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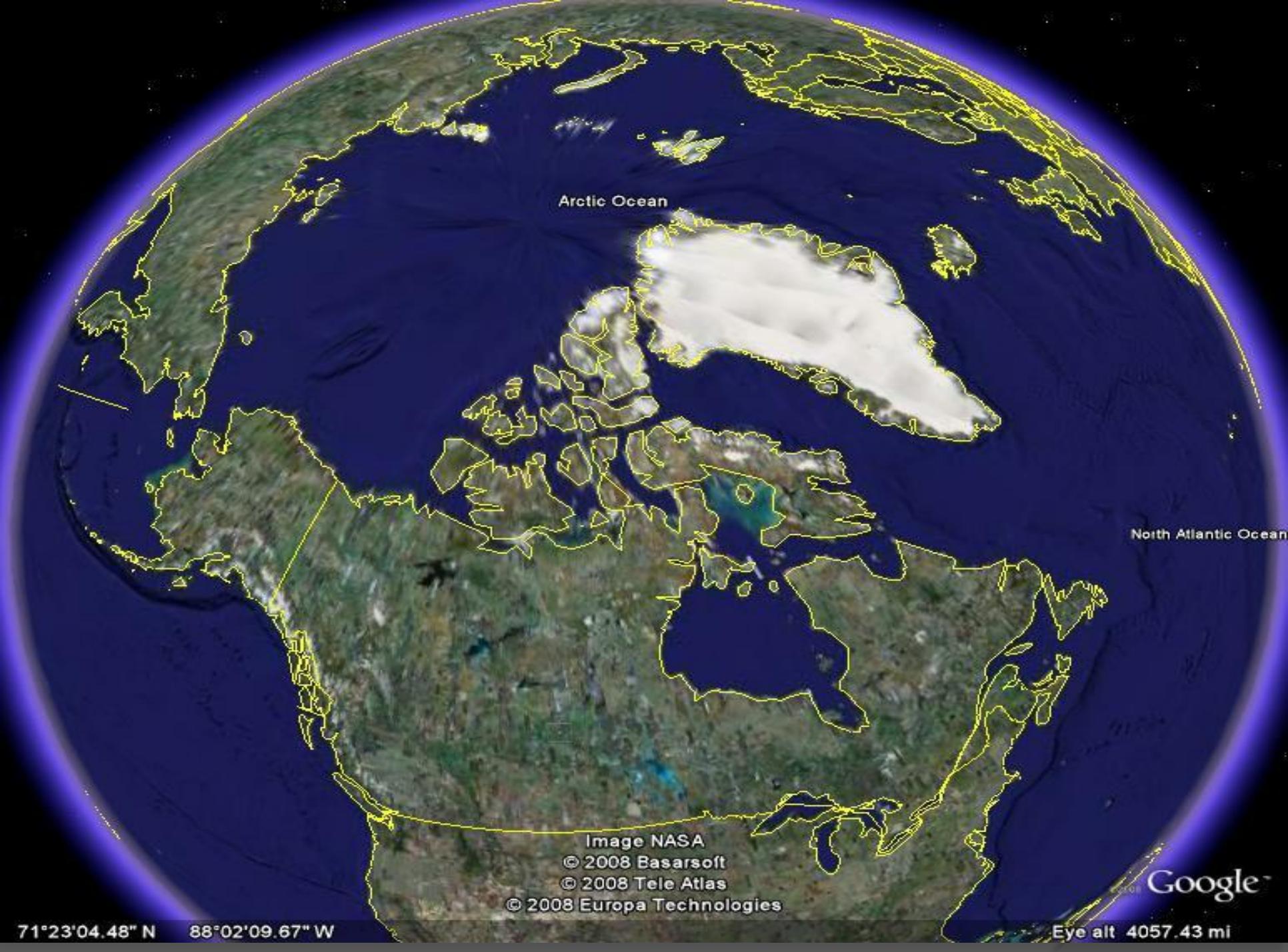
INTEGRATED COASTAL AND OCEAN MANAGEMENT IN CANADA

References

- ⦿ Ricketts P & P Harrison 2007 Coastal and Ocean Management in Canada: Moving into the 21st Century. *Coastal Management*, 35:5-22
- ⦿ Material provided by:
 - Larry Hildebrand, Environment Canada
 - Aldo Chircop, Marine & Environmental Law Institute, Dalhousie University

Context

- ⦿ 2nd largest country ≈10 million sq. km
- ⦿ Population ≈ 33 million
 - Coastal – 38% within 20km of coast
- ⦿ Longest coastline in the world!
 - 243,797 km
 - Pacific, Arctic and Atlantic Oceans, Great Lakes
 - 2/3 of coastline on Arctic Ocean
- ⦿ Ocean area >5.5 million sq. Km
- ⦿ >20 billion in annual economic activity
- ⦿ Canada is party to UNCLOS and most major international marine & environmental instruments



