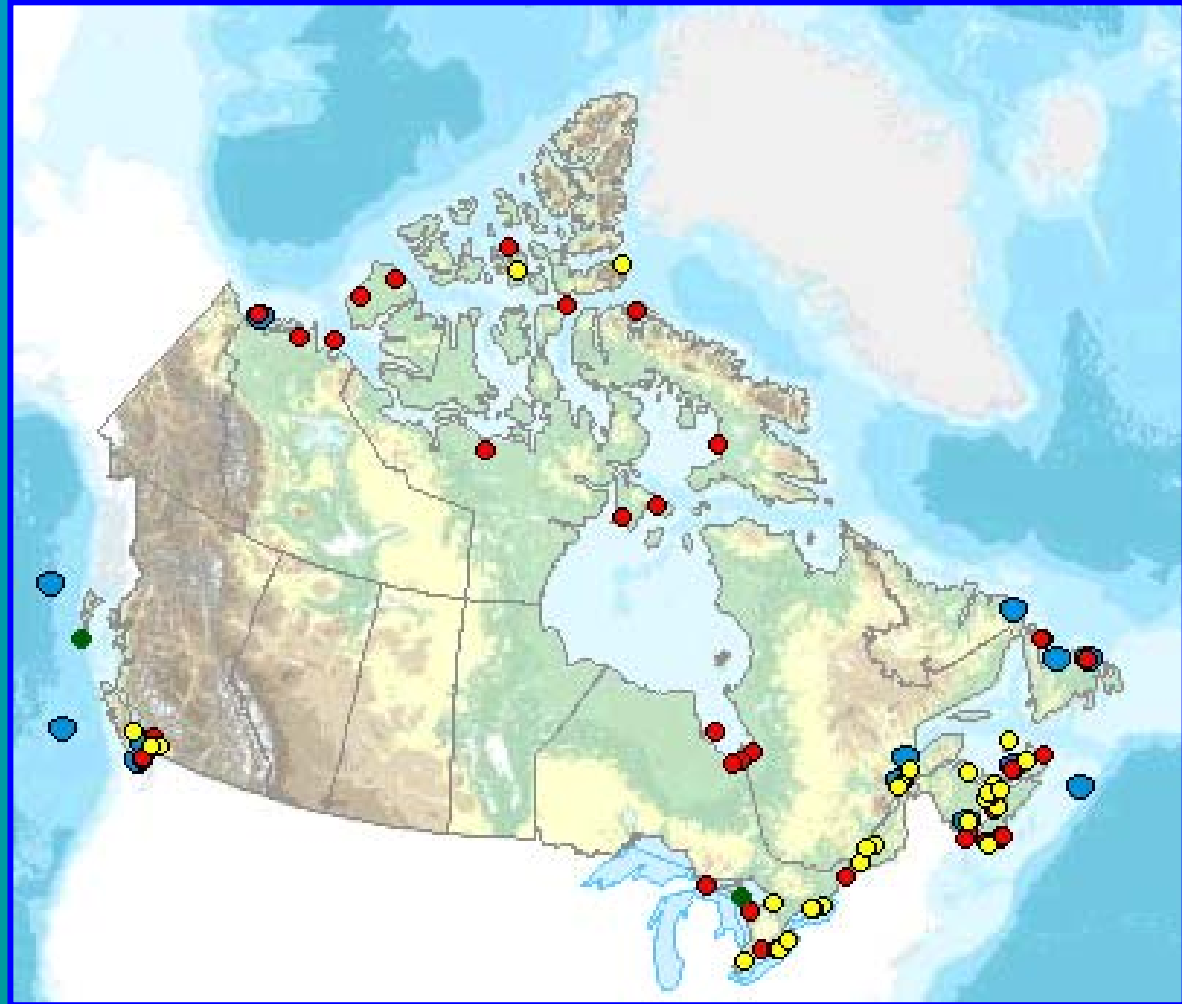
Federal MPA Tools

Agency	Legislation	Program
Parks Canada	<i>Canada National Marine Conservation Areas Act</i> <i>Canada National Parks Act</i> <i>Saquenay-St. Lawrence Marine Park Act</i>	National Marine Conservation Areas National Parks *
Environment Canada	<i>Canada Wildlife Act</i> <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i>	Marine Wildlife Areas National Wildlife Areas* Migratory Bird Sanctuaries*
Fisheries and Oceans Canada	<i>Oceans Act</i>	Marine Protected Areas

*several include marine components

Network = Connect the Dots?

- National Wildlife Areas
- National Marine Conservation Areas
- Migratory Bird Sanctuaries
- Marine Protected Areas



What is a Network?

