



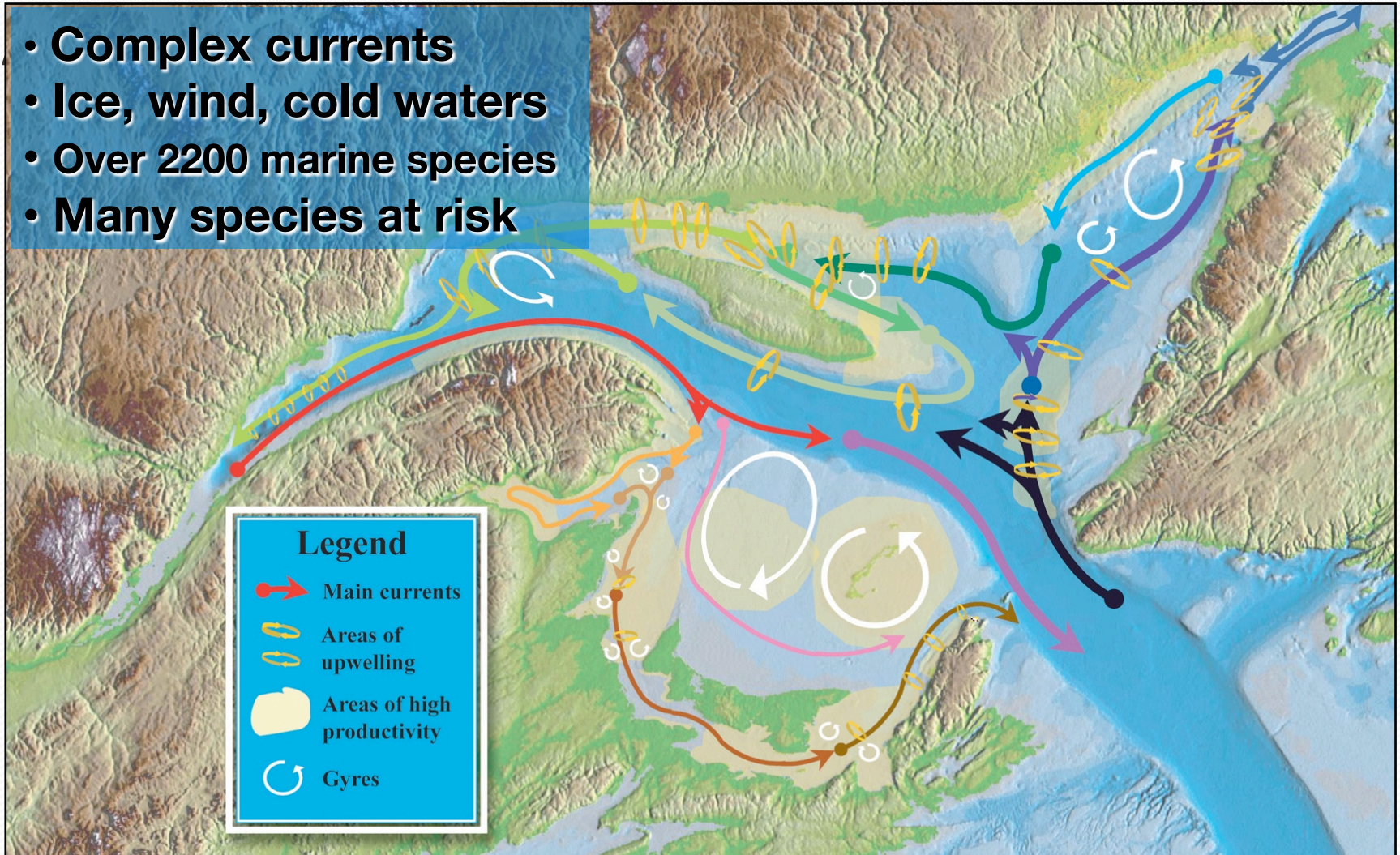
# Save Our Seas and Shores Presentation on the Water Act

Wellington,  
Prince Edward Island  
November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015

