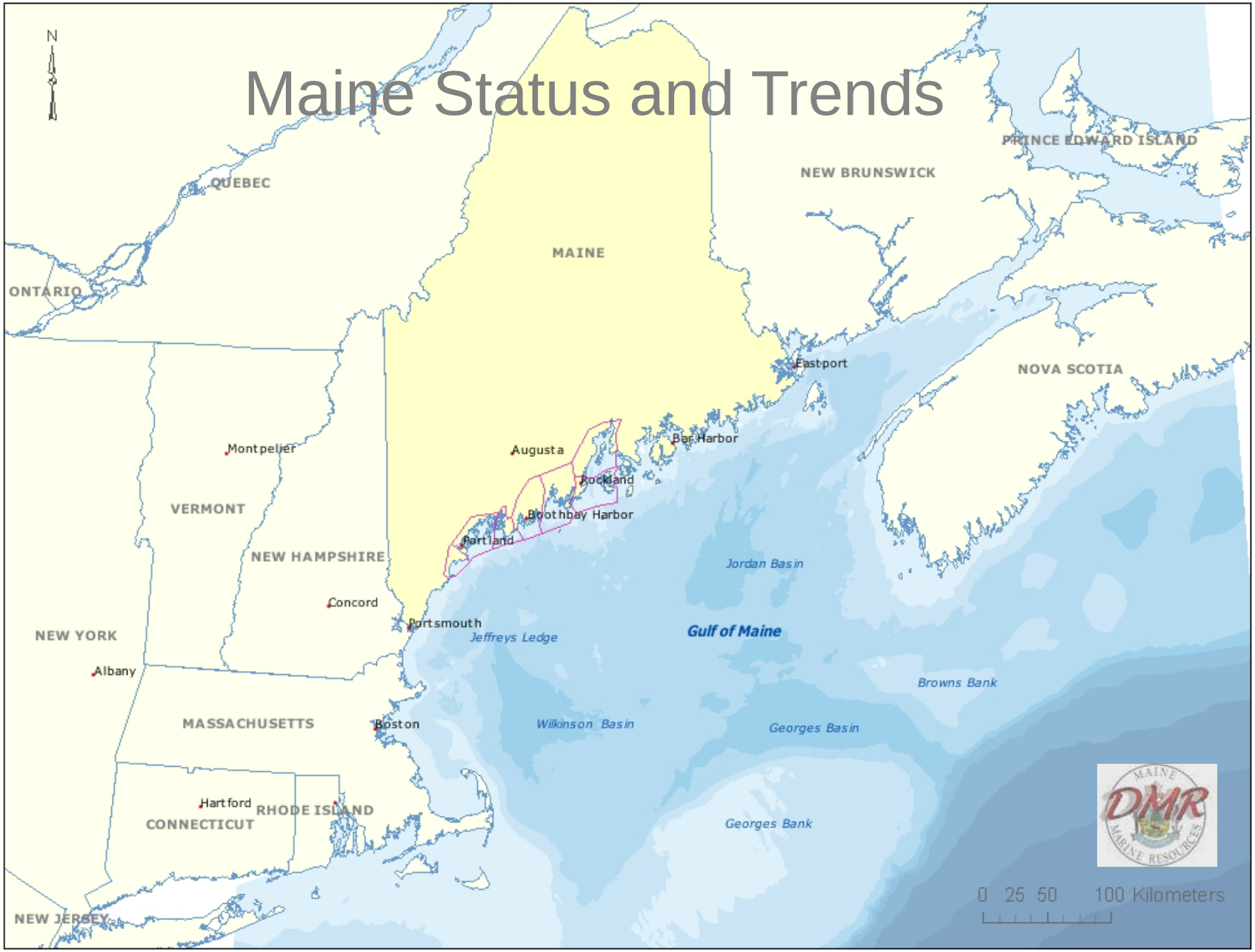
