



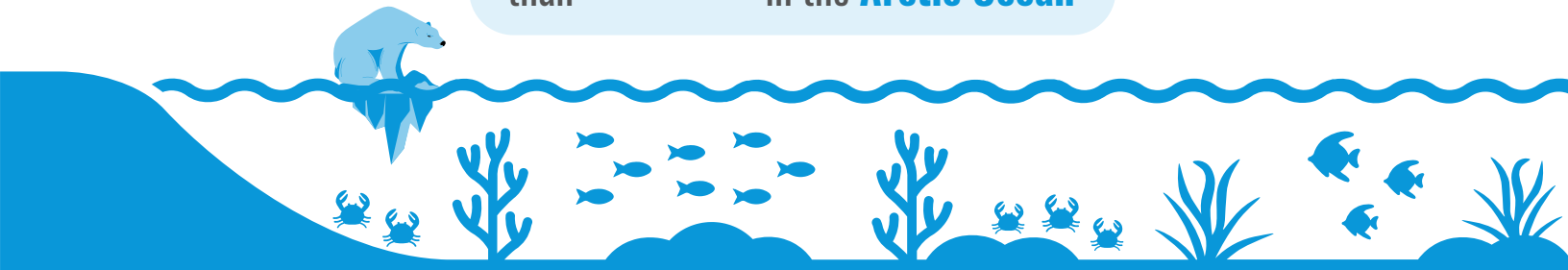
# CONSERVE AND SUSTAINABLY USE THE OCEANS, SEAS AND MARINE RESOURCES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

In 2022

**14.7%** of Canada's ocean and coastal ecosystems were conserved<sup>1</sup>

An area **16 times larger** than in 2015

More than **60%** of this area was located in the **Arctic Ocean**



## Canada's Oceans in 2021<sup>2</sup>

### In shallow waters

**29%** of cold-water coral and sponge ecosystems



**34%** of seagrass meadows

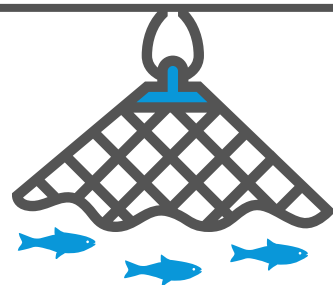


**35%** of kelp forests



were conserved

More than **95%** of fish stocks



were **sustainably harvested**<sup>3</sup> at or below their removal reference or other approved level in 2021

down from **98%** in 2020

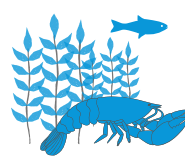
## COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT



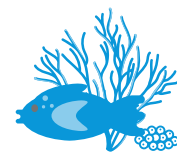
Clean Foundation helps communities make real progress toward a **cleaner future** by taking on climate change challenges. They work with communities to help foster **coastal resiliency** in **Atlantic Canada** by researching and restoring ecosystems

Since 2013, Clean Foundation has deployed more than **600 reefballs** in the Halifax Harbour

Reefballs are **artificial reefs** designed to:



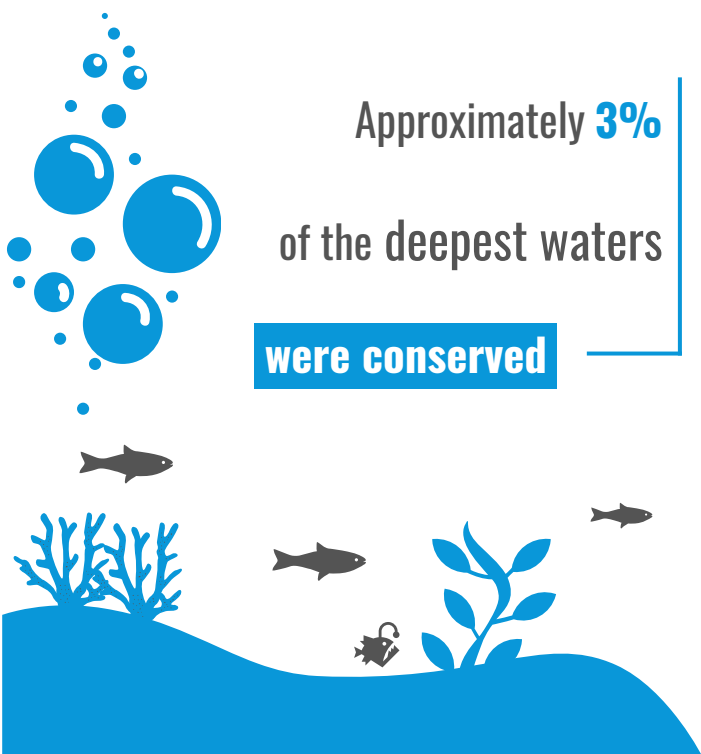
Provide **shelter** for fish and shellfish



Serve as **habitat** for reproduction and spawning



Support the **growth** of marine plants



Approximately **3%** of the deepest waters

were conserved

<sup>1</sup> Conserved areas are lands and waters where human use is limited. They include protected areas as well as other effective area-based conservation measures.  
<sup>2</sup> Percentages are for ecosystem areas which could be spatially mapped. Shallow waters are depths of less than 200 meters and deepest waters are defined as depths of more than 4000 meters.  
<sup>3</sup> The removal reference and other approved levels are based on scientific information. The indicator provides a direct measure of whether we are managing the use of these resources within these levels and it is one measure of fishing pressure on wild fish stocks.  
 Sources: Environment and Climate Change Canada, Canadian Environmental Sustainability Indicators, Canada's Conserved Areas. Statistics Canada, Canadian System of Environmental-Economic Accounting - Ecosystem Accounts, 2022. Environment and Climate Change Canada, Canadian Environmental Sustainability Indicators, Harvest Levels of Key Fish Stocks. Clean Foundation, 2023.  
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