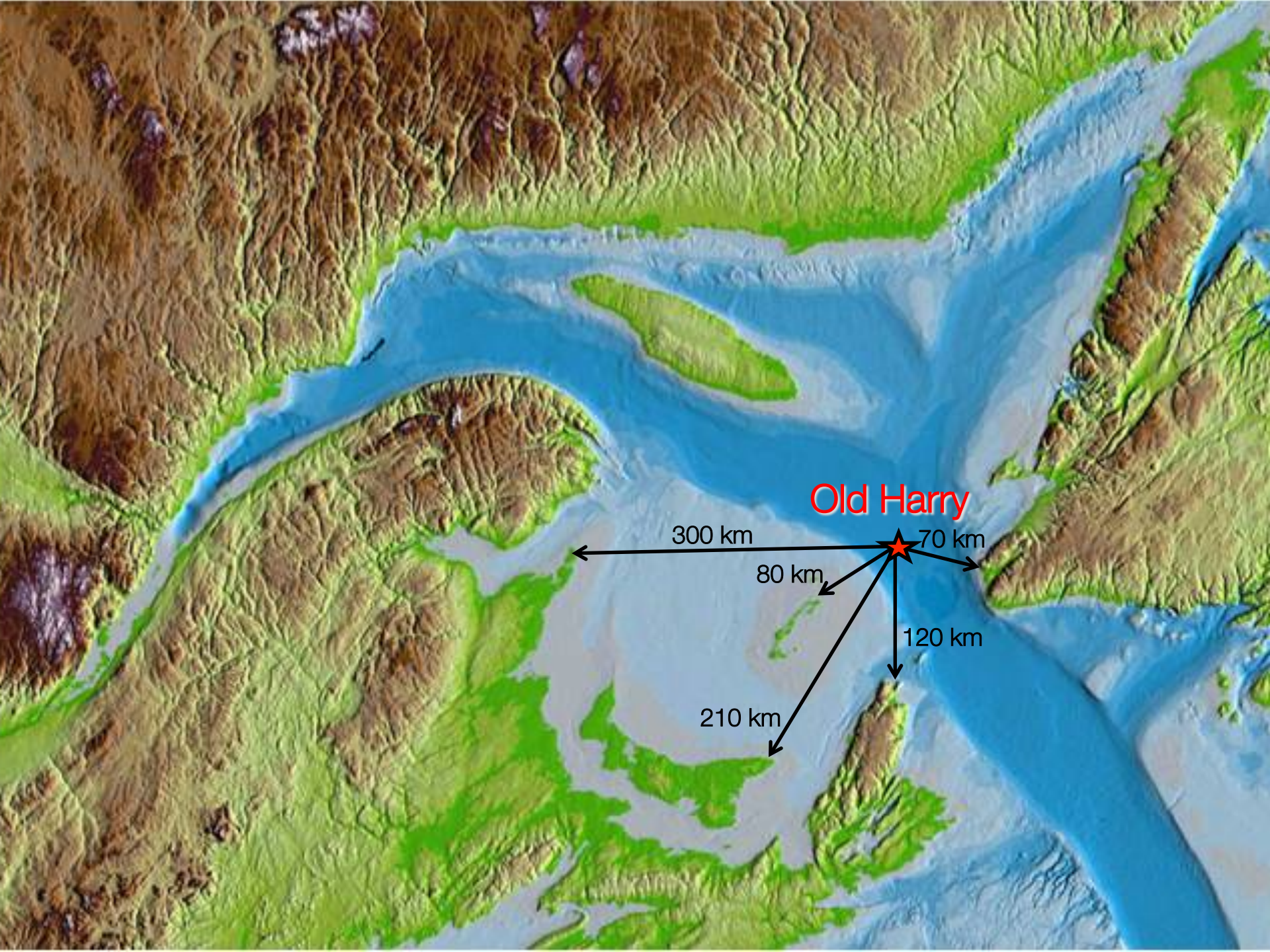


# Gulf of St. Lawrence

- Complex currents
- Ice, wind, cold waters
- Over 2200 marine species
- Many species at risk









# Gulf of St. Lawrence Economic Importance: PEI Commercial Fisheries

- PEI Annual Landings (2011)
  - over **\$278 million (wharf value)**
- Lobster Fishery in Atlantic Provinces
  - over **\$784 million (wharf value)**





# Gulf of St. Lawrence : Economic Importance

## Tourism

Cruises, Sports Fishing,  
Coastal Tourism, Seafood, etc.

