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Utility of the Strait of Georgia Data Centre as a Marine Spatial Planning Tool

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The Strait of Georgia Data Centre

Pacific Salmon Foundation/ IOF



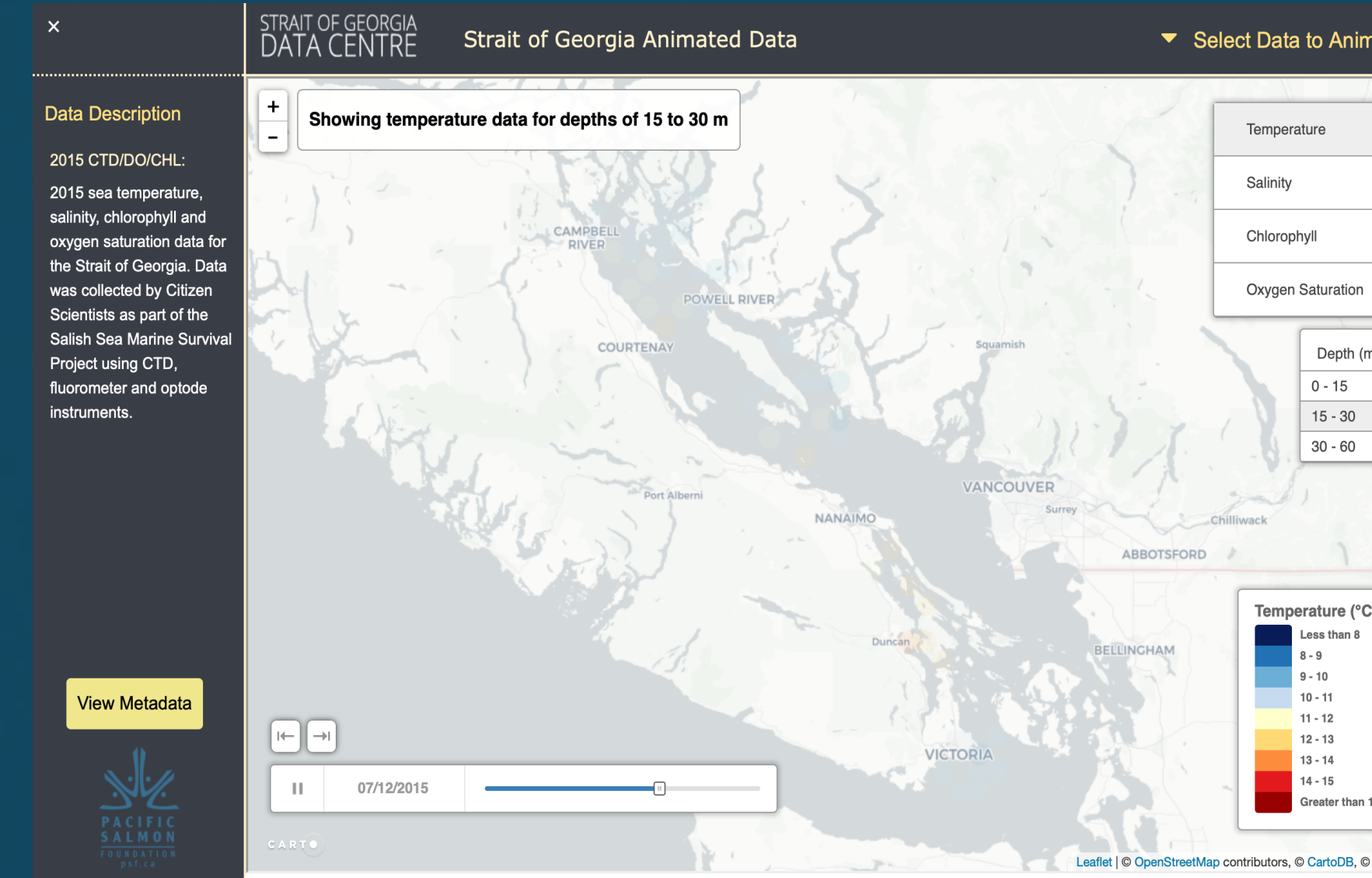
Introduction

The Strait of Georgia Data Centre is a collaborative program between the Pacific Salmon Foundation (PSF) and the Institute for the Oceans and Fisheries (IOF), UBC, to build a secure data archive for marine ecosystem information on the Strait of Georgia.

The Centre is housed at UBC, and funded through the Sitka Foundation and PSF.

The goal of the Data Centre is to serve as a central data repository, to protect and collate marine ecosystem information for the Strait and to allow for data sharing and integration in a comprehensive manner.

Success in developing this system could be invaluable to the restoration of ecosystems and in provision of marine information for communities and decision-makers around the Strait.



