

# WKTOPS

Outcomes of the ICES/IUCN-CEM FEG Workshop on Testing OECM Practices and Strategies (WKTOPS)

Presentation to the European Parliament

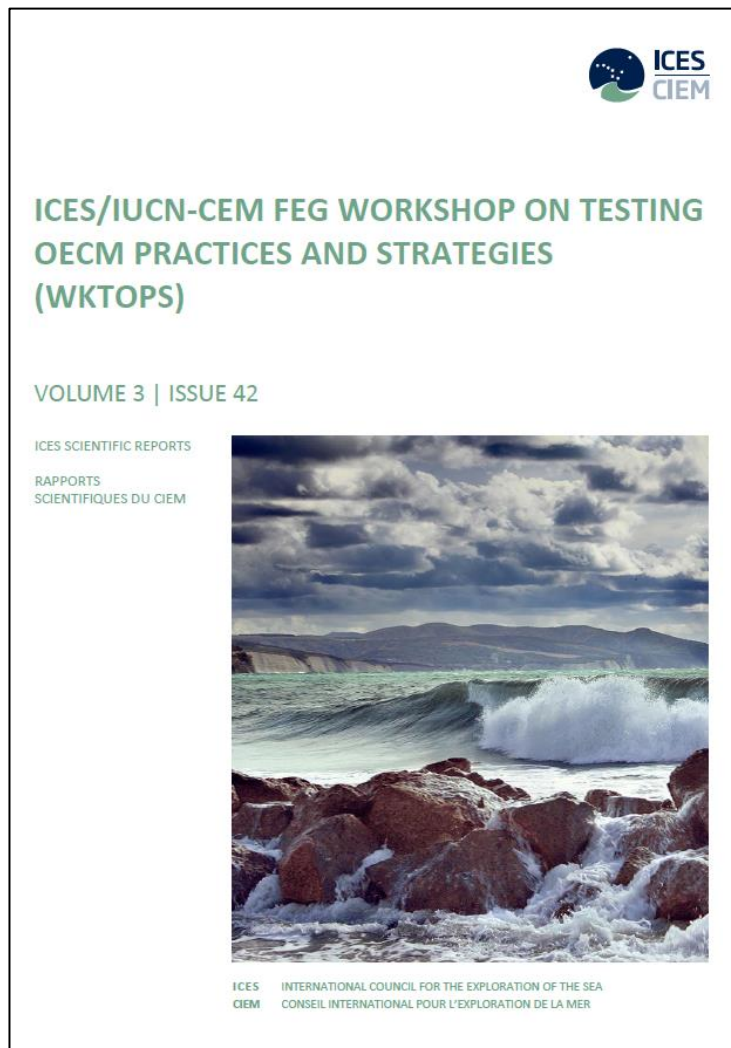
Intergroup on Climate Change, Biodiversity & Sustainable Development

Dr. Ellen Kenchington (Chair WKTOPS)



Science for sustainable seas





- Six case studies from the North Atlantic:
  - differed in size, biodiversity features, types of measures in place, jurisdictional authority, and expected biodiversity benefits;
  - measures evaluated included permanent area closures, closures to specific gears or fisheries for particular stocks, and licensed use of an area for aquaculture.

<https://www.ices.dk/community/groups/Pages/WKTOPS.aspx>

**MOCK Proforma Template for Scientific and Other Information  
to Evaluate Area-based fisheries management measures (ABFMs) as Potential Other Effective  
Area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs)**

**Title/Name of the area:**

**Prepared by** (*names, affiliations, title, contact details*):

**Institution(s) in charge of assessing OECMs** (*names, affiliations, title, contact details*):

**Abstract** (*In less than 200 words*)

**Location**

*(Indicate the geographic location of the area, including co-ordinates if available. This should include a location map to be added to the "Maps, Figures and Tables" section. It should state if the area is within or outside national jurisdiction, or straddling both.)*

**Description of the proposed area**

*(Identification of other effective area-based conservation measures should, to the extent possible, document the known biodiversity attributes (include the identification of the range of biodiversity attributes for which the site is considered important (e.g. communities of rare, threatened or endangered species, representative natural ecosystems, range restricted species, key biodiversity areas, areas providing critical ecosystem functions and services, areas for ecological connectivity), as well as, where relevant, cultural and/or spiritual values, of the area and the governance and management in place as a baseline for assessing effectiveness.)*

