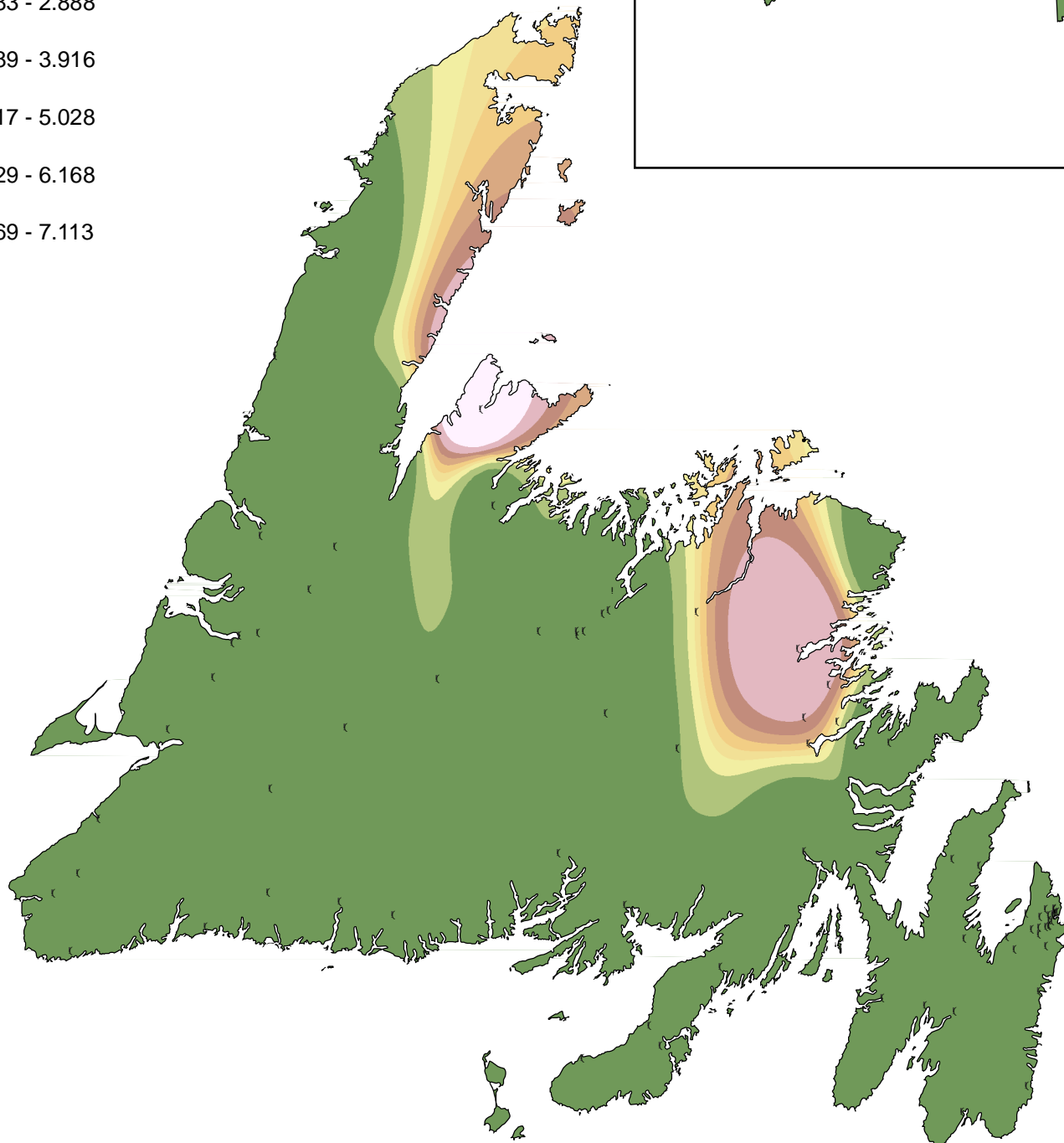
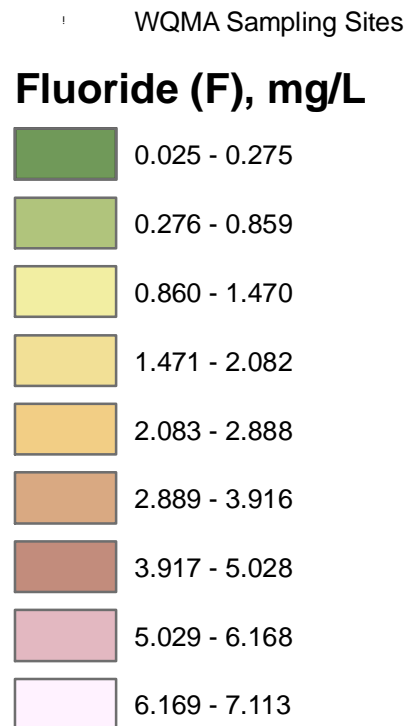
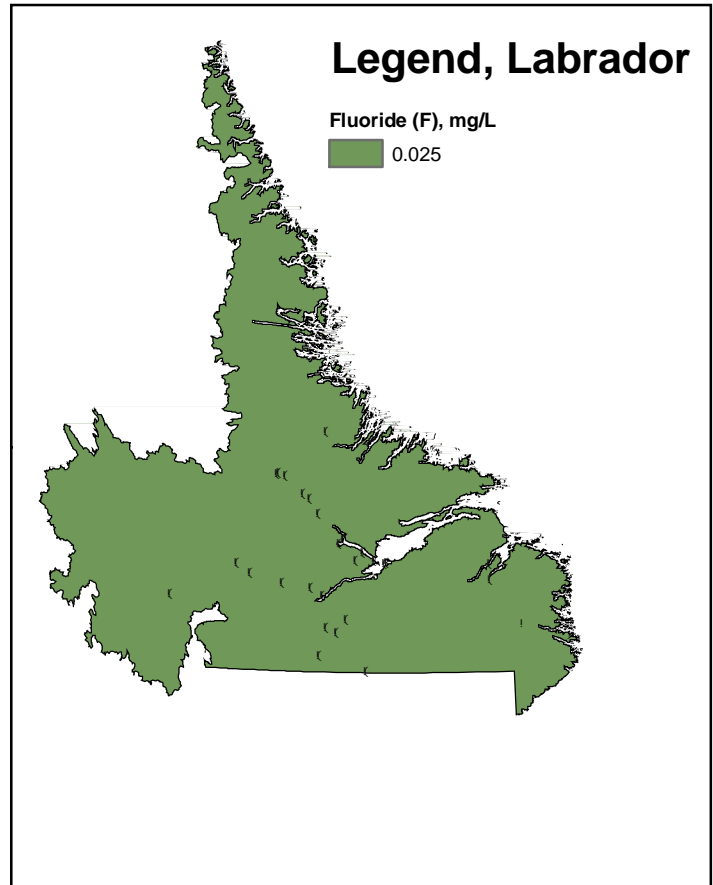
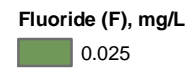


# Fluoride Contours Based on Canada-Newfoundland Water Quality Monitoring Agreement Data

## 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.

Fluoride occurs naturally in the earth's crust where it can be found in rocks, coal and clay. Fluorides can also be released into the air in wind-blown soil. Hydrogen fluorides are a byproduct of combustion processes of industry. Fluorides that are found in air will eventually drop onto land or into water. The fluoride guideline for the Protection of Aquatic Life is 1.2mg/L, which is significantly higher than values found in the waters of Newfoundland and Labrador. Values in Labrador are artificially uniform as only two sites were tested for fluoride concentrations.