



How do we protect our oceans?

In Canada, we use a range of tools to help keep our oceans healthy and productive. They allow us to limit activities to protect marine areas and their unique features. All levels of government, Indigenous peoples, industry sectors and coastal communities play a role in marine conservation.

Designated
under the
Oceans Act



Marine Protected Areas (MPA)

Conserve and protect species, habitats and ecosystems.

National Marine Conservation Areas (NMCA)

Represent Canada's marine ecosystems and offer educational experiences for visitors.

Protected
under the
Canada National Marine Conservation Areas Act

Protected
under the
Canada Wildlife Act



marine National Wildlife Areas (mNWA)

Protect migratory birds, wildlife and their habitats.

Marine Refuges

Provides marine biodiversity conservation benefits to species, their habitats and ecosystems. These are fishery area closures, established under the *Fisheries Act*.

Recognized
under the Government of Canada's *Marine Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures Guidance*