**Identify pressures and threats on biodiversity**

*(Inventory of known or reasonably foreseeable pressures and threats on biodiversity features, their nature, scale and source, and the range of societal and ecological values attached to the components.)*

**Data and information available on the fisheries and the ecosystem**

*(Describe the available data sources, e.g., distribution maps; fleets size and composition; fishing gears; target and non-target species; stock assessment; governance types; key stakeholders and participation processes; legal frames; management measures; compliance; catch; socio-economic parameters; biodiversity features of concern; ecosystem services (including food and livelihoods) and other relevant values affecting conservation; possible threats and pressures; existing MPAs (networks, seascapes) and other conservation measures. Provide details of the sources in the "Relevant Databases" section)*

**Assessment of the area against CBD Criteria**

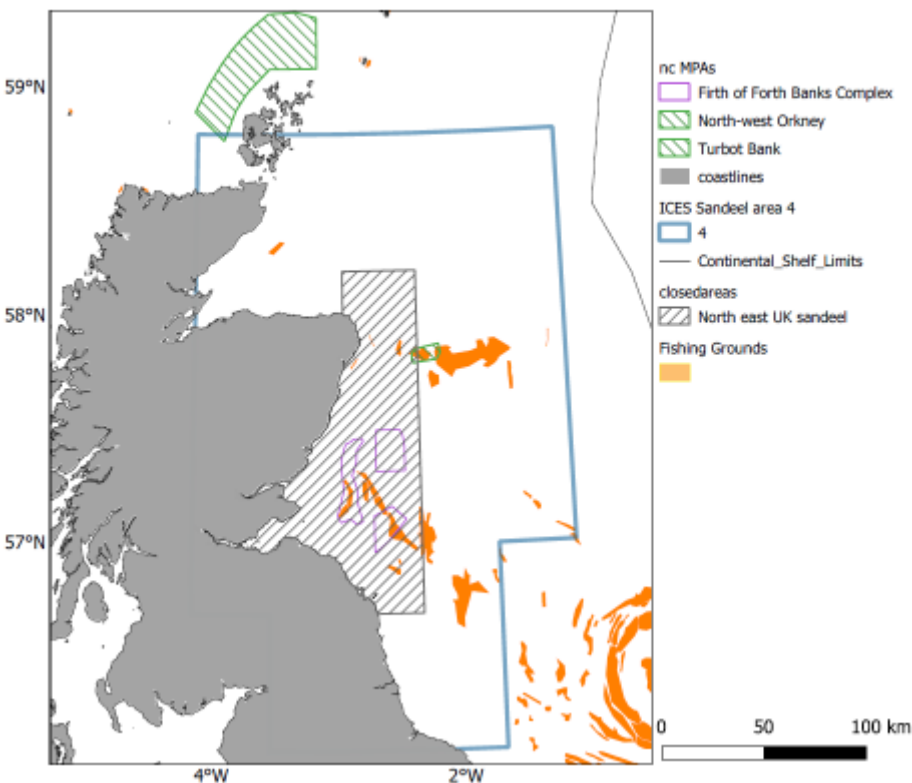
*(Discuss the area in relation to each of the CBD criteria and relate the best available science. Please note where there are significant information gaps)*