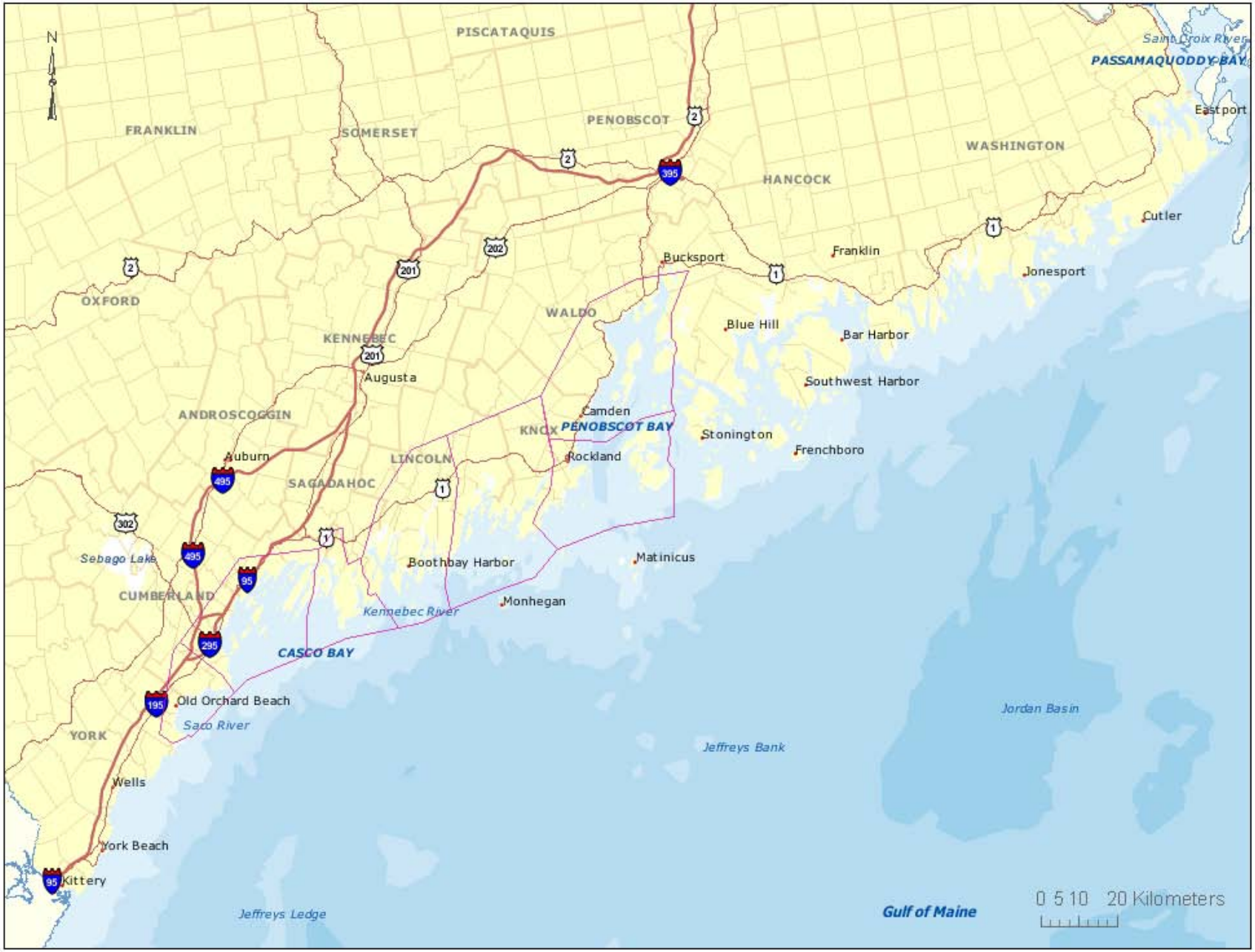
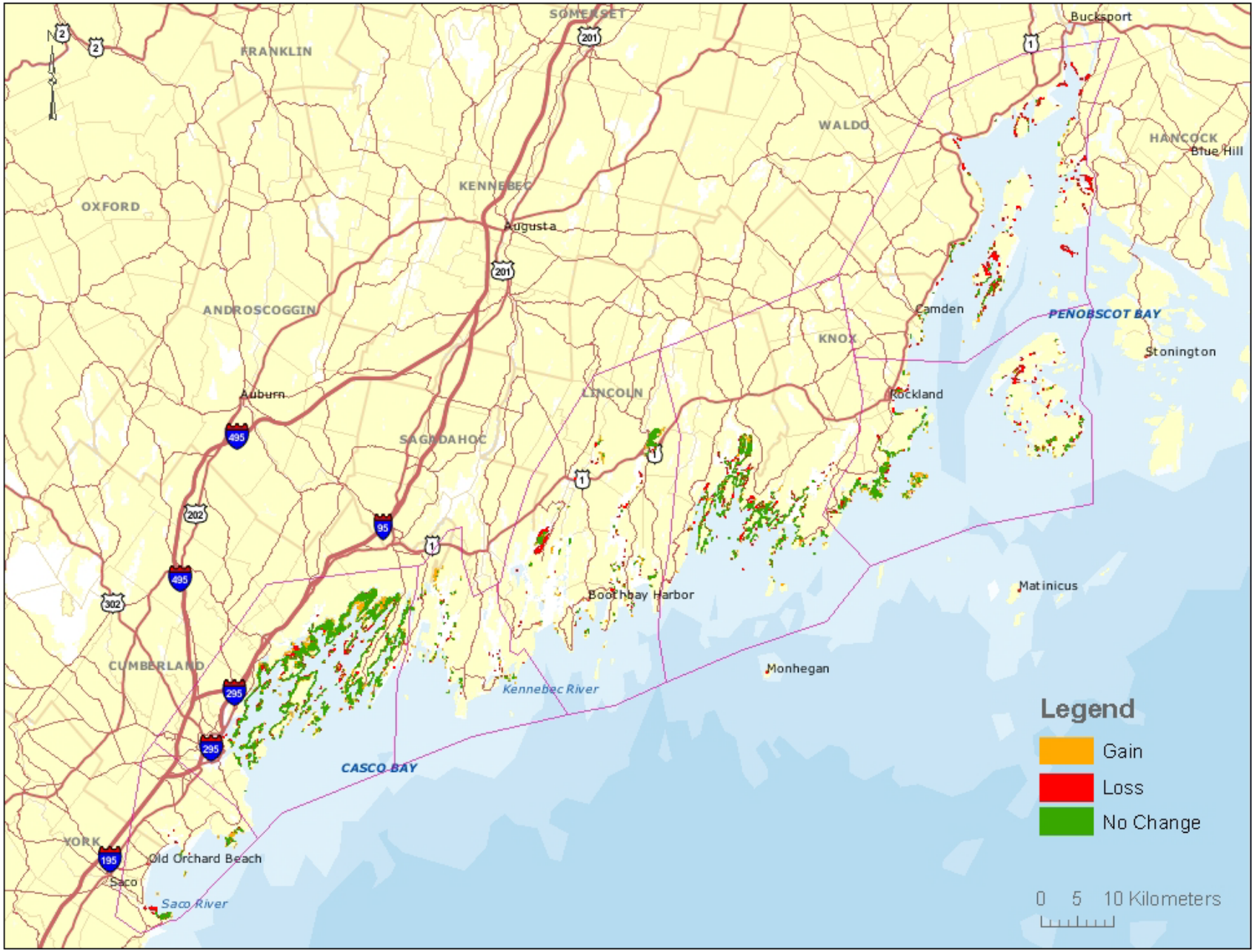