Arctic Ocean

North Atlantic Ocean

Image NASA
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Google

71°23'04.48" N 88°02'09.67" W

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Context

- Canada is a highly decentralized confederation of 10 autonomous provinces and 3 semi-autonomous northern territories (Yukon,
- Eight provinces and three territories have some authority for coastal and ocean management
- 27 federal departments and agencies are responsible for managing marine-related activities.
- 25 major statutes (with subsidiary legislation).
- Management of non-renewable natural resources generally delegated to provinces
- Differences between the federal and provincial governments concerning some provincial claims to maritime property and jurisdictions
- Unsettled land claims with indigenous people
- **Complex and numerous jurisdictions and authorities make integrated management very difficult**

History

- ⦿ No significant interest in coastal and marine management during the 60-70s
 - Despite the developments in USA
- ⦿ 1980s first attempt to promote sustainable development of marine resources
 - Marine Environmental Quality (MEQ) initiative
 - Federal inter-departmental, highly collaborative initiative
 - Led by Environment Canada & Fisheries and Oceans

MEQ initiative

- ⦿ Produced:
 - Framework for the management of Marine Environmental Quality within the Federal Government – 1992
 - Federal MEQ Action Plan – 1994
- ⦿ Laid out inter-departmental activities and overall coordination within Federal Gov.
- ⦿ Next move – develop a national MEQ action plan involving all stakeholders, other levels of government, universities, industry, public, etc.
- ⦿ **Never happened** – internal turf wars within Federal Gov. shut down discussion and plan was never put into action

Times of change

- ⦿ No forum to discuss and advance ICOM in Canada – had to settle for following USA
- ⦿ In 1993 creation of Coastal Zone Canada Association
 - Promoting value of coastal areas in Canada
 - Forum for exchange of ideas & information through meetings, conferences, documentation, etc
 - 1994 First conference, Halifax, NS
 - Subsequent conferences every two years
 - Important impact on shaping ICOM development

Times of change

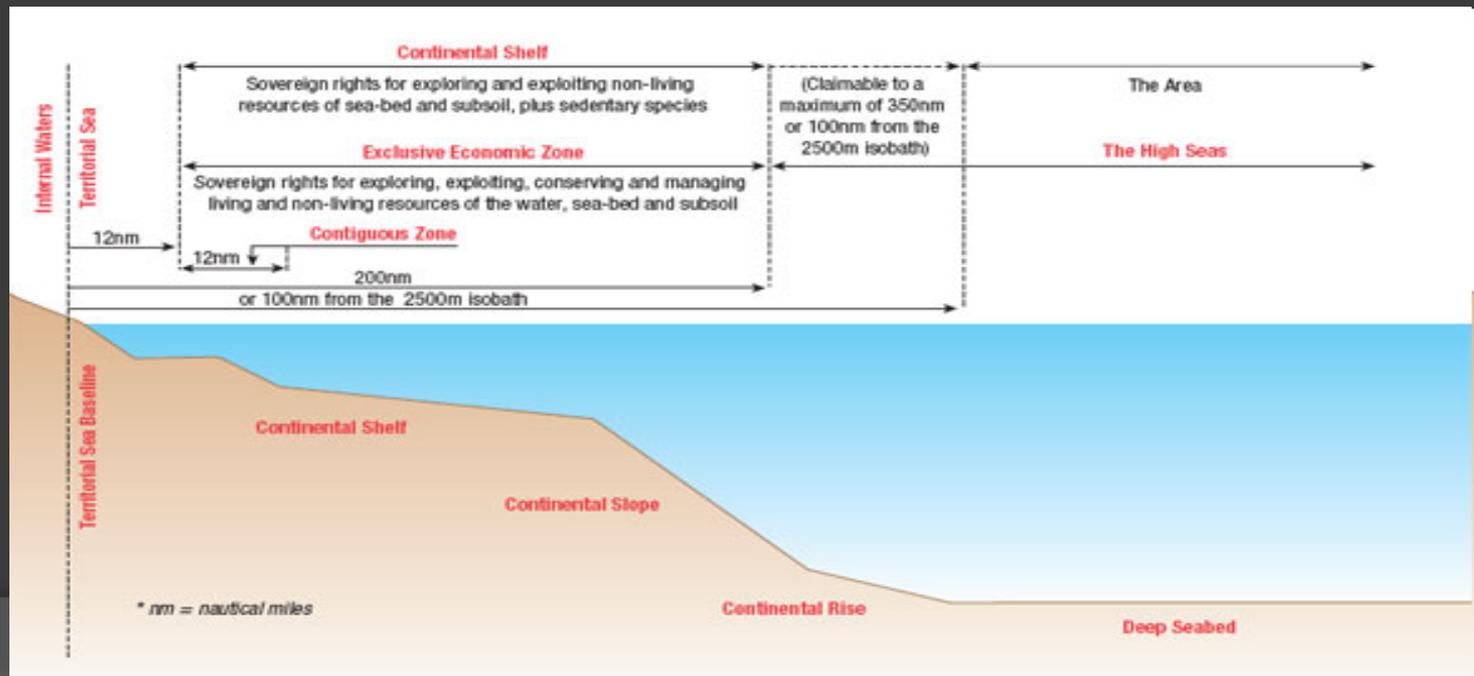
- ◎ Finally, in 1996 government passed the Canada Oceans Act
 - It establishes maritime zones and jurisdictions
 - Set the framework for integrated coastal and ocean management
- ◎ Key principles:
 - Sustainable development
 - Integrated management
 - Precautionary approach
 - Ecosystem-based
 - Collaborative approach

