

***Work In Progress:  
Five-Year Report of the Gulf of Maine Council  
on the Marine Environment, 1990-1995***

*To maintain and enhance environmental quality in the  
Gulf of Maine and to allow for sustainable resource  
use by existing and future generations...*

—Council Mission, 1990

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Over the past five years, we have seen the transformation of the idea of bioregional cooperation into a working reality. Bringing five jurisdictions, two federal governments, and scores of community and non-governmental organizations together to address the needs of protection and sustainable use of the Gulf of Maine marine environment is exciting and challenging. The Council's transboundary nature has become a cornerstone of its program development; its focus on issues of regional significance such as water quality monitoring, information access, and public education has helped to establish a "watershed-wide" identity for the region.

This report is an overview of the first five years of the Council's work, beginning with the first *Sustaining Our Common Heritage* conference in 1989. I am confident that the next five years will witness even further strengthening of the bioregional approach to environmental management in the Gulf of Maine. Even as this report is published, the Gulf of Maine Program has already begun to build upon the actions described here, and to move ahead with plans and projects that will bring us together to protect this vital region in the future.

—Evan Richert, Chairman  
*Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine  
Environment, 1995–1996*

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# Introduction

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"The Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment is not like other marine management programs in the United States or Canada...it is not a regulatory body, and it does not have independent authority. Instead, the Council provides a unique forum through which state, provincial, and federal officials, as well as private citizens and non-governmental organizations, meet regularly to discuss regional environmental issues."

—*A Sea Beside The Sea: The Gulf of Maine and the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment*, 1995.

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The Gulf of Maine Council has indeed, met regularly and created significant opportunities for dialogue among the many agencies, organizations, businesses, and individuals that concern themselves with and depend upon the Gulf of Maine. Beyond this however, since 1989, when the original *Agreement on the Conservation of the Marine Environment of The Gulf of Maine* was signed by the Governors and Premiers of the Gulf's three states and two provinces, there began what has been an evolving experiment in multi-lateral, cross-jurisdictional collaboration around an extraordinary marine ecosystem. To date, this five-year-old effort has accomplished much more than a simple chronology of meetings and reports could reveal. The Council's unique, transboundary role has created a precedent for developing a bioregional policy perspective and for taking action to address the protection and sustainable use of ecosystems that cross political boundaries. Mid-way through the Council's original ten-year plan, this activity report describes the major results of that experiment.

# The Agreement

In 1989, the Governors of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Maine, and the Premiers of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick convened a conference of 300 participants to discuss cooperation between the states and provinces in order to sustain biological productivity in the Gulf of Maine. The conference was organized by the Gulf of Maine Working Group (comprised of representatives from the states, provinces, and both U.S. and Canadian federal agencies), which had prepared a comprehensive report for conference participants on the state of environmental management in the Gulf called *Sustaining Our Common Heritage*.

At the conclusion of the conference, the Governors and Premiers signed an agreement to cooperatively protect the resources of the Gulf and to establish the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment. The Council was given a mandate "to document the Gulf's ecological and environmental trends and develop recommendations for managing its resources" as part of its mission *to maintain and enhance marine environmental quality in the Gulf of Maine and to allow for sustainable resource use by existing and future generations*.

AGREEMENT ON  
CONSERVATION OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT  
OF THE GULF OF MAINE  
BETWEEN  
THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE BORDERING STATES AND PROVINCES

The Governments of Maine, Massachusetts, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, as Parties to this Agreement and:

Considering that the shoreline, seabed, waters and associated Gulf of Maine region, including Georges Bank and the Bay of Fundy, public natural resources shared by the contiguous States and Province

Considering that the natural resources of the Gulf of Maine are part of an overall ecosystem that transcends political boundaries

Considering that the sustainable development and use of these recreational and aesthetic enjoyment activities as well as fish and wildlife dependent on the ecological integrity of the Gulf ecosystems and:

Considering that the planning and management of human activities in the Gulf ecosystem should recognize and be based upon an understanding of its integrity and:


Considering that the Parties to this agreement recognize a shared responsibility to conserve the renewable and non-renewable resources of the Gulf for the enjoyment of all their citizens, including generations yet to come and:


Considering that the most effective means of protecting, conserving and managing the region's resources is through the cooperative pursuit of consistent policies and programs and:


Considering that studies conducted by National, State and Provincial and other agencies have found that, without prudent management, the use and use of the Gulf resources may have significant adverse impacts on the economy, and general welfare of the Parties and have agreed to the following:

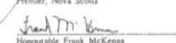
1. The Parties agree to establish a Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment to discuss and act upon environmental issues of common concern including but not limited to:
  - the protection and conservation of the ecological balance within the Gulf of Maine ecosystem;
  - the problem of marine debris and medical waste;
  - the relationship between land use and the marine environment;
  - the sustainable use of resources within the Gulf of Maine;
  - cooperative programs to better protect and conserve the Gulf's natural resources.
2. The Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment will be composed of two representatives from each of the Gulf of Maine States and Provinces to be appointed by their respective Governors and Premiers within 90 days of the effective date of this Agreement.
3. The Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment will produce its first annual report on environmental trends and conditions including specific recommendations on a Gulf of Maine Action Plan within 15 months of its appointment.
4. The Parties agree to minimize actions that would result in degradation of environmental quality or depletion of resources that individually or cumulatively could result in significant adverse impacts on resources leading to loss of sustainable use or environmental viability.
5. The Parties agree to design and develop a coordinated monitoring program to provide improved information for future decisions concerning the Gulf.
6. The Parties agree that the successful conservation of Gulf resources will require the development of additional agreements or protocols on specific issues or concerns that may be raised from time to time.


SIGNATURES

  
Honorable John R. McKernan, Jr.  
Governor, Maine

  
Honorable John M. Buchanan  
Premier, Nova Scotia

  
Honorable John F. Gregg  
Governor, New Brunswick

  
Honorable Frank McKenna  
Premier, New Brunswick

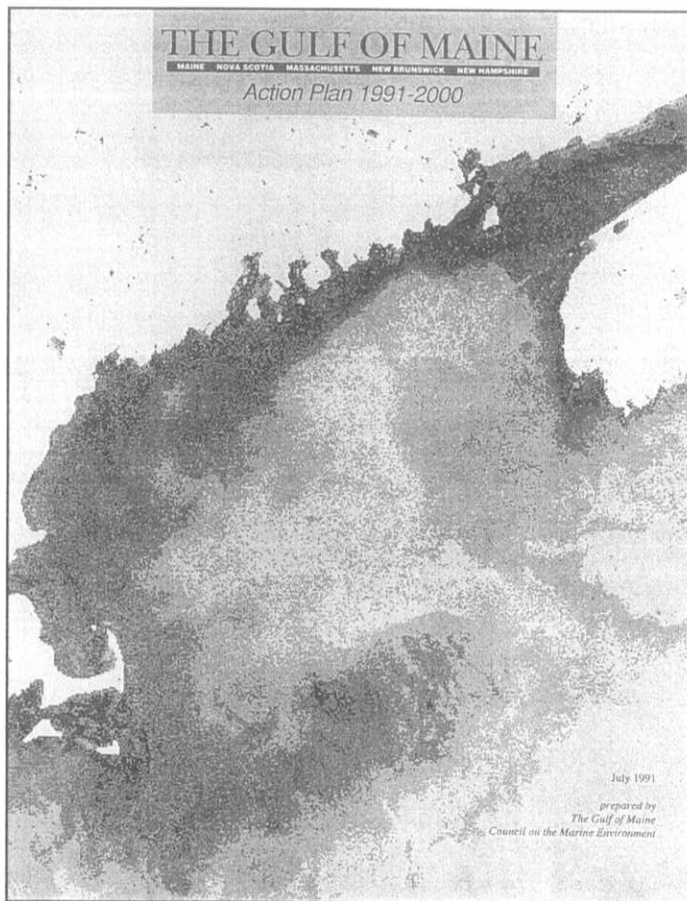
  
Honorable Michael S. Dukakis  
Governor, Massachusetts

The Gulf of Maine must be managed as an ecosystem rather than as a series of political jurisdictions...An unparalleled opportunity still exists to preserve and enhance the Gulf of Maine and its many uses: now is the time to work together to protect this invaluable resource.

—*Sustaining Our Common Heritage*,  
November, 1989.

# The Action Plan

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The Council began its work with the development and implementation of a ten-year *Gulf of Maine Action Plan*, addressing an array of key environmental issues identified in *Sustaining Our Common Heritage* and subsequent conference proceedings. The Plan grouped these issues into five major program areas: Monitoring and Research, Coastal and Marine Pollution, Protection of Public Health, Habitat Protection, and Education and Participation.