- Attributes of an effective mpa network:
 - diversity of types
 - operates at different scales
 - focused on clearly defined conservation targets
 - connectivity
 - supported by broader oceans management infrastructure
- Components of the overall network could include:
 - areas set aside as representative of ecosystem types;
 - areas closed to specific fishing activities and/or gear types;
 - areas managed to protect:
 - at risk and endangered species & supporting habitats;
 - unique biophysical or geomorphological features
 - ecosystem processes to maintain ecosystem structure and function
 - areas vital to particular species (spawning , rearing, feeding, habitats)

Canada's Approach

- Federal Marine Protected Area Strategy
 - Increase ecological effectiveness through networks.
 - Increase institutional effectiveness by identifying and capitalizing on synergies.
 - MPAs nested within large scale integrated management plans
 - Provide clarity and certainty to other ocean users.

Federal Marine Protected Area Programs

- **Fisheries and Oceans Canada**

- Marine Protected Areas (MPA)

- **Parks Canada**

- National Marine Conservation Areas (NMCA)

- **Environment Canada**

- Marine Wildlife Areas (MWA)
- National Wildlife Areas (NWA)
- Migratory Bird Sanctuaries (MBS)

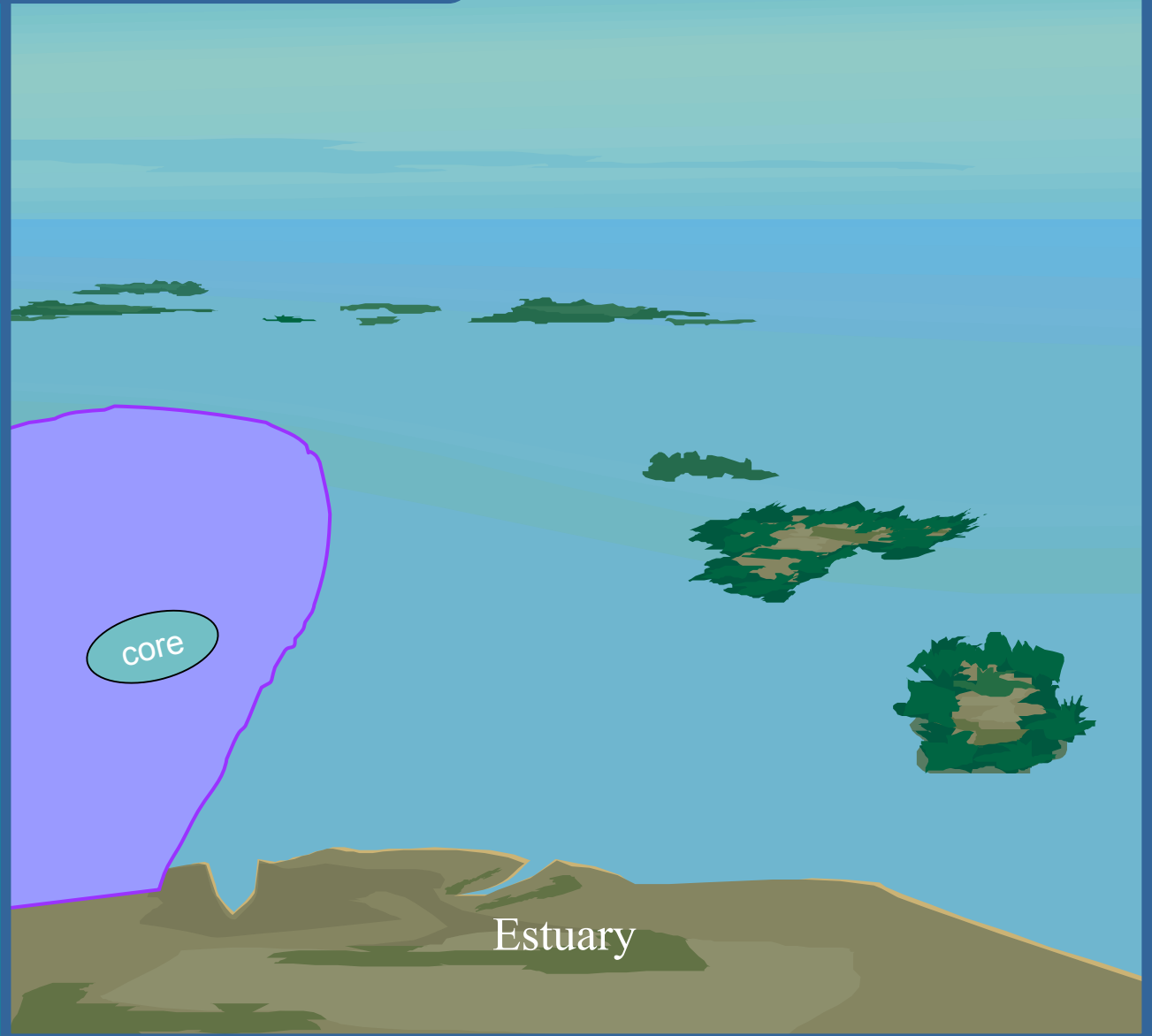


Federal Marine Protected Area Programs

Parks Canada

National Marine Conservation Areas (NMCA)