Canada Oceans Act

- ◎ Part I. Canada's maritime zones
 - defines the ocean area under Canada's jurisdiction and asserts the management and protection rights and responsibilities
- ◎ Part II. Oceans management strategy
 - provides the basic tools and authorities to design and implement a new ocean management approach
- ◎ Part III. Powers, duties and functions
 - outlines the powers, duties and functions of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans as the lead federal oceans authority

Canada Oceans Act – Part I.

- Adopted the provisions of UNCLOS to establish its maritime zones, including 200nm EEZ
- UNCLOS later ratified in 2003



Canada Oceans Act – Part II.

- Sets the provisions for DFO to lead and facilitate the development and implementation of a national strategy for the management of estuarine, coastal and marine ecosystems in Canadian waters
- DFO must act in collaboration with:
 - Other federal ministers, boards and agencies;
 - Provincial and territorial governments;
 - Affected aboriginal organizations, coastal communities and other persons and bodies, including bodies established under land claims agreements.

Canada Oceans Act – Part II.

- ◎ Implementation, DFO has the authority to:
 - Establish Marine Protected Areas
 - Establish and enforce Marine Environmental Quality (MEQ) guidelines, criteria and standards to conserve and protect ecosystem health
 - Develop integrated management plans, including coastal zone management plans
 - Building the knowledge base for ocean management
 - Regulatory powers
 - **All of these in collaboration with above groups!**

Canada Oceans Act – Part III.

- ⦿ Consolidated federal responsibilities for Canada's oceans
- ⦿ Established an identifiable lead federal agency accountable for oceans management
 - Coast Guard services
 - Provide safe, economical and efficient marine transportation system
 - Hydrographic Services
 - Mandate to survey and chart the navigable waters of Canada
 - Marine Sciences
 - Crucial to developing an understanding of Canada's oceans

Canada Oceans Act

- ◎ Good goals!

- Replace the current fragmented approach to oceans management with a collaborative, integrated approach
- Expand working partnerships among oceans stakeholders and increase their responsibility and accountability

Canada Oceans Act

- But, development of ICOM moved slowly and sporadically – more “talk” than action
- Most activity occurred at provincial and local level
- A coordinated national comprehensive planning process was still lacking, which made it difficult for integrated initiatives to be sustained over time
- Lack of political will = little money = no action

Moving forward

- ⦿ Putting words into action!
- ⦿ After extensive consultations the government developed and published the *Canada's Ocean Strategy* in 2002
- ⦿ In 2005 the government moved forward with the first phase of the *Oceans Action Plan (OAP)*, based on four pillars:
 - *International Leadership, Sovereignty and Security*
 - *Integrated Oceans Management for Sustainable Development*
 - *Health of the Oceans*
 - *Ocean Science and Technology*

Moving forward

- Integrated Oceans Management for Sustainable Development
 - Objective to implement actions in 5 areas, based on extensive preparatory work:
 - Placentia Bay and Grand Banks, Scotian Shelf, Gulf of St. Lawrence, Pacific North Coast and Beaufort Sea => Large Ocean Management Areas (LOMAs)
 - Still slow process, but at least there's action
- Today = Solid government commitment to OAP and move into phase II

Conclusions

- ◎ Canada's approach tends to be more ocean based, rather than coastal
 - Clear federal jurisdiction
 - Different to traditional approaches, e.g. USA
 - Moving landward little by little to engage provincial and municipal governments and other coastal stakeholders
- ◎ Approach is recognized globally for being community-based, highly participatory
 - Examples of effective participation and empowering of communities

Conclusions

- ◎ Some challenges remain:
 - Need for proper funding and resources
 - Maintaining inter-department cooperation
 - Strengthening Federal – Provincial/Territorial relationships
- ◎ Canada is now making progress towards effective ICOM and it's demonstrating innovation and vision to creating its own and unique approach.

THANK YOU!

Þakka þér fyrir!