CBD Criteria CBD/COP/DE C/14/8	Description (Annex III B to Decision 14/8)	Ranking of criterion relevance (please mark one column with an X)		
		No information	True	False
<b>Criterion A: Area is not currently recognized as a protected area</b>				
A. Not a protected area	The area is not currently recognized or reported as a protected area [MPA] or part of a protected area [MPA]; it may have been established for another function.			
<i>Explanation for ranking (Criteria (A) is absolute and, if not met, it is enough to disqualify the area.)</i>				
<b>Criterion B: Area is governed and managed</b>				
B.1. Geographically defined space	Size and area are described, including in three dimensions where necessary.			
	Boundaries are geographically delineated.			
<i>Provide details of the location</i>				
B.2. Legitimate governance authorities	Governance has legitimate authority and is appropriate for achieving <i>in situ</i> conservation of biodiversity within the area.			
	Governance by indigenous peoples and local communities is self-identified in accordance with national legislation and applicable international obligations.			
	Governance reflects the equity considerations adopted in the Convention.			
	Governance may be by a single authority and/or organization or through collaboration among relevant authorities and provides the ability to address threats collectively.			
<i>Explanation for rankings (Detail the legitimate authorities responsible for implementing the area-based management measure(s); Explain how the identified body has competence for management of threats to biodiversity within the area by detailing those threats)</i>				
B.3. Managed	Managed in ways that achieve positive and sustained outcomes for the conservation of biological diversity.			
	Relevant authorities and stakeholders are identified and involved in management.			
	A management system is in place that contributes to sustaining the <i>in situ</i> conservation of biodiversity.			
	Management is consistent with the ecosystem approach with the ability to adapt to achieve expected biodiversity conservation outcomes, including long-term outcomes, and including the ability to manage a new threat.			
<i>Explanation for rankings (Provide details for each element, citing relevant sources)</i>				
<b>Criterion C: Achieves sustained and effective contribution to <i>in situ</i> conservation of biodiversity (Produces long-term <i>in situ</i> biodiversity conservation outcomes)</b>				
C.1. Effective	The area achieves, or is expected to achieve, positive and sustained outcomes for			





# Northwestern North Sea Sandeel Fishery Closure/ North East UK Sandeel Closure – original name



## Rockall/NEAFC Haddock Box

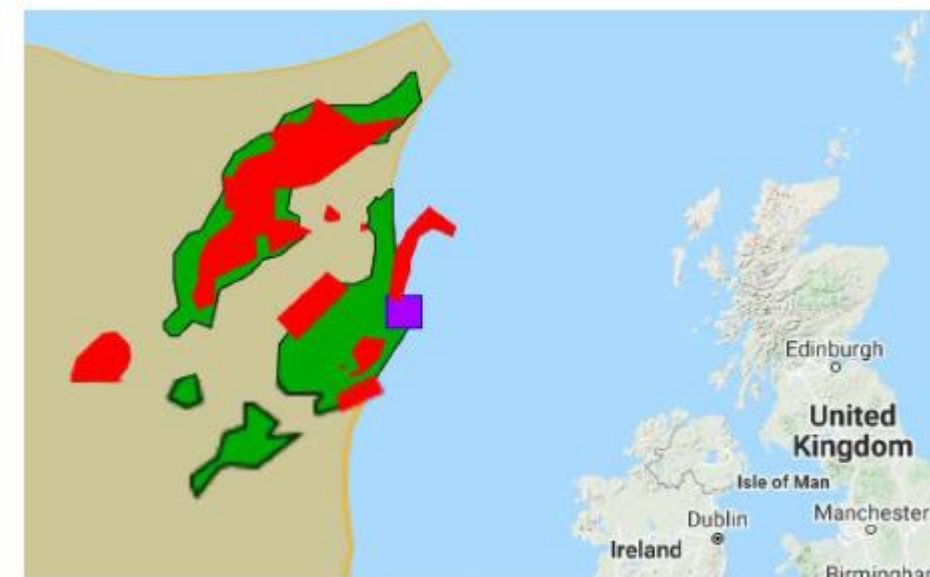


Figure 4.4.1. Map of a portion of the NEAFC Regulatory Area showing the Rockall Haddock Box (purple) under current Recommendation 4:2021; bottom fisheries closures to protect vulnerable marine ecosystems (red) under Recommendation 19:2014; and areas where bottom contact fishing is allowed under Recommendation 19:2014 (green). All other areas of the Regulatory Area (brown) are considered restricted bottom fishing areas under Recommendation 19:2014. These restricted areas require an exploratory protocol before bottom fishing is allowed.

