

Interim Report Offshore Infrastructure – NS and PEI (BC and UK)

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Chair, ACLS OIS - TF

Goals

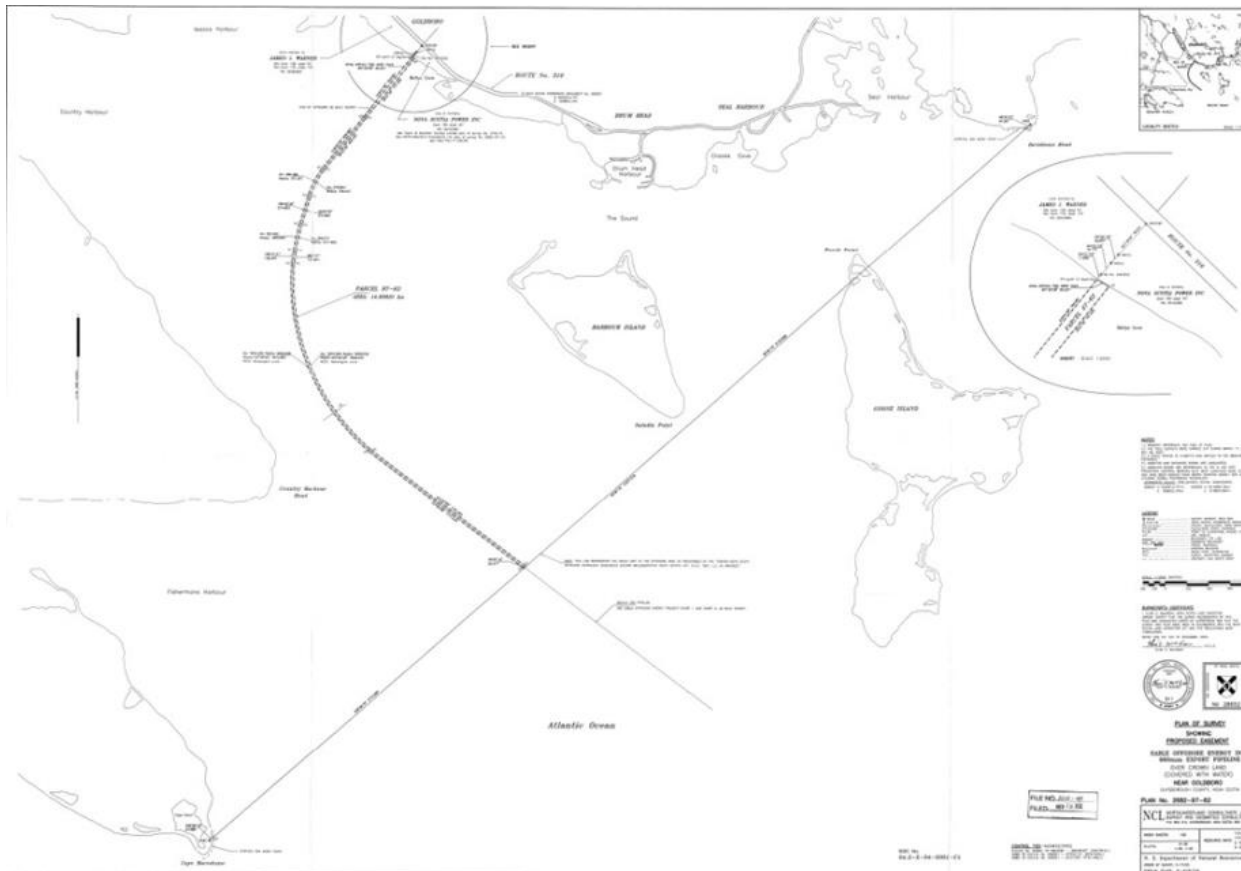
- Focus on offshore pipelines, flowlines, umbilicals, subsea structures, and communication and power cables.
- How spatial information is gathered, managed and shared => Marine Spatial Data Infrastructure (MSDI).
- Currently, such information is generally held by the offshore infrastructure owners and only shared if required, except of CHS charting.
- Allow better management of Canada's offshore resources and effective environmental management in Canada's offshore.