Annual spin-offs :

**\$400 million** + **7,000** direct jobs

**7%** of PEI's Gross Domestic Prod. (GDP)

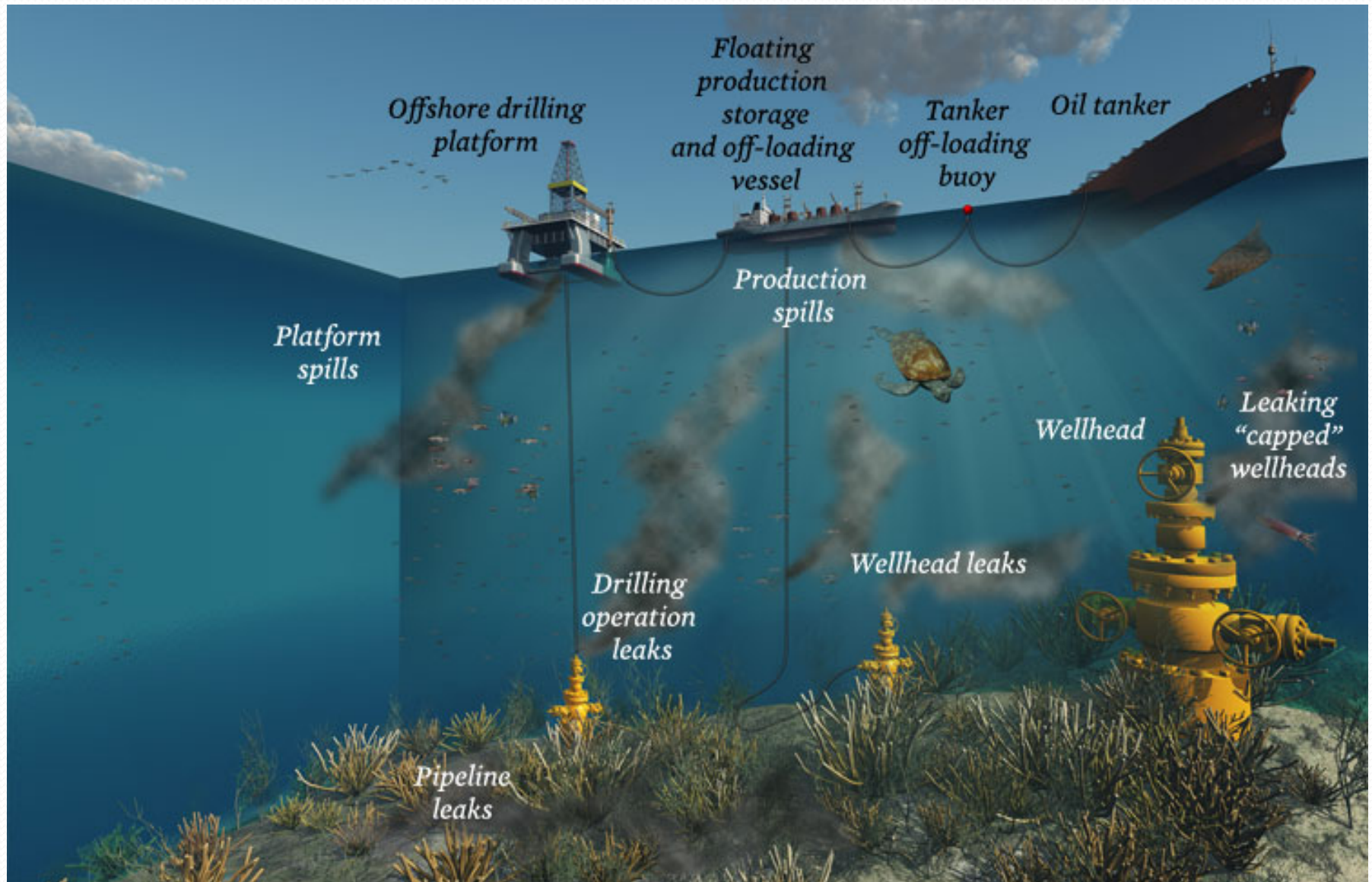
- Highest of any Canadian Province





# Environmental impacts

Major incidents... but also routine spills





# BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill

## Economic impact

- Gulf of Mexico, five years later :
  - Cost : over **\$ 42 billions**
  - Impact on fisheries : **\$ 8,7 billions**
  - Impacts on tourism : **\$ 23 billions** ( first 3 years)
  - Confidence in safety of seafood : only **23 %**



