



We have the
tools to start

**saving
our oceans...**

now all we need is

action

Out of sight shouldn't mean out of mind.

It's easy to ignore the things we can't see. But it doesn't take a lot of thought to realize how much we depend on the complex world that exists beneath those ocean waves.

For jobs. For food. For recreation. Even for the oxygen in the air we breathe.

And of course, all kinds of creatures — from seabirds to sponges to giant blue whales — depend on a healthy environment around them in order to survive.

If we don't provide adequate protection for these species and spaces, we risk losing them forever.

Problems:

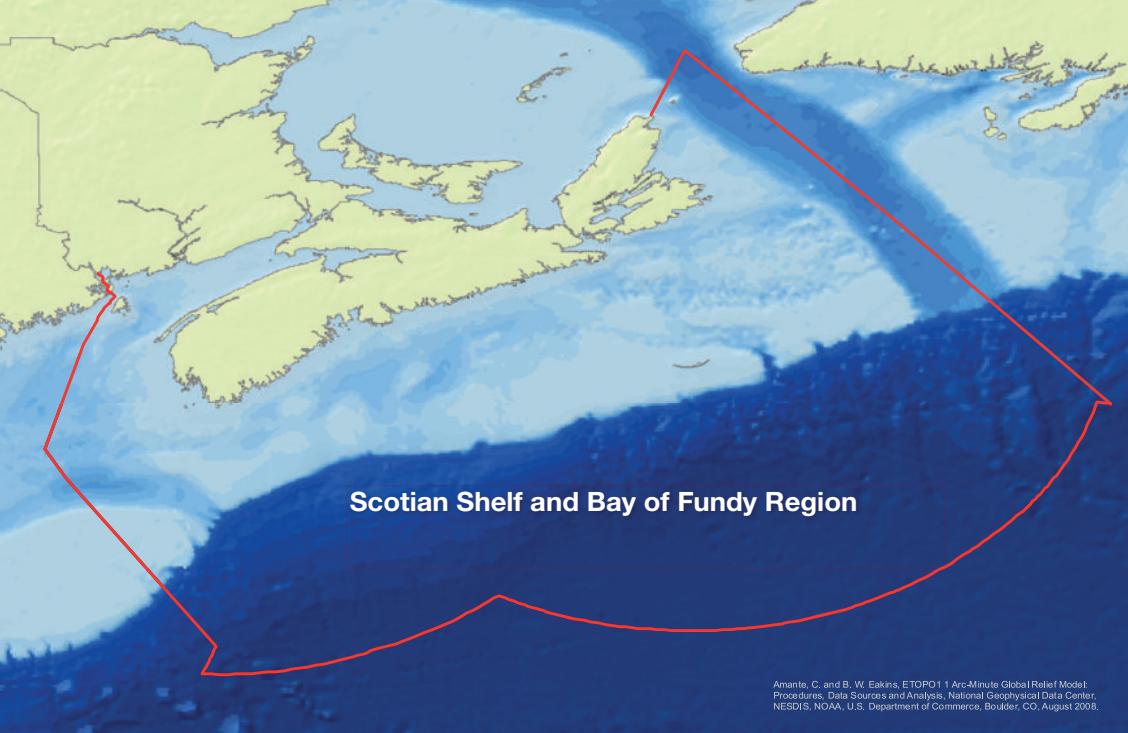
Fish stock collapses. Disappearing species. Habitat destruction.

Unfortunately, the waters off the coast of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick are facing big challenges.

Cod and other fisheries have been decimated. Tunas, sharks and other species teeter on the brink of extinction. And each year, unsustainable fishing and industrial activity damages vital habitat, including spawning grounds, cold water corals and the life-filled rock gardens that shelter young fish.

And as ocean temperatures rise, waters acidify and currents change course due to global climate change, the pressure will only increase.

Today, small-scale solutions are not enough for the Scotian Shelf and Bay of Fundy. Instead, we need bold, ambitious action to turn things around – and we need it *now*.



