

# **Risk Assessment Method and Scoping**

*Eastern Shore Islands AOI Advisory Committee Meeting*

September 13, 2018

# *Oceans Act* MPAs: How the Regulations work

- General Prohibition
  - *No one shall disturb, damage, destroy or remove any living marine organisms or any part of its habitat*
- Define “Exceptions”
  - List of activities that will be allowed to continue either throughout the whole MPA or within particular zones of the MPA

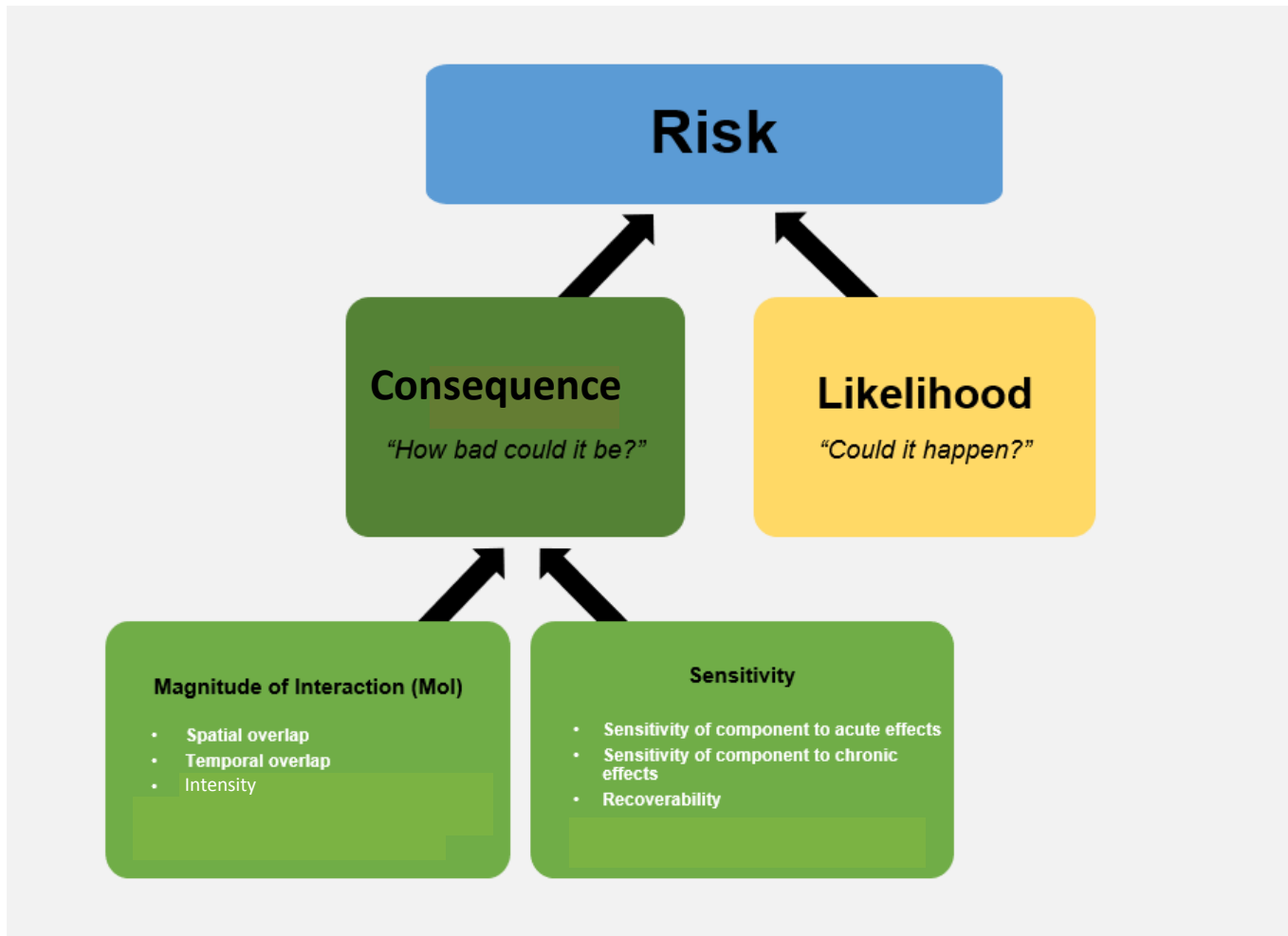
# Allowable Activities

- Exceptions would include lower risk activities that do not compromise the conservation objectives (e.g., traditional fixed-gear fisheries)
- Other activities (e.g., research, commercial tourism) allowed via an activity approval process
- Standard exceptions for safety, security, emergency response