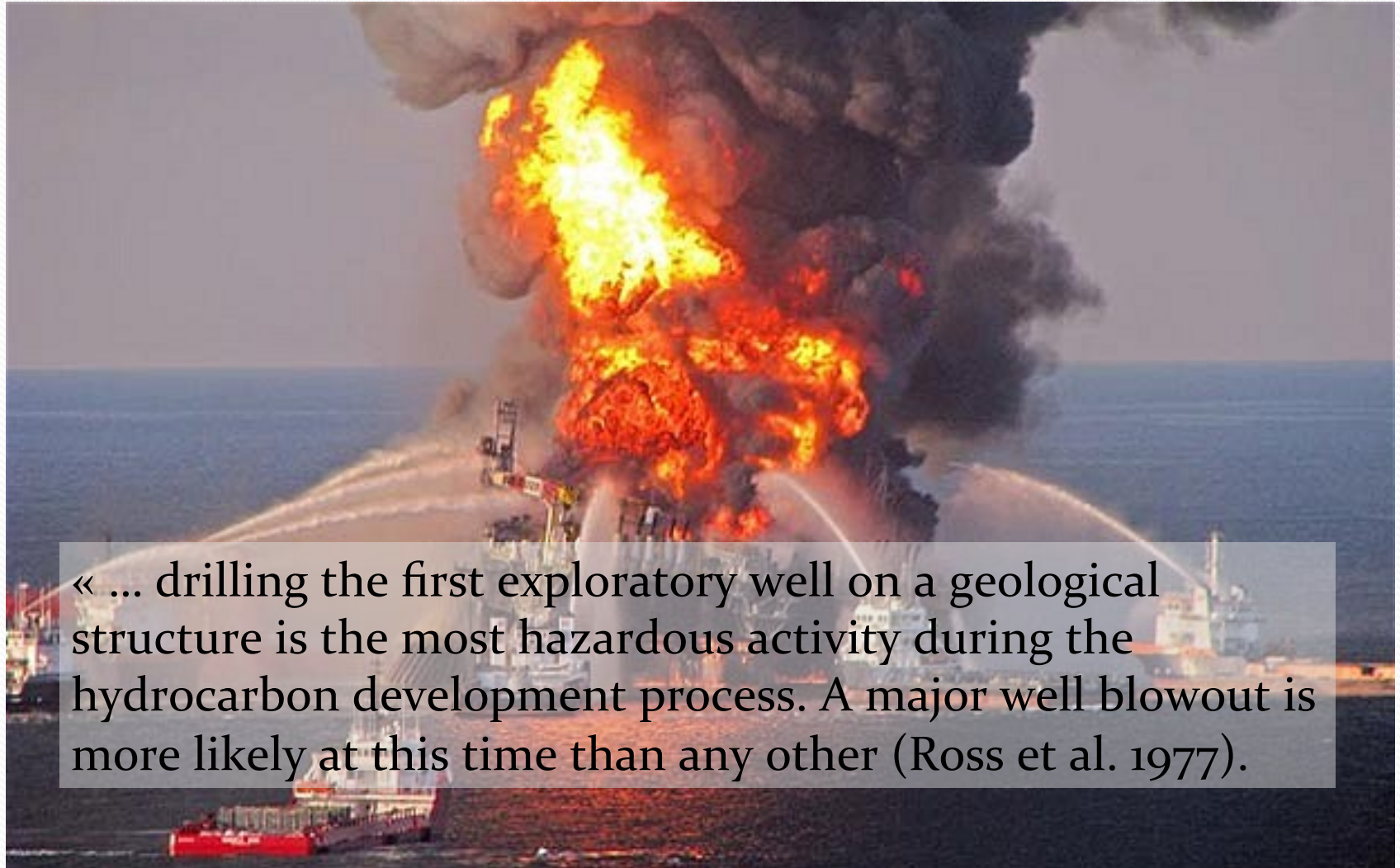
Thierry Gosselet





# Oil and gas exploration

It's « only » exploration

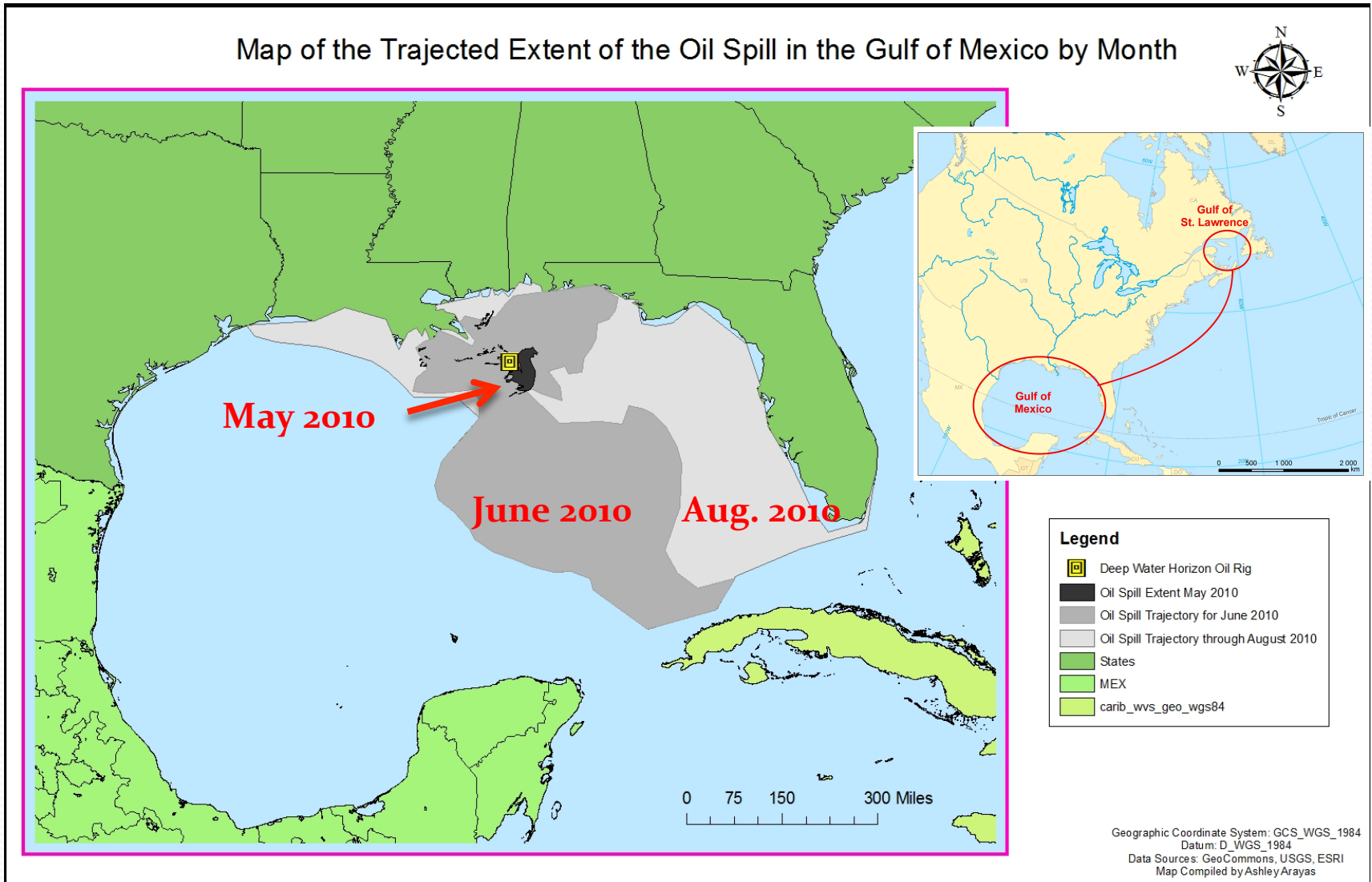


« ... drilling the first exploratory well on a geological structure is the most hazardous activity during the hydrocarbon development process. A major well blowout is more likely at this time than any other (Ross et al. 1977).



