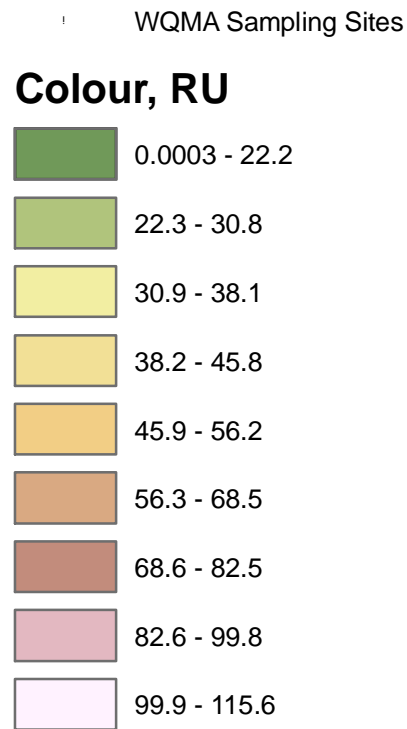
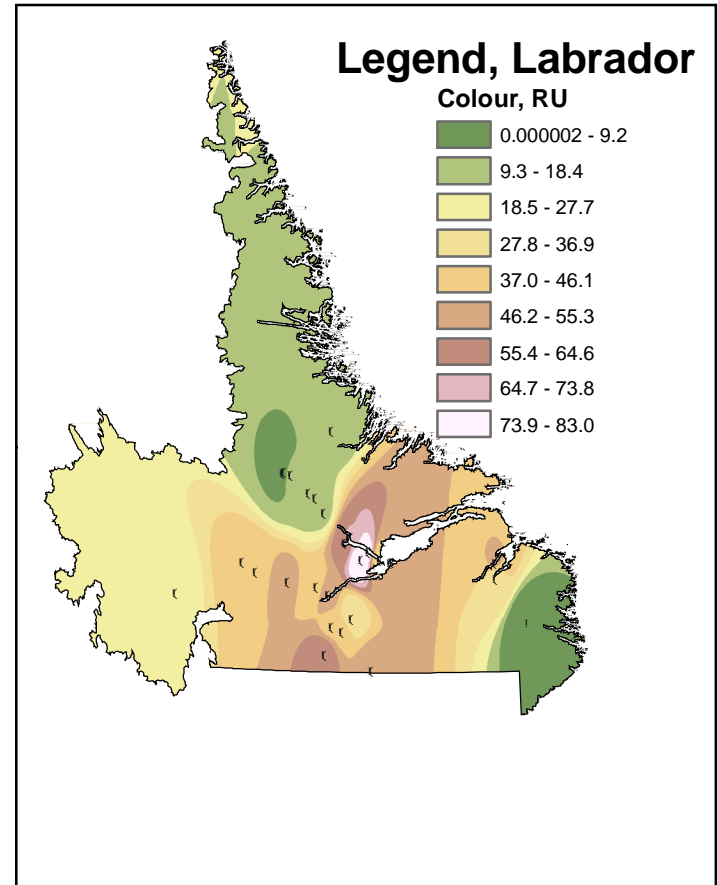
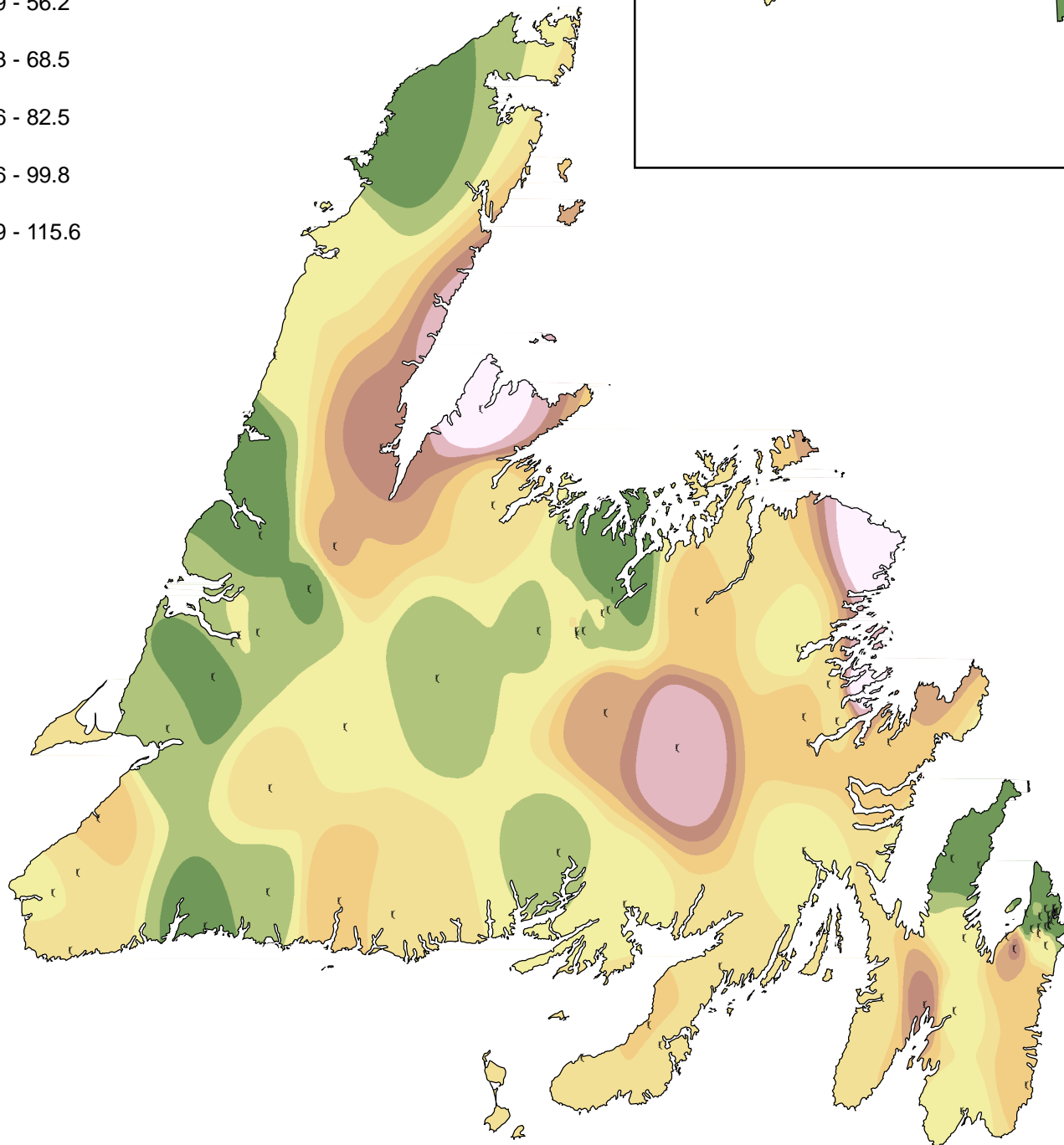
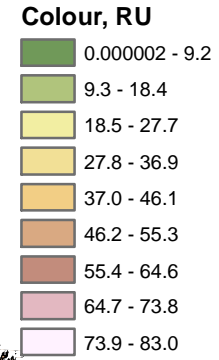


# Colour Contours Based on Canada-Newfoundland Water Quality Monitoring Agreement Data

## 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.

A water body may be perceived as being unclean due to high colour (i.e. brown or green), but this is not necessarily the case. Large amount of bogs and marshes in this province result in a high organic content in most waterbodies, which can cause high colour. In addition, geology can influence water colour (i.e. if there is a high iron or copper content in surrounding bedrock). Industrial waste from pulp and paper production and mining operations can also add substantial colour to water. There is no colour guideline for the Protection of Aquatic Life.