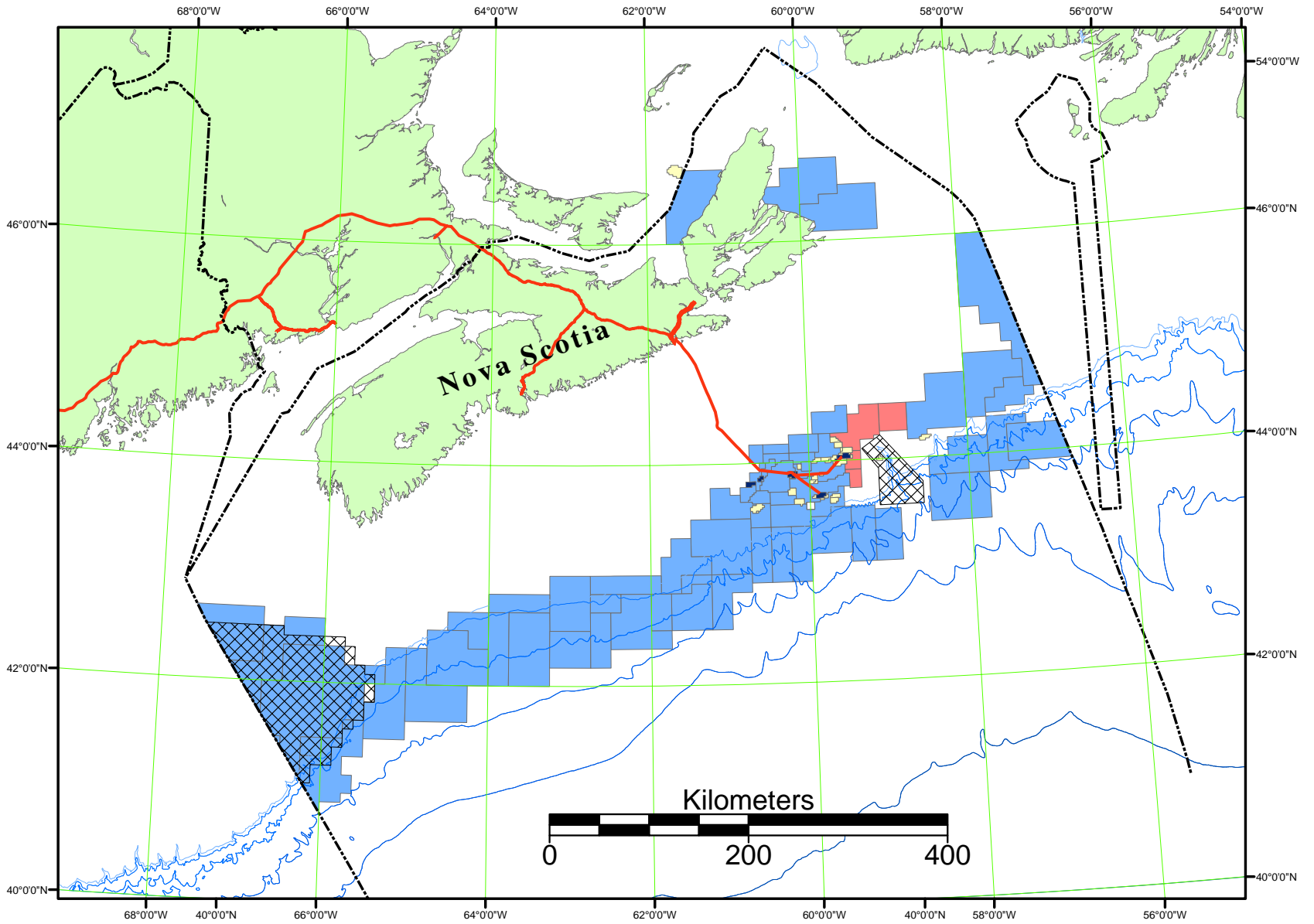


# Offshore Regulatory Agency - CNSOPB

- Established 1990 by federal and provincial governments
- Independent board to manage petroleum resources and activities offshore Nova Scotia

# CNSOPB Mandate

- Health and safety of offshore workers
- Protection of the environment
- Resource conservation
  - Data storage
- Canada-Nova Scotia Benefits



# CNSOPB Framework

- Authorization required prior to any activity
- Each authorization requires the following:
  - Benefits plan
  - Financial responsibility
  - Safety Plan
  - Environmental Assessment
  - Outline of proposed activity

# Offshore Nova Scotia - Environmental Assessment

- Historically assessments of all activities prior to authorization
- CNSOPB under CEAA as of July 2003
  - Assessment required prior to authorization of any project
- MOU's with DFO and EC

# Assessment Requirements

- Project description
- Potential impacts
  - Discharges
  - Seafloor disturbance
  - Noise
- Mitigation
- Effects Monitoring

# Environmental Issues

- Sensitive Areas
- Seismic
- Discharges
  - Drilling muds/cuttings
  - Produced Water

# Offshore Nova Scotia – Sensitive Areas

- Traditionally the entire offshore area has been “open for business”
- Sensitive areas identified by fisheries or public
  - Georges Bank
  - Cape Breton
  - Browns Bank
- Gully Marine Protected Area (pending)



# Seismic

- Recently concern expressed on impacts of seismic
  - Eggs and Larvae
  - Spawning
  - Scaring of fish
  - Whales
- Continuing international research

# Discharges

- Joint CNSOPB, CNOBP and NEB Waste Discharge Guidelines in place
  - Drilling
  - Produce Water
- Chemical Selection Guidelines
- Compliance monitored

# Other Considerations

- Project Specific Assessments
  - Possible guidance document
    - Avoid repetition
    - More focused on predicted impact and mitigation
- Oceans Act – Integrated Management
  - To address the oil and gas active and prospective areas as soon as possible
- CEAA
  - Efforts ongoing to have the system as effective and efficient as possible