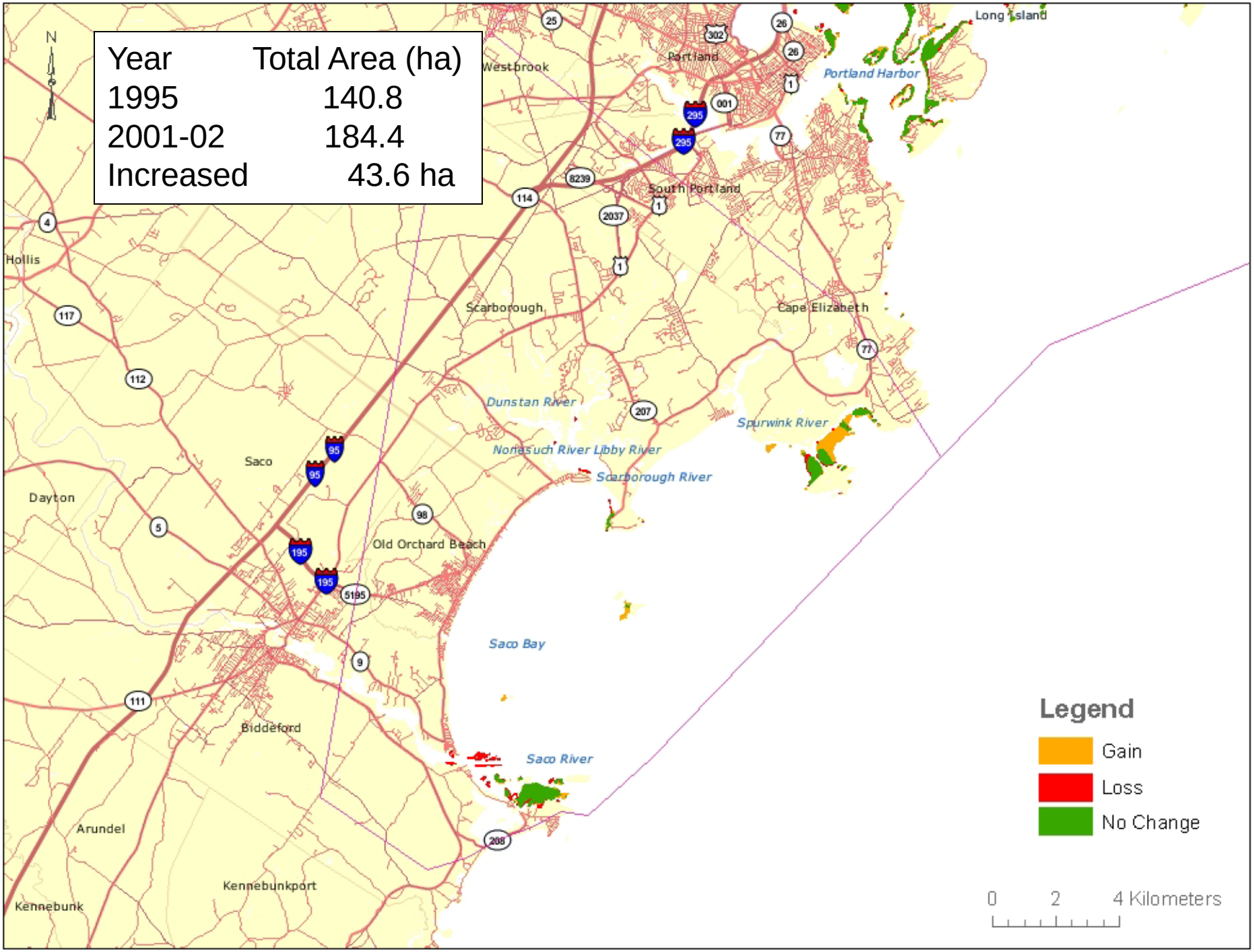

