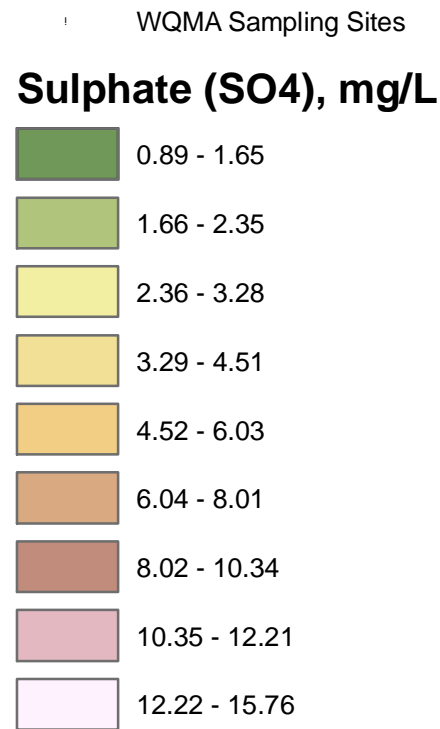
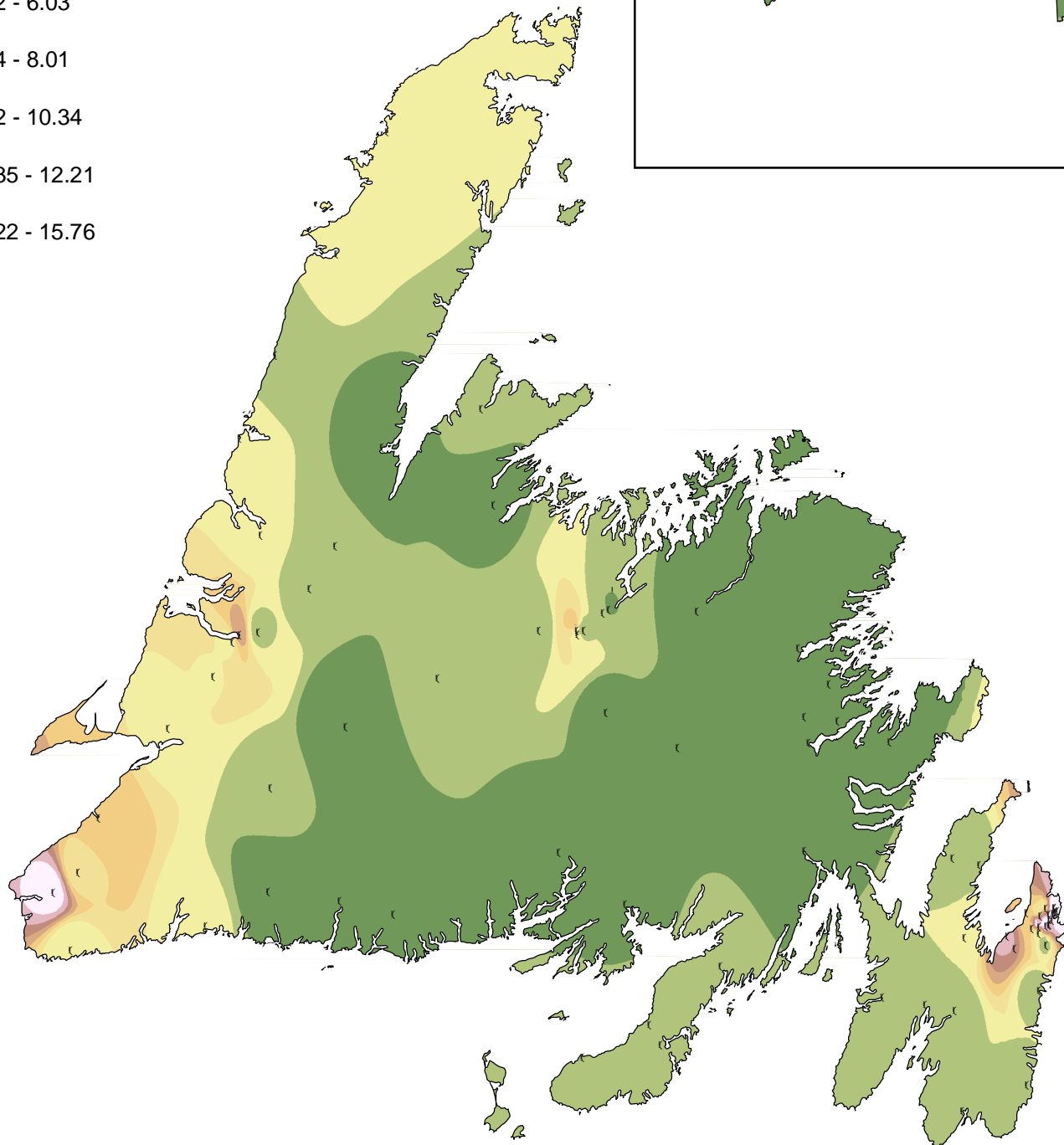
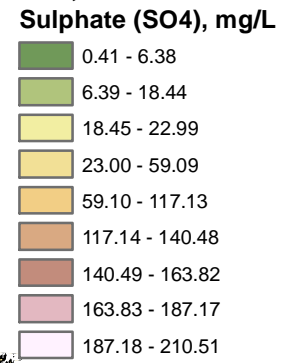


Sulphate Contours Based on Canada-Newfoundland Water Quality Monitoring Agreement Data

Legend, Newfoundland



Legend, Labrador



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.

Sulphate is a known emission from thermal generation plants, and tends to be higher in areas near these plants. They can also be a result of long-range transport of pollutants, and have an acidifying affect. A natural source of sulphate is weathering of gypsum. Pulp and paper mills also produce sulphate in their wastes. There is no sulphate guideline for the Protection of Aquatic Life.