- Representation of marine natural regions
- On-site interpretation
- Public Education / enjoyment
- Core protected area
- Sustainable use

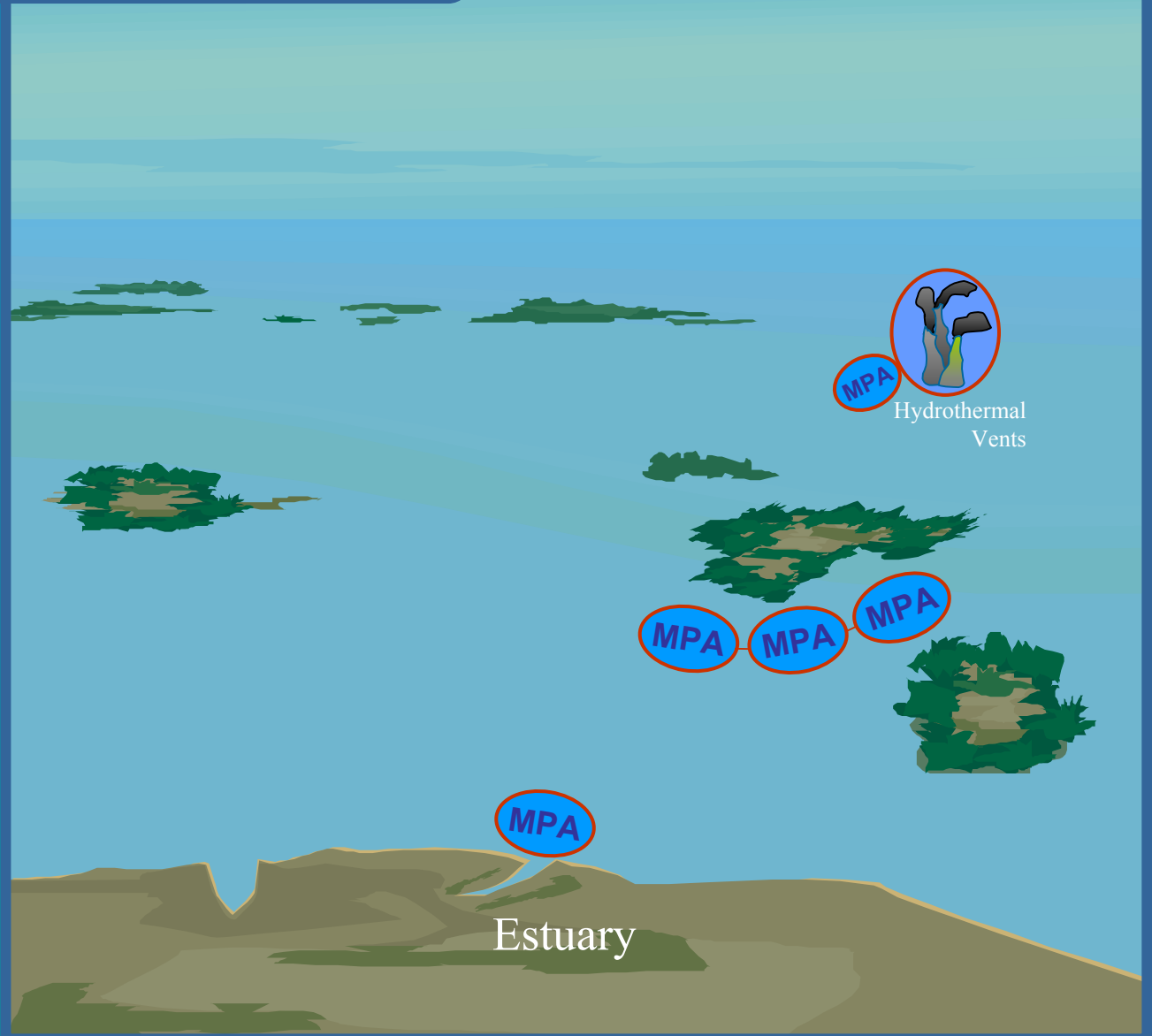


Federal Marine Protected Area Programs

Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Marine Protected Areas (MPA)

- Conserve and protect:
 - Fisheries and marine mammal resources
 - Species and habitats
 - Endangered species / habitats
 - Unique habitats
 - Areas high productivity
 - Biodiversity
- Sustainable use



Federal Marine Protected Area Programs

Environment Canada

Marine Wildlife
Areas (MWA)







National Wildlife
Areas (NWA)

Migratory Bird
Sanctuaries (MBS)

