



Oceans Protection Plan

Oil Tanker Moratorium Act

Background

The *Oil Tanker Moratorium Act* prohibits oil tankers carrying more than 12,500 metric tonnes of crude oil or persistent oil products as cargo from stopping, loading or unloading at ports or marine installations in the moratorium area.

The moratorium covers the area from the Canada/United States border in the north, down to the point on British Columbia's mainland across from the northern tip of Vancouver Island, including Haida Gwaii. It protects the waters of Dixon Entrance, Hecate Strait and Queen Charlotte Sound.

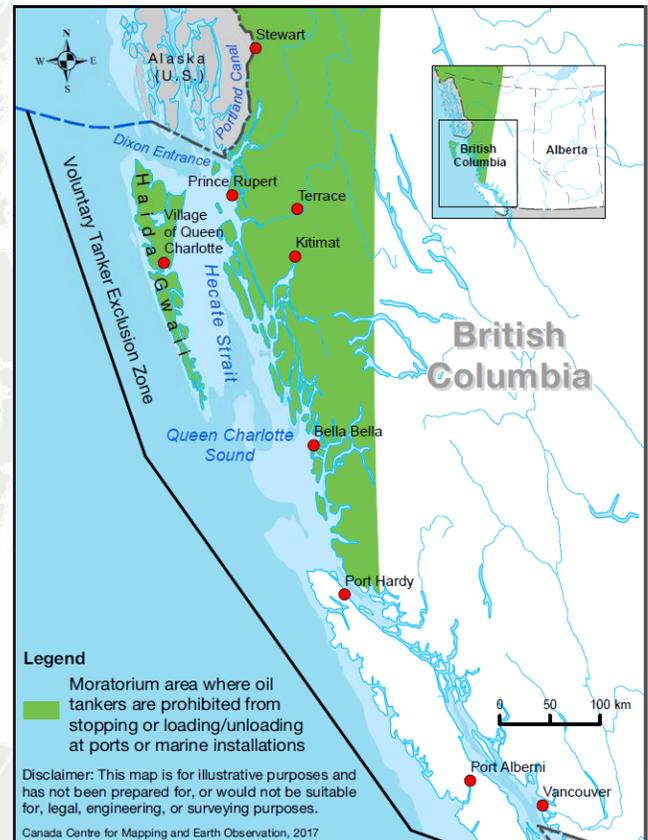
Shipments of less than 12,500 metric tonnes of crude or persistent oil will continue to be allowed to ensure north coast communities and industries can receive critical shipments of heating oils and other petroleum products.

Oceans Protection Plan

Canada is fortunate to have some of the most spectacular coastlines in the world, serving as a home to rich biodiversity and precious ecosystems. The Government of Canada, under the Oceans Protection Plan, is taking action to protect and preserve these marine ecosystems vulnerable to increased marine shipping and development.

Quick Facts

- ✓ The Government consulted extensively, holding approximately 75 engagement sessions with Indigenous groups, industry stakeholders and communities across Canada to inform development of the legislation
- ✓ This measure complements an existing voluntary Tanker Exclusion Zone which has been in place since 1985.
- ✓ The Act includes an enforcement regime. Penalties match the scale of a violation and can reach up to \$5 million.



Formalizing the oil tanker moratorium is another action the Government of Canada is taking to protect our coasts and waterways. The Government is investing \$1.5 billion in the Oceans Protection Plan, a national strategy that is improving marine safety and responsible shipping, protecting Canada's marine environment and helping advance Indigenous reconciliation.