

Table 1: Zoning purposes

Zone 1 (Restricted Access) will fully protect special features (including cultural resources) and/or sensitive ecosystem elements that are susceptible to or intolerant of disturbance through a prohibition on extractive use and restrictions on access.	Zone 2 (General Protection) will fully protect special features and/or sensitive ecosystem elements and/or representative characteristics of the marine region. Extractive use is prohibited.	Zone 3 (Multiple Use with Lakebed or Seabed Protection) will provide protection to lakebed or seabed ecosystems and/or cultural resources located on the lakebed or seabed while allowing for a range of uses of renewable marine resources that are compatible with the protection objectives of the zone.	Zone 4 (Multiple Use) will sustain the greatest range of uses that do not compromise the ecosystem structure and function.
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Table 2: Proposed marine activities and uses by zone category in NMCA's

	Restricted Access	General Protection	Multiple Use with Lakebed/ Seabed Protection	Multiple Use	
Activities and Uses	Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Zone 4	Limits/Permits/Exceptions
Traditional use	✓	✓	✓	✓	Access and use by Indigenous peoples of an NMCA as per their rights will not be subject to zone restrictions except for conservation, public health or public safety reasons determined in consultation with Indigenous rights holders.
Research and monitoring	▲	✓	✓	✓	A permit will be required in all zones, and only limited access will be allowed in zone 1.
Recreational activities	✗	✓	✓	✓	No permits required. Limitations may apply in cases of visitor safety and resource protection.
Commercial tourism	✗	✓	✓	✓	A permit will be required for commercial recreational activities in zones 2–4.
Commercial shipping	✗	✓	✓	✓	Conducted in accordance with Transport Canada's legislative and regulatory framework. Anchoring may be restricted to ensure bottom protection.
Permanent moorings	✗	▲	▲	✓	Permit will be required, and conditionally allowed depending on nature of proposal and its location.

	Restricted Access	General Protection	Multiple Use with Lakebed/ Seabed Protection	Multiple Use	
Activities and Uses	Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Zone 4	Limits/Permits/Exceptions
Coastal and in-water infrastructure	✘	▲	▲	✓	Permit will be required, and conditionally allowed depending on nature of proposal and its location.
Recreational fishing	✘	✘	✓	✓	Conducted in accordance with <i>Fisheries Act</i> regulations, including stated limits and licensing requirements.
Commercial fisheries/harvest: water column	✘	✘	✓	✓	Conducted in accordance with <i>Fisheries Act</i> regulations, including stated limits and licensing requirements.
Commercial fisheries/harvest: bottom contact	✘	✘	▲	▲	Conducted in accordance with <i>Fisheries Act</i> regulations, including stated limits and licensing requirements.
Limited collecting for personal or educational use	✘	✘	✓	✓	Collection of renewable resources only (e.g. berries, sea shells). The collection of archaeological and historical artifacts, including fossils or species at risk is prohibited.
Recreational hunting	✘	✘	✓	✓	Conducted in accordance with applicable regulations, including stated limits and licensing requirements.
Renewable Energy	✘	✘	✘	▲	Permit will be required, and conditionally allowed depending on nature of proposal and its location.
Aquaculture	✘	✘	✘	▲	Permit will be required, and conditionally allowed depending on nature of proposal and its location.
Commercial fisheries/harvest: Bottom trawling	✘	✘	✘	✘	Prohibition following Government of Canada decision on recommendations from the national advisory panel on MPA standards.
Oil and Gas Exploration and Exploitation	✘	✘	✘	✘	Prohibition under the <i>Canada National Marine Conservation Areas Act</i> .
Mining	✘	✘	✘	✘	Prohibition under the <i>Canada National Marine Conservation Areas Act</i> .

Key:

✓	At the national scale, activity or use is deemed to be consistent with the purpose of the zone, and must be conducted in accordance with the purpose and objectives of an NMCA
▲	Conditionally allowed if activity aligns with site-specific objectives, and will depend on nature of proposal and its location
✘	Activity is deemed to be inconsistent with the purpose of the zone or the NMCA and will not be allowed.

Notes:

- Note that some NMCAs may be more restrictive if that is decided upon during the collaborative management planning process.
- Activities related to search and rescue, Canadian sovereignty or security will not be restricted by NMCA zoning.
- The rights of Indigenous peoples are respected in NMCAs. Regulations or zoning restrictions do not apply to rights-based access and use of NMCAs by Indigenous peoples, except in consultation with Indigenous rights holders.