DESCRIPTIVE NOTES THE STUDY AREA

The Bay of Fundy (Figs. 1, 2) is a southwest-northeast trending funnel-shaped bay 155 km long that tapers from 75 km wide in the southwest to 48 km wide at its northeastern end where it bifurcates into Chignecto Bay and Minas Basin. The floor of the bay, although hummocky in detail, presents a gently dipping profile along its axis from northeast to southwest. Much of the bay is less than 100 m in depth. Grand Manan Island and its adjacent southeastern shoals occupy nearly half the entrance to the bay, and divide it into two channels. Geological processes have shaped the geomorphology of the bay. First, glaciation has left the bay with suites of glacial landforms formed under the ice sheet or at the ice sheet margin, together with an overlying layer of glaciomarine sandy mud deposited by meltwater plumes after recession of the glacier. Relative sea-level dropped to a postglacial low of -25 m, creating (relatively limited) emergent areas and coastal landforms such as spits. During the Holocene Epoch tidal amplitude increased in the bay (Shaw et al., 2010), bringing about an increase in energy that continues to this day. The resulting strong currents (Fig. 3) have created extensive fields of bedforms in the mid- to upper-bay and deep scours troughs at topographic constrictions. GEOLOGICAL CONSTRAINTS AND GEOHAZARDS The Bay of Fundy contains a series of geological constraints that must be considered should seabed

infrastructure be emplaced in the future. The bay contains broad areas of active bedforms that can, for example, expose buried transmission cables. Sea floor erosion such as happens in scour troughs can cause loss of bearing support, or can reduce the holding capacity of anchors. However, seafloor erosion can remove all surficial sediments, revealing underling bedrock that is favourable for emplacement of structures. The TISEC device test site in Minas Passage is located in this type of terrain. Irregular seafloor such as in outcropping bedrock is a constraint for bottom-founded structures sensitive to tilt. While transmission cables can be laid across an irregular seafloor, they require slack. Large areas of the sea floor are characterized by cobbles and boulders that can be an impediment to pile driving, trenching, ploughing, and suction dredging. SEASCAPES

We define seascapes as underwater landscapes with recurring patters of geomorphology, texture, and biota. GEOMORPHOLOGY

The various geomorphologic classes are prime drivers for the seascape classification, since they integrate geological processes over time and tend to control the distribution of textures and biota. The essential method of delineating topographic units is the analysis of shaded-relief elevation models derived from gridded multibeam sonar bathymetry data. Data treated in this manner reveal relief characteristics with a vertical accuracy of  $\pm$  0.1 m, and permits delineation areas with similar slope characteristics. An important aspect of this analysis is the application of shading from varying azimuths, resulting in the delineation of subtle features on the sea floor. In an integrated seascape approach it is necessary to understand the genesis of the geomorphic classes, and towards this end we use subbottom seismic reflection profiling (both high- and low-resolution) to determine the acoustic characteristics of sediment with depth, and hence delineate the surficial geology classes, which are broadly those described by Fader et al. (1977). The large range of morphologic features in the map area extends from high-relief bedrock topography, through moderate relief areas characterized by glacial ridges (moraines, streamlined landforms, and eskers) to widespread very low-relief sea floor. Extensive areas of the mid- upper-bay contain mobile sandy bedforms of various types. Unique to the bay are the deep scour troughs at its head and in constricted tidal channels.

TEXTURE AND MOBILITY While texture conventionally refers to sediment grain size at the seafloor, we also expand the definition to describe sediment properties at depth and sediment mobility at the sea floor. A critical component of delineating sediment texture is backscatter strength map (Fig. 2), a proxy for sea floor texture. In the map area this parameter is broadly bi-modal: areas of high backscatter strength correspond to bedrock and gravel at the sea floor, while areas of low backscatter strength correspond to sand, muddy sand, and mud. Sidescan sonar was used in the study to ascertain the presence or absence of bedforms such as megaripples, which are below the resolution of the multibeam sonar data. Inferences about mobility were made using bedform characteristics as a guide. However, the modeled sediment mobility index (Fig. 4) was also a guide.