The First Annual Report of the Gulf of Maine Council emphasized the development of the ten-year Gulf of Maine Action Plan as "one of the principal activities of the Council," a document "painstakingly created by representatives from each state and province and reviewed by numerous individuals and organizations around the Gulf." The product of eighteen months of research and negotiation among agencies and organizations, this far-reaching Plan defined priorities, objectives, and an action timetable for a decade of cooperative effort (including the publication of the report you are reading now), becoming a blueprint for the Council's entire program in the following years. The next four sections of this report begin with a summary of the major elements from the Action Plan that guided the Council's subsequent work in each program area.

## COUNCIL CRITERIA FOR PROGRAM ACTIONS AND DECISIONS

*During the years since the Plan's adoption, the Council has articulated a specific set of operating criteria for program development in accordance with its goals. These criteria have come to serve as benchmarks by which the Council continuously clarifies and evaluates its role in the region. The following criteria are implicitly woven through all the Council programs and decisions:*

- Council has a **unique position, role, ability, or opportunity** for action within the region
- actions have potential for both **sustainable long-term and achievable short-term results**
- **results** of actions are **specific and measurable**
- actions have **Gulf-wide impact**
- actions **build on current programs**
- actions address **transboundary issues** and promote an **awareness of jurisdictional interdependence**
- actions **build partnerships** with other groups
- actions result in **information that can be made available to the public** through a variety of communication tools
- actions have potential for **community involvement**
- actions create positive **public identity and sense of stewardship for the Gulf of Maine**

# Monitoring and Research

## FROM THE ACTION PLAN ...

- the greatest threat to the health of the Gulf comes from long-term effects of introducing persistent toxic materials to marine waters
- the environmental health of the Gulf is critical to sustainable use and protection of natural systems and human health
- data are necessary to predict the path and effects of pollutants and evaluate the effectiveness of measures intended to mitigate these effects
- coordinated monitoring projects investigating changes in the marine environment resulting from toxic contaminants are needed in each jurisdiction
- accuracy and compatibility of regional monitoring techniques for Gulf waters and shellfish habitat are essential to long-term cooperative management

## ACTIONS AND RESULTS...

### Marine Environmental Quality Monitoring Plan

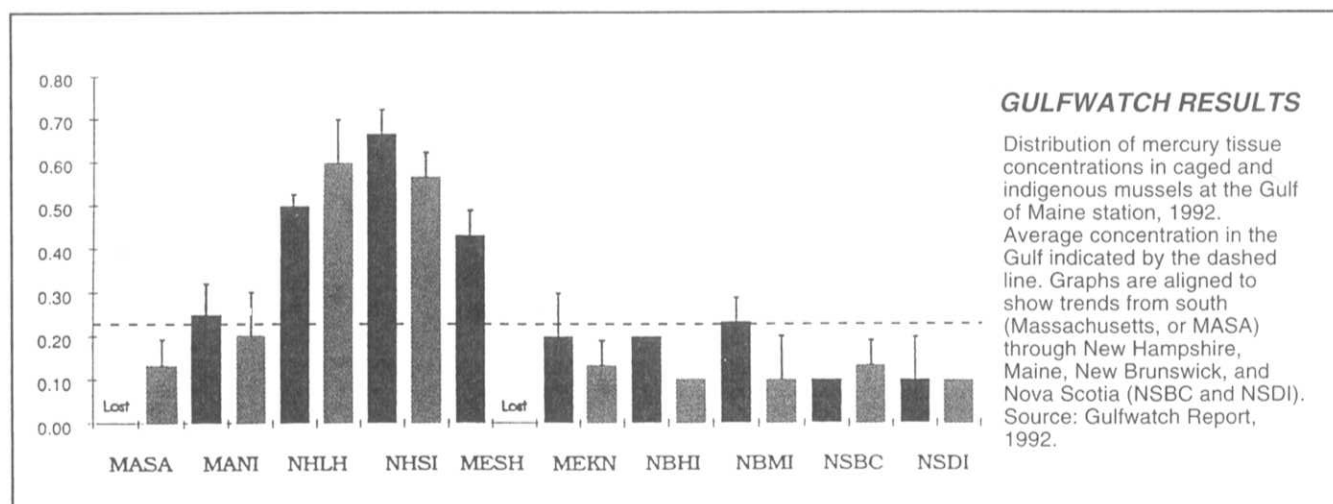
Designed "to evaluate the Gulf's environmental quality and assess the effectiveness of prevention and remediation efforts," the development and adoption of a Marine Environmental Quality Monitoring Plan was an early and successful test of the Council's ability to undertake a long-term cooperative effort among U.S. and Canadian scientists. The Council and its Environmental Monitoring Committee developed the Plan to be "a tightly focused, pragmatic environmental quality monitoring plan, in order to provide resource managers with information to support sustainable use of the Gulf and allow assessment and management of threats to public and environmental health."

The Monitoring Committee chose two major areas of focus for initial monitoring activities: 1) assessment of existing levels, sources, trends, economic impacts, and risks to human health from exposure to toxic compounds traveling through the marine food chain and through direct contact with the water and 2) monitoring early indicators of change in environmental quality.

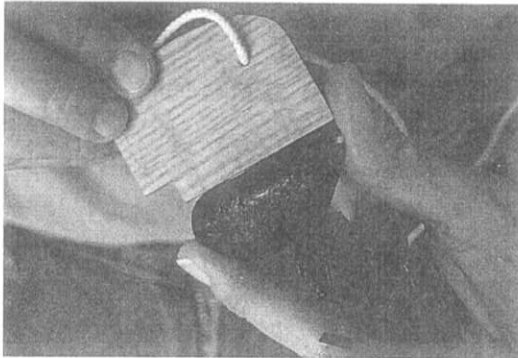
### Gulfwatch

The Plan's initial pilot project, known as Gulfwatch, is the first step in the Gulf-wide monitoring program. Now in its fifth year, Gulfwatch tests blue mussels—chosen as the initial environmental indicators of water quality—at selected sites throughout the Gulf to assess changes in levels of toxic compounds in the water. Gulfwatch provides "a geographically comprehensive snapshot of contaminants in mussels." Monitoring of blue mussels in the waters of all five jurisdictions began in the summer of 1991.

In building upon monitoring work already underway in the Gulf—such as the Status and Trends Program of the U.S. National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration and the Canadian Mussel Watch Program—the Council functions in a way that has become a hallmark of its role in the bioregion: extending and encouraging collaboration among existing activities in the Gulf of Maine.







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## Coastal and Marine Pollution and Protection of Public Health

### FROM THE ACTION PLAN...

- pollution is viewed as a transboundary, Gulf-wide problem
- pollution affects natural communities, birds, coastal wildlife, marine mammals
- public health risks in the Gulf of Maine region are related to human uses of the Gulf
- disposal of marine debris and vessel wastes within the Gulf of Maine has detrimental economic impacts on tourism and damages to vessels, gear, etc.
- point and nonpoint pollution are local as well as regional issues
- comprehensive assessment requires multi-disciplinary studies of aquaculture-environment interactions

## ACTIONS AND RESULTS...

### Land-Based Sources of Pollution Inventory

*The Gulf Council's goals are to understand the types and characteristics of all land-based pollutants entering the Gulf, to clarify the importance of nonpoint source pollutants relative to point source pollutants and to assess the relative contribution of minor discharging facilities to the more easily documented major facilities.*

— *Land-based Sources of Pollution: An Inventory of the Gulf of Maine, 1995.*

In order to catalogue permitted dischargers and effluent volumes, and to target pollution control efforts in all five jurisdictions around the Gulf of Maine, the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Environment Canada, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conducted a two-phase regional inventory of land-based pollution in the Gulf. The inventory was funded in part by the Council, in partnership with state and provincial agencies. The first phase of the inventory was a point-source survey, containing information on the number, type, and location of facilities that directly discharge pollution into the Gulf of Maine, and provides estimates of the amounts of pollutants being discharged.

The second phase of the Land-based Sources of Pollution project was a nonpoint source inventory, which was also a collaborative effort between NOAA, the EPA, Environment Canada, and the Council. It provides nonpoint information and tests computer models for estimating nonpoint source pollutant loads in watersheds.