# Gulf of Mexico oil spill vs Gulf of St. Lawrence

All five provinces would have been impacted





# From the Gulf of Mexico to the Gulf of St. Lawrence





# Environmental Impacts

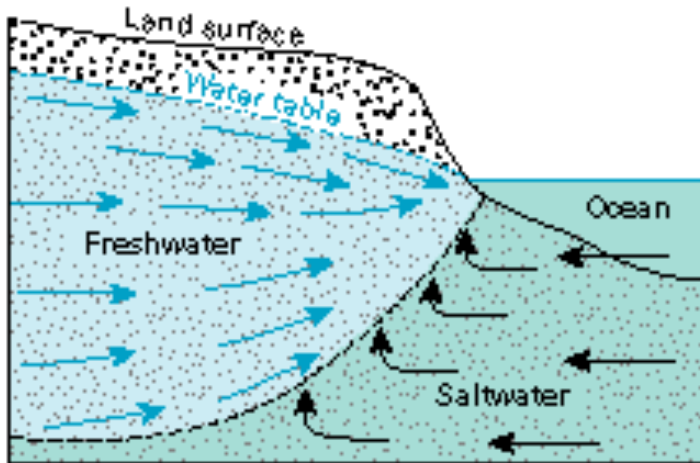
10 000 barrels/day – 10 days



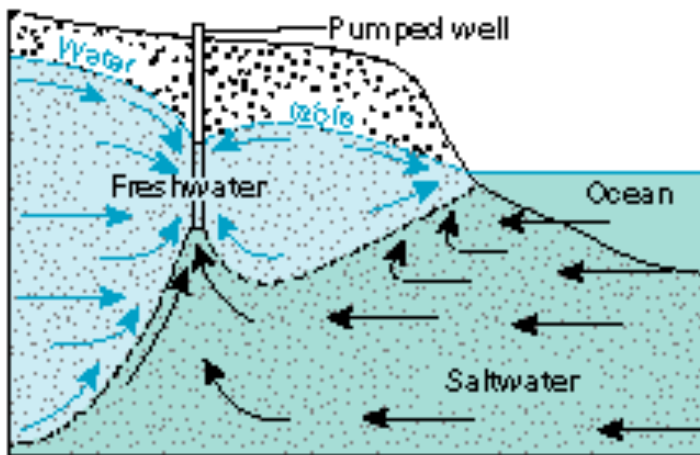


# Saltwater Intrusion

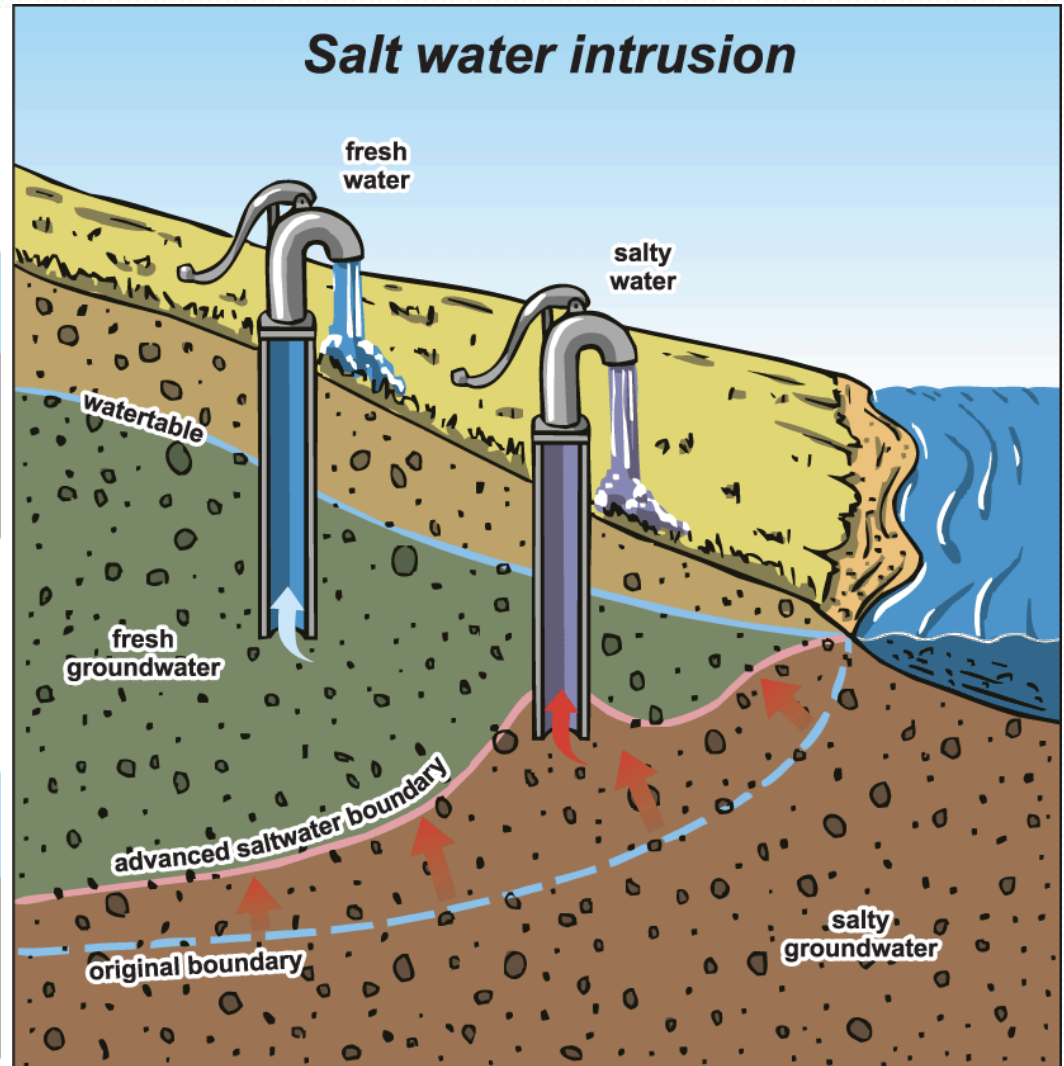
Natural Conditions



Salt-Water Intrusion



*Salt water intrusion*





# Recommendations

**Recommendation 1:** Protection from the potential pollution of PEI water resulting from oil and gas exploration and drilling in the Gulf, including the discharge of deleterious substances.

**Recommendation 2:** Protection of fundamental right to clean, safe drinking water, and the protection of the health of aquatic systems as the primary goal of the Water Act.

**Recommendation 3:** Continuation of moratorium on High Capacity Wells for agricultural irrigation, and non-essential uses; as well as, increased regulations for for industrial and commercial purposes of High Capacity Wells and to phase out existing wells gradually to the extent possible.

# In the Gulf of St. Lawrence, we are all neighbours -

In this Water Act, let's take a proactive stance to protect the Gulf!