Biota were observed on sea floor photographs (Figs. 5-10) and video collected in areas considered representative of the geomorphic and textural classes. In general, hard substrates have attached biota, in contrast to sandy and muddy seafloors that may contain infauna. The long, linear, horse mussel reefs constitute a unique seascape unit, and host horse mussels (Modiolus modiolus) in association with the bryozoan Flustra foliacea, and Polymastia sp. in sponge gardens. Generally the analysis of biota was not systematic, and we have taken the approach that geomorphology and texture are important determinants. CLASSIFICATION

BIOTA

We distinguish eight types of seascape terrain (see legend) and further sub-divide, so that, for example, there are seven types of sandy seascape. In this instance we recognize that there exists awide range of bedform types, each with characteristics of morphology and mobility. We also add information on the ibution of gas masking on seismic reflection profiles, pockmarks, and also areas of irregular terrain in the muddy seascapes. Two of the many seismic profiles in the bay are shown (Figs. 11,12).

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This map is based on surveys of the Bay of Fundy by vessels of the Canadian Coast Guard equipped with multibeam sonar systems owned and operated by the Canadian Hydrographic Service (CHS) We acknowledge our CHS colleagues in the map sheets listed below, but particularly wish to thank Michael Lamplugh and Gerard Costello. Some of the surveys were conducted by the Ocean Mapping Group of the University of New Brunswick, and we particularly credit John Hughes Clarke for data and data processing. Two major ground-truthing surveys were conducted using the CCGS Hudson, and we thank the officers and crews for their professionalism. Geological Survey of Canada (GSC) staff ensured that the collection of geophysical and ground-truthing data proceeded smoothly, and in this respect we thank Robert Murphy (coring), and Angus Robertson (deployment of seabed landers). Scott Hayward participated in these ground-truthing surveys and managed the GIS project that made the task of geoscientific interpretation easier. Robert Prescott of Prescott & Zou Consulting provided assistance in tidal current and sediment mobility modelling. Robert C. Courtney (GSC) created tools that facilitated analysis of seismic reflection data. Cartographic support was provided by P. O'Regan (DDD). Finally, we thank Russell Parrott (GSC) for survey planning and management and Richard Pickrill (GSC) who provided the leadership and vision that made the work possible.