Maine Status and Trends
N
QUEBEC
ONTARIO
MAINE
NEW BRUNSWICK
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
NOVA SCOTIA
Eastport
Bar Harbor
Augusta
Rockland
Boothbay Harbor
Portland
Montpelier
VERMONT
NEW HAMPSHIRE
Concord
Portsmouth
NEW YORK
Albany
MASSACHUSETTS
Boston
Hartford
CONNECTICUT
RHODE ISLAND
NEW JERSEY
Jordan Basin
Gulf of Maine
Jeffreys Ledge
Browns Bank
Wilkinson Basin
Georges Basin
Georges Bank
MAINE DMR MARINE RESOURCES
0 25 50 100 Kilometers

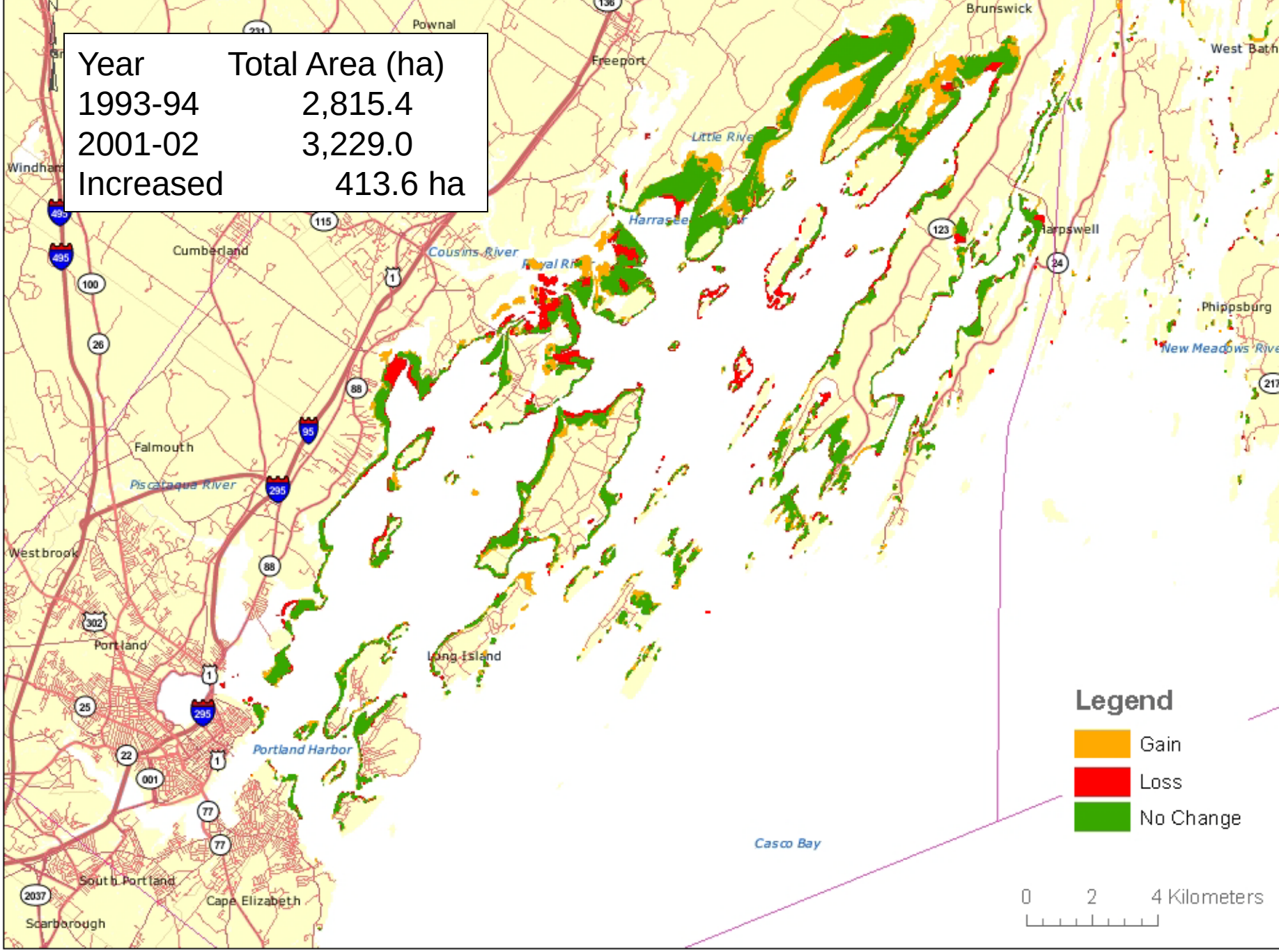

N
PISCATAQUIS
FRANKLIN
SOMERSET
PENOBSCOT
WASHINGTON
HANCOCK
OXFORD
KENNEBEC
WALDO
ANDROSCOGGIN
KNOX
LINCOLN
SAGADAHOC
CUMBERLAND
YORK
Saint Croix River
PASSAMAQUODDY BAY
Eastport
Cutler
Franklin
Jonesport
Bucksport
Blue Hill
Bar Harbor
Southwest Harbor
Camden
PENOBSCOT BAY
Stonington
Frenchboro
Rockland
Augusta
Auburn
Sebago Lake
Boothbay Harbor
Matinicus
Monhegan
Kennebec River
CASCO BAY
Old Orchard Beach
Saco River
Wells
York Beach
Kittery
Jeffreys Bank
Jordan Basin
Jeffreys Ledge
Gulf of Maine
0 5 10 20 Kilometers