### MAJOR POINT-SOURCE FINDINGS:

- There are 273 major and 1,751 minor facilities, for a total of 2,024 active point source facilities in the study area.
- In the United States, there are 1,069 active industrial facilities, 252 wastewater treatment plants, and eighty-five power plants; in Canada, there are 492 industrial facilities, 126 wastewater treatment plants, and eight power plants.
- The major dischargers in the Gulf of Maine are wastewater treatment plants and pulp and paper mills.
- In the United States, wastewater treatment plants account for over fifty percent of the total load discharged for all fifteen pollutants [studied], although industrial facilities are responsible for approximately thirty-eight percent of the chromium discharges in the study area.
- In Canada, wastewater treatment plants are responsible for the greatest portion of the total pollutant loads for total nitrogen, total phosphorus, arsenic, cadmium, chromium, copper, iron, lead, mercury, oil and grease, and fecal coliform bacteria, while industries have high discharges of process flow, biological oxygen demand, total suspended solids, and zinc.

—excerpted from *Land-Based Sources of Pollution:  
An Inventory of the Gulf of Maine*, 1995.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION...

Detailed results of the Land-based Source of Pollution Inventory are presented in the *Gulf of Maine Point-source Inventory: A Summary by Watershed for 1991*, available from NOAA's Strategic Environmental Assessment Division, 1305 East-West Highway, SSMC4, Silver Springs, MD 20910, Tel: (301)713-3000. The digital contents of the inventory are also available in ASCII format on the Internet Server of NOAA's Office of Ocean Resource Conservation and Assessment at Internet FTP address: "scaserver.nos.noaa.gov"; files are in the Directory "public/percy/gomaine".

### SHELLFISH FLATS: AN UPDATE

*Note: For the first time, the 1995 National Shellfish Register (expected to be published by NOAA in the spring of 1996) will include survey results of classified shellfish-growing waters in the Canadian portions of the Gulf of Maine (New Brunswick and Nova Scotia) along with the previous "North Atlantic Region" (Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire) that had appeared in previous Registers.*

#### NORTH ATLANTIC REGION CLASSIFIED ESTUARINE ACRES (acres x 1000)

A total of 1.1 million acres of estuarine waters were classified for shellfish harvest in 1990 in Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts. This region experienced the largest decrease in percentage of approved estuarine shellfish-growing waters nation-wide, from 88 percent in 1985 to 69 percent in 1990.

	Approved	Conditional	Restricted	Prohibited	Total
1985	1,000	10	17	1,113	2,140
1990	781	9	11	332	1,133

—excerpted from 1990 NOAA Shellfish Register

### CLASSIFICATIONS FOR COMMERCIAL SHELLFISH- GROWING WATERS:

#### Approved

Waters may be harvested for direct marketing at all times.

#### Conditionally Approved

Waters do not meet the criteria for approved waters if subjected to intermittent microbiological pollution, but may be harvested when criteria are met.

#### Restricted

Waters may be harvested if shellfish are subjected to a suitable purification process.

#### Prohibited

No harvest for human consumption at any time.



## Reducing Marine Debris

Trash from human activities such as recreational boating, commercial fishing, and shipping, along with storm drain runoff and land-based litter has been found by volunteer cleanup crews throughout the Gulf—on public beaches, in protected wildlife areas, and floating in the water itself. Recognizing the hazards of marine debris to marine mammals, birds, boats, and human health, the Council is helping communities reduce the volume of debris discarded in the Gulf. With initial funding provided by NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service, four of the Gulf's ports: Portland and Rockland, Maine; Portsmouth (Piscataqua River Basin), New Hampshire; and Provincetown, Massachusetts have established new reduction efforts as a result of Council support. By providing a combination of grants for local cleanup efforts and technical expertise to help identify solutions to specific debris problems, the Council's Marine Debris Committee has catalyzed a growing awareness of the need to prevent and clean up debris throughout the Gulf.

### GULF OF MAINE MARINE DEBRIS MINI GRANTS: 1993–1995

#### Nova Scotia

- *Maritime Fishermen's Union* ... distribution of marine debris awareness posters at 150 wharfs in Yarmouth and Shelburn Counties.
- *Tusket River Environmental Protection Association*... production of a permanent "Enviro Wall" in a local shopping mall, which advertises the marine debris problem and other local environmental concerns.
- *L'Institut de Développement Communautaire, Point d'Église*... delivery and presentation of education materials to school children, as part of the ongoing "Projet Enviro-pêche."

#### New Brunswick

- *Saint John River Society*... production of 350 marine debris educational signs for posting at docks, marinas, parks, and beaches.

#### Maine

- *Rockland Harbor Debris Council*... installation of a waste oil collection igloo at the Public Landing, distribution of brochure and factsheet.
- *Kittery Conservation Commission*... poster advertising volunteer lobster trap pickup campaign.
- *Portland Harbor Marine Debris Council*...brochure describing proper disposal for nets, used oil, trash, etc., for distribution to fishermen in the Casco Bay area.
- *Georgetown Conservation Commission*... materials to support a transfer station for collection and disposal of marine debris.
- *Town of Gouldsboro Solid Waste Committee*... signs and posters encouraging proper handling of recyclables and trash, for distribution to public landings and commercial/private docks.
- *Land-Sea-Land Coalition*... production of t-shirts to advertise and encourage proper disposal of trash and marine debris.

- *Town of York*... production and distribution of plastic bags and leaflets, encouraging proper disposal of trash and marine debris.
- *Stonington Marine Debris Task Force*... production and distribution of mugs with a public awareness message to all people who work along the waterfront.
- *Eastport Marine Debris Task Force*... placement of a waste oil collection igloo on the Eastport Pier as well as production and distribution of mugs with a public awareness message.

#### New Hampshire

- *New Hampshire Commercial Fishermen's Association*...tipping fees for removal of debris collected during annual cleanup of fishing gear from the entire New Hampshire coastline.
- *New Hampshire Adopt-A-Beach Program*...video public service announcement about the problem of cigarette butt litter on beaches.
- *Piscataqua Region Council on Marine Debris*... production of trash bags for distribution to boat owners, and signs urging carry-in/carry-out of trash.
- *New Hampshire Division of Parks and Recreation*...production of signs discouraging littering on beaches.

#### Massachusetts

- *Eastham Forum, Inc.*...production and distribution of flyers, signs, and posters advertising the damaging effects of beach debris and motivating people to take responsibility for their debris and help clean up the beaches.
- *Hingham Harbor Development Committee*...materials advertising the local spring harbor cleanup.

- *Salem Sound 2000*...production of storm drain stencilling guides and informational flyers, for distribution in five communities in the Salem Sound region.
- *Massachusetts Bays National Estuary Program*...educational materials to be prepared in several languages, describing the hazards of harvesting contaminated shellfish and the link between contamination and pollution caused by marine debris and other sources.
- *Provincetown Marine Debris Task Force*...pilot project for developing local strategies to reduce marine debris. Task Force identified major marine debris problems and developed over 50 strategies to combat marine pollution. Grant leveraged matching funds for *Debris Busters* volunteer group to begin strategy implementation.



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# Habitat Protection

## FROM THE ACTION PLAN...

- protection of regionally significant fish and wildlife habitats in the coastal and marine environment of the Gulf of Maine requires systematic identification and classification of regionally significant habitats
- sustainable use of Gulf of Maine habitats depends on communication among agencies and organizations about management of specific marine resources
- ecological integrity and biological diversity of the Gulf of Maine ecosystem depends on protecting regionally significant coastal habitats
- a common habitat-mapping system, suitable to the needs of the states and provinces, is necessary to the development of regionally significant habitat protection strategies in the Gulf