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Canada

|         | Passamaquoddy Bay and Grand Manan Island; 2) in coastal fringes; and 3) in scour troughs, where intense tidal currents have removed overlying sediments. Several lithologies are present, but are grouped together in this map.  |  | reworked by waves and currents. About 9000 yrs BP, re<br>m, and large spits and spit platforms formed off the Ne<br>sea levels and expanding tidal amplitude, a range of<br>oriented according to tidal current directions. Most mo   |
|---------|--|--|---|
| 3       | Bedrock<br>Morphology: Irregular terrain with knolls, and ridges up to 20 m high and tens of<br>kilometres long.<br>Texture: Rock outcrops with veneers of gravel and sand; high backscatter strength.<br>The gravel and sand may be mobilized by tidal currents, especially in scour troughs.   |  | gravel developed on top of glaciomarine sediments. E<br>dominantly from the erosional channels in the upper ba<br>by the overall net transport is to the top of the bay, most<br>the upper Bay of Fundy.  |
|         | Biota: Attached fauna including coralline algae and algae in shallow areas,<br>sponges, anemones.<br>Outcrops are rare, and bedrock commonly has a veneer of sand and gravel, with<br>thicker sediments in pockets. Topography may be very irregular, with large areas of<br>smooth sea floor between bedrock highs (e.g., off Passmaquoddy Bay). Most<br>exposed rock is in shallow water, and the percentage cover of surficial sediments<br>increases with depth.<br>Glacial Seascapes  | S1   | <b>Dunes</b><br><b>Morphology:</b> Flow-transverse ridges up to 10 m high<br>with superimposed megaripples, organized into trains<br><b>Texture and mobility:</b> Well-sorted medium sand with<br>troughs between bedforms; Iow backscatter strength;<br><b>Biota:</b> Sand dollars, bivalves (e.g., <i>Clinocardium</i> sp.),<br>clams, starfish, scallops, anemones and sponges on s<br><i>Flustra foliacea</i> (hornwrack) on boulders and cobbles;<br>presence of horse mussels ( <i>Modiolus modiolus</i> ).<br><i>Derived from olacial materials reworked by strong tida</i>  |
|         | Accumulations of sediment up to many tens of metres thick, organized into ridges and mounds of varying shapes and dimensions. Glacial seascapes formed under advancing glacial ice (parallel to ice-flow direction), at the margins of retreating ice (transverse to ice margins), or were created by meltwater under ice. They are generally composed of glacial diamict (stiff bouldery sandy mud), or sand and gravel. Reworking by tidal currents and waves has formed immobile surface lags of gravel. Commonly overlain by a thin (~5 m) drape of glaciomarine mud that has been winnowed to form a gravel veneer.   | S2   | Trapped dunes<br>Morphology: Solitary dunes can be up to 20 m high a<br>incised into otherwise flat sea floor; occurring as large<br>extending across the bay.<br>Texture and mobility: Well-sorted, mobile medium sa<br>movement can be oscillatory and hence low net migra<br>Biota: Sand dollars, bivalves (e.g., <i>Clinocardium</i> sp.),<br>clams, starfish, scallops; anemones, and sponges on<br><i>These dunes are generally considered as trapped bec</i>   |
| 61      | Moraines<br>Morphology: Arcuate ridges of glacial diamict up to 8 m high and 10 kilometres<br>long, separated by smooth seafloor.<br>Texture and mobility: Generally has a thin drape of glaciomarine mud that has<br>been winnowed to form an immobile sandy gravel lag with high backscatter strength.<br>Biota: Attached fauna including sponges, anemones, Asteriidae (sea stars), and<br>hydroide   | S3   | Into the underlying glaciomarine sediments.         Banner Bank dune complexes         Morphology: Trains of dune ridges of varying size, up organized into twin banks either side of headlands; a signal size of headlands; a size of headlands; a size of hea |
| The has | Moraines were deposited transverse to ice-flow directions during the retreat of glaciers from the bay c. 14,000 years ago. They consist of glacial diamict (bouldery gravel in a matrix of sandy mud). Moraines near Grand Manan have a thick cover of glaciomarine mud and are mapped as that unit.<br>Eskers   |  | rocky shoal (exposed at low tide) in the middle of the <b>Texture and mobility:</b> Well-sorted shelly medium to a banks themselves are fixed in position; low backscatte <b>Biota:</b> Sand dollars, bivalves (e.g., <i>Clinocardium sp.</i> ), clams, starfish, scallops; anemones and sponges on a <i>The banner banks form in tidal eddies either side of he through the banks as individual bedforms migrate</i> (e.   |
| 62      | Morphology: Curvilinear ridges up to 8 m high and tens of kilometres long that<br>commonly occur as sets (beaded eskers).<br>Texture and mobility: Bouldery gravel, gravel, sandy gravel, all with high<br>backscatter strength. The gravels are immobile but sand patches may be mobilized<br>by tidal currents and by waves in shallow water.<br>Biota: Attached fauna including sponges, hydrozoans, anemones, with scallops in<br>sandy areas.   | S4   | Cape Split.) Trapped gravel dune field Morphology: Ridges of bouldery gravel up to 5 m hig and 3.5 km long. Texture and mobility: Well rounded boulder cobble g strength: boulders and cobbles are mobile under tidal   |