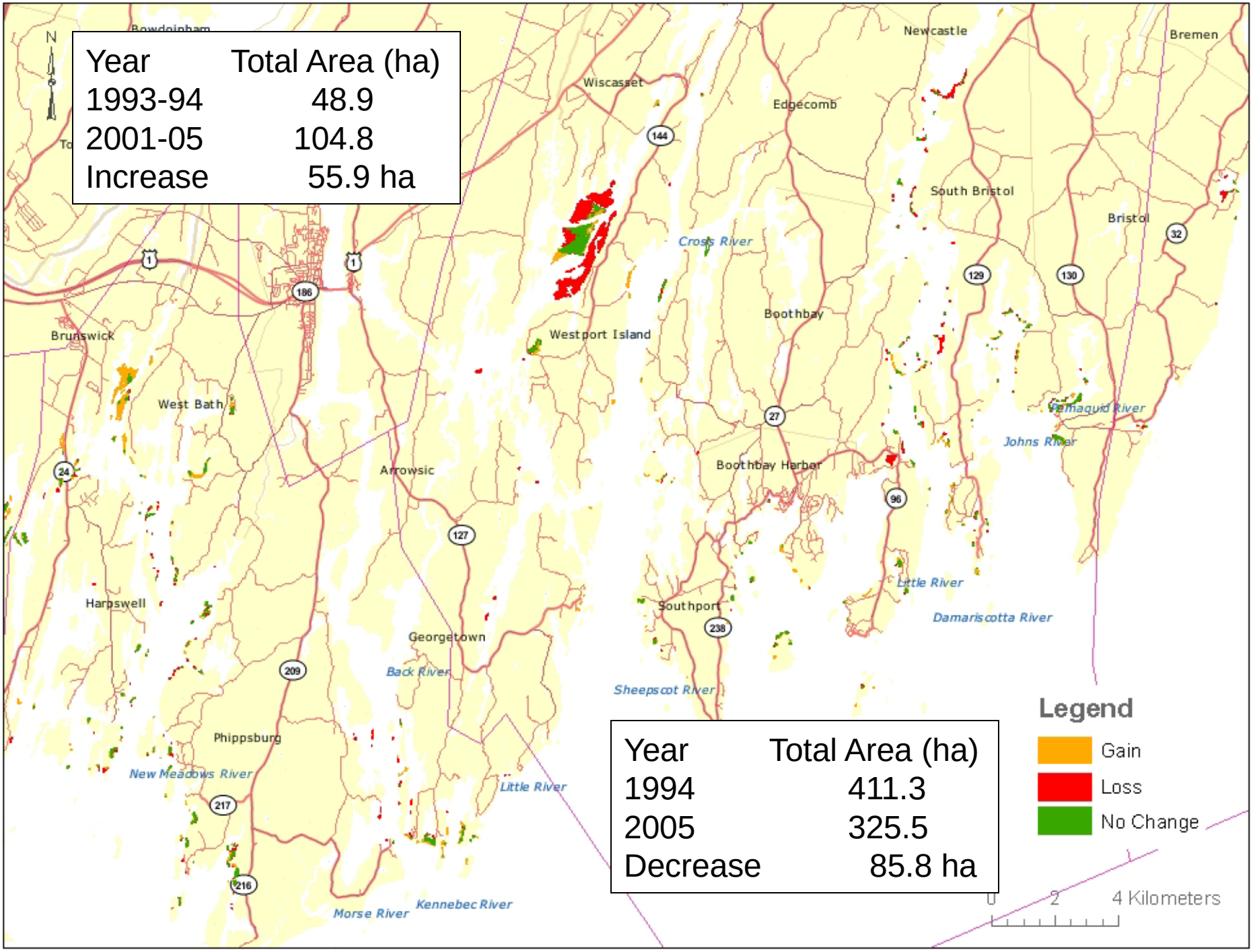
# Maine Status and Trends

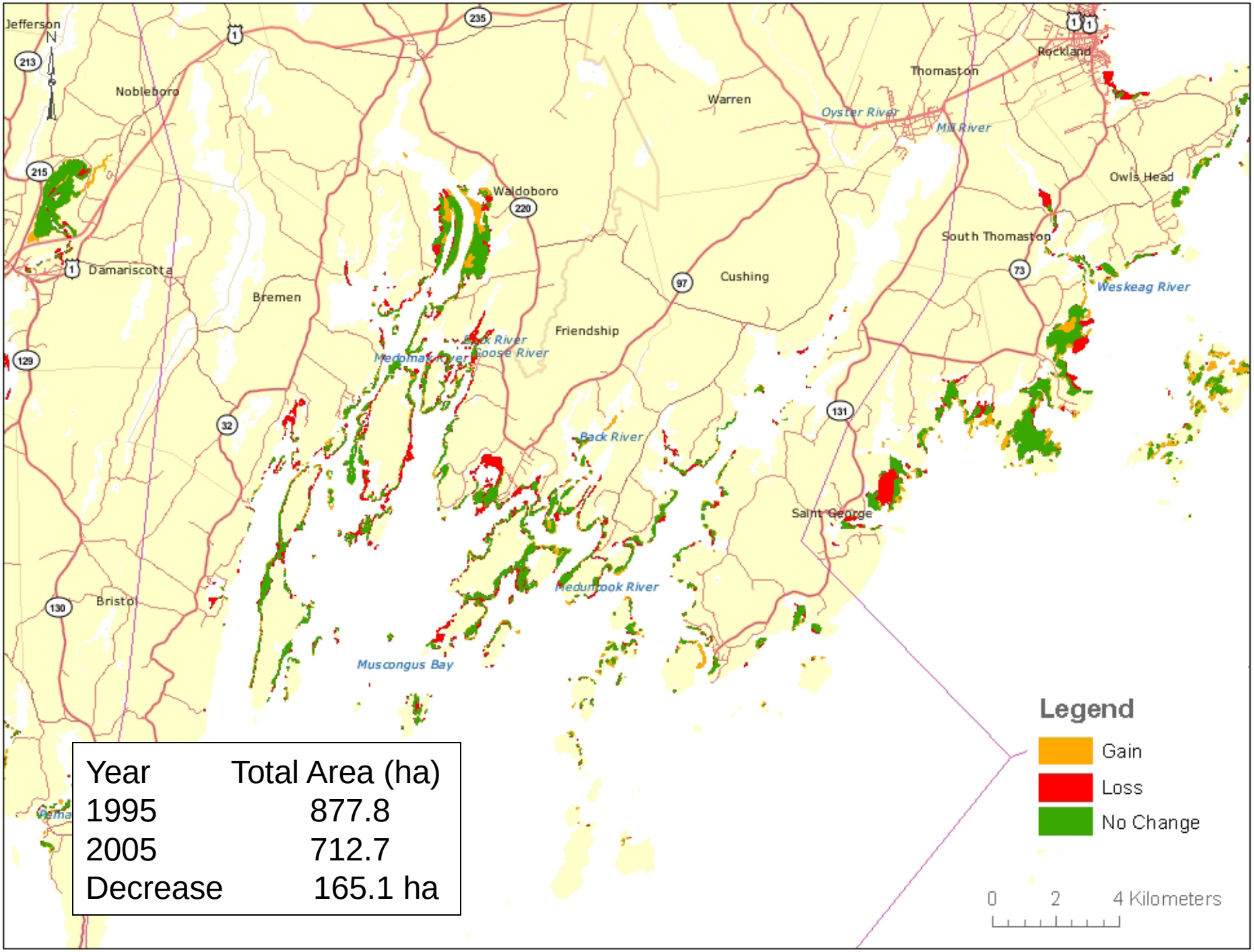
| Region | Change | (ha) | Comment |
|---|---|---|---|
| Saco Bay | + | 43.6 | |
| Western Casco Bay | + | 413.6 | |
| Eastern Casco Bay | + | 55.9 | |
| Booth Bay Region | - | 85.8 | |
| Muscongus Bay | - | 165.1 | |
| Lower Penobscot Bay | - | 44.6 | |
| Upper Penobscot Bay | - | 417.0 | |