## ACTIONS AND RESULTS...

### Priority Habitat Identification Project

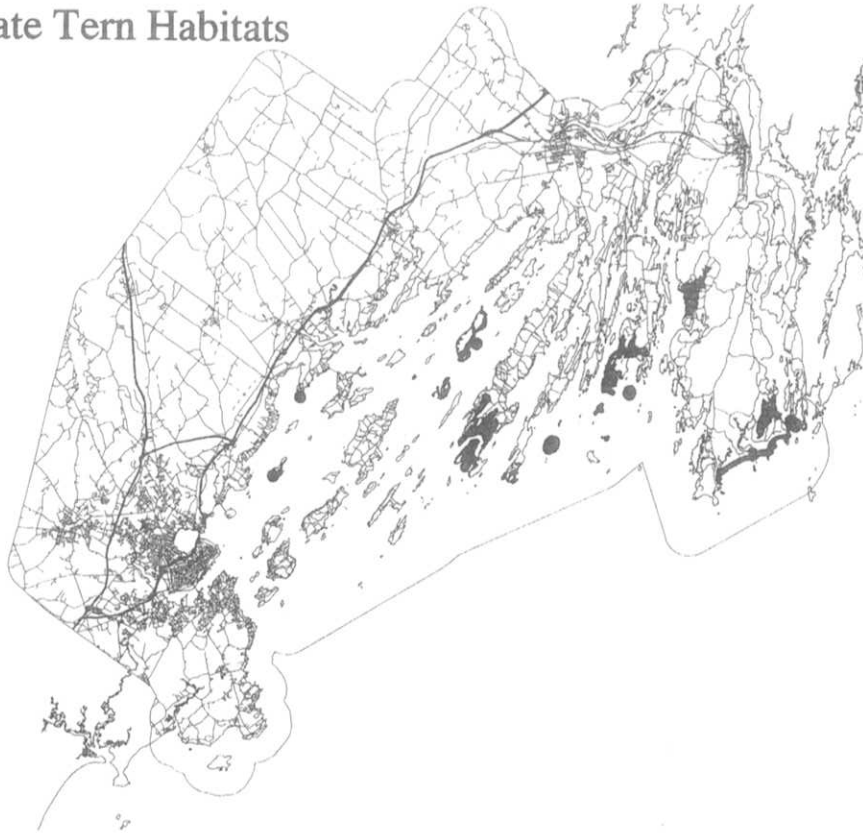
In 1992, scientists from the Gulf region met in St. Andrews, New Brunswick to consider a systematic means of identifying regionally significant habitats in the Gulf of Maine watershed. Facilitated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, a Priority Habitat Panel of twenty-five biologists and ecologists representing agencies and organizations in all five jurisdictions developed ten criteria for evaluation that emphasized species' region-wide importance to the ecosystem, then nominated and ranked 161 regionally significant plant and animal species. Included in the list are commercially important species such as alewives, lobster, smelt, cod, and salmon; species listed as endangered, threatened, vulnerable, or of special concern such as the Atlantic Ridley Turtle and the Roseate Tern; and species such as eelgrass, Irish moss, and copepods that are important in the transfer of energy in the ecosystem of the Gulf or in managing populations of other species.

Based on this list, habitat maps and models of habitat requirements for these species are being developed that will be used to target Gulf-wide habitat protection projects in the future (see sample map of Roseate Tern habitat on next page). Pilot projects in Great Bay (New Hampshire) and Passamaquoddy Bay (Maine and New Brunswick) are currently underway to map priority habitats in those areas.

#### **GULF OF MAINE PRIORITY SPECIES RANKING CRITERIA:**

- A. Importance to environmental, scientific, commercial or other special interest groups (species sought out or portrayed for consumptive or non-consumptive purposes).**
- B. Species listed as endangered, threatened (U.S. designation), vulnerable (designation of committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada), or special concern (designation of some states).**
- C. Limits/controls on take/harvest of species (state/provincial or federal regulation on numbers/season)**
- D. Significant decline of population is anticipated (based on trends or expected events).**
- E. Strictly tied to specific habitat, locality, or association of cover types, for at least one critical part of its life cycle ("bio-indicator").**
- F. Species dependent on marine or estuarine system for at least part of life cycle.**
- G. Abundance has been significantly reduced throughout species' range.**
- H. Important predator, prey, or primary producer in terms of energy transfer or controlling populations of other species within the Gulf of Maine.**
- I. Species plays a major role in succession or maintenance of community by physically or chemically modifying habitat.**
- J. Species occurs in Gulf of Maine year round.**

## Roseate Tern Habitats



Habitat evaluations are based on relative scarcity, quality, and observed level of use by the species. (Map produced by: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Gulf of Maine Project, 4R Fundy Road, Falmouth, Maine 04105 U.S.A. Primary data source: Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, 284 State Street, State House Station #41, Augusta, Maine 04333 U.S.A.)

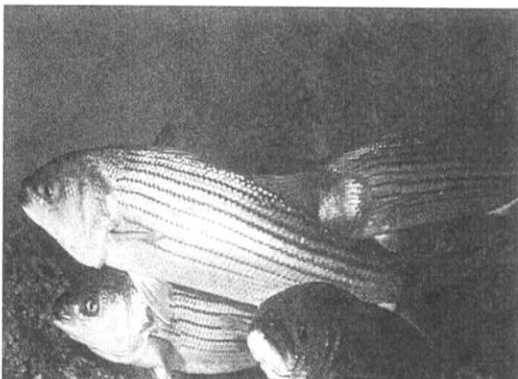
### ROSEATE TERN ABUNDANCE IN NORTHEASTERN NORTH AMERICA (INCLUDING THE GULF OF MAINE REGION)

#### Estimated Population:

1935: 8,500 nesting pairs  
1985: 3,000 nesting pairs

Source: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

### GULF OF MAINE PRIORITY SPECIES...(2 of 161)



Striped bass (6)



Roseate tern (5)



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**Summary of Wetland Trends between the Mid-1970s and Mid-1980s for Selected Areas of Cobscook Bay/St. Croix Estuary (1), Casco Bay (2), Coastal New Hampshire (3), and North Shore of Massachusetts (4). (Source: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1994.)**

Area	Acres of Wetlands in mid-1970s	Acres of Wetlands Lost by mid-1980s
1	20,805	77
2	44,760	228
3	50,190	282
4	51,777	164

## Gulf of Maine Wetland Trends Analysis

In 1994, the Council collaborated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to analyze changes in wetlands in specific areas within the region, including the Cobscook Bay/St. Croix Estuary, Casco Bay, coastal New Hampshire (York, Maine to Rowley, Massachusetts), and the north shore of Massachusetts (Plum Island to Scituate). Knowledge of wetland losses and gains is important in evaluating the effectiveness of programs and policies designed to protect wetlands, and for developing strategies to reverse undesirable trends. In general, these reports suggest that wetland regulations have been relatively successful in limiting, but not eliminating, loss of wetland acreage in the study period (mid-1970s to mid-1980s). Commercial development, housing construction, ditching, and highway construction near wetlands can seriously and negatively impact the biological function of the wetlands. Long-term protection of habitat values and essential ecological processes in wetlands requires a comprehensive approach that also includes impacts of land use in adjacent areas.

## Education and Participation

### FROM THE ACTION PLAN...

- availability and coordination of appropriate environmental information needed to sustain the Gulf of Maine ecosystem are key elements in development of protection strategies
- public awareness of the environmental value of the Gulf of Maine requires communication between the scientific community, the media, and elected officials
- education and awareness are the foundation of public understanding of the value of the Gulf of Maine
- communication and coordination are vital components of effective management efforts and increased public support for sustaining the Gulf
- access to information broadens the knowledge base about the Gulf's natural resources
- active citizen participation in local resource management issues and efforts to protect and restore coastal and marine ecosystems are critical to fostering a sense of stewardship about the Gulf as a whole

### ACTIONS AND RESULTS...

#### Electronic Data and Information Management System (EDIMS)

An explicit priority in the Action Plan was the design of a computer system to manage large amounts of information about the Gulf of Maine ecosystem and to organize and package it in a way that would be usable by many audiences: state, provincial and federal agencies; laboratories; universities; schools; and non-governmental organizations. Mid-way through the Action Plan's ten-year time frame, EDIMS is in operation, under the direction of the Council's Data and Information Management Committee. This network currently allows information in databases that are maintained and updated at their sources to be accessible to individuals and organizations throughout the region, and access to directories of environmental databases, along with lists of environmental managers and professionals within the region. The long-term goal of the system is to allow people to exchange information, display graphics, search data and answer specific questions, and directly communicate with one another.