Rationale

- On land you can generally see pipelines, wellheads (nodding donkeys), telephone lines and power cables.
- If buried at least there are signs posted.
- Avoids personal injury and helps maintain the infrastructure by avoiding potential damage.
- In addition, on land such infrastructure is provided an easement to enhance the operators rights to protection from the negligence of other land users.
- Offshore there is no such information available.
- Without some means to obtain offshore infrastructure information and no offshore easements, it will be very difficult to populate the MSDI in a meaningful way.

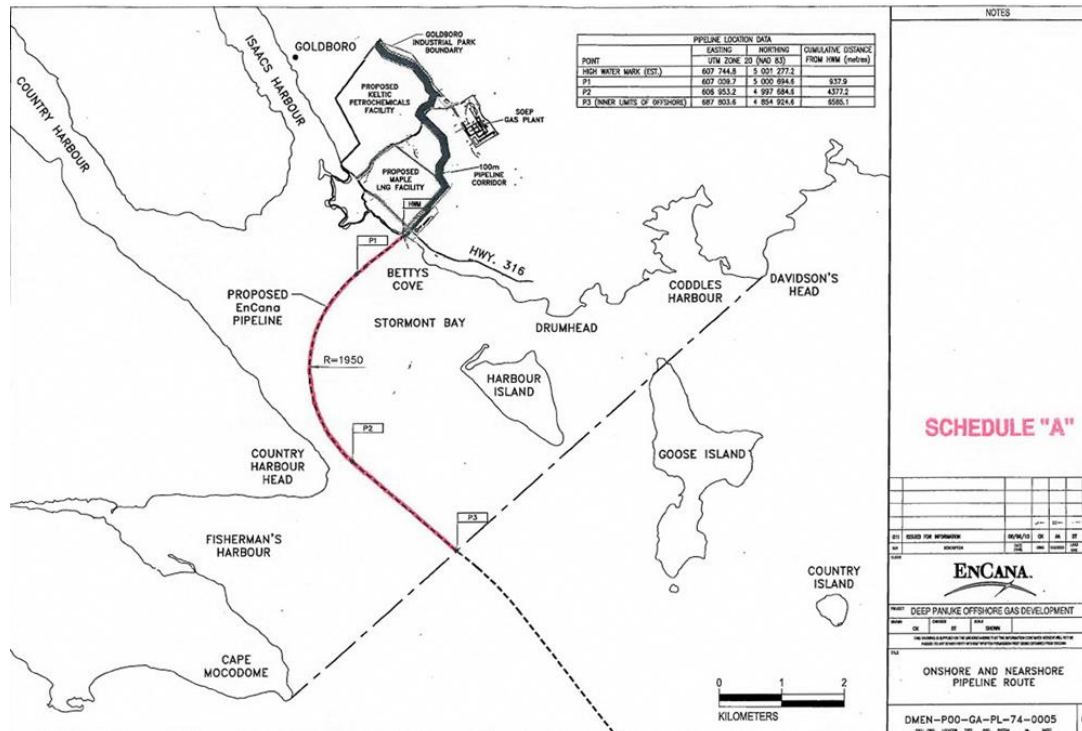
Stormont Bay 1

- Found SOEP and Deep Panuke easement plans for internal water in Stormont Bay, but no easements.

