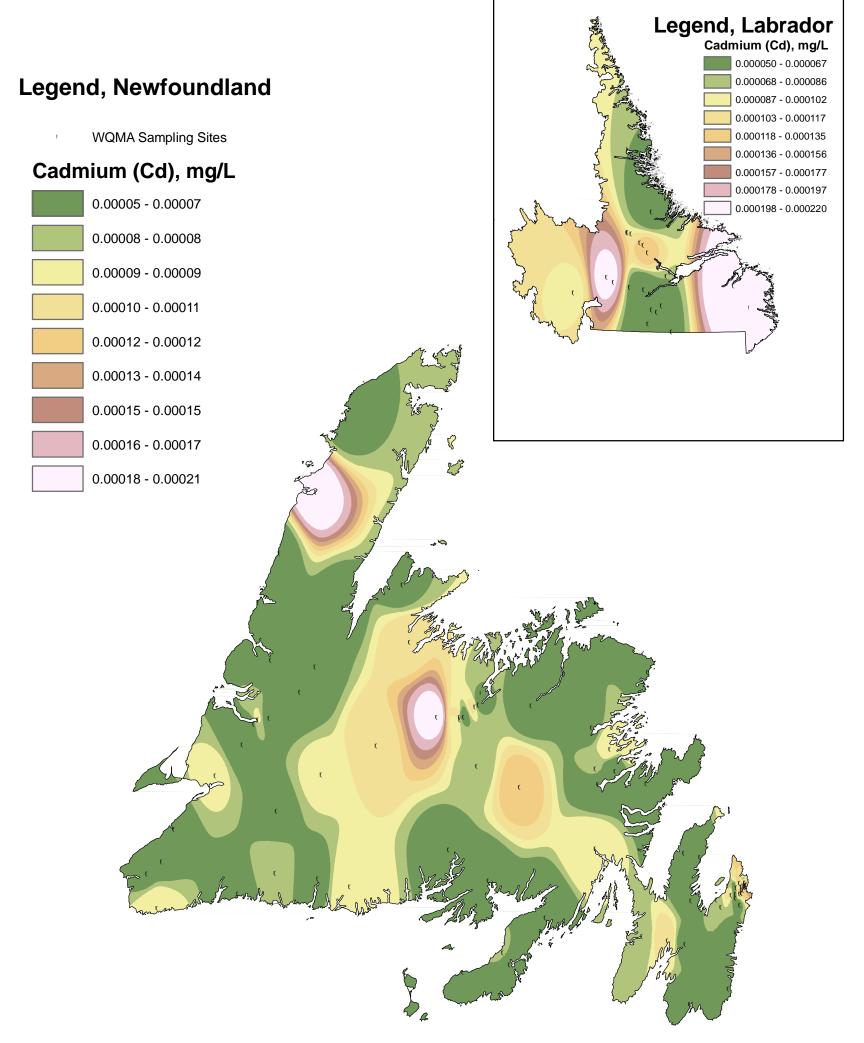
Cadmium Contours Based on Canada-Newfoundland Water Quality Monitoring Agreement Data



A contour map displays regions, each of which represents a constant value for a particular parameter. These regions are approximations based on average recorded values at WQMA sites for all data collected between 1985-2000. The contour regions were estimated using a geostatistical approach known as Inverse Distance Weight (IDW), with a power of 5. The maps will be updated for every five years of new water quality data collected. Values are compared against the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment Water Quality Guidelines for the Protection of Aquatic Life.

The cadmium guideline for the Protection of Aquatic Life is 0.017 ug/L (0.000017 mg/L), which is currently below the level of detection possible with modern laboratory tests. The cadmium levels in the WQMA ambient water sites are well below the level considered hazardous to human health.