*...EDIMS is a distributed data management system...it provides a "map" to fisheries biologists [for example], telling them where in the states or provinces the data on Bay of Fundy oceanographic chemistry might reside and how to access it. In addition, EDIMS contains within it many "resident" databases, providing readily accessible data on such things as river flows in the St. John or the results of the regional mussel sampling program. Housed at the University of New Hampshire, EDIMS is the embodiment of cross-border collaboration...*

*—Sustaining Our Common Heritage 1994 Update*

#### Gulf-links

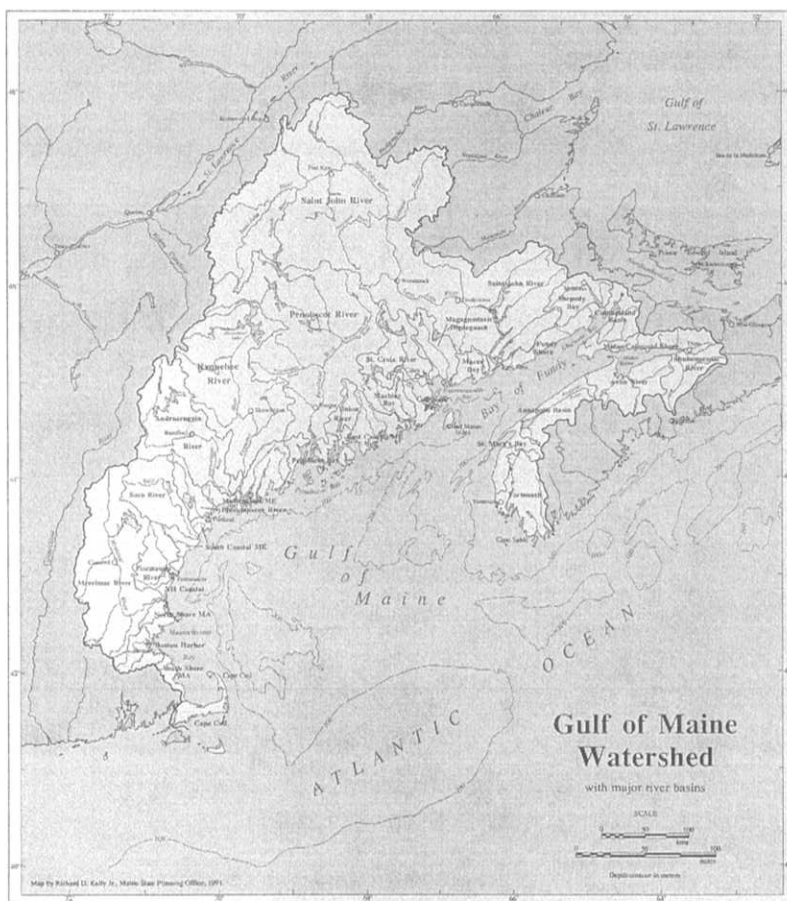
A Council focus has been to connect individuals and organizations around the Gulf, enabling them to share information, resources, and ideas—and often just to be able to know where to find each other. The *Gulf-links* directory, first produced in 1991, was distributed throughout the watershed, providing information about the Gulf's aquariums and maritime museums; educational and research organizations; environmental and conservation organizations; fishing, aquaculture, and marine trade organizations; national, state, and provincial parks and wildlife refuges; and regional state, provincial, and federal agencies in the Gulf region. *The Wild Gulf Almanac* (see next page) includes updated *Gulf-links* information.

Access to EDIMS and information on the Gulf can be located through the Council's World Wide Web home page at the Internet address: <http://opal-www.unh.edu/edims.html>.



## *The Wild Gulf Almanac*

Produced for distribution to educators throughout the region, *The Wild Gulf Almanac* is both an annotated catalog of educational resources about habitats and ecosystems in the Gulf of Maine watershed and an updated directory of environmental organizations, educational institutions, facilities, and agencies involved with managing the Gulf and its resources. A joint effort of The Chewonki Foundation in Maine and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Gulf of Maine Project, publication of the almanac was funded in part by the Gulf of Maine Council to ensure distribution to each jurisdiction in the watershed. Several members of the Gulf of Maine Council's Public Education and Participation Committee served on the the almanac's editorial board.



### **Gulf of Maine Watershed Map**

The Gulf of Maine Council's Public Education and Participation Committee produced a poster-sized map of physical boundaries of the watershed, providing the first visual demonstration of the natural shape of the region, without state, provincial, or national boundaries. It has done much to contribute to public awareness of the Gulf of Maine watershed as a distinct ecological entity. The map is very popular, has been widely distributed, and has been reprinted several times to meet demand by schools and organizations in the watershed.

### **VOLUNTEERS IN THE GULF: AN UPDATE**

#### ***Water Quality Monitoring***

Water quality monitoring teams gather data used to determine sources and levels of contaminants in the Gulf. Local volunteer teams are trained in sampling techniques and work in coordination with regional extension services and local organizations, to ensure consistent monitoring practices. Water samples often are analyzed in the field or at local schools and agency laboratories. At the present time, there are approximately 2,000 water-quality volunteer monitors at work in the Gulf of Maine.

#### ***Coastal Clean-up***

The number of people who volunteer to help remove trash from the shores of the Gulf of Maine increases every year. Volunteers not only pick up debris that threatens birds and marine mammals and is potentially dangerous to boaters and beach visitors, but in so doing, they provide valuable information about the types and quantity of trash in the Gulf.

In 1995, more than 7,000 people around the Gulf of Maine collected over 100,000 pounds of trash. Information from this effort became part of International Coastal Clean-up database established and maintained by the Center for Marine Conservation (CMC) in Washington, D.C. Contact the CMC at (202) 429-5609 for more information.



## Outreach and Information

From the outset, most of the Council's visibility and relationship to the public has been the result of its Public Education and Participation Committee. Like all Council committees, this group includes representatives from agencies and non-governmental organizations in all five jurisdictions and the federal governments. Public Education and Participation Committee members have provided the outreach and education expertise, communication skills, and often direct design and editorial input to the array of materials that the Council has produced for use in public outreach efforts.

In addition to the Watershed Map and *Gulf-links*, these materials range from press releases, newsletters, and fact sheets to *Our Common Heritage*, an eight-minute video about the Gulf, a magazine by the same name, widely distributed bimonthly *Program Highlights* briefing sheets, and most recently, *A Sea Beside The Sea*—a full-color brochure/poster describing the marine resources of the Gulf and the Council's major programs. To be put on the mailing list to receive the brochure or *Program Highlights*, contact the Gulf of Maine Secretariat (See inside back cover for addresses and telephone numbers).

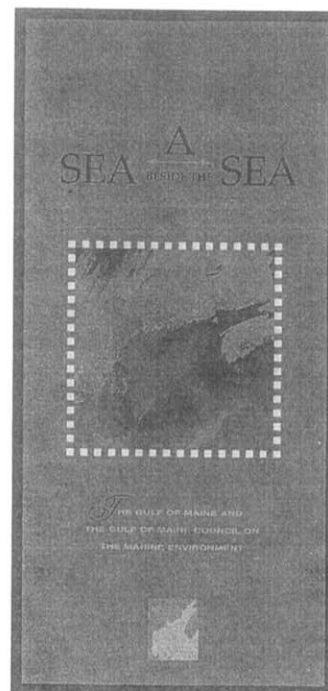
## Creating Connections

### Building an Organization

In many ways, the Council has had to navigate through its first five years of activity at the same time that it was drawing the map to use for the trip. There was no multi-jurisdictional, bilateral precedent for the work it had set out for itself in 1989. In fact, the Council is now viewed as a model for transboundary environmental cooperation, at both national and international levels. NOAA's recent Ocean Governance Initiative, the U.S. State Department and the North American Commission on Environmental Cooperation have made significant reference to the Council as an example of bioregional cooperation on environmental policy issues.

The Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM) within NOAA is developing an ocean governance initiative drawn in part from the experience of the three states and two provinces bordering the Gulf of Maine. The Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment has demonstrated the benefits of such a cooperative, transboundary approach. The new OCRM initiative hopes to build upon such efforts by various means, including development of a national policy framework.

—*Sustaining Our Common Heritage 1994 Update*



### GULF OF MAINE MINI-GRANT PROGRAM

Mini-grants have been distributed each year by the Council to local environmental groups and organizations to help fund direct local actions that benefit the marine environment. The following list is a sample of 1995–96 awards around the watershed. For more information and application procedures, contact the Gulf of Maine Secretariat.

- **The Clean Nova Scotia Foundation (Halifax, NS)** is creating a "Coastal Community Took Kit" consisting of resources and information that focus on topics such as marine debris, local habitats, and community planning.
- **The Penobscot Bay Network (Rockland, ME)** will work to restore shellfish habitats, in collaboration with shellfish harvesters, in order to improve municipal clam management.
- **West Isles Clean Environment Association, Inc. (Deer Island, NB)** will create a video on marine debris for use at environmental workshops and public education presentations.
- **Friends of Odiorne Point (Rye, NH)** will develop a bathymetric model of the Gulf to accompany an exhibit at the Seacoast Science Center.
- **Salem Sound 2000 (Salem, MA)** is developing a program to educate citizens about resources in the region, threats to them, and what can be done to protect them.

The Council has consistently maintained a commitment to ensuring representation of the Gulf of Maine bioregion as a whole—from its own composition and that of its Working Group, to each of its program committees. Members come from all jurisdictions and include representatives from government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector.



(8)

In 1993, the Council created tax-exempt organizations in Canada and the United States. The U.S. Association of Delegates and Canadian Association of Delegates were formed in order to facilitate greater private participation and financial support for the Council. The mission and goals of the Associations are identical to those of the Council.