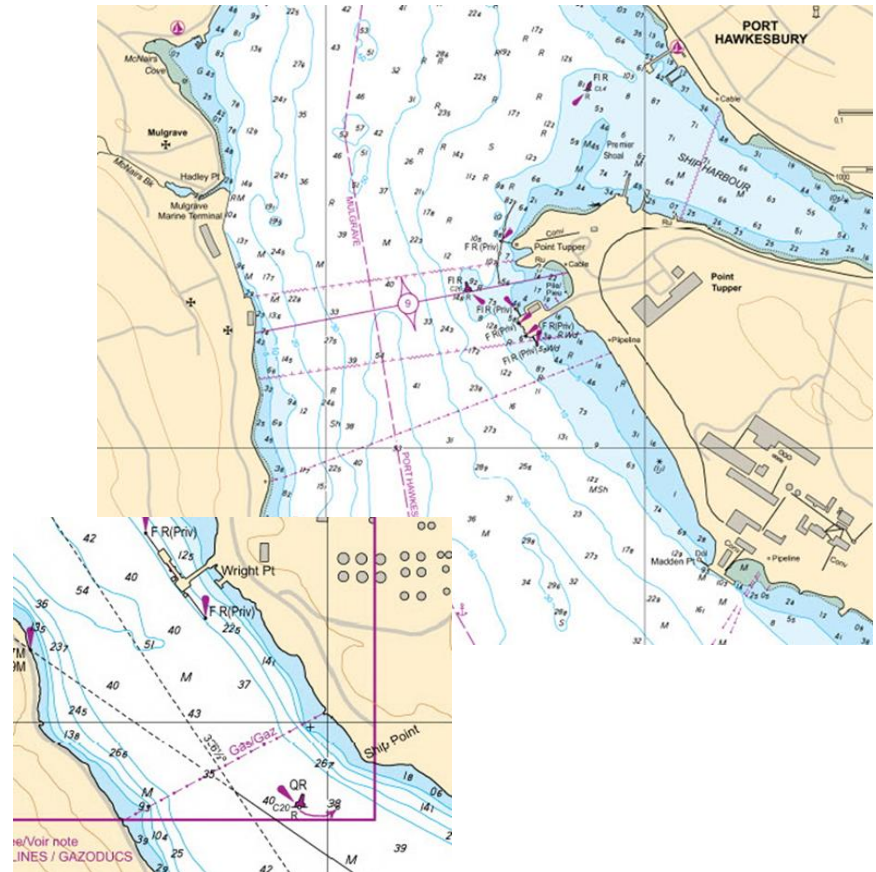


Stormont Bay 2

- In Stormont Bay until 18 June 2016 pipeline safety zone was ± 42.5 m (± 12.5 m + ± 30 m) based on easement plan, but if no easement then ± 30 m?
- From 19 June 2016 pipeline safety zone only ± 30 m.

