

Marine shipping is safer

- Updated the [Pilotage Act](#) to ensure marine pilots taking control to navigate large vessels through ports, straits, lakes, rivers, and other Canadian waters have local knowledge before taking control.
- Built stronger forecasts for weather and water surface currents to make shipping safer between Les Escoumins and Montreal.
- Developed a targeted recruitment strategy for Marine Communications Traffic Services centres to attract candidates from coastal communities, including Quebec's North Shore.
- Completed hydrographic surveys for 7 high-priority commercial ports and released 14 new or updated corresponding Electric Navigation Charts to help mariners navigate more safely through high-traffic commercial ports and waterways. Also refurbished 27 tide and water level monitoring stations.
- Collected seafloor data throughout Quebec to improve navigation charts and developed prototype dynamic tide and current models for the St. Lawrence River Quebec-Montréal Corridor to improve safety for mariners.

Greater protection for coastal ecosystems

- Removed or assessed over 50 abandoned and wrecked vessels in Quebec and established the [Wrecked, Abandoned or Hazardous Vessels Act](#), making it illegal to abandon a vessel in Canadian waters.
- As part of the Great-Lakes Seaway Ballast Water Working Group, conducted 281 ballast tank examinations to monitor the compliance of vessels with the regulations and to prevent introduction of new invasive species in the Great-Lakes Basin.
- Funded 15 coastal aquatic habitat rehabilitation projects to restore local ecosystems to better support marine life.
- Funded 8 projects through the [Coastal Environmental Baseline Program](#) to collect environmental data for a broad scope of ecosystem-focused projects in collaboration with scientists, stakeholders, and Indigenous and coastal communities in the St. Lawrence Estuary. This knowledge of local habitats and species will contribute to a better understanding of the marine environment over time.
- Studied migratory birds in the St. Lawrence River and estuary from Montréal to Anticosti Island to better protect them and their habitat in the event of an emergency.
- Built models to show the full water cycle from the Great Lakes to the Atlantic Ocean, including the St. Lawrence Seaway, to help emergency responders better predict how oil would move in those waterways.
- Assessed the potential cumulative effects of marine vessel activities in the St. Lawrence and Saguenay Rivers in Quebec.

Improved prevention and response to marine incidents

- Installed emergency tow kits on the CCGS Amundsen, CCGS Des Groseilliers, CCGS Pierre Radisson, and CCGS Martha L. Black icebreakers, all based in Quebec City.
- Ensured that the Canadian Coast Guard's Regional Operations Centres in Quebec, which monitor and assess marine incidents, including pollution events, are operational 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- Supported research scientists, meteorologists, and experts at the Canadian Meteorological Centre in Dorval, Quebec, to develop leading-edge technology to share with emergency responders. This work included coastal ocean, wave, and ice forecasts for Canada's three coastlines. The technology improves a responders' ability to estimate vessel drifts and react to local changes in environmental conditions.
- Studied how oil spreads in the St. Lawrence Seaway to understand how to respond in case of a spill.
- Increased capacity to support emergency preparedness and response by hiring 12 Environmental Emergency Officers and notification agents at the National Environmental Emergencies Centre in Montréal.
- Provided Marine Mammal Response Capacity Building Funding to the Group for Research and Education on Marine Mammals (GREMM) to purchase equipment, as well as recruit and train three mobile marine mammal response units in Quebec.

Increased collaboration with Indigenous and coastal communities

- Partnered with 8 Indigenous communities and organizations in the St. Lawrence region to hire local marine liaison officers for work on the Oceans Protection Plan.
- Collaborated with the Mamu Innu Kaikuseth Agency to organize an Oceans Protection Plan initiatives workshop to share information with local communities.
- Co-developed [Enhanced Maritime Situational Awareness \(EMSA\)](#), a web-based platform, with the Innu Essipit First Nation Council and the First Nation of the Mohawks of Kahnawà:ke, along with 11 other Indigenous communities across Canada, which provides near real-time marine traffic and environmental data to help enhance local marine safety, environmental monitoring and protection, and manage waterway activities. To date, nearly 600 licences have been issued to Indigenous partners, coastal communities, and stakeholders across Canada.
- Supported 5 Indigenous communities and organizations to share their knowledge and participate in Oceans Protection Plan initiatives.
 - Provided funding to the Nunavik Region to install bollards, equipment, replace pipelines for safer sealift/resupply operations, and upgrade equipment for petroleum product transfer in 13 northern communities in the Inuit region of Quebec.
 - Provided funding for 2 Indigenous coastal communities to buy search and rescue boats and equipment to improve their marine safety capacity.