The Council has recognized the many diverse efforts needed to sustain environmental quality in the Gulf and has begun to organize a Gulf of Maine Business Advisory Group to work with industry and businesses in the watershed. It has also established Gulf of Maine Visionary Awards, given each year to an individual, organization, or business in each jurisdiction. A complete list of Visionary Award winners can be found in Appendix II.

## Building a Dialogue

The Council has viewed its role in part as a facilitator—creating a common “voice” for the Gulf of Maine environment, becoming a conduit for information, and representing the interdependence among Gulf of Maine jurisdictions. During the course of its first years, the Council convened and sponsored over thirty separate workshops, conferences, and symposia to support the objectives in the *Action Plan*. The following list of meeting topics conveys a sense of the Council’s scope as the region’s transboundary voice, making connections and facilitating communication among scientists, managers, educators, businesses, and citizens within the watershed:

- *Environmental Aspects of Finfish Aquaculture*
- *Natural Variability in the Gulf of Maine*
- *Environmental Education and Communication in the Gulf of Maine Region*
- *Legal and Institutional Analysis of Government Laws and Programs*
- *Shellfish Habitat Restoration*
- *Priority Species and Regional Habitat Identification*
- *Wetlands Change Analysis*
- *Ocean Disposal*
- *Submerged Lands Management*
- *Habitat Mitigation*

## Synergy

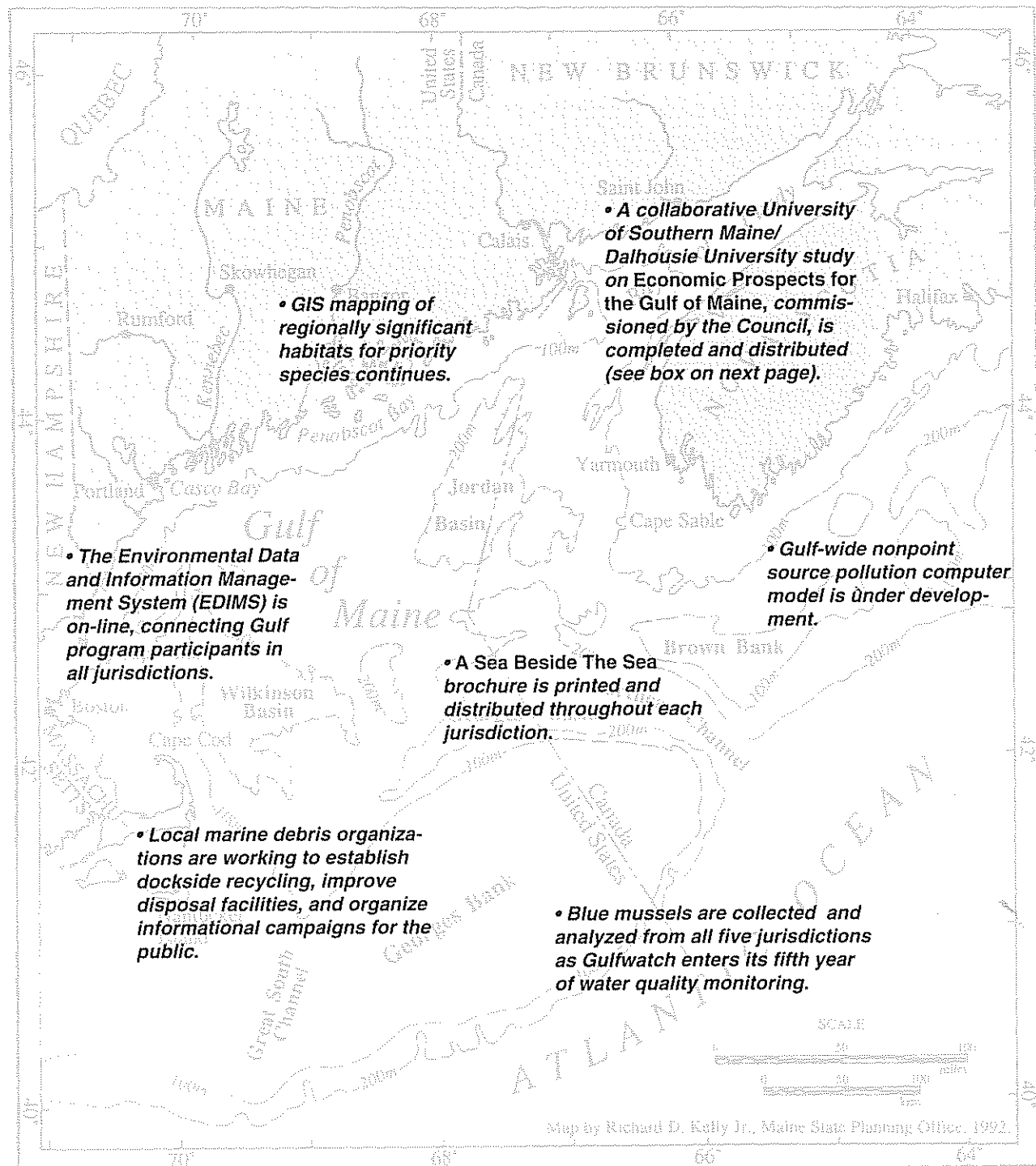
The Gulf of Maine Council has worked for the past five years to produce the results described in this report. However, many other organizations and agencies—at all levels of government—have also labored very effectively to address critical marine resource issues in Gulf. The selected actions, projects, and products listed on the right is a reflection of the growing momentum toward ecosystem protection and stewardship in the Gulf of Maine. The Council encourages inter-organizational collaboration in order to broaden and strengthen a bioregional approach to resource protection in all the Gulf’s jurisdictions.

### RELATED ACTIONS AND PROJECTS OUTSIDE OF THE GULF OF MAINE COUNCIL’S PROGRAMS, 1989–1996

- The Gulf of Maine Regional Marine Research Board (RMRB) was created by the U.S. Congress to develop and fund a comprehensive regional marine research plan.
- The Regional Association for Research on the Gulf of Maine (RARGOM) was formed as a joint U.S.-Canadian association of universities, agencies, and laboratories to promote cooperative marine research in the Gulf.
- A collaborative agreement was developed between the Council, RMRB, and RARGOM to promote research and sound management practices across political boundaries and scientific disciplines.
- The Annapolis River Estuary, L’Etang Estuary, St. John Harbor, and the St. Croix Estuary were chosen as sites for the creation of partnerships between coastal communities and the Atlantic Coastal Action Plan, part of Canada’s national Green Plan.
- Casco Bay, Great Bay, and Massachusetts Bays, within the Gulf of Maine were added to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s National Estuary Program.
- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service established the Gulf of Maine Project, one of nine Coastal and Estuary Projects in the United States.
- The Wild Gulf Educational Initiative was formed to distribute a series of Gulf of Maine educational materials to teachers and schools in each coastal jurisdiction in the watershed.
- The Collaboration of Community Foundations was established to support local and cross-jurisdictional efforts to create economically and ecologically sustainable communities in the Gulf of Maine watershed.
- East Coast of North America Strategic Assessment Project was begun, creating a comprehensive base of information, and includes data from the Gulf of Maine.

## A Gulf-wide Perspective:

At the end of the fifth full year of Action Plan implementation, a "Gulf-wide" view of programs and projects begun in past years and new initiatives underway in the present reveals the scope of these efforts:



# The Habitat Focus and Beyond

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## Priority Focus Areas

During its fifth year, the Council, as mandated in the Action Plan, began a review of its progress as part of its annual cycle of activity. The Council convened a second *Gulf of Maine Conference* in Wolfville, Nova Scotia, inviting 150 non-governmental environmental and community organizations around the Gulf to attend and critique the organization's progress with respect to its mission.

As a result of the Wolfville Conference and the self-evaluation process, the Council specifically refocused the Gulf Program's activities on coastal and marine habitats. The following priorities were developed by the Working Group and Council Committees and were adopted by the Council in June of 1995:

- *Restore Shellfish Habitat*
- *Promote Restoration of Groundfish Resources*
- *Address Ecosystem and Public Health Effects of Toxic Contaminants in the Marine Food Chain*
- *Protect and Restore Regionally Significant Coastal Habitats*
- *Reduce Marine Debris and Prevent Whale Entanglement*

## Economic Prospects for the Gulf of Maine

In order to examine the relationship between future economic growth and development and the protection of marine resources in the Gulf of Maine, the Council commissioned a study completed in 1995 to analyze major economic trends and forces in the region. The report discusses the economic impacts of fisheries, transportation, tourism, and land use patterns on the ecology of the region and recommends several actions for increased understanding of the relationship between resource use and protection.