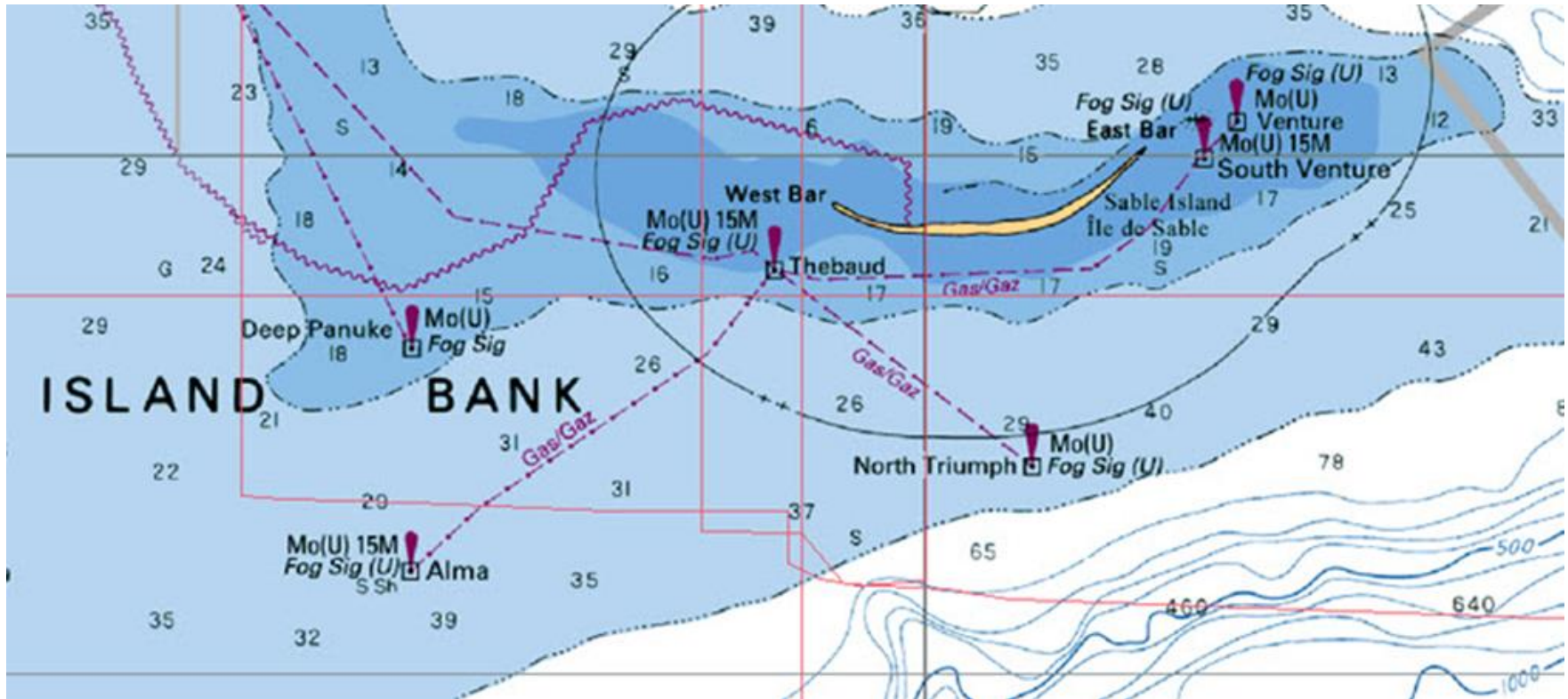


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SOEP at Sable Island

- SOEP used NEB prescribed area of $\pm 30\text{m}$ for its pipelines, and 500m safety zone for its offshore structures.



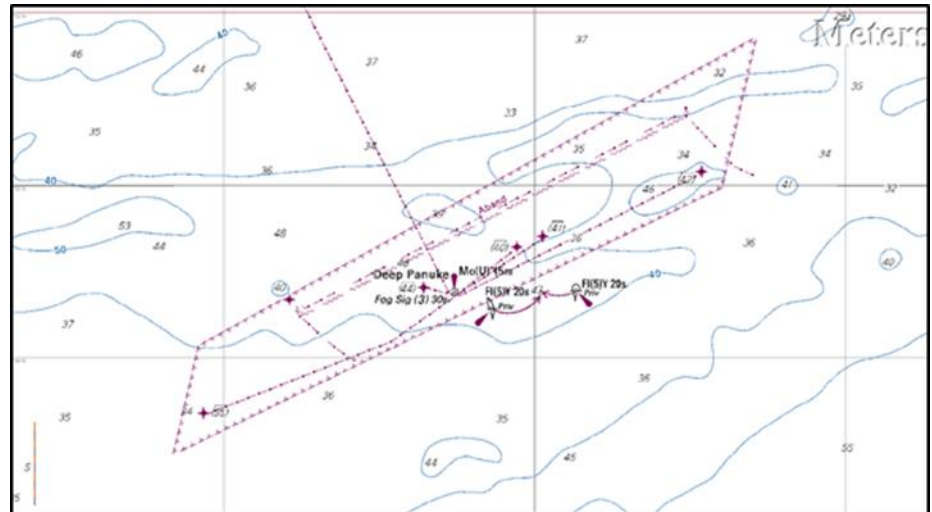
Deep Panuke at Sable Island

- Deep Panuke has safety field zone to protect flowlines, umbilicals and subsea structures.

Subsea Well Protection



Safety Field Zone



NS Offshore International Cables 1

- Freedom of Information (FOI) request for information on international cables was denied by NS Department of Natural Resources Deputy Minister which had to be over ridden by the NS FOI Commissioner.
- No educational campaign by GTT to inform others of the cable locations except on CHS charts.
- International Cable Protection Committee (ICPC) depictions were “fake news”.