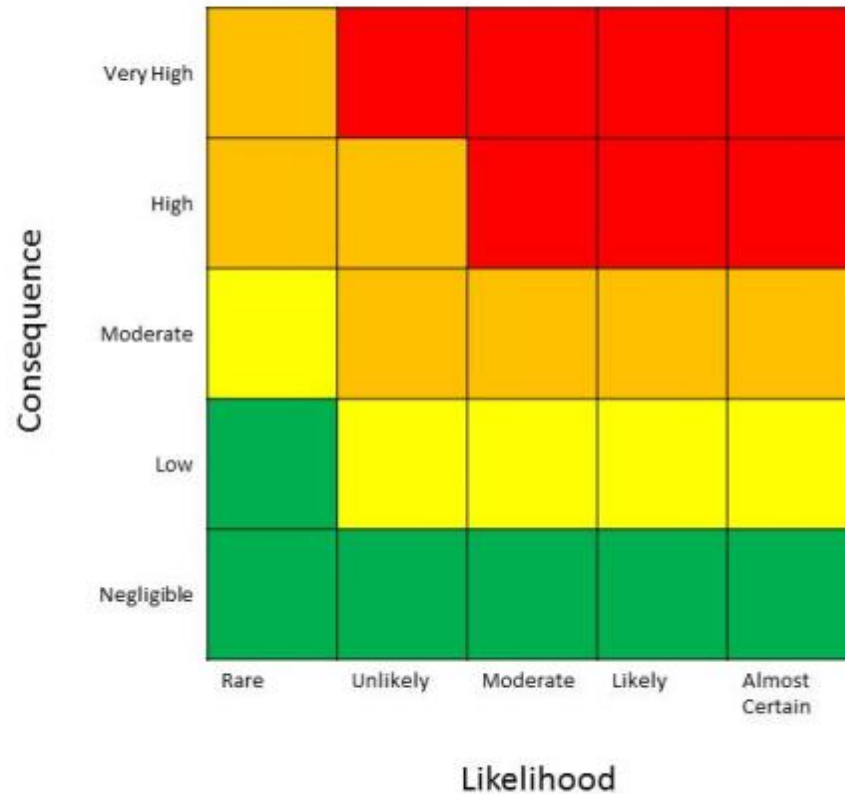


# Ecological Risk Assessment for ESI AOI

- Assess potential risks posed by human activities on conservation priorities for a future MPA



# Ecological Risk Assessment Matrix For MPAs



# Scoping – Conservation Priorities

- Conservation priorities from DFO Science:
  - Macrophytic and macroalgal biogenic habitat
    - Eelgrass and kelp
  - Atlantic salmon
  - Atlantic herring spawning area
  - Juvenile groundfish
    - Atlantic Cod, White Hake and Pollock
  - Foraging areas for seabirds
    - Harlequin Duck
    - Roseate Tern
    - Common Eider

# Scoping – Human Use Activities

- Commercial and bait fisheries:
  - Lobster pot
  - Groundfish longline
  - Groundfish gillnet
  - Groundfish otter trawl
  - Hagfish pot
  - Snow crab pot
  - Herring roe gillnet
  - Mackerel gillnet
  - Small pelagic bait gillnet
  - Large pelagics longline
  - Large pelagics handgear
  - Scallop dredge
- Aquaculture
  - Finfish
  - Shellfish/Marine Plant
- Marine Transportation
  - Vessel transit, spills/discharge, anchoring and mooring
- Tourism and recreational uses (e.g. pleasure boating, hunting from boats): assessed under Marine Transportation

# Next Steps for the Risk Assessment

- Engage appropriate sectors in the scoping of human use activities (e.g. details specific to how activities are conducted on the Eastern Shore)
- Once drafted, circulate sections of the risk assessment to appropriate experts for their input
- Bring draft of risk assessment to the Advisory Committee for feedback and discussion