## Lophelia Coral Conservation Area (Canada)

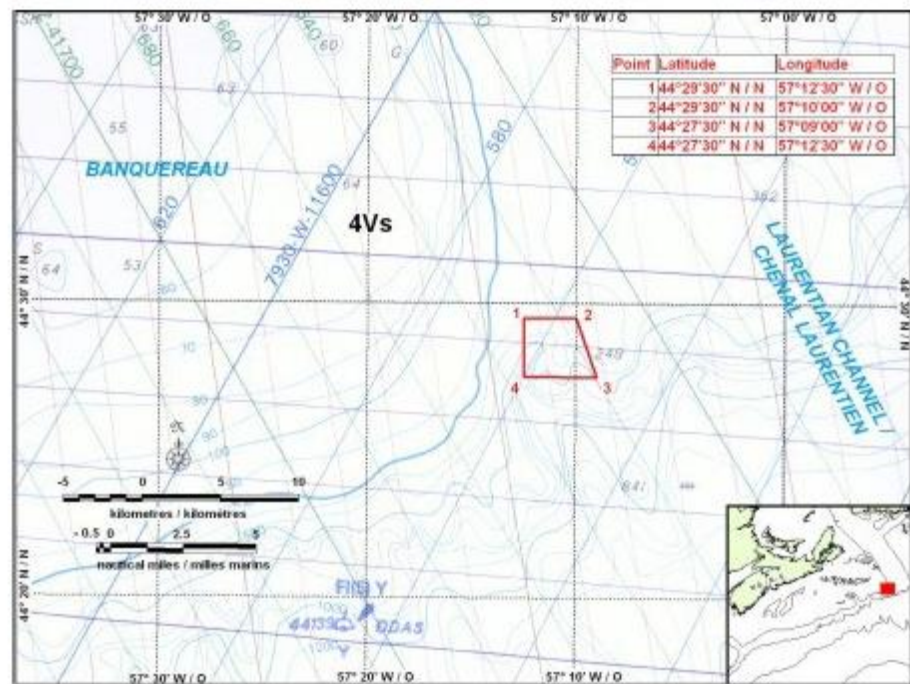
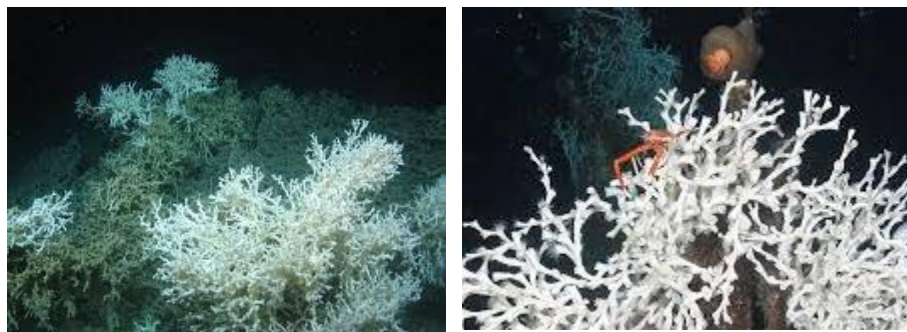
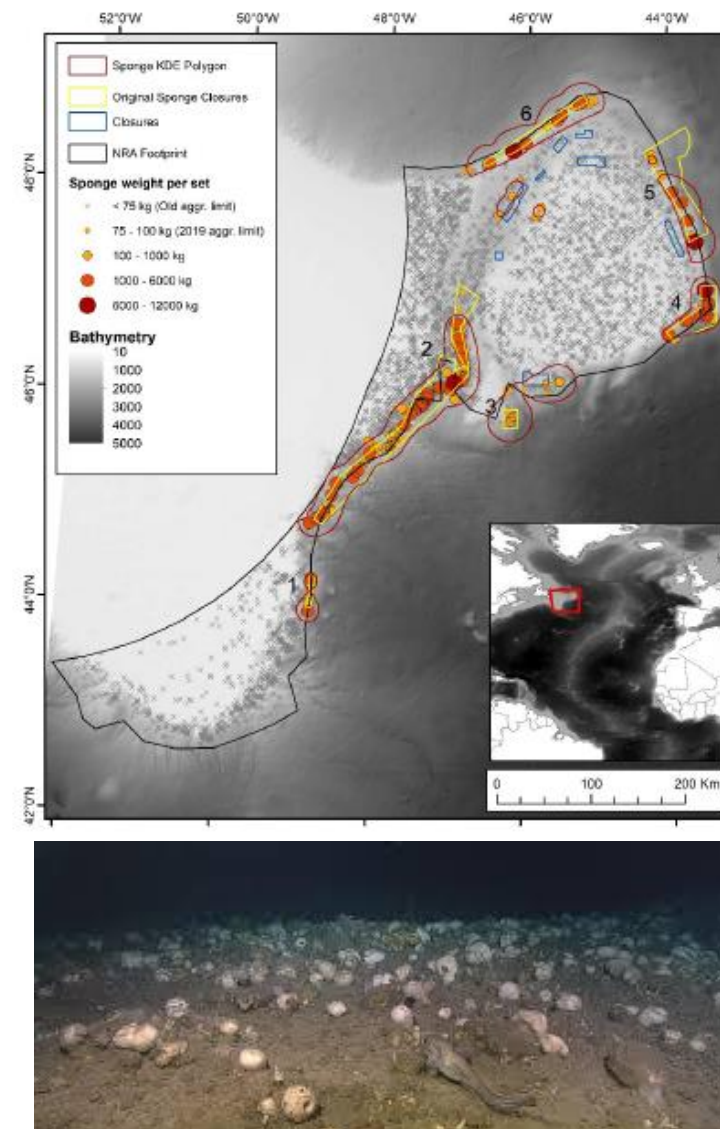