ACLS-AATC



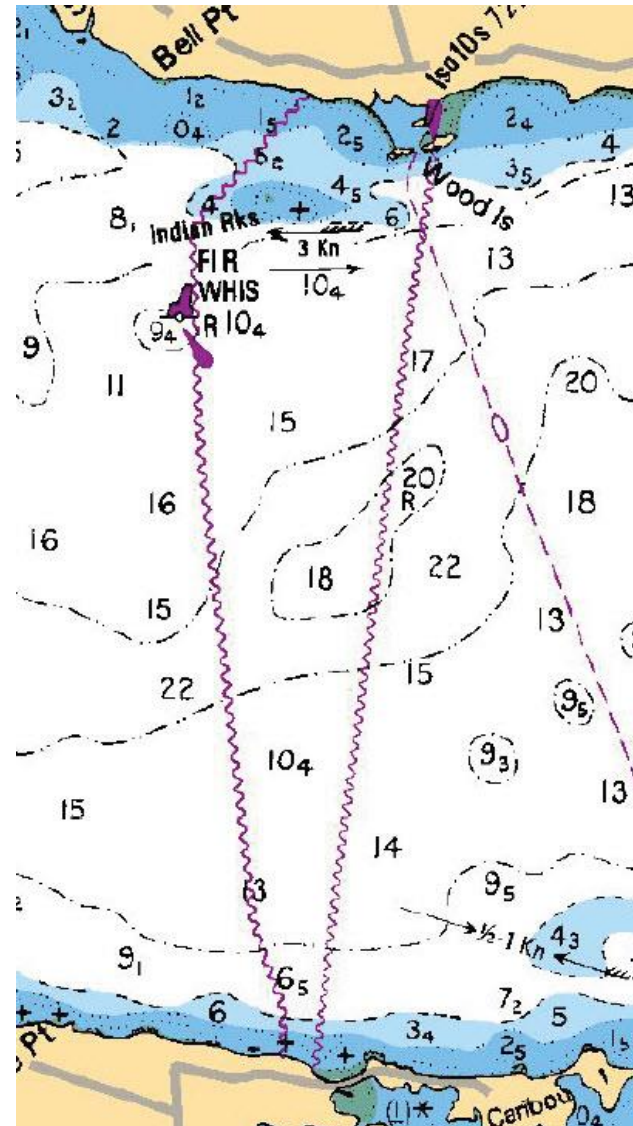
NS Offshore International Cables 3

- Online easement plans for 4 GTT international communication cables, laid in 2001 (A, D, and E) and in 2015 for Express, were incomplete and/or unreadable.
- Section E – 401.1 kilometres to USA boundary.
- Section A – 870.0 kilometres to Canadian EEZ boundary.
- Section D – 681.9 kilometres to Canadian EEZ boundary.
- GTT Express – 503.7 kilometres to NS-NL boundary (Is there an easement in NL?)
- Took 2 months to obtain further information from GTT with respect to these lay operations.

