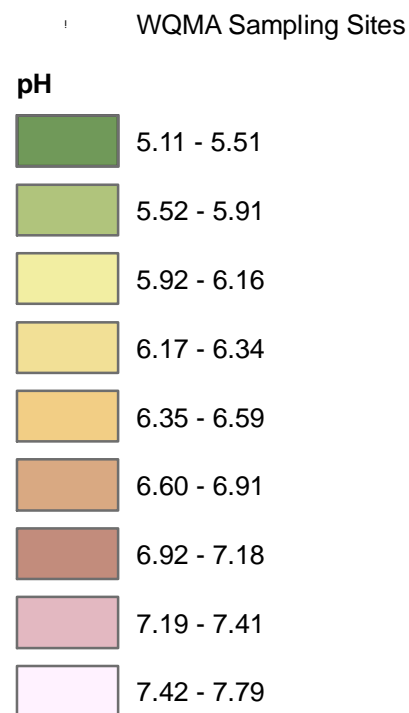
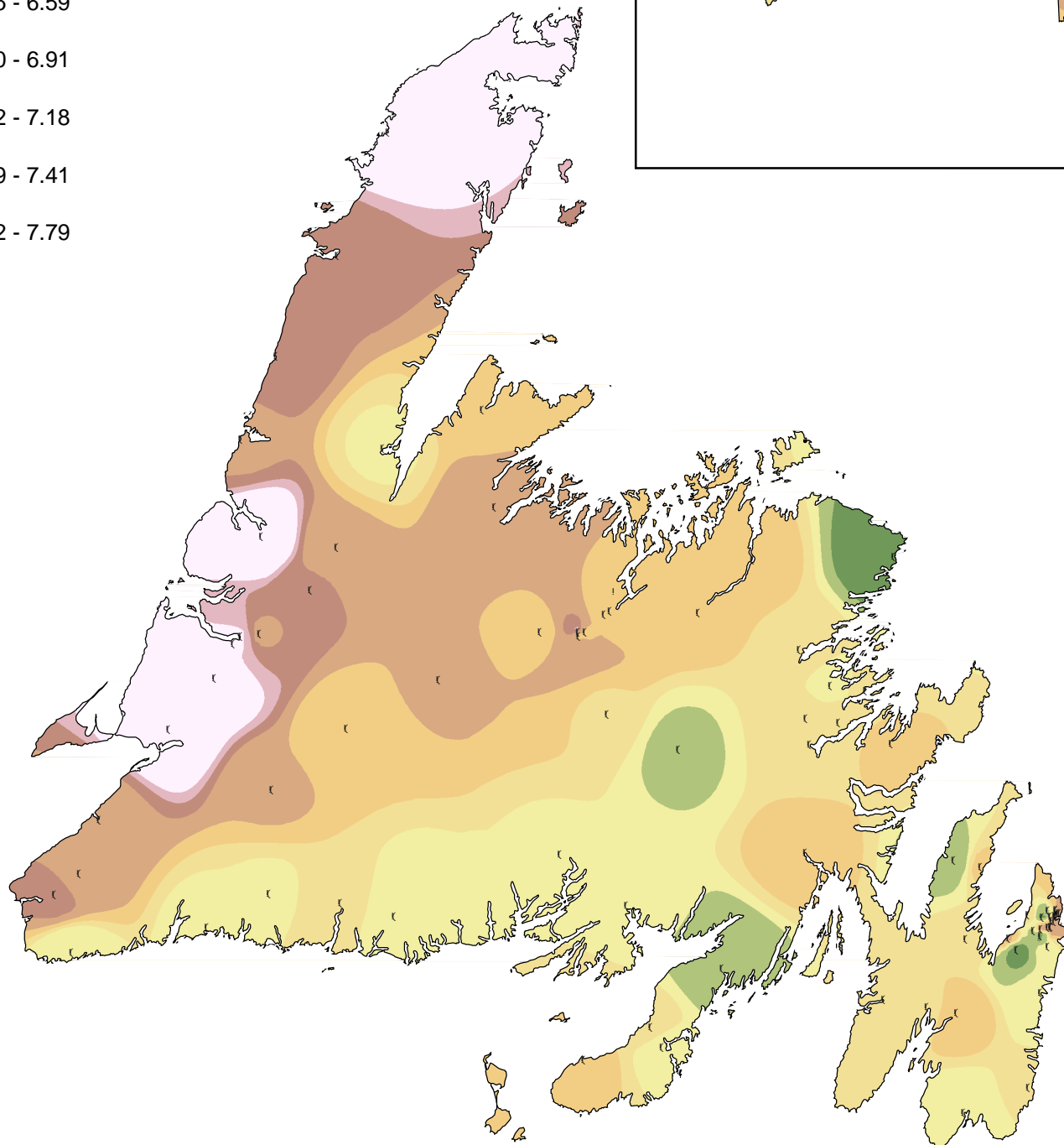
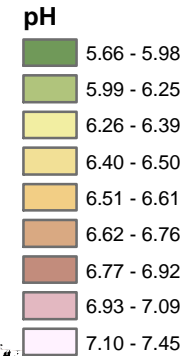


pH Contours Based on Canada-Newfoundland Water Quality Monitoring Agreement Data

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.

pH is a measure of the amount of acidity in the stream. A low pH indicates more acidity. Waters in the province are naturally acidic due to the geology of the area. The pH guideline for the Protection of Aquatic Life falls between 6.5-9. While there are large portions of the island that have a lower pH than the guideline minimum of 6.5, it is the natural condition here, and not a result of human activity.