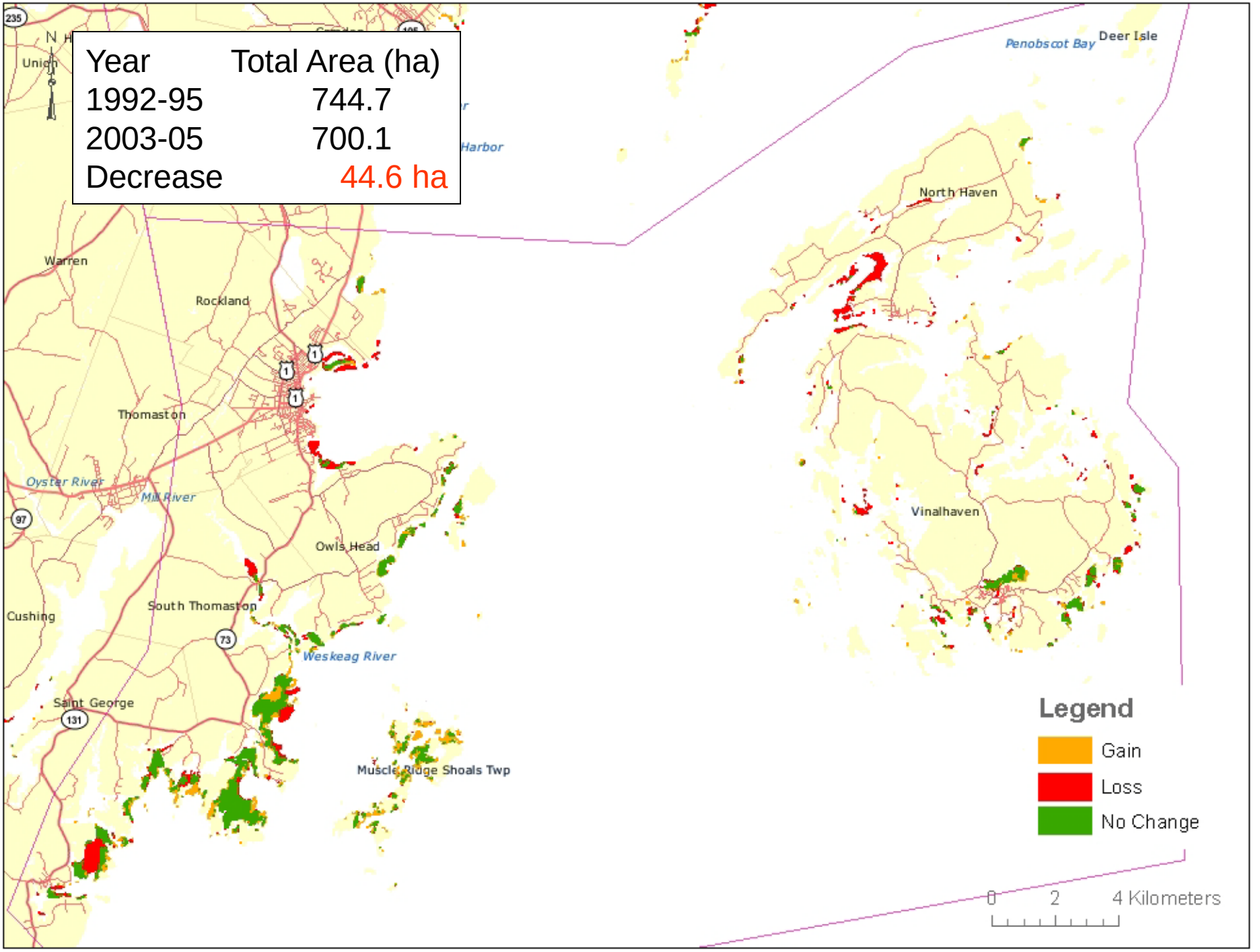

SOMERSET
FRANKLIN
WALDO
HANCOCK
Bucksport
Blue Hill
OXFORD
KENNEBEC
Augusta
ANDROSCOGGIN
Camden
PENOBSCOT BAY
KNOX
Stonington
Auburn
LINCOLN
Rockland
SAGADAHOC
Boothbay Harbor
Matinicus
Monhegan
CUMBERLAND
Kennebec River
CASCO BAY
YORK
Old Orchard Beach
Saco
Saco River
Legend
Gain
Loss
No Change
0 5 10 Kilometers

