

**43rd ANNUAL MEETING OF NAFO - SEPTEMBER 2021****Revision of Seamounts Closures****Explanatory Memorandum**

The 2017 amendments to the NAFO Convention were designed to modernize NAFO, including incorporating an ecosystem approach to fisheries management. NAFO Contracting Parties have committed to conserving the marine biodiversity within the NAFO Regulatory Area, which has been reflected in NAFO's ongoing efforts to protect vulnerable marine ecosystem elements, such as seamounts.

In 2020, the Scientific Council recommended that the Commission revise the Newfoundland and Corner Rise Seamount protection zones to better protect seamount chains in the NAFO Regulatory Area (SCS Doc. 20/19). Due to the limited nature of the virtual NAFO meetings that year, a decision on this matter was deferred.

In 2021, the Scientific Council made additional recommendations with the aim of applying a consistent approach to NAFO's protection of seamounts. Recommendations include completing the protection of seamounts on the Fogo Seamount Chain and the Newfoundland Seamount Chain through revised boundaries; and, the implementation of seven seamount closures in the NAFO Convention Area in areas beyond national jurisdiction north of Orphan Knoll. These additional seven closures are targeted in scope. All proposed closures fall outside of NAFO's fishing footprint and will therefore have no impact on existing fishing activities (SCS 21/14).

On this basis, Canada and the United States of America propose adopting the SC's recommended revisions to the boundaries of the Fogo, Corner Rise and Newfoundland Seamount closures, as well as the implementation of seven additional closed areas north of Orphan Knoll.

Proposal

Reaffirming NAFO's commitment to incorporating an ecosystem approach to fisheries management, and to protecting biodiversity within the Northwest Atlantic;

Recalling the Scientific Council advice from 2021 which "recommends changes to the existing boundaries for the Fogo, Newfoundland and Corner Rise Seamount closures, as well as the implementation of seven new individual seamount closures in the NAFO Regulatory Area north of Orphan Knoll";

Thereby recommends that Article 17 of the CEM is amended, inclusive of revisions to Table 5 (referenced in para 17.1), in order to refine the closures for the Newfoundland, Corner Rise and Fogo Seamount chains, including the expansion to previously unprotected seamounts, as well as implement seven new closed areas to protect seamounts north of Orphan Knoll, as described by the geographical coordinates below:



Description	Coordinate No.	Latitude	Longitude
Fogo Seamount <u>Chains 1</u> Fogo Seamounts <u>2</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>42° 31' 33" N</u> <u>42°31'33"N</u>	<u>53° 23' 17" W</u> <u>53°23'17"W</u>
	<u>22</u>	<u>42° 31' 33" N</u> <u>42°31'33"N</u>	<u>52° 33' 37" W</u> <u>52°33'37"W</u>
	<u>33</u>	<u>41° 51' 00" N</u> <u>41°55'48"N</u>	<u>52° 07' 00" W</u> <u>53°23'17"W</u>
	<u>44</u>	<u>41° 51' 00" N</u> <u>41°55'48"N</u>	<u>51° 26' 00" W</u> <u>52°33'37"W</u>
	<u>51</u>	<u>42° 18' 00" N</u> <u>41°07'22"N</u>	<u>51° 26' 00" W</u> <u>52°27'49"W</u>
	<u>62</u>	<u>42° 18' 00" N</u> <u>41°07'22"N</u>	<u>51° 00' 00" W</u> <u>51°38'10"W</u>
	<u>73</u>	<u>41° 33' 00" N</u> <u>40°31'37"N</u>	<u>51° 00' 00" W</u> <u>52°27'49"W</u>
	<u>84</u>	<u>41° 33' 00" N</u> <u>40°31'37"N</u>	<u>49° 42' 00" W</u> <u>51°38'10"W</u>
	<u>9</u>	<u>42° 32' 00" N</u>	<u>49° 42' 00" W</u>
	<u>10</u>	<u>42° 32' 00" N</u>	<u>48° 45' 00" W</u>
	<u>11</u>	<u>41° 24' 00" N</u>	<u>48° 45' 00" W</u>
	<u>12</u>	<u>41° 24' 00" N</u>	<u>47° 55' 00" W</u>
	<u>13</u>	<u>40° 30' 00" N</u>	<u>47° 55' 00" W</u>
	<u>14</u>	<u>40° 30' 00" N</u>	<u>50° 15' 00" W</u>
	<u>15</u>	<u>40° 05' 00" N</u>	<u>50° 55' 00" W</u>
	<u>16</u>	<u>40° 05' 00" N</u>	<u>52° 00' 00" W</u>
	<u>17</u>	<u>40° 31' 37" N</u>	<u>52° 00' 00" W</u>
	<u>18</u>	<u>40° 31' 37" N</u>	<u>52° 27' 49" W</u>
	<u>19</u>	<u>41° 55' 48" N</u>	<u>53° 23' 17" W</u>
Orphan Knoll	1	50°00'30"N	45°00'30"W
	2	51°00'30"N	45°00'30"W
	3	51°00'30"N	47°00'30"W
	4	50°00'30"N	47°00'30"W
Corner Rise Seamounts	1	<u>36° 33' 00" N</u> <u>35°00'00"N</u>	<u>52° 27' 00" W</u> <u>48°00'00"W</u>
	2	<u>36° 33' 00" N</u> <u>36°00'00"N</u>	<u>51° 00' 00" W</u> <u>48°00'00"W</u>
	3	<u>36° 00' 00" N</u> <u>36°00'00"N</u>	<u>50° 30' 00" W</u> <u>52°00'00"W</u>
	4	<u>35° 33' 00" N</u> <u>35°00'00"N</u>	<u>50° 30' 00" W</u> <u>52°00'00"W</u>
	5	<u>35° 33' 00" N</u>	<u>48° 00' 00" W</u>
	6	<u>36° 00' 00" N</u>	<u>48° 00' 00" W</u>
	7	<u>36° 00' 00" N</u>	<u>47° 06' 00" W</u>
	8	<u>35° 33' 00" N</u>	<u>47° 06' 00" W</u>
	9	<u>35° 33' 00" N</u>	<u>42° 30' 00" W</u>
	10	<u>35° 00' 00" N</u>	<u>42° 30' 00" W</u>
	11	<u>35° 00' 00" N</u>	<u>52° 27' 00" W</u>