Figure 4.2.1. Map of the Lophelia Coral Conservation Area, located on the edge of the Scotian Shelf, off Nova Scotia, Canada (DFO, 2017).

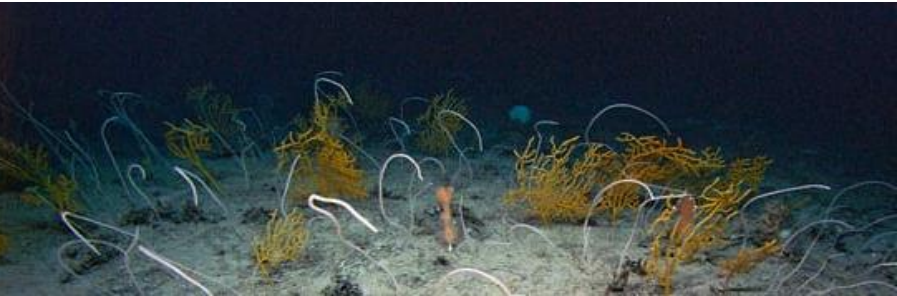
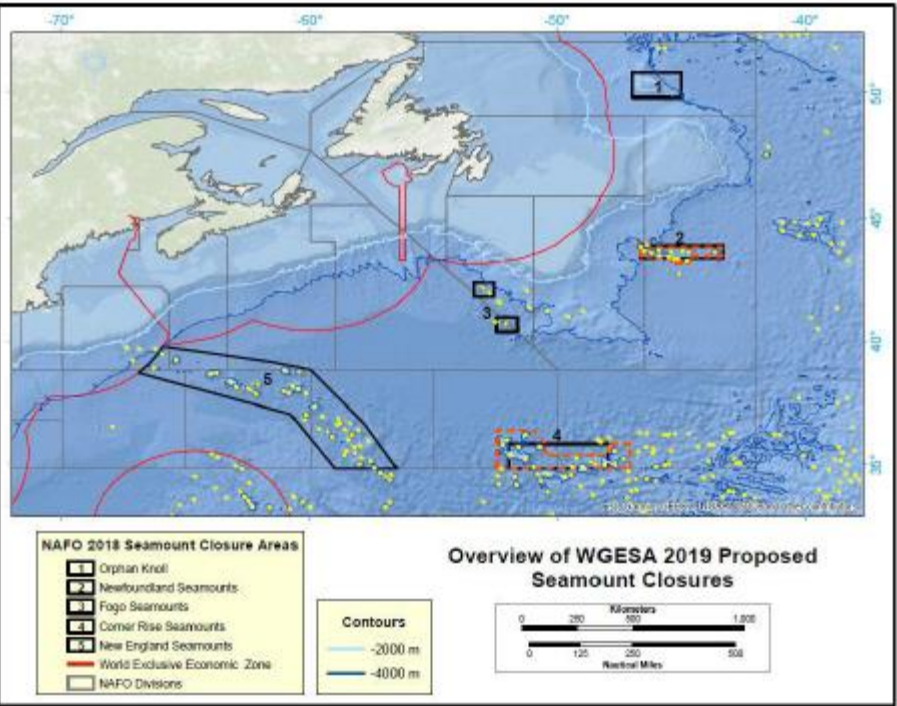