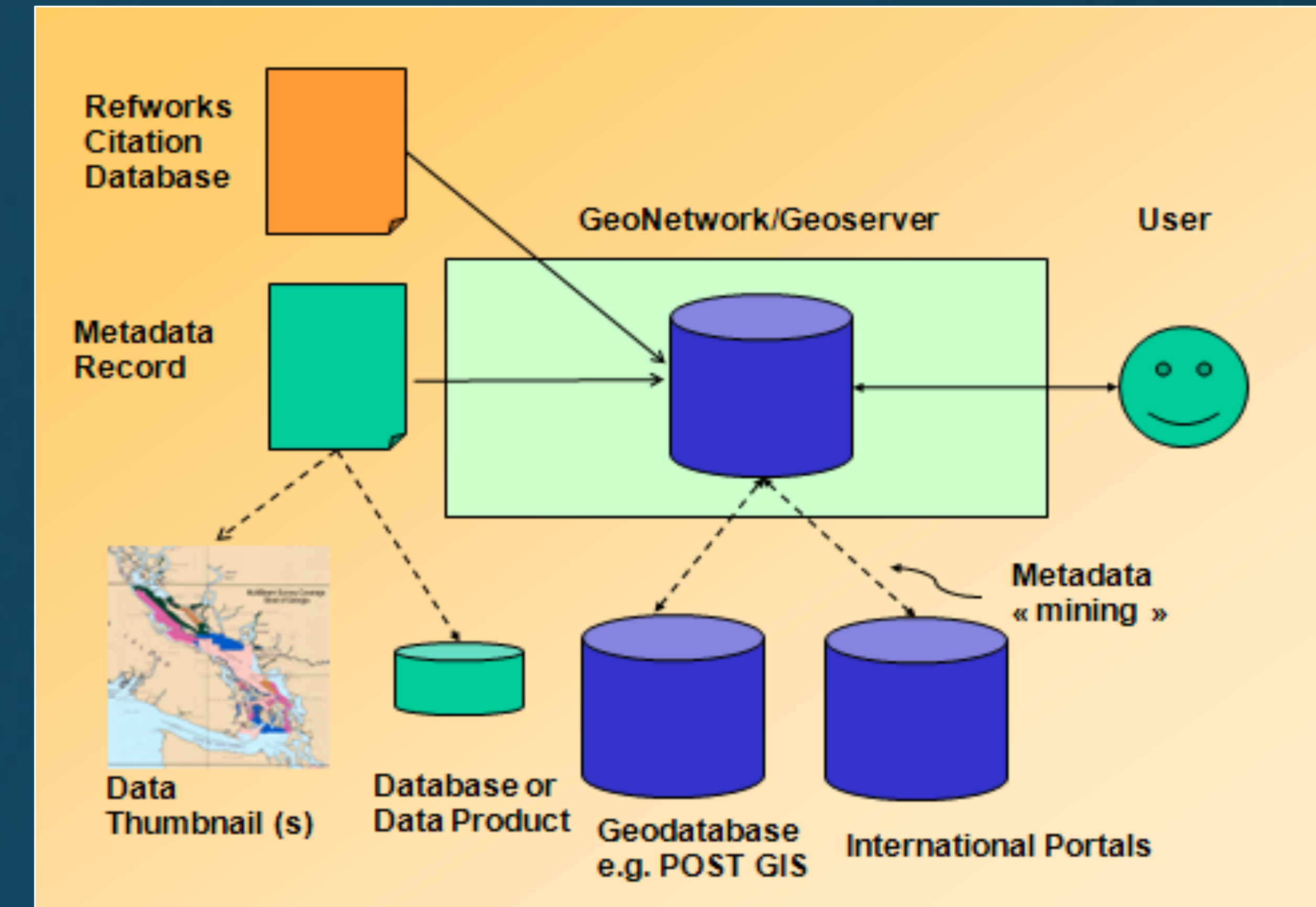
Map Catalogue

Browse Interactive Maps and Story Maps on Marine Topics

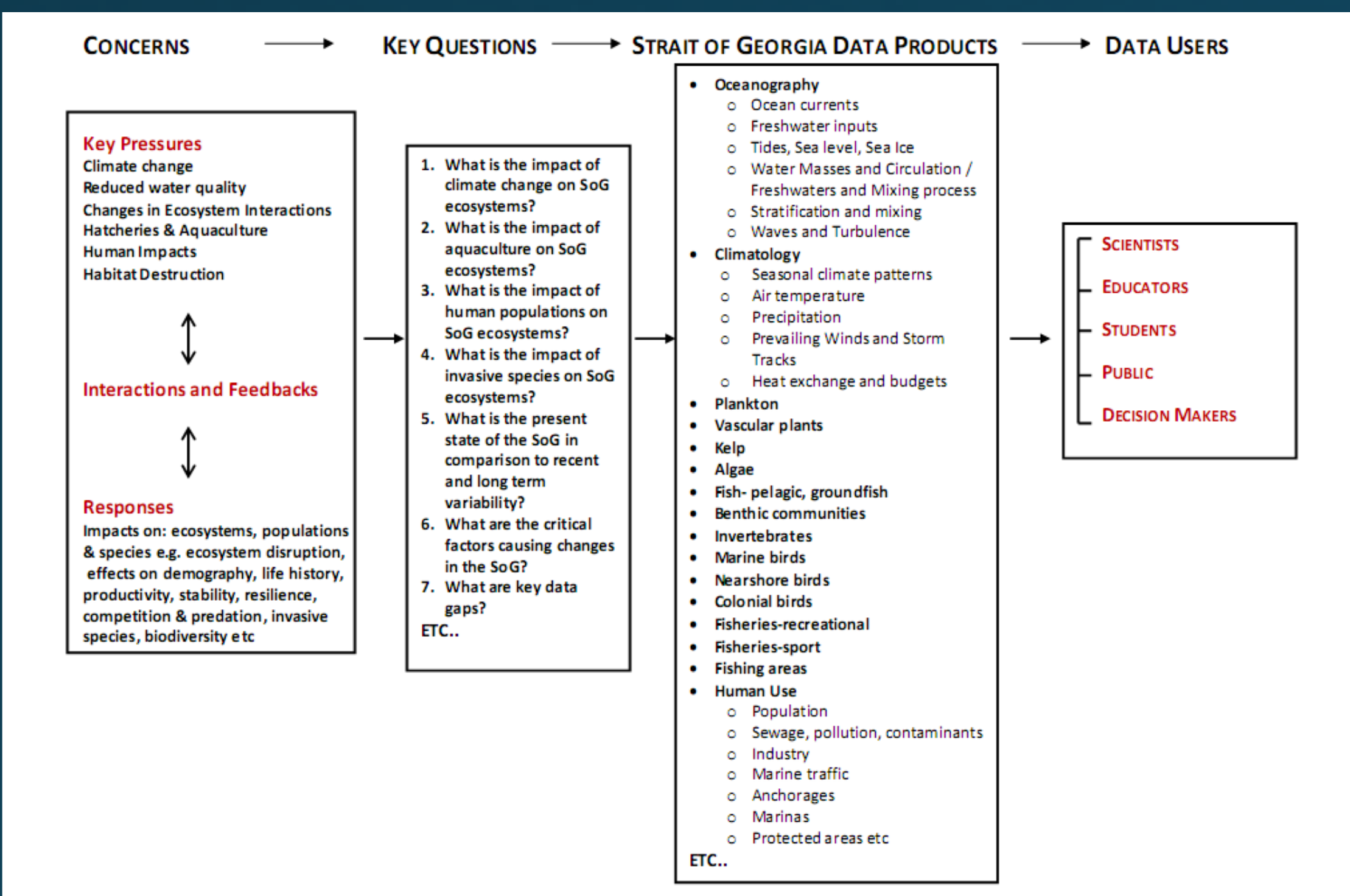
Progress to Date

- Development of Refworks citation database through UBC students
- Development of inventory of researchers working in the Strait of Georgia
- Establishment of the Data Centre at the Institute for the Oceans and Fisheries at UBC
- Hiring of student to digitize documents, archived data sets
- Establishment of connections with the Community Mapping Network, Georgia Strait Alliance, Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Institute of Ocean sciences, Province of BC, Environment Canada, UBC, CRD Victoria, MetroVancouver, Industry (pulp and paper mills etc), Canadian Hydrographic Service etc.
- Identification of data sets and databases and associated metadata (ongoing)

Data Portal System Architecture



Theoretical Basis



Objectives

- To identify and obtain information resources relevant to the Strait of Georgia
- To create a secure archive for the data
- To create a geospatial database that makes documents and data accessible geographically
- To provide a map display that reflects the contents of the database
- To provide a search capability within the database to allow for a semantic search and download of datasets

The key functions of the archive are to:

- preserve & maintain data
- provide open access to the data
- enable data re-processing
- archive improved / reprocessed data sets, but also keep earlier versions
- ensure adequate documentation & metadata

Under Development

The Strait of Georgia Marine Reference Guide

- A marine map with utility for decision making and marine spatial planning
- Allows users to view and compare a myriad of layers on the ecology, oceanography, and human use of the Strait of Georgia
- Added bonus of increasing ease of navigation through Data Centre's holdings by acting as a face for available spatial data
- Data Centre staff will seek to consolidate data from multiple sources covering the same topic in order to better organize marine information
- Strait of Georgia version will join a network of marine reference guides established by partner organizations focusing on Southwest BC

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