

ADVANCING CONSERVATION DECISION-MAKING AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT: USING INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE AND SCIENTIFIC DATA TO INFORM THE CONSERVATION OF MIGRATORY MARINE SPECIES

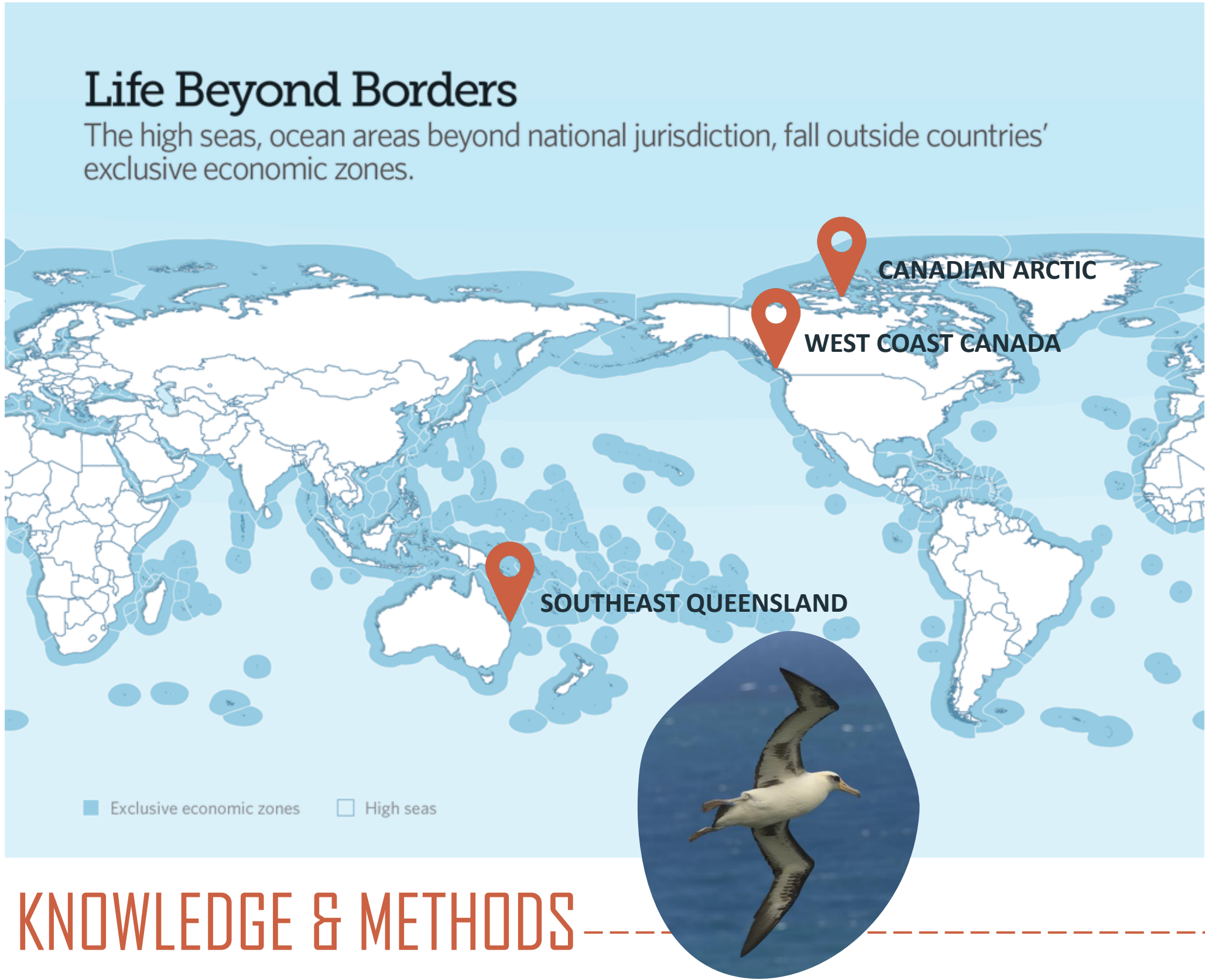
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AIM

The aim of this research is to advance global ocean policy by developing a novel approach and methodology for using Indigenous knowledge alongside scientific data to inform our understanding of migratory species and migratory connectivity in the marine environment with a particular focus on Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ).

GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS & STUDY SITES



KNOWLEDGE & METHODS

- **INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE** – collected through sets of semi-structured interviews, workshops on culturally significant migratory species, and through previously compiled traditional marine use data repositories for the ocean environment held by Indigenous communities.
- **SCIENCE-BASED KNOWLEDGE** – information from the Migratory Connectivity in the Ocean (MiCO) system used to develop migratory species network models from multiple data-types.



SIGNIFICANCE

This research proposes to contribute cross-cultural knowledge through the inclusion of Indigenous knowledge in marine conservation planning in a manner that supports **inherent Indigenous rights and responsibilities** to migratory species; **expands scientific knowledge and baselines** for data poor species; increases the **understanding of marine connectivity** between coastal areas and ABNJs; **decolonizes resource management practices**; and improves **conservation efforts for transboundary culturally significant species**.

MOTIVATION

21% of all migratory marine species are listed as threatened.

(Lascelles et al. 2014)

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

- 1) Identify migratory marine species of cultural significance to Indigenous communities;
- 2) Learn how migratory marine species connect coastal Indigenous communities
- 3) Apply Indigenous knowledge-based resource management practices, innovations, and teachings to the conservation of migratory marine species in coastal areas and ABNJ; and
- 4) Improve baselines for data-poor species and inform knowledge of ocean connectivity using Indigenous knowledge.



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