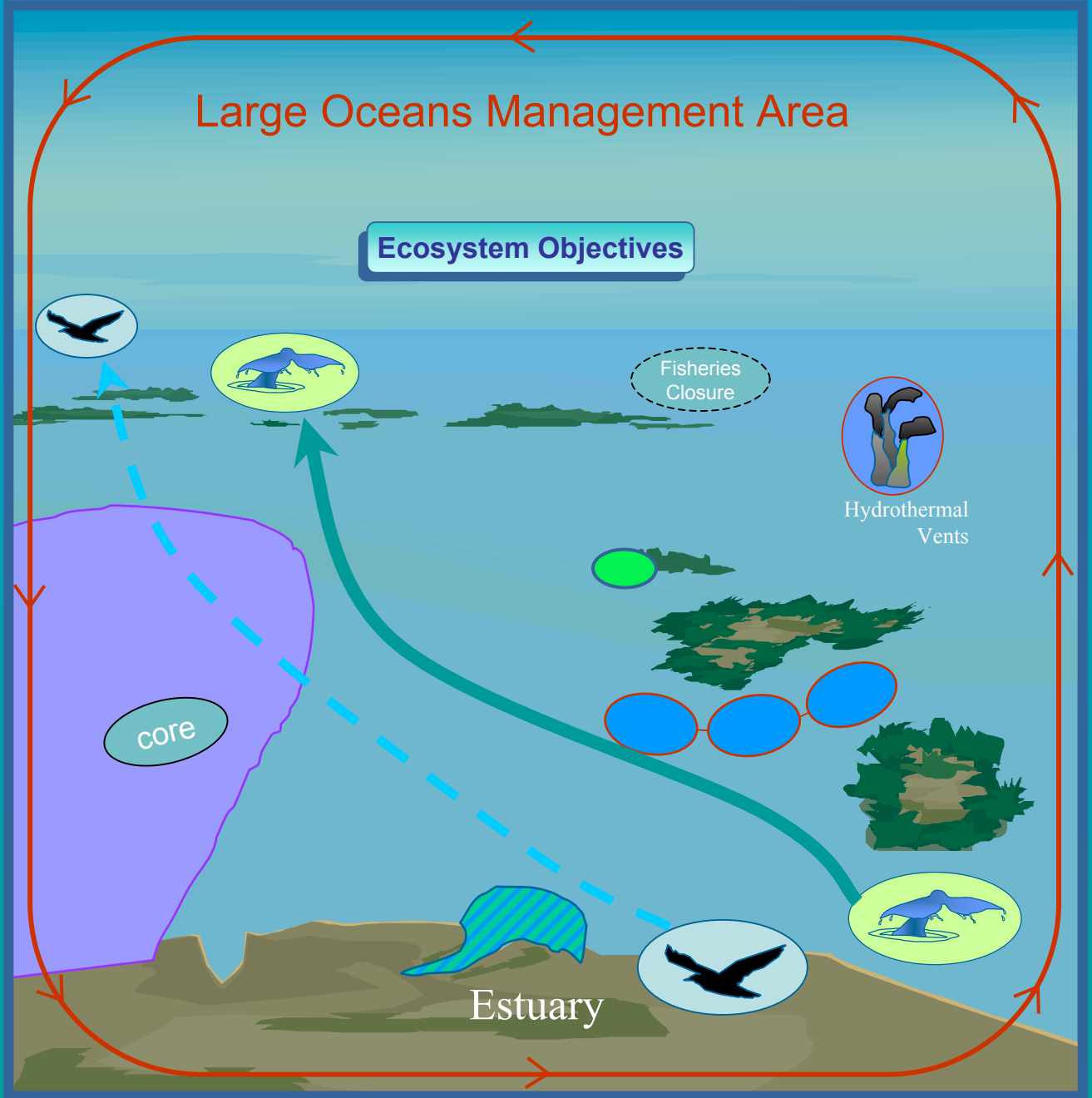
- Conserve and protect:
 - Wildlife / Migratory birds
 - Species and habitats
 - Endangered species / habitats
 - Productive, unique and sustainable areas
 - Biodiversity



Marine Protected Area Network

-  Fisheries Closure
-  NMCA National Marine Conservation Areas
-  MPA Marine Protected Areas
-  MBS Migratory Bird Sanctuary
-  Co-Designated Area - MPA & MBS
-  Provincial Ecological Reserve

Ecosystem Objectives



Where are we now?

- Getting the Federal 'house in order'
 - Embarking on the Development of the Federal MPA Strategy.
 - Will be expanded to include provinces and territories, aboriginal groups, communities, other stakeholders
- Initiating collaborative action, both at the planning scale and for management of MPAs.
- Continuing the forge ahead on the identification, evaluation and establishment of additional sites.