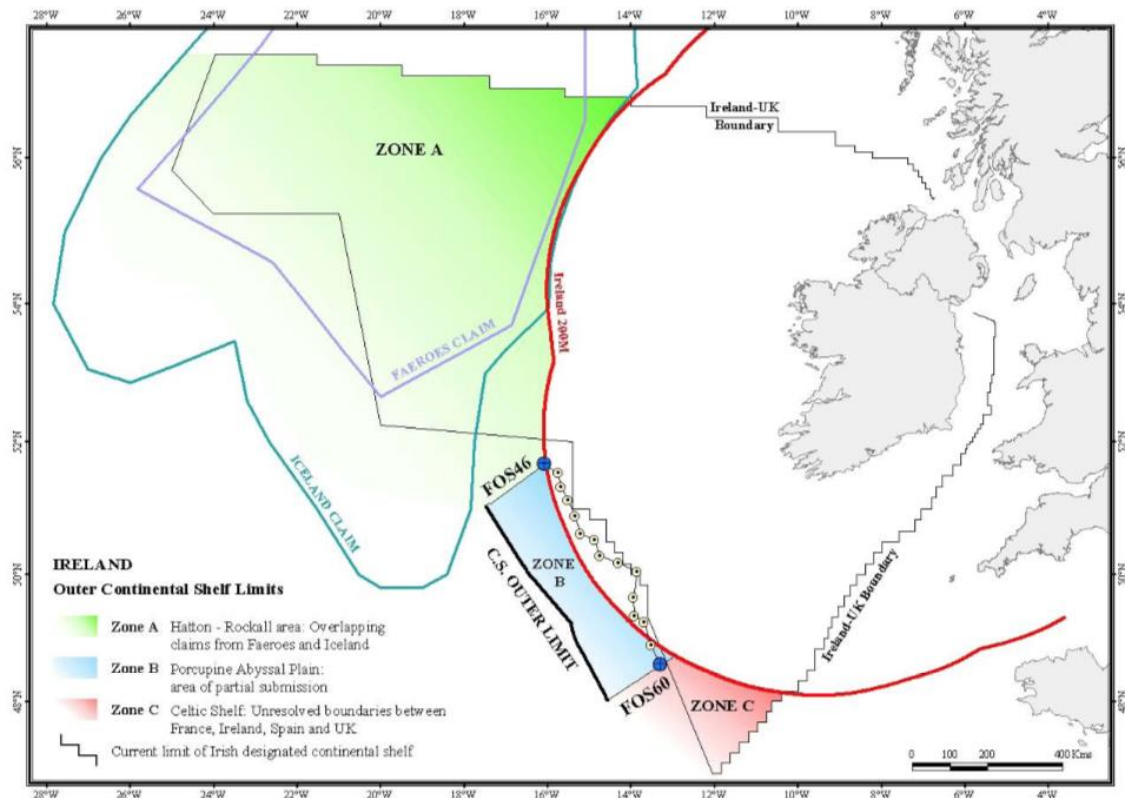


Ireland Recommendations (ECS ID-400)

Porcupine Abyssal Plain

A partial submission (Zone B) was made by Ireland for an area abutting the Porcupine Abyssal Plain. The continental shelf extends south-west across the Porcupine Ridge and Goban Spur which are divided by the Rockall Trough. The slope is segmented, presenting a lower slope comprised of slide and debris flows separated by channels and gullies.



Zonation of Ireland's extended continental shelf showing overlapping claims and unresolved maritime boundaries with neighbouring States. Zone B is the subject of the partial submission (from Irish Executive Summary).

Fifteen FOS points were submitted by the state. Six of these points were critical and six were supporting. The locations of each critical point were explained in detail in the recommendations (pages 13-23) including the gradient of the slope at each point. All supporting points were accepted. Critical point FOS-53 was not accepted which was located off the south-eastern tip of the Porcupine Ridge near the mouth of the Rockall Trough. The subcommission concluded that the location of this point was at the foot of a feature that was a seafloor high rather than a part of the lower continental slope.

Two sediment thickness points extended past the 200M limit in the Northern region of the submission. Initially the subcommission felt these points did not meet the one percent criterion but after slight alterations in location the points were accepted. This revision was so small that the decimal degree coordinates only changed in the 1/1000ths place. The FOS+60M formula was used in all but the Northern region which used the sediment

thickness formula. All FOS+60M points were accepted by the subcommission. The 350M constraint forms the outer constraint line in this region. Formula lines do not extend past either constraint line.