Newfoundland Seamounts	<u>11</u>	<u>44° 06' 00" N</u> <u>43°29'00"N</u>	<u>46° 45' 00" W</u> <u>43°20'00"W</u>
	<u>22</u>	<u>44° 06' 00" N</u> <u>44°00'00"N</u>	<u>46° 18' 00" W</u> <u>43°20'00"W</u>
	<u>33</u>	<u>43° 57' 00" N</u> <u>44°00'00"N</u>	<u>46° 18' 00" W</u> <u>46°40'00"W</u>
	<u>44</u>	<u>43° 57' 00" N</u> <u>43°29'00"N</u>	<u>43° 24' 00" W</u> <u>46°40'00"W</u>
	<u>5</u>	<u>43° 36' 00" N</u>	<u>43° 24' 00" W</u>
	<u>6</u>	<u>43° 36' 00" N</u>	<u>44° 42' 00" W</u>
	<u>7</u>	<u>43° 18' 00" N</u>	<u>44° 42' 00" W</u>
	<u>8</u>	<u>43° 18' 00" N</u>	<u>45° 00' 00" W</u>
	<u>9</u>	<u>42° 45' 00" N</u>	<u>45° 00' 00" W</u>
	<u>10</u>	<u>42° 45' 00" N</u>	<u>45° 15' 00" W</u>
	<u>11</u>	<u>43° 18' 00" N</u>	<u>45° 15' 00" W</u>
	<u>12</u>	<u>43° 18' 00" N</u>	<u>45° 25' 00" W</u>
	<u>13</u>	<u>43° 29' 00" N</u>	<u>45° 25' 00" W</u>
	<u>14</u>	<u>43° 29' 00" N</u>	<u>46° 00' 00" W</u>
	<u>15</u>	<u>43° 36' 00" N</u>	<u>46° 00' 00" W</u>
	<u>16</u>	<u>43° 36' 00" N</u>	<u>46° 40' 00" W</u>
	<u>17</u>	<u>43° 52' 00" N</u>	<u>46° 40' 00" W</u>
	<u>18</u>	<u>43° 52' 00" N</u>	<u>46° 45' 00" W</u>
New England Seamounts*	1	38°51'54.000" N	66°55'51.600" W
	2	37° 12' 0.000" N	60° 48' 0.000" W
	3	35° 0' 0.000" N	59°00'0.000" W
	4	35° 0' 0.000" N	56°30'0.000" W
	5	36° 48' 0.000" N	57° 48' 0.000" W
	6	39° 0' 0.000" N	60° 0' 0.000" W
	7	39° 18' 0.000" N	61° 30' 0.000" W
	8	39°56'20.400" N	65°56'34.800" W
<u>2H East</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>56° 00' 00" N</u>	<u>49° 00' 00" W</u>
	<u>2</u>	<u>56° 00' 00" N</u>	<u>48° 35' 00" W</u>
	<u>3</u>	<u>55° 44' 00" N</u>	<u>48° 35' 00" W</u>
	<u>4</u>	<u>55° 44' 00" N</u>	<u>49° 00' 00" W</u>
<u>2J East 1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>55° 00' 00" N</u>	<u>47° 42' 00" W</u>
	<u>2</u>	<u>55° 00' 00" N</u>	<u>47° 29' 00" W</u>
	<u>3</u>	<u>54° 50' 00" N</u>	<u>47° 29' 00" W</u>
	<u>4</u>	<u>54° 50' 00" N</u>	<u>47° 42' 00" W</u>
<u>2J East 2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>54° 14' 00" N</u>	<u>47° 54' 00" W</u>
	<u>2</u>	<u>54° 14' 00" N</u>	<u>47° 45' 00" W</u>
	<u>3</u>	<u>54° 06' 00" N</u>	<u>47° 45' 00" W</u>
	<u>4</u>	<u>54° 06' 00" N</u>	<u>47° 54' 00" W</u>
<u>1F West</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>55° 12' 00" N</u>	<u>46° 45' 00" W</u>
	<u>2</u>	<u>55° 12' 00" N</u>	<u>46° 35' 00" W</u>
	<u>3</u>	<u>55° 02' 00" N</u>	<u>46° 35' 00" W</u>
	<u>4</u>	<u>55° 02' 00" N</u>	<u>46° 45' 00" W</u>
<u>3K North</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>52° 07' 00" N</u>	<u>45° 46' 00" W</u>
	<u>2</u>	<u>52° 07' 00" N</u>	<u>45° 33' 00" W</u>

	<u>3</u>	<u>51° 58' 00" N</u>	<u>45° 33' 00" W</u>
	<u>4</u>	<u>51° 58' 00" N</u>	<u>45° 46' 00" W</u>
<u>1F East 1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>56° 04' 00" N</u>	<u>42° 42' 00" W</u>
	<u>2</u>	<u>56° 04' 00" N</u>	<u>42° 30' 00" W</u>
	<u>3</u>	<u>55° 57' 00" N</u>	<u>42° 30' 00" W</u>
	<u>4</u>	<u>55° 57' 00" N</u>	<u>42° 42' 00" W</u>
<u>1F East 2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>56° 23' 00" N</u>	<u>42° 08' 00" W</u>
	<u>2</u>	<u>56° 23' 00" N</u>	<u>42° 00' 00" W</u>
	<u>3</u>	<u>56° 10' 00" N</u>	<u>42° 00' 00" W</u>
	<u>4</u>	<u>56° 10' 00" N</u>	<u>42° 08' 00" W</u>

*From point 8 back to point 1, following the outer boundary of the US EEZ.

