



Oceans Protection Plan

Cumulative Effects of Marine Shipping initiative

Background

Through the Oceans Protection Plan, the Government of Canada is working with Indigenous peoples, local stakeholders and coastal communities to understand the effects of vessel traffic on coastal environments. Engagement on this topic continues across the country and online at www.letstalktransportation.ca.

What is the Cumulative Effects of Marine Shipping initiative?

Through [this initiative](#), the Government of Canada will better understand the cumulative effects and stressors shipping places on marine environments. This will be accomplished by creating an assessment framework informed by input from interested parties.

What have we done so far?

Through local, regional and national engagement sessions, we **identified key concerns and stressors** caused by marine vessel activities such as disruption of migration routes and risks to safety, and travelling on the water. Together with collaborators in six pilot sites across Canada, we **continue collecting environmental and vessel information**. These sites represent various types of current and projected marine shipping activity and coastal environments:

- Northern British Columbia
- Southern British Columbia
- St. Lawrence River, Quebec
- Bay of Fundy, New Brunswick
- South Coast Newfoundland
- Cambridge Bay, Nunavut



What's next?

We will continue working with collaborators in our pilot sites and other interested parties to:

- ✓ develop the national cumulative effects assessment framework for marine shipping
- ✓ review marine vessel movements, environmental and cultural data, and Indigenous knowledge to inform evidence-based decision-making
- ✓ leverage this research to identify potential tools and strategies that can be applied to assess and mitigate the effects of existing or future vessel movements on the marine environment

The Cumulative Effects of Marine Shipping initiative 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 to advance Indigenous reconciliation.