

Strengthening relationships through coastal environmental baseline data collection: a case study in the Port of Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada.

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Outline

- **Introduction to the Coastal Environmental Baseline Program**
- **Pilot Site in the Port of Saint John area**
- **Activities to Date**
- **Results: Data collection priorities**
- **Next Steps**

What is the Coastal Environmental Baseline Program?

The Baseline program is one initiative under the Oceans Protection Plan (OPP).

The objective of the program is to gather comprehensive baseline data to:

- characterize the current state of the ecosystem
- support evidence-based decisions and preserve marine ecosystems
- strengthen relationships with Indigenous organizations and local stakeholder groups.

The Coastal Environmental Baseline Program

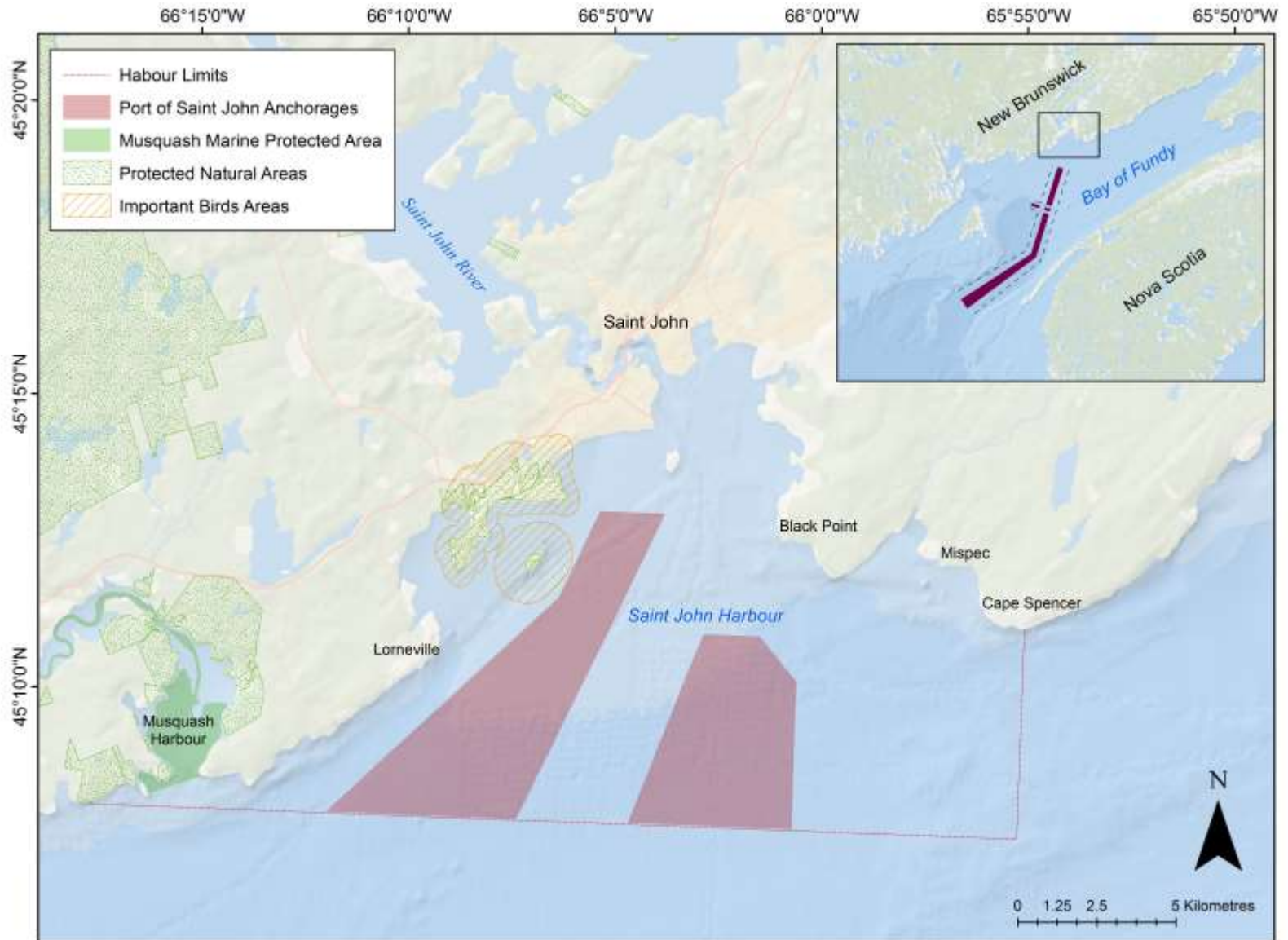
Through collaboration with Indigenous nations and stakeholder groups, the program will:

- compile current and historical environmental data sets;
- identify and prioritize outstanding data needs and plan for data collection; and
- implement surveying and sampling plans.

