

**Environmental Assessment
East Canada CSEM Survey, 2014–2018
Amendment**

Prepared by



Prepared for



**21 November 2014
Project No. SA1248**

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Amendment**

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Introduction

This document is an Amendment to “Environmental Assessment EMGS East Canada CSEM Survey, 2014-2018” to allow an extension of the temporal scope of this environmental assessment (EA) to include removal of control source electromagnet (CSEM) gear. The original temporal scope was to 30 November 2014, however, due to weather delays the CSEM survey vessel has been held in port which means that all gear will be unable to be retrieved prior to the end of temporal scope.

Extension of Temporal Scope

Temporal scope is extended to 31 December 2014 for the reasons explained above.

Effects Assessment

Activities will be limited to retrieval of receivers and no additional sampling will occur; there will be no potential effects from CSEM emissions. All of the valued ecosystem components (VECs) have been reviewed relative to this time extension and all of the original EA conclusions remain valid.

Few, if any, commercial fisheries vessels will be encountered during December and thus any effects from the survey vessel’s presence will be less than in previous months. Based on historical DFO data, there may be only a small mobile fishery for shrimp in the 2014 proposed Survey Block in December. Average catch weight from 2005-2010 for the month of December was less than 5 mt (see Figure 4.17 of the EA).

Bird attraction and potential strandings are predicted to be less in December than in the previous months since most of the storm petrels will have already migrated south.

All predictions for the other VECs (Fish and Fish Habitat, Marine Mammals, Sea Turtles, Species at Risk, and Sensitive Areas) remain the same, and possibly of less magnitude.

Conclusion

The time extension from 30 November 2014 to 31 December 2014 changes none of the EA conclusions and there will be *no significant* residual environmental effects caused by this extension.