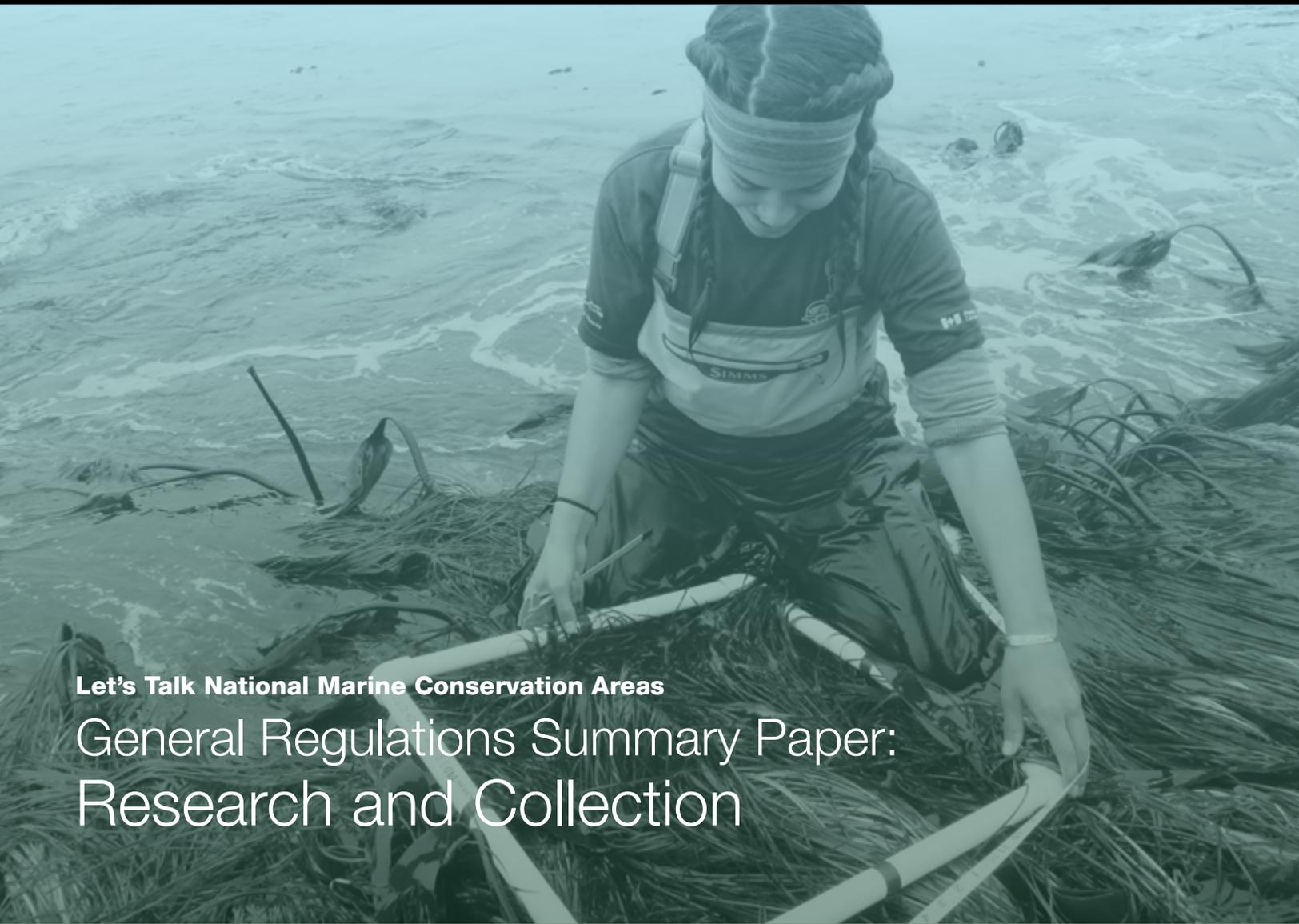




Parks
Canada

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Let's Talk National Marine Conservation Areas General Regulations Summary Paper: Research and Collection

Purpose of summary papers

Parks Canada is developing **general regulations** under the [Canada National Marine Conservation Areas Act](#) (the Act). General regulations are nationally consistent and enforceable tools that will apply to all national marine conservation areas established under the Act, from coast to coast to coast and including the Great Lakes. The regulations will include general restrictions and prohibitions applicable to all national marine conservation areas, as well as permit requirements and authorities that can be used to manage activities specific to the context and environment of each site. Please read the [Backgrounder on General Regulations](#) for more information.

A series of summary papers has been prepared to explain the main themes of the regulatory proposal.

5 THEMES

- Research and collections activities
- Protection of natural and cultural resources
- Zoning and area-based management
- Commercial activities and special events
- Visitor experience and public use

Research and Collection

in national marine conservation areas

Research and collection for scientific, display or educational purposes is of central importance to achieving national marine conservation area management goals. These activities contribute valuable information needed to effectively protect and conserve natural and cultural heritage, as well as to foster ecologically sustainable use of marine resources. They also contribute to enhancing public awareness and understanding of national marine conservation areas and pressing environmental issues such as climate change. Research and collection in national marine conservation areas spans many topics and constitutes an important focal point for collaboration between governments, Indigenous organizations and governing bodies, academia and other organizations.

Why are we regulating

Regulations are required to ensure that research and collection activities are aligned with national marine conservation area management goals and are subject to appropriate oversight by national marine conservation area management boards. Research and collection initiatives range widely in terms of their objectives, scales and methods. It is therefore important to regulate research and collection to ascertain that the initiatives taking place contribute to the long term well being of the natural or cultural heritage under investigation. Regulation is also a mechanism to manage research activities in a way that is compatible with traditional, commercial, recreational and management activities also taking place in national marine conservation areas.