The program will be implemented over the next 4 years with 6 pilot projects nationally across DFO regions.

- The Port of Saint John area has been selected as one of the pilot areas

Pilot Site: Port of Saint John



Activities To Date

State of Knowledge Report

- Current and historical data sets from the Port of Saint John area will be compiled and utilized in a gap analysis to identify outstanding data needs (June 2018).

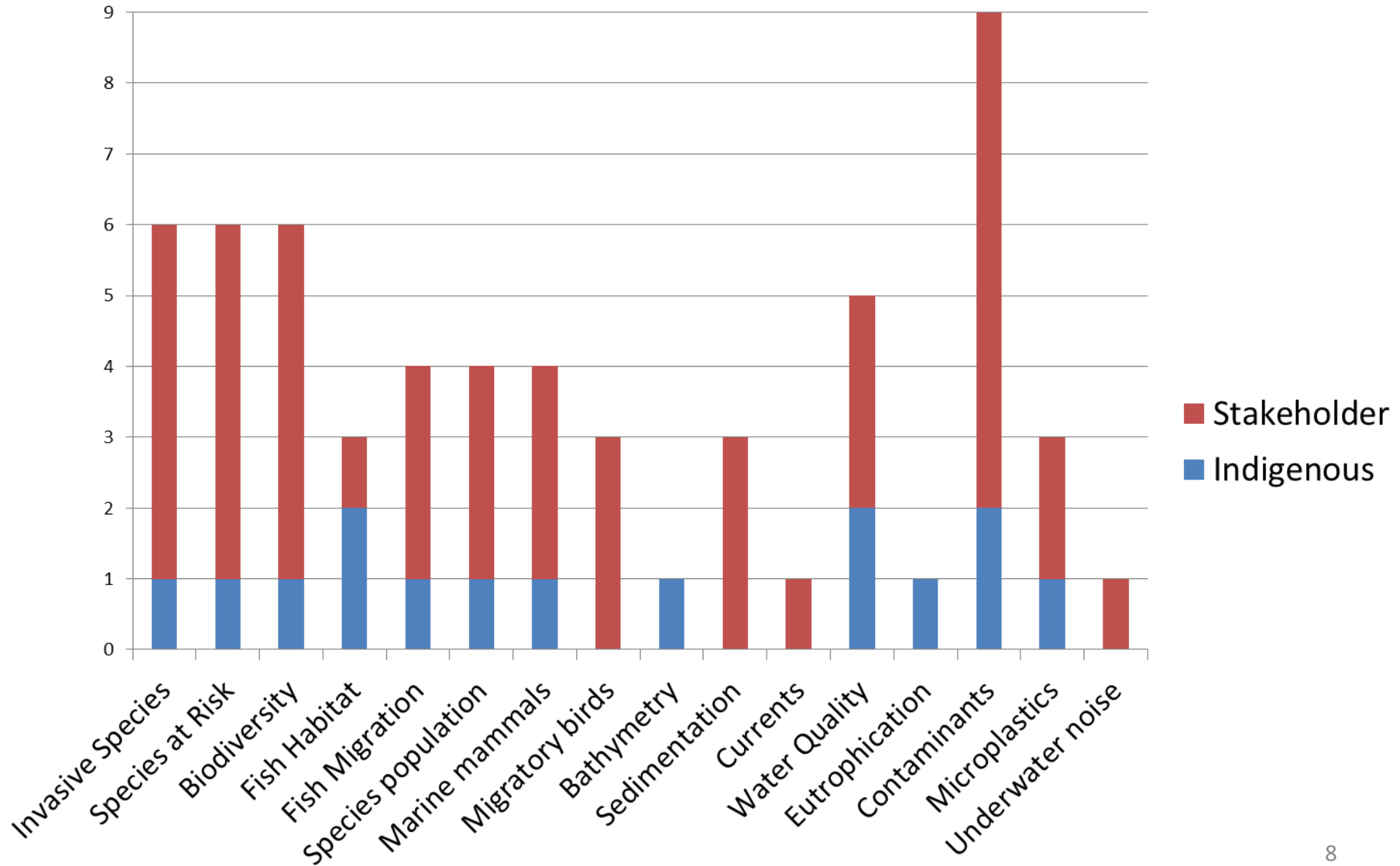
Indigenous and stakeholder engagement

- A list of local Indigenous organizations and stakeholders groups in the Port of Saint John area was compiled and an introductory letter was sent (November 2017).
- Follow up phone calls and meetings were held with interested participants (February – April 2018)
- Data collection priorities and project preferences were identified using questionnaire (May 2018)