Scotian Shelf and Bay of Fundy Region

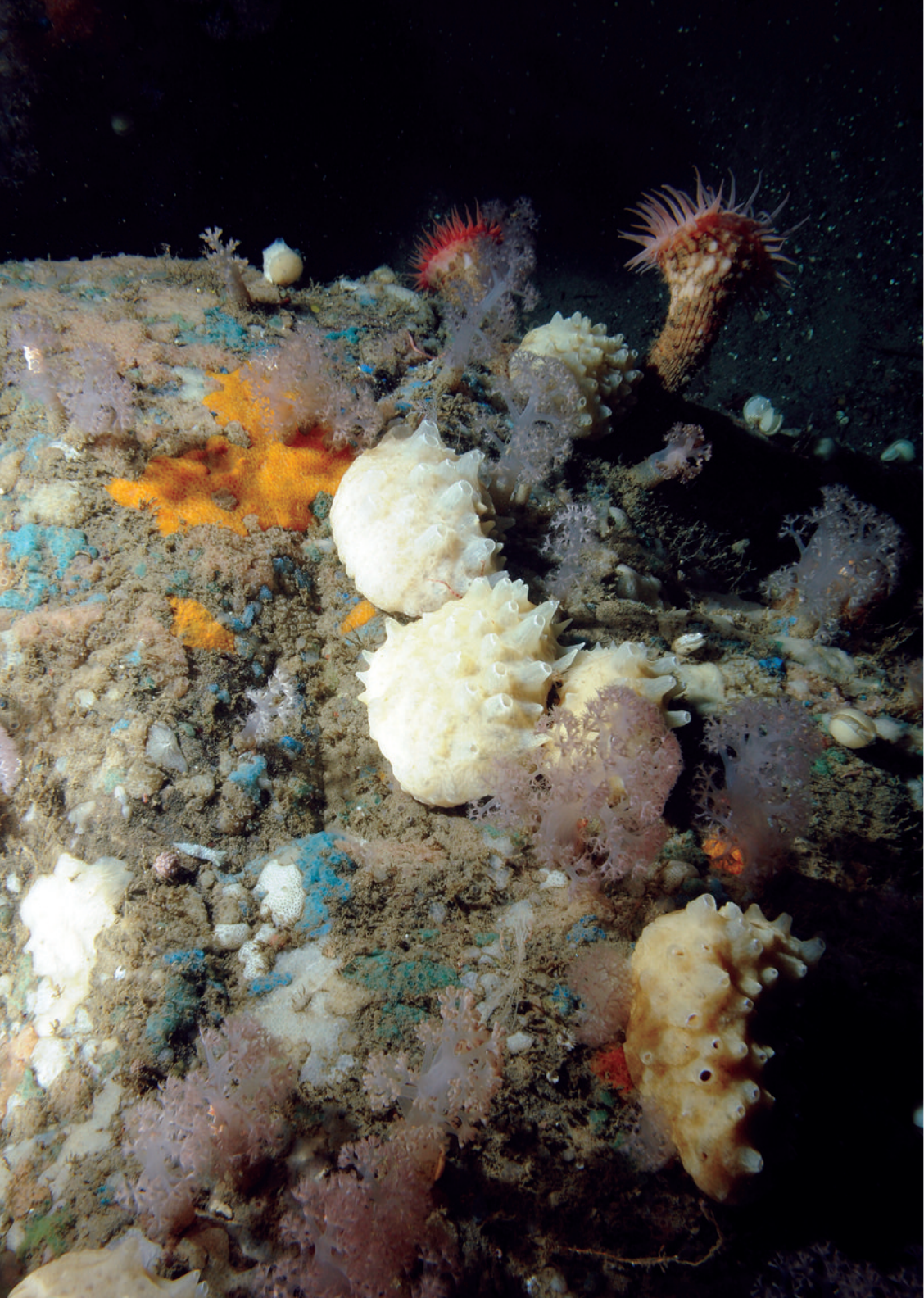
Amante, C. and B. W. Eakins, ETOPO1 1-Arc-Minute Global Relief Model: Procedures, Data Sources and Analysis, National Geophysical Data Center, NESDIS, NOAA, U.S. Department of Commerce, Boulder, CO, August 2008.

Solutions: A network of marine protected areas.

We know that marine protected areas (MPAs) make a difference. From Iceland to the United States, countries around the world have set aside sites that are successfully protecting important habitat, creating refuges for endangered species and giving fish stocks space to grow and mature.