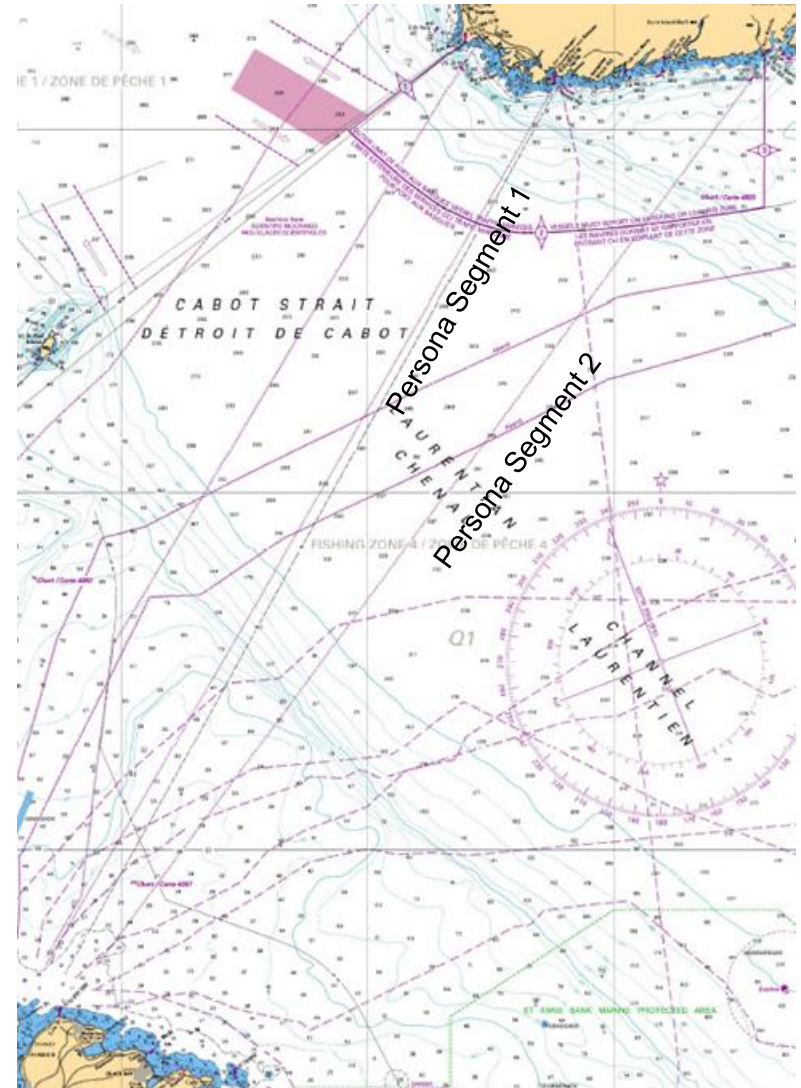
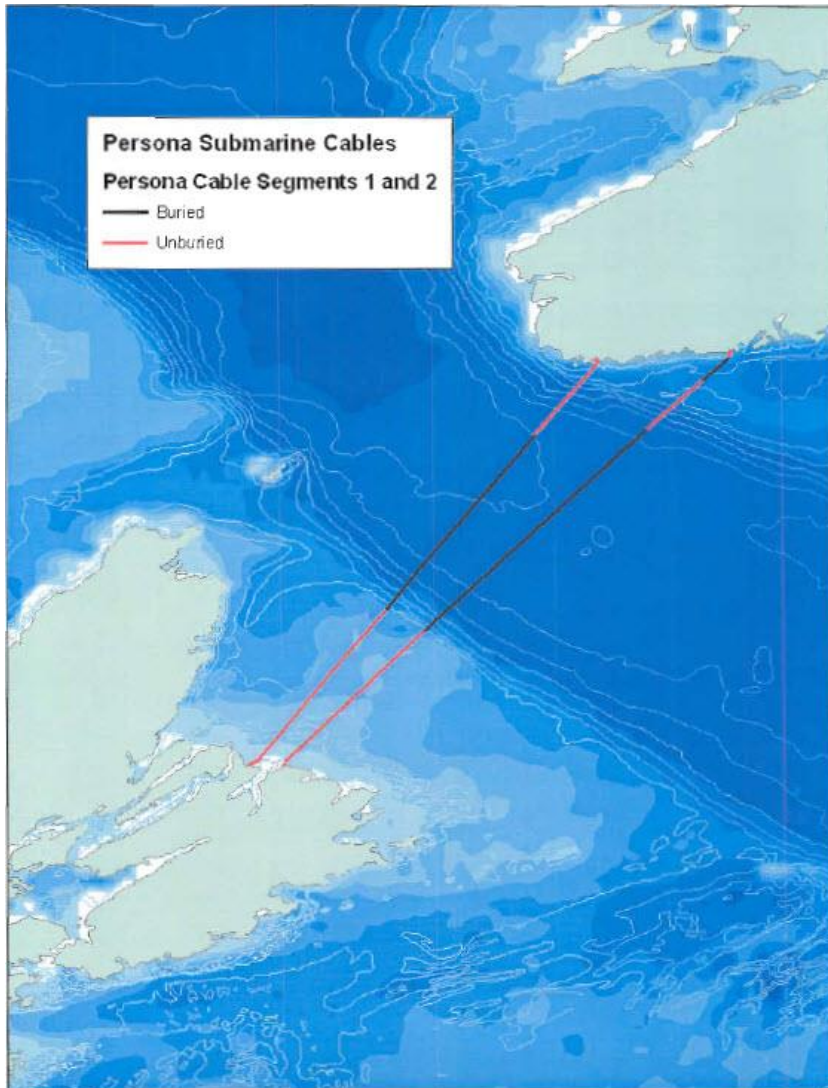