## NAFO Sponge VME Closures (ABNJ)

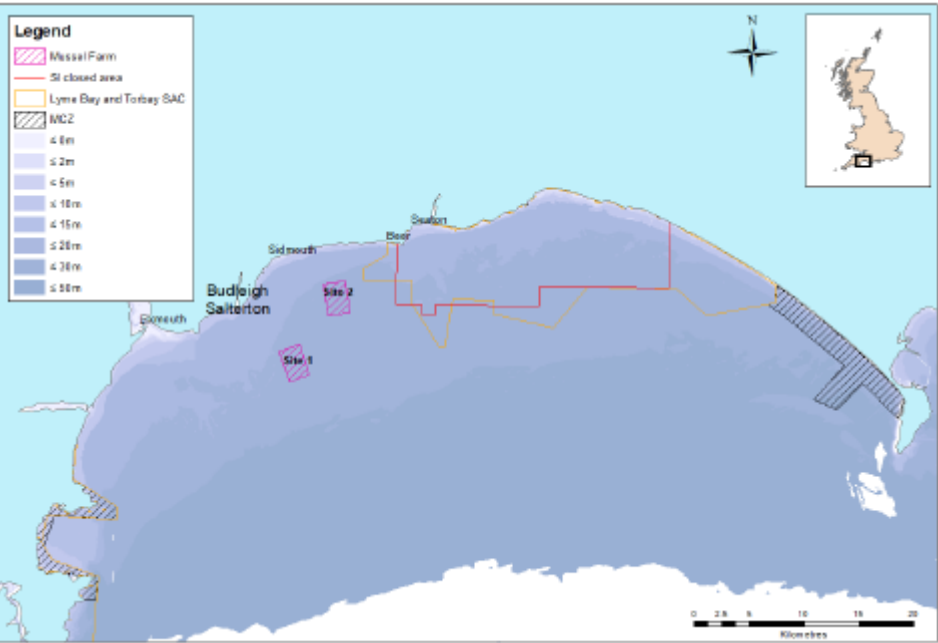




## NAFO Seamount Closures (ABNJ)



## Lyme Bay Mussel Farm (UK)



- All case studies demonstrated biodiversity conservation co-benefits and met subsets of the CBD Criteria and Sub-criteria for OECMs, and none were strongly at variance with any Criteria



Greater clarity is needed from the CBD on:

1. interpretation of the expected permanence of biodiversity benefits,
2. the nature and magnitude of expected biodiversity benefits,
3. the number of Criteria and Sub-criteria that have to be met,
4. how jurisdictional authority is determined for an area,
5. how present and possible future activities of sectors *other than fisheries* should be considered when evaluating OECM status of areas with fisheries measures.



6	Emergent Themes from Group Discussions .....	45
6.1	Data richness, data gaps .....	45
6.2	How to accommodate new information.....	45
6.3	What types of expertise should be present? .....	46
6.4	How much evidence is enough evidence? .....	46
6.5	Are there 'better' and 'less better' biodiversity benefits?.....	47
6.6	What values are relevant in evaluations of benefits? What are the implications of the intent of the measure (for biodiversity or fishery outcome)?.....	48
6.7	Options to deal with patchy/contiguous biodiversity.....	49
6.8	Options to deal with short-lived biodiversity .....	52
6.9	Options to deal with static/mobile biodiversity .....	53
6.10	Implications of many/few biodiversity features .....	54
6.11	Implications of sound/absent assessments of biodiversity .....	55
6.12	Factors relative to evaluating 'effectiveness' .....	58
6.13	What constitutes 'effective management'? .....	59
6.14	What constitutes sustained management/governance?.....	61
6.15	Implications of different degrees of monitoring.....	61
6.16	Options to take non-fishery threats into account; Implications for different degrees of sectoral and/or inclusive governance .....	62
6.17	Implications of 'equity' .....	62



The workshop, through its case study approach, demonstrated that OECMs created through fisheries management measures can have meaningful biodiversity co-benefits.

These are especially apparent when the measures were put in place to protect species and habitats from destructive fishing practices.

This is a golden opportunity for a win-win collaboration between fisheries and biodiversity conservation, at national and regional levels.