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"The Council's principal focus has been on developing shared information and strategies for improving environmental conditions of the Gulf, but attention has recently turned to questions about the economic prospects for the region. This report was commissioned by the Council to provide an overview of important economic trends affecting the region and to identify specific economic activity that depends on the health of the Gulf of Maine. This overview will provide the beginnings of an understanding of how long-term changes in the economy may affect the ecological resources of the region and also how efforts to enhance those ecological resources may be seen as an important economic asset for the future. In focusing on this interaction between the economy and the ecology, the Council can address some of the most critical issues of sustainable development."

—*Economic Prospects for the Gulf of Maine, Introduction*

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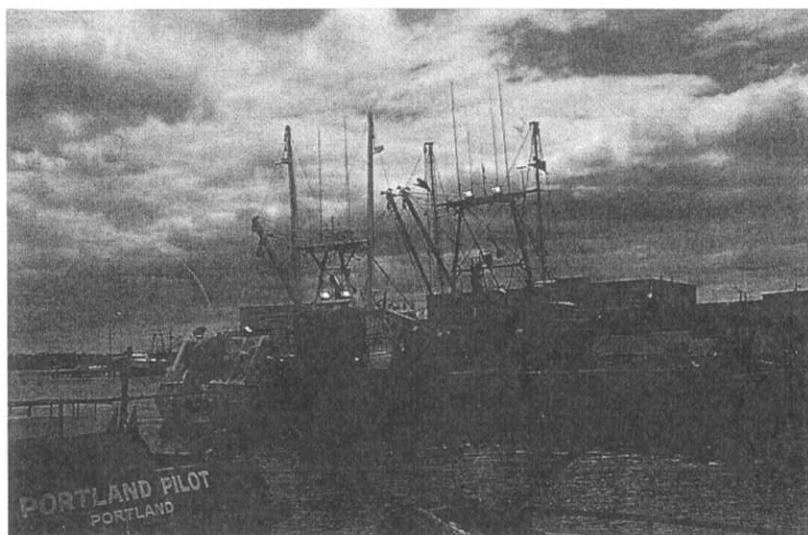
## Groundfish Resolution

As the habitat focus evolved, the Council also took an important initiative by adopting a resolution regarding the fisheries resources of the Gulf of Maine.

Communities in all jurisdictions around the Gulf have long been aware of the importance of maintaining viable groundfish populations; their economy and their future have traditionally depended upon these fish. There was also widespread concern about groundfish depletion as a result of increasing levels of harvesting in the Gulf. Collapse of the cod fishery in the Canadian waters of the Gulf and in the Atlantic, followed by emergency closures of Georges Bank in an attempt to rebuild groundfish stocks, further heightened scientific and public concern about the state of groundfish resources in the Gulf of Maine.

In 1995, the Council adopted a resolution (excerpted below) regarding the groundfish crisis, which was subsequently presented to both U.S. and Canadian fisheries management agencies.

*...Be it resolved that the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment requests that fundamental principles of fisheries management for the rebuilding of groundfish stocks be followed by all fisheries managers. Such principles should include the avoidance of juvenile fish, temporal and spatial closures of spawning areas during critical periods, and ecosystem considerations...be it further resolved that the Gulf of Maine Council will undertake to encourage and support programs to acquire such additional scientific information as will benefit resource managers in developing sustainable management strategies.*



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## Conclusion

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The Council currently is developing a Gulf of Maine Action Plan for 1996-2000, its blueprint for the next five years. The Plan will reflect the Program's focus on coastal and marine habitats, and will involve partners within the region for projects in its five major focus areas.

The growing network of participants and partners in the Gulf of Maine Program are continuing to build upon what they have done best since the beginning: working together to expand the scope of ecosystem protection—across political boundaries, across institutions, and across the watershed—on behalf of the Gulf of Maine. The results of these efforts and the actions they catalyze in the years ahead will directly affect the ecological health and environmental quality of the region. It is a work in progress; one that will help shape the future of the Gulf of Maine, and in turn, the lives of all who share it.

# Appendix I:

## 1994-95 Annual Report and Financial Statement

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It is with pride that I report the progress made toward shaping the vision for the Gulf of Maine Council during my turn at the watch. The Council had set an ambitious work schedule at its 1995 Wofville annual meeting, and it appears that most of the tasks have been successfully completed during the ensuring year.

Of course, the most important of the tasks that the Council undertook was that of evaluating its overall mission. The December Council meeting in Portsmouth, NH, established a new priority for future direction: HABITAT. The Council challenged the Working Group and Committees to come up with actions for the coming years' work programs that fell within the habitat theme. Drawing on their combined personal knowledge and expertise, members of the Council and Working Group shaped a new agenda that emphasized the importance of a healthy marine environment as seen through the many critical issues concerning habitats. In place now is a process that focuses actions on the habitat theme and allows for periodic review and adjustment in subsequent years. A special "thanks" to all who have contributed to this major effort.

Coincidental with the rethinking of our Gulf-wide priorities, the Council was excited to receive the news of the award of a \$1.9 million grant from the U.S. Congress. This grant is administered through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. At this point, we have settled on using the grant over a three- to four-year time period. Specifics have been written into the first year's work program for water quality monitoring, wetlands restoration, shellfish habitat, environmental data and information management, and several other areas. Among the most important of the first-year activities is the Mini-grant Program, extended to the non-governmental community and intended to stimulate actions throughout the Gulf of Maine region on the priority habitat issues.

As has been the practice, the Gulf of Maine Secretariat has moved from one to another among the five jurisdictional members. With New Hampshire this year acting as host, we have a new respect for the challenge of running the organization. It's a complex animal. And, during the year it has become even more complex, with the addition of functions and staff for the U.S. Association of Delegates to the Council.

I appreciated the opportunity to serve as the Chair of the Council. With the effort and commitment expressed throughout the year by individual Council members, I am confident that the foundation we have laid will serve the organization for years to come.

—Jeffrey H. Taylor, Chair, 1994-95

### FINANCIAL REPORT: UNRESTRICTED REVENUE, 1994-95

REVENUE	BUDGET / ACTUAL	
Carry Over	30,000	28,164
State/Provincial	50,000	50,000
Federal	14,000	14,000
Unanticipated		5,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>94,000</b>	<b>97,164</b>

### EXPENSES

Secretariat	47,000	55,661
DIMC 10YR Plan	10,000	10,000
Habitat Cmte	3,000	0
PEPC Staff	10,000	10,000
Shellfish Fact Sheet	5,000	5,000
Brochure	5,000	5,000
Business Devel.	10,000	10,000
Yarmouth Cup	4,000	0
Atmospheric Study	0	2,000
Economic Analysis	0	2,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>94,000</b>	<b>96,961</b>

Balance Brought Forward:  
\$ 97,164 – \$ 96,961 = \$ 203

## CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS, 1994-95:

### August:

- Sustaining Our Common Heritage Conference, August 1 - 5, 1994, Wolfville, Nova Scotia
- Distribution of the Gulf of Maine State of the Environment Fact Sheet
- Distribution of Priority Species List

### September:

- Public Education and Participation (PEP) Committee meeting in Portsmouth, New Hampshire

### October:

- Working Group Meeting in Boston, Massachusetts
- "Understanding the Gulf of Maine's Regional Business Climate" symposium with the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston
- Meeting of the Gulf of Maine Business Initiative with the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston

### November:

- Data and Information Management Committee (DIMC) Meeting in Durham, New Hampshire

### December:

- Working Group and Council Meeting in Portsmouth, New Hampshire
- Environmental Data and Information Management System (EDIMS) Presentation

### January:

- Summary Report of Activities
- Regional Association of Research on the Gulf of Maine/Regional Marine Research Board/Gulf of Maine Council (ABC) Meeting
- U.S. Association of Delegates and the acting Chair of the Gulf of Maine Council sign a grant award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for \$1.9 million to fund projects in the Gulf of Maine
- PEP Committee Meeting in Falmouth, Maine

### February:

- NOAA Presentation
- Monitoring Committee Meeting in Durham, New Hampshire

### March:

- Working Group Meeting in St. John, New Brunswick

### April:

- Working Group and Council Meeting in Portsmouth, New Hampshire
- DIMC Meeting in Portsmouth, New Hampshire

### May:

- Working Group Meeting in Cape Elizabeth, Maine

### June:

- Working Group and Council Meeting in Portsmouth, New Hampshire
- Report on "Economic Prospects for the Gulf of Maine" presented



(11)