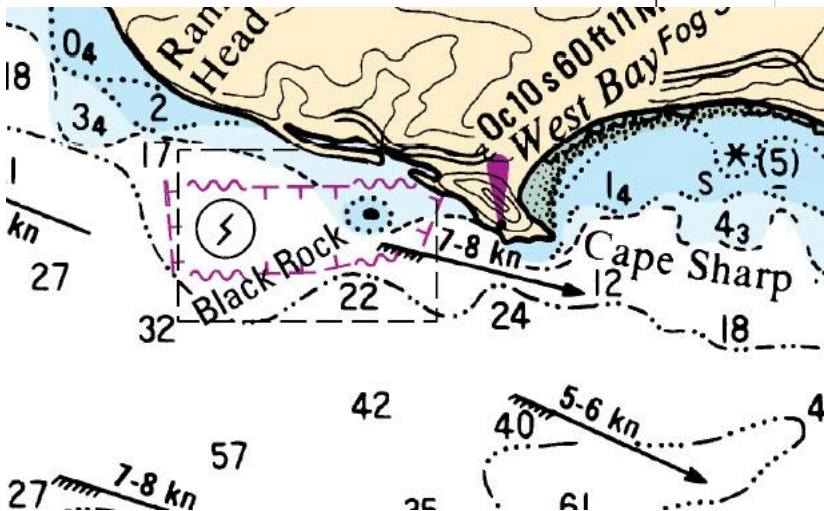
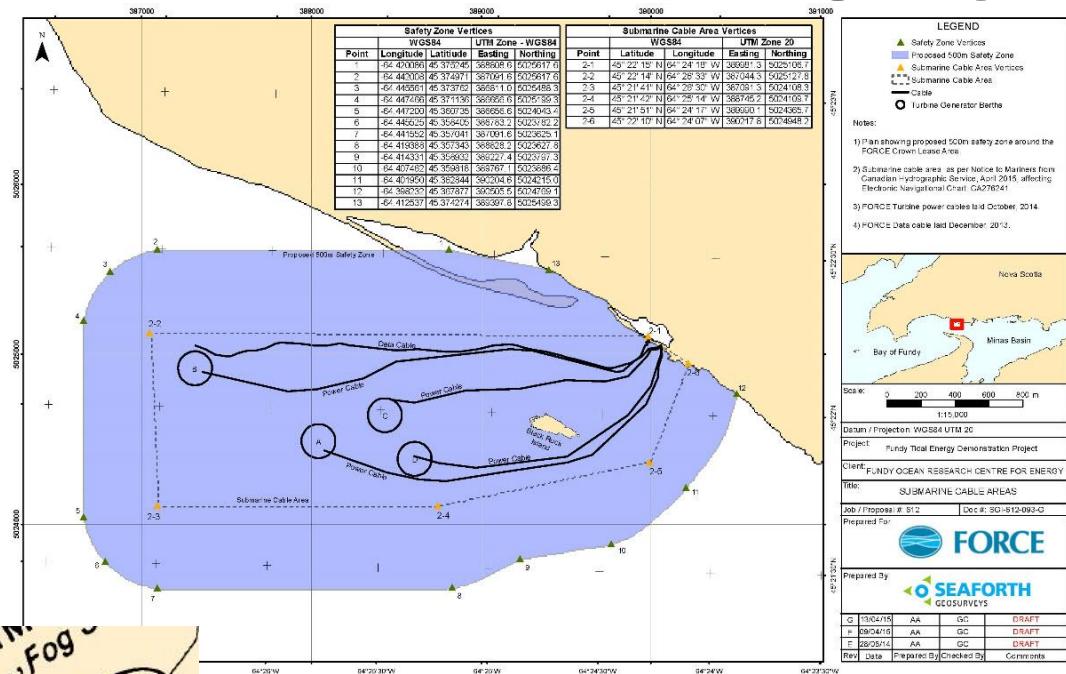
NS to PEI Domestic Cables

- Abandoned cable laid in 1937 still active on CHS chart. Atlantic Provinces Optical Cable System (APOCS) 1B on right.



Persona Domestic Cables





Offshore Domestic Cables 1

- After initial good response, CHS management determined that information could only be released on the instructions of the originator.
- Took 4 months to establish that EastLink will NOT provide information on any of their cables.
- No educational campaign by Bell Aliant or EastLink to inform others of the cable locations except on CHS charts.

Offshore Domestic Cables 2

- In Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, no easements for domestic communication cables laid in internal waters or between provinces.
- In New Brunswick, any such information is not to be distributed to the public.
- How to ensure offshore infrastructure is included in the public register's of the Atlantic Provinces?