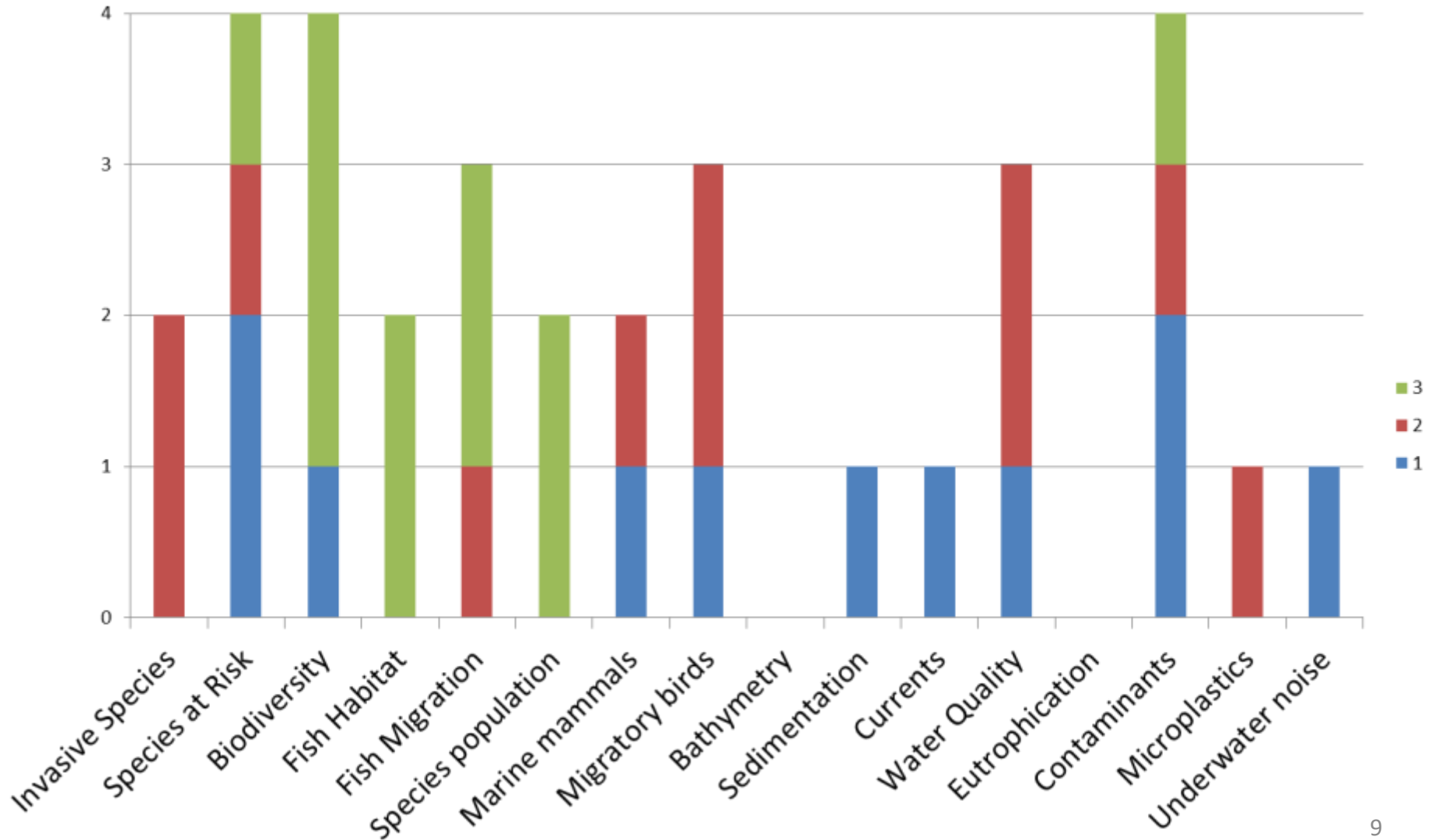
Data Collection Priorities

Biological	Physical
Invasive Species	Sedimentation
Species at Risk	Currents
Biodiversity	Water Quality
Fish Habitat	Eutrophication
Fish Migration	Contaminants
Species Population (ex: commercial)	Microplastics
Marine Mammals	Underwater Noise
Migratory Birds	Bathymetry

Data Collection Priorities (Select 5)



Project Preferences (Rank Top 3)



Next Steps

- Completion of the State of Knowledge Report and gap analysis
- Baseline workshop with participants to finalize outstanding data collection projects
- Data collection expected to begin Summer/Fall 2018

Contact Information

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