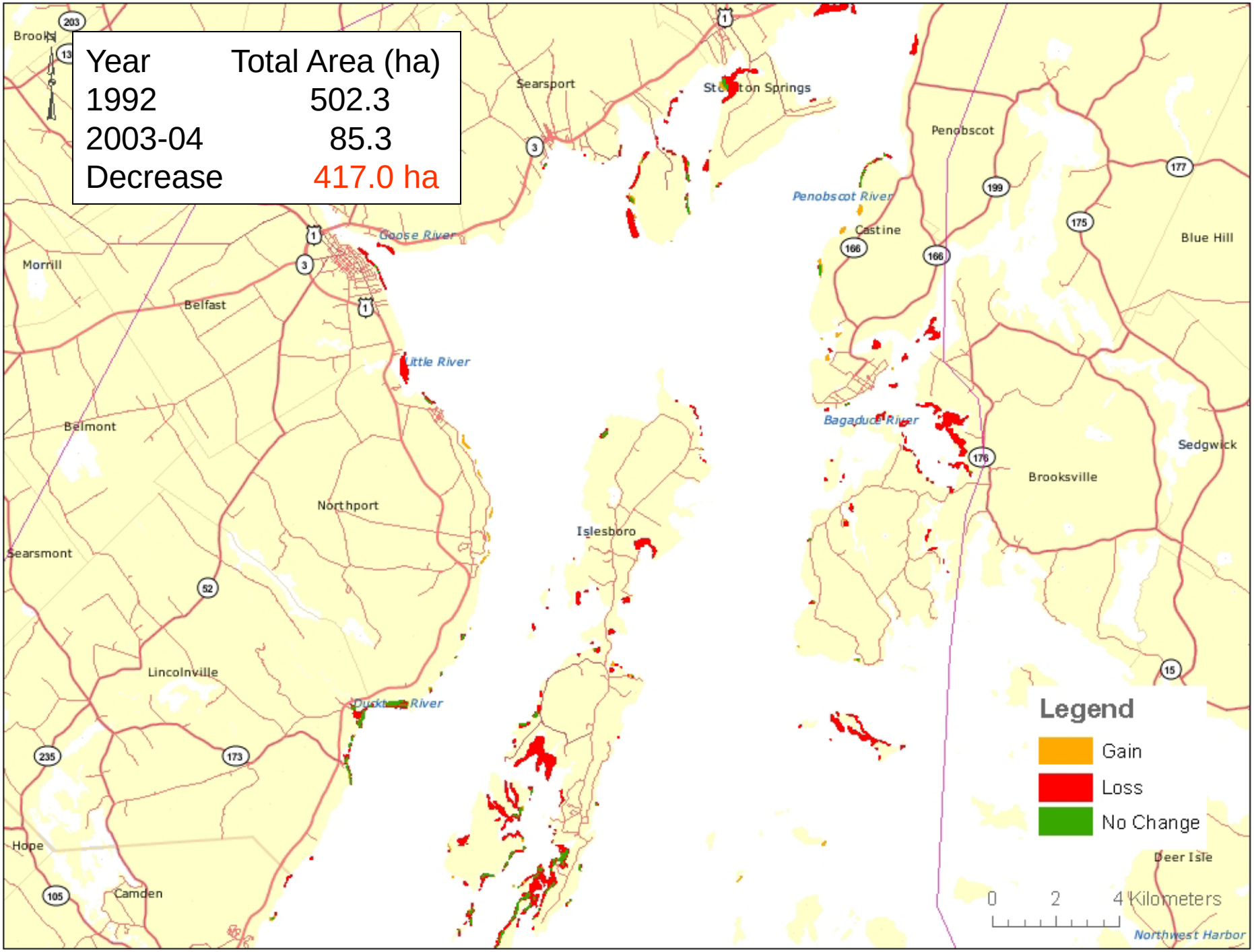

Year Total Area (ha)
1995 140.8
2001-02 184.4
Increased 43.6 ha
N
Long Island
Portland
Portland Harbor
Westbrook
South Portland
Scarborough
Cape Elizabeth
Hollis
Dayton
Saco
Old Orchard Beach
Biddeford
Arundel
Kennebunkport
Kennebunk
Dunstan River
Spurwink River
Nonesuch River
Libby River
Scarborough River
Saco Bay
Saco River
Legend
Gain
Loss
No Change
0 2 4 Kilometers


Year Total Area (ha)
1993-94 2,815.4
2001-02 3,229.0
Increased 413.6 ha
Pownal
Freeport
Brunswick
West Bath
Windham
Cumberland
Cousins River
Harraseeket River
Harpswell
Phippsburg
New Meadows River
Falmouth
Piscataqua River
Westbrook
Portland
Long Island
Portland Harbor
Casco Bay
South Portland
Cape Elizabeth
Scarborough
Legend
Gain
Loss
No Change
0 2 4 Kilometers


Year Total Area (ha)
1993-94 48.9
2001-05 104.8
Increase 55.9 ha
Year Total Area (ha)
1994 411.3
2005 325.5
Decrease 85.8 ha
Legend
Gain
Loss
No Change
0 2 4 Kilometers
N
Bowdoinham
Wiscasset
Newcastle
Bremen
Edgecomb
South Bristol
Bristol
Cross River
Boothbay
Westport Island
Brunswick
West Bath
Arrowsic
Boothbay Harbor
Johns River
Damariscotta River
Little River
Southport
Harpswell
Georgetown
Back River
Sheepscot River
Phippsburg
New Meadows River
Little River
Morse River
Kennebec River
1
186
144
129
130
32
27
96
24
127
238
209
217
216


Jefferson
Nobleboro
Waldoboro
Warren
Thomaston
Rockland
Owls Head
South Thomaston
Damariscotta
Bremen
Friendship
Cushing
Saint George
Bristol
Oyster River
Mill River
Weskeag River
Back River
Medomak River
Goose River
Back River
Muscongus Bay
Medunkook River
Year Total Area (ha)
1995 877.8
2005 712.7
Decrease 165.1 ha
Legend
Gain
Loss
No Change
0 2 4 Kilometers


Year Total Area (ha)
1992-95 744.7
2003-05 700.1
Decrease 44.6 ha
Penobscot Bay
Deer Isle
North Haven
Vinalhaven
Warren
Rockland
Thomaston
Oyster River
Mill River
Owls Head
South Thomaston
Cushing
Weskeag River
Saint George
Muscle Ridge Shoals Twp
Harbor
Union
Legend
Gain
Loss
No Change
0 2 4 Kilometers


Year Total Area (ha)
1992 502.3
2003-04 85.3
Decrease 417.0 ha
Searsport
Stockton Springs
Penobscot
Penobscot River
Castine
Blue Hill
Goose River
Morrill
Belfast
Little River
Belmont
Bagaduce River
Sedgwick
Brooksville
Northport
Islesboro
Searsmont
Lincolnville
Deer Isle
Hope
Camden
Northwest Harbor
Legend
Gain
Loss
No Change
0 2 4 Kilometers