Other Offshore Infrastructure

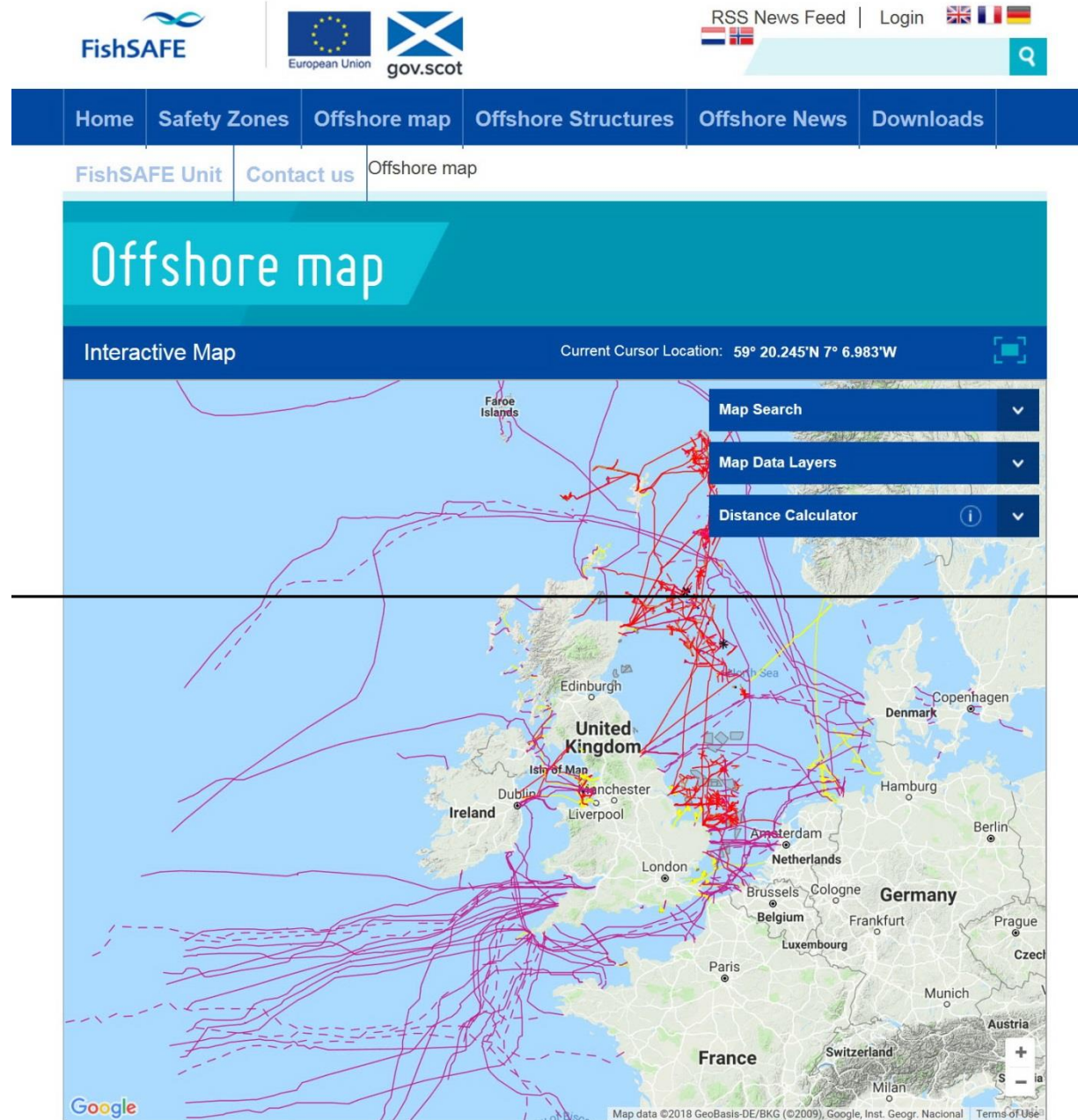
- Maritime Link Project – NS to NL
- Confederation Bridge – NB to PEI
- PEI-NB Cable Interconnection Upgrade
- The governments of Canada and applicable Provinces signed a Joint Management Agreement for the project, as well as a Land Use Agreement with the project proponents.
- Although no easements generated, licences and leases are in place.

BC Offshore Pipelines 1

- 6 offshore pipelines at Texada Island not on BC Oil and Gas Commission (BCOGC) website as laid prior to 2000.
- Any inspection reports are confidential and held by the operator, not the BCOGC.
- Laid in 1991; Easement Plan dated 1997; Easement Document dated 2003.

UK Offshore

See online at
www.fishsafe.eu



Chair's Conclusions

- Care and diligence required as online records for submerged interests in coastal waters are incomplete and fragmented.
- To enable Canada's Open Government – Open Data initiative, sharing public information is crucial.
- In Atlantic internal waters and offshore, grant an easement or something similar to offshore infrastructure.
- Update the *Navigable Waters Protection Act* conditions set by Transport Canada to request more detailed information about infrastructure which is laid or buried on the seabed.

Thank You

If you have any
comments you would
like to share please
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Have a Great Summer!

