

What is Area-Based Aquaculture Management

Area-Based Aquaculture Management (ABAM) is an approach being developed by Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) to ensure the environmental, social, cultural and economic factors unique to geographical areas are considered when managing aquaculture. DFO applies area-based tools and decision making in many aspects of fisheries management.

THE GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

The governance structure to support ABAM would be nested and correspond to various spatial scales. It would include different levels of governments.

TIER 1: PROVINCIAL BOUNDARY

- would have an overarching committee that facilitates coordination and communication for ABAM

TIER 2: AQUACULTURE MANAGEMENT AREA (AMA)

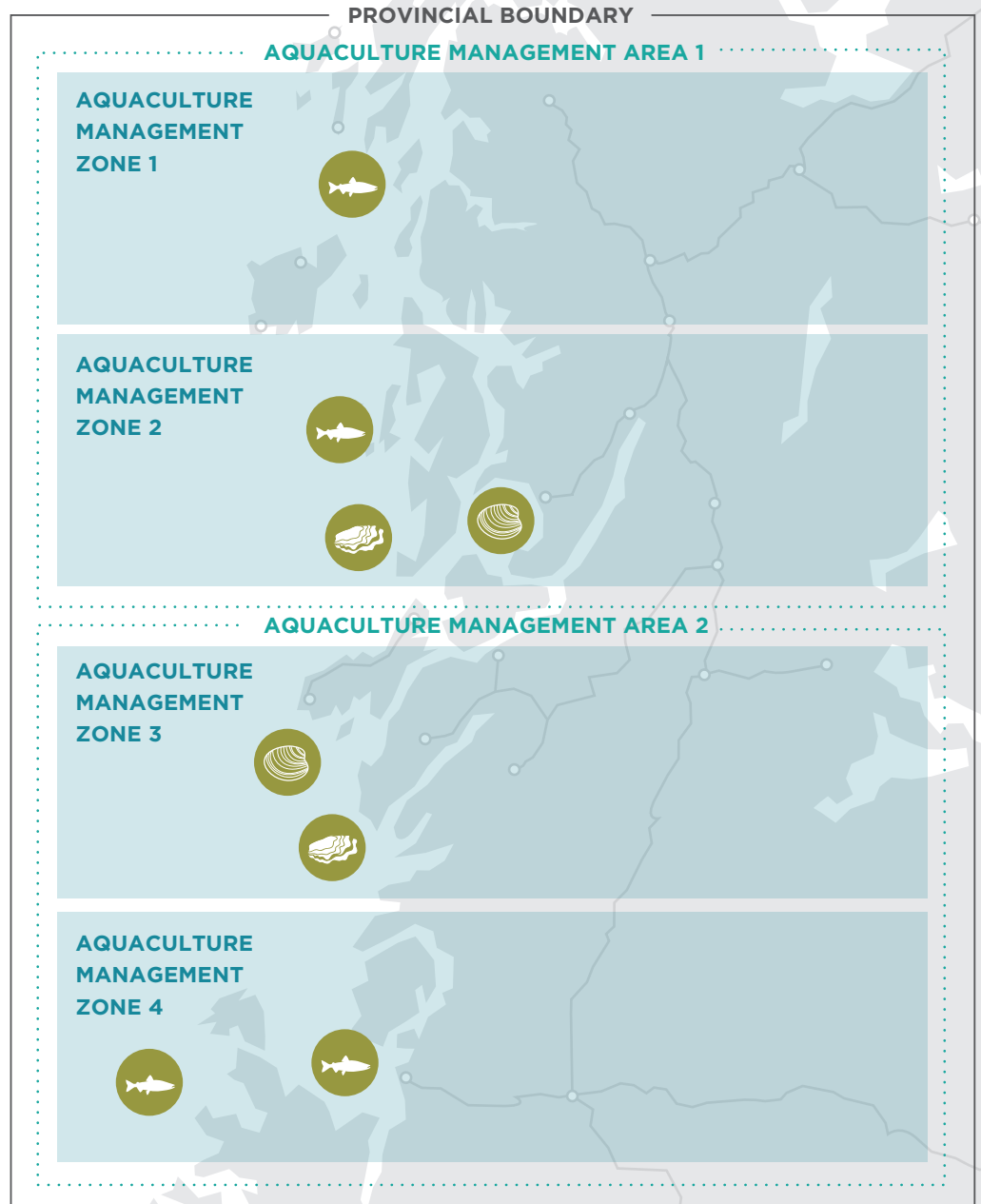
- an area smaller than the province that may include one or more Aquaculture Management Zones
- governed by a collaborative area-based committee

TIER 3: AQUACULTURE MANAGEMENT ZONES (AMZ)

- a single sound, inlet or watershed
- may have coordinated management objectives, such as fish health or water quality, due to the connectivity of farms

TIER 4: SITES

- individual finfish and shellfish farm sites
- no governing body; managed through federal and provincial licences



*Note: this image is fictional and for illustration purposes only. AMAs have not yet been created.