But one or two unconnected sites can't do it all. We need to tackle the big problems that affect our whole region. That's where networks come in.

By thinking regionally, we can create a set of MPAs that is more than the sum of its parts — one that protects biologically important areas, preserves the natural flows of species and nutrients and has an impact far beyond its boundaries.



Benefits for the ecosystem... and the economy.

Imagine more fish, stronger coastal economies and seas teeming with a variety of life. A well-planned network of MPAs across the Scotian Shelf and Bay of Fundy is the most important thing we can do to make that vision real.

Global experience has proved that MPA networks offer a powerful prescription for ecological and economic health. The benefits include:

- More plants and animals per square metre of ocean
- A wider range of species
- Bigger commercial fish stocks, including larger fish that produce more young
- Increased income for fishing communities
- Streamlined rules for resource users
- Opportunities for eco-tourism
- More resilient ecosystems that can cope better with the challenges of climate change



Go fish?

MPAs don't have to mean a ban on commercial fishing. Most allow sustainably managed fisheries in the zones surrounding a highly protected core area. And because a strategically planned MPA network can achieve conservation goals without taking up vast amounts of space, it still leaves plenty of ocean for resource use.

In fact, coastal communities around the world – and here in Atlantic Canada – are taking the lead on MPAs to help restore fish stocks and secure their own fishing future.

What's holding us back?

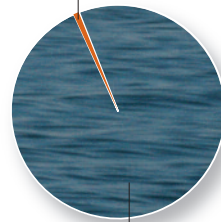
We've made a promise: at the 2002 World Summit for Sustainable Development, Canada committed to creating a national network of marine protected areas by 2012. When it comes to delivering, however, we're falling woefully short.

How short? In the Scotian Shelf and Bay of Fundy Region, our three MPAs add up to a mere one half of one per cent of our regional marine environment. That's lagging far behind the network of protected areas we're building on land.

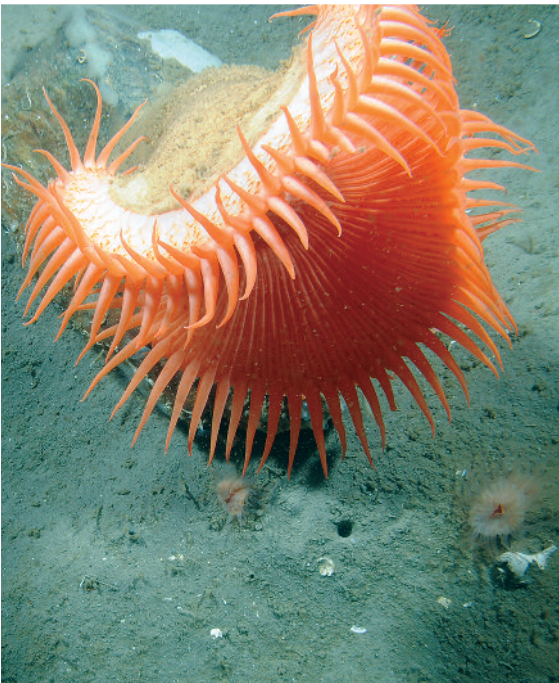
And compared to the level of protection scientists say our oceans need, it's simply a drop in the bucket.

CURRENT PROTECTION LEVELS

Protected **0.56%**



Unprotected **99.44%**



Speak up for our oceans!

Tell the Government of Canada that we need a scientifically sound network of MPAs in the waters off Nova Scotia and New Brunswick — and we need it quickly.

Government agencies are currently taking the first steps toward a new protected area here. But one more MPA is a far cry from the action required to heal our marine environment.

It's time to send a strong message: We need more than a single site. We need a plan to dramatically increase the level

of ocean protection — a plan that includes actions, timelines and interim rules to protect vulnerable species and spaces before the opportunity is lost.

Visit www.wwf.ca/oceansaction for more information. Let's start putting conservation answers into action.



WWF-Canada's mission is to stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature, by:

- conserving the world's biological diversity
- ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable
- promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption

WWF-Canada is a federally registered charity (no.11930 4954 RR0001), and an official national organization of World Wide Fund For Nature, headquartered in Gland, Switzerland. WWF is known as World Wildlife Fund in Canada and the US.

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