## Appendix II:

### Gulf of Maine Visionary Award Winners (1991 – 1995)

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#### *Nova Scotia*

**Henry Surette**, promotion of waste oil collection program for fishermen (1991)  
**Brier Island Ocean Study**, establishment of the Adopt-A-Whale program and research on humpback and right whales (1991)  
**Michael McAdam**, Colchester River Enhancement Association (1992)  
**Clean Annapolis River Project, Nova Scotia**, volunteer environmental monitoring and fish habitat restoration (1992)  
**Graham Daborn**, research and community-based environmental efforts to manage Bay of Fundy region (1993)  
**Clyde River Committee**, community work to protect heritage of Clyde River and public support for resource protection (1993)  
**Harry Thurston**, science and nature writer, author of *Tidal Life: A Natural History of the Bay of Fundy* (1994)  
**Cumberland County River Enhancement Association**, community stewardship of Bay of Fundy watersheds (1994)  
**Ted d'Eon**, birdwatcher, naturalist, researcher (1995)  
**County of Annapolis and Community of Bear River**, establishment of solar sewage treatment system (1995)

#### *New Brunswick*

**Elaine Bateman**, journalist covering environmental problems of the Bay of Fundy (1991)  
**Huntsman Marine Science Centre**, marine education and co-sponsor of community coastal zone management efforts (1991)  
**St. Croix International Waterway Commission**, international approach protecting a key part of the Gulf ecosystem (1992)  
**Peter Pearce**, marine wildlife conservationist, naturalist, and educator with the Canadian Wildlife Service (1992)  
**Janice Harvey**, environmental advocate, organizer of Bay of Fundy—A Case for Community Action Project (1993)  
**J D Irving, Ltd.**, private sector commitment to environmental protection by establishing the Irving Nature Park (1993)  
**Martin Thomas**, researcher on ecology and environmental impacts on the Bay of Fundy and nearby wetlands (1994)  
**Grand Manan Fishermen's Association**, development of Fundy Marine Service Center marine conservation programs (1994)  
**Garnet Matheson**, salmon aquaculture (1995)  
**St. Croix Estuary Project**, volunteer citizens groups to protect Passamaquoddy Bay (1995)

#### *Maine*

**David Getchell**, founder of the Maine Island Trail Association (1991)  
**Maine-New Hampshire Port Safety Forum**, interagency oil spill prevention and response planning team (1991)  
**Esperanza Stancioff**, volunteer water quality monitoring organizer (1992)  
**The Friends of Casco Bay**, citizen stewardship group to protect the Bay (1992)  
**John Sowles**, leadership in coastal monitoring in Maine, Gulfwatch, and the Gulf of Maine Regional Monitoring Plan (1993)  
**Georges River Tidewater Association**, first citizen monitoring group in Maine, model for water quality monitoring (1993)  
**Jeff and Deb Sandler**, marine educators working in schools throughout the Gulf coast for 17 years (1994)  
**Penobscot 2000 Expedition**, river curriculum project for all communities along the Penobscot (1994)  
**Coastal Enterprises**, community economic development corporation with fisheries programs (1995)  
**Chewonki Foundation**, development of education materials about the Gulf of Maine (1995)

### ***New Hampshire***

- Julia Steed-Mawson**, creative marine education programming (1991)  
**Friends of Odiorne**, fundraising and sponsorship of coastal education programs (1991)  
**Governor Judd Gregg**, leading advocate for the Great Bay National Wildlife Refuge (1992)  
**Society for Protection of New Hampshire Forests**, leaders in public/private land protection program (1992)  
**Students of Salem High School** design of data analysis spreadsheets for annual coastal clean-up data cards (1993)  
**Town of Seabrook**, completion of a sand dune restoration (1993)  
**John Merrill**, salt marsh restoration on private land (1994)  
**Awcomin Marsh Restoration Project**, protecting 100 acres of wetlands by restoring tidal flow in a salt marsh (1994)  
**Nicole Medlan**, Girl Scout-peer environmental protection program with coastal clean-up (1995)  
**City of Dover**, stormwater management program that includes schools and over 500 volunteers (1995)

### ***Massachusetts***

- Jack Crowley**, co-founder of Massachusetts Marine Educators Association (1991)  
**The Salem Partnership (Salem Sound 2000)**, public/private coalition to support water quality programs in the Sound (1991)  
**Wayne Castonguay**, activist in pollution remediation and shellfish bed restoration (1992)  
**North and South River Watershed Association**, citizen monitoring and stewardship in the watershed (1992)  
**David Wiley**, founder of the New England Harbor Porpoise Working Group (1993)  
**The Merrimack River Watershed Council**, protection of the Merrimack River and its watershed (1993)  
**George Heufelder**, coordinator of the Massachusetts Mini-Bays Program in Wellfleet Harbor (1994)  
**Saunders Hotel Group**, corporate-wide conservation initiatives and communication campaigns (1994)  
**Stephen Greene**, leadership of Polaroid's work in environmental reporting, policy, and management (1995)  
**Neposett River Watershed Association**, coordination of nonpoint source pollution program in the watershed (1995)

## Appendix III:

# Gulf of Maine Council Publications, Workshop Summaries, and Reports

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*(To receive copies or inquire about availability,  
contact the Secretariat .)*

Sustaining Our Common Heritage Report and Executive Summary (1990)  
Sustaining Our Common Heritage Conference Proceedings (1990)  
Gulf-links: A Resource Guide to Coastal Organizations in the Gulf of Maine  
Region (1991)  
Gulf of Maine Satellite Photo Poster (1991)  
Funding the Gulf of Maine Program (1991)  
The Gulf of Maine Action Plan 1991–2000 (1991)  
Habitat Mitigation in the Gulf of Maine: Stemming the Tide of Environmental  
Degradation (1991)  
Nonpoint Source Pollution Report (1992)  
Regional Seas Analysis Report (1992)  
The Environmental Impacts of Finfish Culture Workshop Summary (1992)  
Gulfwatch 10-year Plan (1992)  
Environmental Quality Monitoring Plan and Executive Summary (1992)  
The Gulf of Maine Watershed Map Poster (1993)  
Sustaining Our Common Heritage: An Update (1994)  
Gulf of Maine State of the Environment Fact Sheet (1994)  
Summary Report of Activities 1991–1994 (1994)  
Gulfwatch Annual Summaries (1991–1994)  
Economic Prospects for the Gulf of Maine (1995)  
A Sea Beside The Sea Brochure (1995)  
Our Common Heritage Magazine (1995, 1996)  
Gulf of Maine Council Annual Reports

### *Workshop and Conference Reports:*

Environmental Educators Workshop Summary (1991)  
Assessing U.S. and Canadian Laws and Programs Affecting the Marine and  
Coastal Environment of the Gulf of Maine (1992)  
Comparative Assessment of State Laws Protecting the Marine Environment  
of the Gulf of Maine (1992)  
Gulf Science Workshop Proceedings: Woods Hole (co-sponsored with  
Regional Association for Research on the Gulf of Maine (1992)  
Action Plan Workshop Report: Halifax, Nova Scotia (1992)  
Environmental Impacts of Aquaculture Workshop Report (1993)  
Shellfish Bed Restoration Workshop Report (1993)  
Gulf of Maine Science/Policy Workshop Summary: National Academy of  
Sciences (1994)  
Priority Species/Habitat Workshop Report (1994)  
Second Sustaining Our Common Heritage Conference Proceedings and  
Executive Summary (1994)



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**THE GULF OF MAINE PROGRAM  
SECRETARIAT**

***1995-96 Jurisdiction***

Maine State Planning Office  
184 State Street, Station 38  
Augusta, Maine 04333  
Tel. (207) 287-3261; Fax (207) 287-6489  
Contact: David Keeley

***1996-97 Jurisdiction***

New Brunswick Department of Fisheries  
and Aquaculture  
P.O. Box 6000  
King's Place, York Tower  
Fredericton, New Brunswick E3B 5H1  
Tel. (506) 453-2047; Fax (506) 453-5210  
Contact: Barry Jones

***1997-98 Jurisdiction***

Massachusetts Coastal Zone  
Management Program  
100 Cambridge Street, Room 2000  
Boston, Massachusetts 02202  
Tel. (617) 727-9530; Fax (617) 727-2754  
Contact: Susan Snow-Cotter

***1998-1999 Jurisdiction***

Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries  
P.O. Box 2223  
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3C4  
Tel. (902) 424-0347; Fax (902) 424-4671  
Contact: Art Longard

***1999-2000 Jurisdiction***

New Hampshire Department of  
Environmental Services  
6 Hazen Drive  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301  
Tel. (603) 271-2961; Fax (603) 271-2867  
Contact: Chris Simmers

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Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment*