# Change in Eelgrass Distribution along the Maine Coast 1992-2005

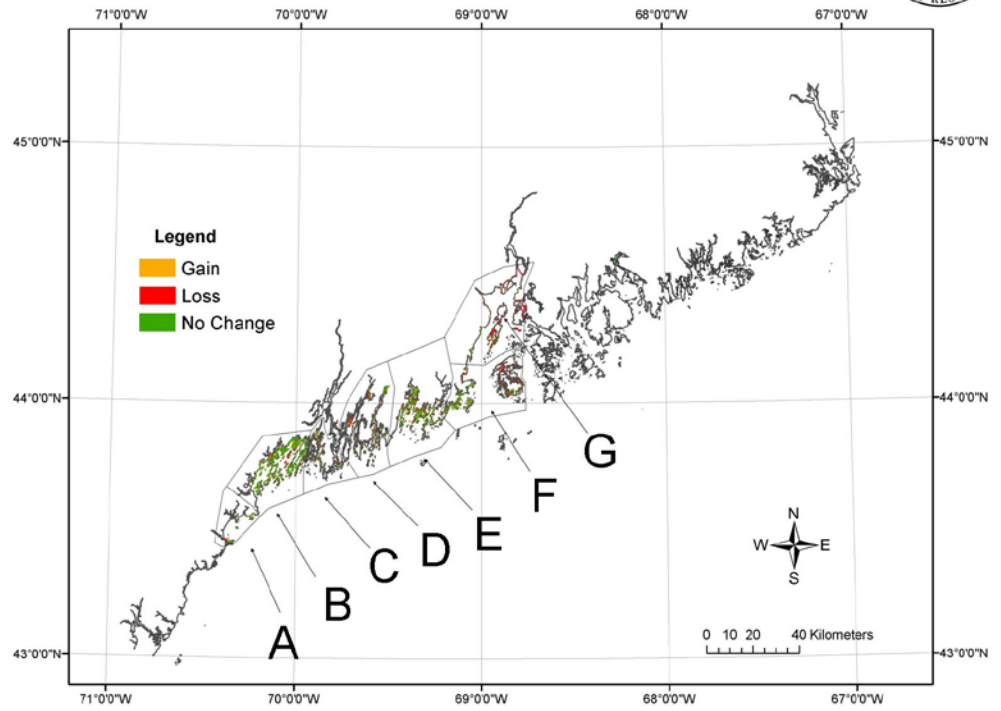
Seth Barker, Maine Department of Marine Resources Fisheries Laboratory, West Boothbay Harbor, Maine

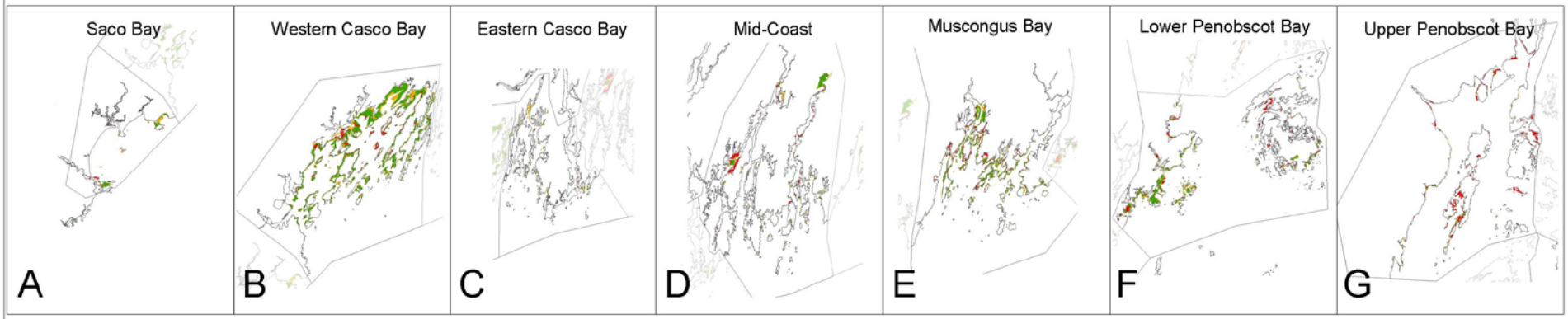
Eelgrass forms the basis of an important habitat along the Maine coast. As in other locations, eelgrass can form dense meadows in shallow subtidal and to a lesser extent intertidal locations. It serves many of the same functions as eelgrass beds elsewhere in that it is a dominant primary producer, provides habitat for many organisms, and serves to stabilize near shore sediments.

Eelgrass distribution has been systematically mapped along the Maine coast since 1992. During the period 1992 to 1997 the entire coast was mapped in segments. Since that time, in the period from 2001 to 2005, over 1/3 of the Maine coast has been re-mapped. This new mapping provides the opportunity to evaluate the status of these eelgrass beds and compare distribution with earlier mapping efforts.

Coast-wide mapping of eelgrass beds, based on 1:12000 scale color photography, has been an on-going effort of the Maine Department of Marine Resources (MDMR) since 1993. Similar methods were used for the acquisition of photography and photo-interpretation throughout the study. Field verification since 1997 was aided by the use of improved technology that included a laptop with ArcView Tracking Analyst, a Compaq iPac with ArcPad, RoxAnn benthic mapping equipment, and underwater video. Not all of this equipment was used at one time but each proved effective.

The general trend points to stability in most areas with gains in some embayments, small loss in others, and a pronounced loss in upper Penobscot Bay. The coast has been divided into seven segments shown below. These subdivisions are provided to aid in the quantification and visualization of distribution and change.




| Year | Total Area (ha) |
|---|---|
| 1995 | 140.8 |
| 2001-02 | 184.4 |

| Year | Total Area (ha) |
|---|---|
| 1993-94 | 2,815.4 |
| 2001-02 | 3,229.0 |

| Year | Total Area (ha) |
|---|---|
| 1993-94 | 48.9 |
| 2001-05 | 104.8 |

| Year | Total Area (ha) |
|---|---|
| 1994 | 411.3 |
| 2005 | 325.5 |

| Year | Total Area (ha) |
|---|---|
| 1995 | 877.8 |
| 2005 | 712.7 |

| Year | Total Area (ha) |
|---|---|
| 1992-95 | 744.7 |
| 2003-05 | 700.1 |

| Year | Total Area (ha) |
|---|---|
| 1992 | 502.3 |
| 2003-04 | 85.3 |

Acknowledgements: 1992 data for Penobscot Bay provided by Fred Short, UNH (Mapping funded by MeDOT). Funding and support for 1993-2005 mapping of distribution provided by Maine Departments of Marine Resources, Environmental Protection, and Conservation, Maine State Planning Office, and NOAA Coastal Service Center.