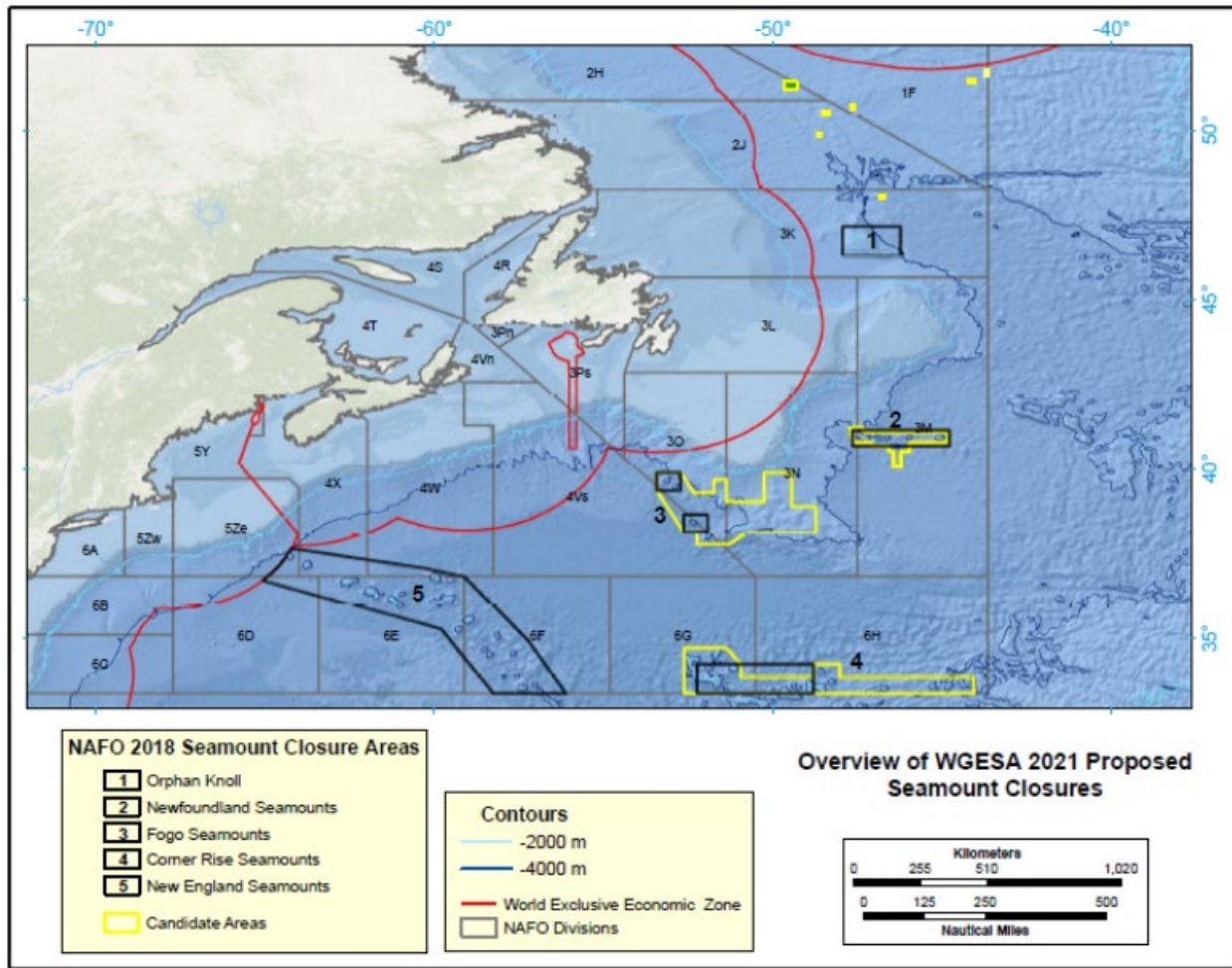


Figure 1. Location of the seamount areas in the NAFO Regulatory Area with current closures indicated in black outline and proposed changes and new closures indicated by yellow line.