| 63      | Eskers were deposited by meltwater streams during deglaciation and are found off<br>the south coast, located at gaps in North Mountain (e.g., at Digby).<br><b>Drumlins, craig-and-tail ridges</b><br><b>Morphology:</b> Rounded, smooth, elongate ridges up to tens of metres high and 7 km<br>long. Crag-and-tail ridges comprise bedrock crags and glacial diamict tails.   |  | <b>Biota:</b> No attached fauna; a few small starfish (Aster<br>This may considered one half of the banner bank com<br>being the Scots Bay dune field. This dune field is comp<br>become trapped in the Minas Passage Scour Trough. S<br>attached organisms.  |
|         | <b>Texture and mobility:</b> Glacial diamict -(bouldery gravel in a matrix of sandy mud);<br>immobile boulder gravel lags at the seafloor; high backscatter strength.<br><b>Biota:</b> Attached fauna including sponges, anemones, Asteriidae (sea stars), and<br>hydroids.<br><i>Eskers and crag-and-tail ridges were deposited under moving glaciers, parallel to</i><br><i>the ice-flow. They may be many tens of metres thick and may be covered by a</i><br><i>veneer of placiomarine mud (which also has a surface lag veneer of sand or gravelly</i>  | S5   | Sand<br>Morphology: Low-relief, gently banked deposits of sa<br>sloping prisms offshore from beaches; flood-tidal delta<br>large bedforms.<br>Texture and mobility: Sand and muddy sand with low<br>under tidal currents, and also wave action in shallow y   |
| 64      | <ul> <li>Mega scale glacial lineations (MSGL)</li> <li>Morphology: Elongate ridges of glacial material up to tens of metres high and tens of kilometres long,</li> <li>Texture and mobility: Composed of glacial diamict: surface lags of Immobile</li> </ul>  | 56   | clams, starfish, scallops; anemones and sponges on s<br>Sand bodies that have accumulated in a series of l<br>Chignecto), or in other settings.<br>Shadow banks   |
|         | bouldery gravel; high backscatter strength.<br><b>Biota:</b> Attached fauna including sponges, anemones, Asteriidae (sea stars), and<br>hydroids.<br><i>MSGL were deposited under very fast-flowing glaciers (ice streams), parallel to ce-<br/>flow directions. They are commonly many tens of metres thick and may be draped<br/>by glaciomarine mud (which also has a surface lag veneer of sand or gravelly sand).</i>   |  | by sand ribbons and barchan dunes up to 8 m high ar<br><b>Texture and mobility:</b> Well sorted medium sand with<br>scattered cobbles and boulders, gravelly material in si-<br>mobile under strong uni-directional tidal currents.<br><b>Biota:</b> Sand dollars, bivalves (e.g., <i>Clinocardium</i> sp.)<br>sand dollars, surf clams, starfish, scallops; encrusting<br>boulders and cobbles   |
| 65      | <b>Complex glaciated terrain</b><br><b>Morphology:</b> Drumlins and MSGL, mainly oriented north-south, with numerous superimposed, east-west oriented small morainal ridges 1-2 m high (De Geer moraines)  |  | Sand bodies have accumulated adjacent to banner subject to uni-directional flow at all tidal stages.  |
|         | <b>Texture and mobility:</b> The landforms consist of glacial diamict; immobile bouldery gravel at the sea floor; high backscatter strength<br><b>Biota:</b> Attached fauna including sponges, anemones, Asteriidae (sea stars), and hydroids.<br><i>Swarms of De Geer moraines created during retreat of the ice margins are superimposed on drumlins and MSGL formed during glacial advance.</i>   | S7   | Morphology: Ridge with recurves, reaching 20 m abore<br>Texture and mobility: Gravel with sand patches; main<br>clinoform structure on acoustic records; gravel and sa<br>currents.<br>Biota: Some attached fauna.<br>Sand and gravel spits and spit platforms accum<br>longshore drift when sea level was ~25 m lower than too   |
|         | <b>Glaciomarine seascapes</b><br>Acoustically stratified sheets of gravelly sandy mud derived from melting glaciers,<br>draped over underlying terrains. Where exposed at seafloor these sediments have<br>been winnowed by currents, with no subsequent deposition of postglacial mud or sand.<br>Terrain may be imprinted by iceberg furrows and pits many kilometres long and up to<br>4 m deep.  |  | Biological seascapes<br>Areas of sea floor in which a particular biological comm<br>role in determining morphology and texture.   |
| m1      | Mid Wisconsinan residual ridges<br>Morphology: Streamlined ridges up to 7 km long and 30 m above the surrounding<br>seafloor; heavily furrowed by iceberg keels.<br>Texture and mobility: Acoustically stratified on seismic reflection records; surface<br>lag of immobile muddy gravel; high backscatter strength.<br>Biota: Attached fauna.   | H  | Morphology: Linear ridges up to 3 m high and 16 kild<br>Texture and mobility: Sand with accumulations of d<br>thick and located on top of glacial sediments; high bad<br>Biota: Horse mussels ( <i>Modiolus modiolus</i> ) in associa<br>foliacea; Polymastia sp. sponge gardens.<br>These mussel bed bioherms resemble bedforms, as t<br>sand. Formed by accumulation of horse mussel shell  |