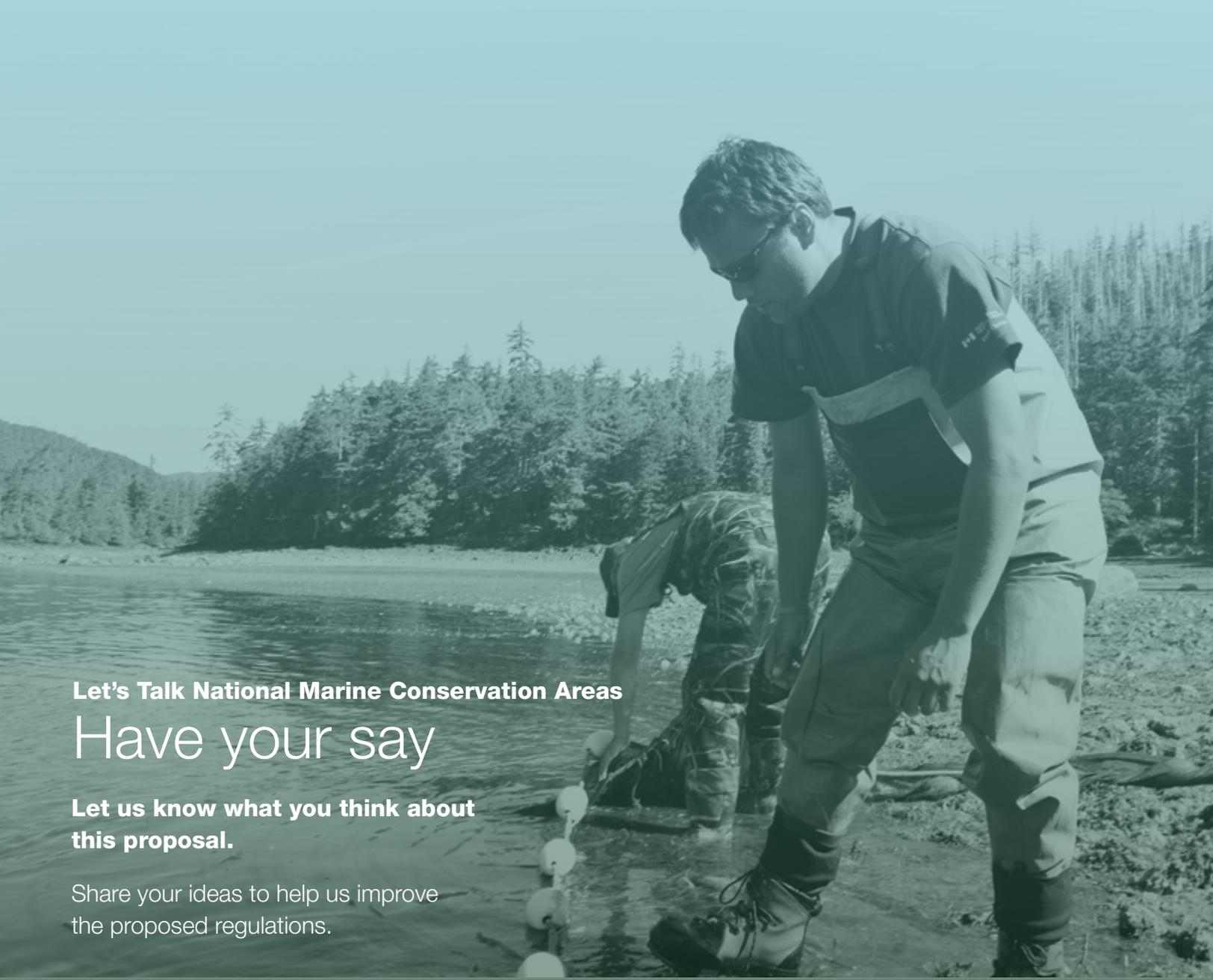
What we are proposing to regulate

The regulations will require persons wishing to conduct research or collection to apply for and obtain a permit. The regulations will enable permits to be accompanied by terms and conditions specifying the extent, location, timing and methods of research and/or collection that are authorized under the permit. The terms and conditions will be based on the nature of the research or collection proposed and the context of the national marine conservation area in which it is taking place.

Permit applications will be managed through the existing [Parks Canada Research and Collection Permit System](#). Each application will be reviewed by Parks Canada and the relevant national marine conservation area management board. When the regulations come into effect, the Research Permit and Collection System will include detailed instructions and guidance on how to apply for a national marine conservation area research and collection permit.

In instances where a research or collection initiative is also subject to a permit requirement under the [Species at Risk Act](#), the application process for this permit will be combined with the process for obtaining the permit required under the regulations.

In addition to the above, some research and collections initiatives will require permits pursuant to other existing legislation and regulations administered by government departments other than Parks Canada. In order to reduce administrative burden and duplication of effort, Parks Canada will work with other departments to reduce administrative burden where possible.



Let's Talk National Marine Conservation Areas

Have your say

Let us know what you think about this proposal.

Share your ideas to help us improve the proposed regulations.

We hope this summary paper has you thinking about how these regulations may affect you, and prompts you to provide feedback and comments. Your input is an important part of the process to develop regulations.

We appreciate the feedback we have received so far. Let's keep the dialogue going!

Please watch the www.LetsTalkNMCAs.ca website for updates, and share with friends and colleagues.