CONSIDERATIONS FOR AREA-BASED AQUACULTURE MANAGEMENT

- Respecting Indigenous Rights and Title
- Knowledge-based
- Transparent
- Resilient to Climate Change
- Integrated
- Precautionary
- Ecological Integrity
- Collaborative
- Adaptable
- Sustainable
- Accountable
- Human Well-being



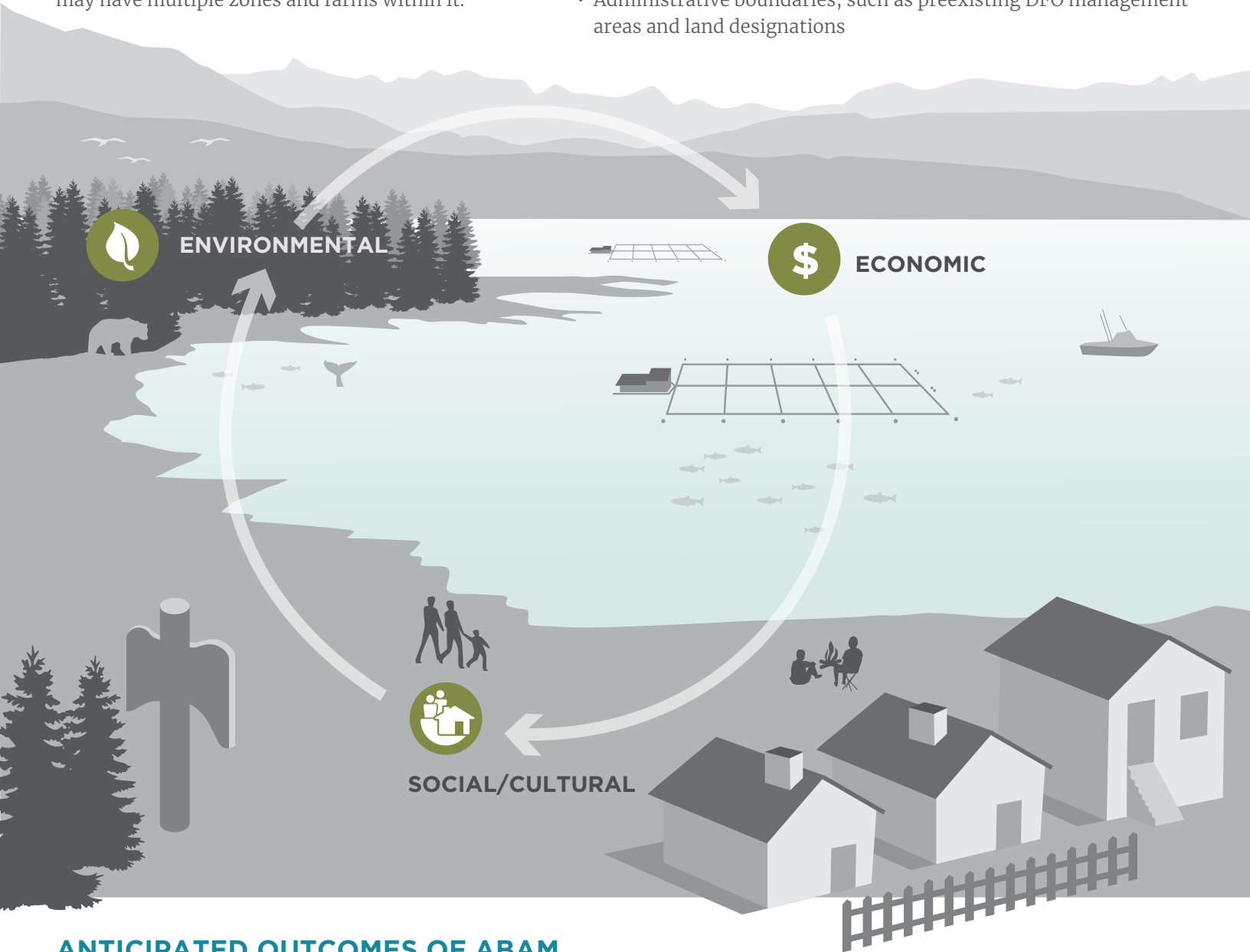
WHAT DOES AN AQUACULTURE MANAGEMENT AREA LOOK LIKE?

Area-Based Aquaculture Management (ABAM) will consider the unique features and environmental, social, cultural and economic values within a geographical area. An Aquaculture Management Area (AMA) is a spatial unit within the province that may have multiple zones and farms within it.

HOW IS AN AMA DETERMINED?

AMAs will be created with the following considerations in mind:

- First Nations territories and collaboration with Indigenous Peoples
- Ecosystem functions and services
- Presence and operational logistics of existing industry and the potential for future aquaculture activities
- Administrative boundaries, such as preexisting DFO management areas and land designations



ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OF ABAM

ECOSYSTEM-BASED
PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

NATION-TO-NATION
COLLABORATIVE
PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

IMPROVED ECONOMIC BENEFITS FOR **COASTAL AND RURAL COMMUNITIES** FROM AQUACULTURE

TRANSPARENT
DECISION-MAKING

INCREASED
SOCIAL LICENCE

ENHANCED
FOOD SECURITY & SUSTAINABILITY

INCLUSIVE
KNOWLEDGE

CONSIDERATION OF OTHER USES OF
WATER AND LAND

SHARED
ACCOUNTABILITY