|         | Large residual ridges created when Late Wisconsinan ice advancing southwest out of<br>the Bay of Fundy overran thick Mid-Wisconsinan glaciomarine deposits. One of the<br>largest ridges is overlain by Late Wisconsinan morainal deposits and is not mapped<br>under this unit.May be tens of metres thick in places.<br>Late Wisconsinan Glaciomarine sediments  |  | currents, they are aligned along principal current direct<br>Anthropogenic seascapes<br>Much of the seafloor has been impacted by fishing to<br>soon efface the effects. The major anthropogenic effect   |
| m2      | <ul> <li>Morphology: Generally smooth, low-relief seafloor imprinted by iceberg furrows and pits.</li> <li>Texture and mobility: Acoustically stratified glaciomarine mud with dropstones, commonly 5 m thick except up to 20 m in the basin north of Grand Manan; an</li> </ul>   | Ă  | Marine disposal site<br>Morphology: Mounded deposits up to 10 metres thic   |
|         | immobile veneer of muddy sandy gravel at the sea floor; high backscatter strength.<br><b>Biota:</b> Bottom photographs show brittle stars ( <i>Ophiopholis aculeata</i> ), encrusting tunicates and sponges on gravel clasts, polychaete worms, anemones, brachiopods, sea urchins, and sea cucumbers.<br>The sea floor is a 14,000 year-old surface that was mapped by Fader et al. (1986) as the Emerald Silt Formation.   |  | extending to the south.<br><b>Texture and mobility:</b> Mixture of mud, sand, gravel;<br>the disposal site undergoes significant reworking by ti<br>of the dumped material, mainly fine-grained sediment:<br>disposal site and only 16%, mainly coarser material, r<br><b>Biota:</b> Unknown.<br>Formed by repeated disposal of dredge spoil from Sa.<br>In a series of GSC reports commissioned by Environm  |
| m3      | Winnowed Late Wisconsinan Glaciomarine sediments<br>Morphology: Generally smooth, low-relief sea floor.<br>Texture and mobility: Acoustically stratified deposits of sandy mud with<br>dropstones; veneer of boulder-cobble gravel at the sea floor; patches of sand in<br>places; high backscatter strength; immobile except where it being eroded by scour   |  | Pockmarked terrain  |
|         | trougns, as at Minas Passage, or where sand patches are activated by strong tidal<br>currents.<br><b>Biota:</b> Attached fauna.<br><i>This unit differs from the glaciomarine sediments of the outer bay in that iceberg furrows</i><br><i>and pits have been effaced by strong tidal currents, giving a smooth sea floor.</i>   |  | Gas masking on acoustic records   |
|         | <b>Muddy seascapes</b><br>Fine-grained sediment was deposited in postglacial time as a result of erosion of glacial<br>sediments caused by changing sea levels and expanding tidal range. Equivalent to the<br>LaHave Clav formation of Fader et al. (1977).   |  | Irregular ridged terrain in mud areas   |
| M       | Postglacial mud, sandy mud<br>Morphology: Generally a smooth, low-relief sea floor except where fields of<br>pockmarks occur (mainly in Passmanuoddy Bay): also includes several areas of  | Seascape unit b<br>geophysical<br>or conceptua | ooundaries are interpreted from multibeam sonar bathy<br>seismic profile data and are inferred contacts that may<br>al in nature  |
|         | <ul> <li>pocknarks occur (mainly in Passinaduoddy Bay), also includes several areas of irregular seafloor morphology indicative of erosion.</li> <li>Texture and mobility: Mud and sandy mud with weak acoustic stratification except where the stratigraphy is masked by gas; up to 20 m-thick off Saint John; surface layer is active and compact substrate is immobile under present tidal conditions; surface may be heavily bioturbated; surface veneer of muddy sand in some areas; low backscatter strength;</li> <li>Biota: Infauna of polychaete worms and amphipods; basket stars, sponges, anemones attached to scattered clasts, brittle stars, bivalves, and gastropods.</li> </ul> | Camera   |   |
|         | postglacial period, before development of high tidal range, and that sedimentation rates<br>have been low for the past 8000 years. Some areas have been winnowed, resulting in a<br>0.25 m veneer of muddy sand at the sea floor. Seabed photos in some stations show<br>fresh seabed and current ripples. Sediment transport model using observed grain size<br>predicts moderate to strong transport rates under peak tidal current conditions.  |  |   |
|         | <b>Scoured seascapes</b><br>Created by strong tidal flow, and erosion of glaciomarine and other sediments, giving<br>surface lags. Occur on a range of scales, including the Minas Passage Scour Trough<br>(170 m below sea level), the trough in Chignecto Bay (100 m); troughs in the central bay<br>located near obstacles (e.g., Wolf Rock); troughs in narrow channels leading to coastal<br>embayments (e.g., Digby Gut, Passmaquoddy Bay).  |  |   |
|         | Tidal scour troughs<br>Morphology: Troughs incised into smooth sea floors; sharp boundaries; variable  |  |   |

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