GOM Spawning Groundfish Closures

Identification

CITATION
CITATION INFORMATION
ORIGINATOR  NOAA Fisheries Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office
PUBLICATION DATE  2018-04-09
TITLE  GOM Spawning Groundfish Closures
PUBLICATION INFORMATION
PUBLICATION PLACE  Gloucester, MA
PUBLISHER  NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) - Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office (GARFO)
ONLINE LINKAGE  http://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/gis
ONLINE LINKAGE  http://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/

DESCRIPTION
ABSTRACT
This dataset depicts the boundaries of the GOM Spawning Groundfish Closures in ESRI shapefile format for the NOAA Fisheries Service's Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office (GARFO). This shapefile includes boundaries for the following Regulated Areas:
- Gulf of Maine Cod Spawning Protection Area
- Winter Massachusetts Bay Spawning Protection Area
- Spring Massachusetts Bay Spawning Protection Area

Because GIS projection and topology functions can change or generalize coordinates, these GIS files are considered to be approximate representations and are NOT an OFFICIAL record for the exact regulated area boundaries. For information on the official legal definition refer to the Use Constraints metadata section.

PURPOSE
Beginning in 2010 and in response to mounting requests for digital depictions of NMFS Regulated Areas in Northeast and Mid-Atlantic Waters (Regulated Areas), the NMFS Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office (GARFO) Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Committee launched a project to standardize the development, publication and regular updating of GIS files depicting Regulated Area boundaries. This dataset is a product of that initiative.

This dataset was created to depict the boundaries of NMFS Regulated Areas in Northeast and Mid-Atlantic Waters (Regulated Areas) only. For information on the proper use of the dataset refer to the Use Constraints metadata section.

TIME PERIOD OF CONTENT
TIME PERIOD INFORMATION
CALENDAR DATE  2018-04-09
CURRENTNESS REFERENCE
Publication date
STATUS  Complete
MAINTENANCE AND UPDATE FREQUENCY  As needed

SPATIAL DOMAIN
BOUNDING COORDINATES
WEST BOUNDING COORDINATE  -80
EAST BOUNDING COORDINATE  -64
NORTH BOUNDING COORDINATE  46
SOUTH BOUNDING COORDINATE  32
ACCESS CONSTRAINTS
None.

USE CONSTRAINTS
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This dataset was created to depict the boundaries of NMFS Regulated Areas in Northeast and Mid-Atlantic Waters (Regulated Areas) only. The dataset should not be used for a legal definition. The dataset should not be used to infer information regarding the existence or details of other marine features or resources, including, but not limited to, navigable waters, coastlines, bathymetry, submerged features, or man-made structures. Users assume responsibility for determining the appropriate use of this dataset.

*** Not the Legal Definition *** This Geographic Information System (GIS) dataset is not the legal definition of the Regulated Area. The description published in the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations is the only legal definition. This dataset and metadata document provide a broad overview of a subset of applicable fishing regulations, restrictions and requirements; it is not a substitute for the actual regulations. Users are encouraged to read the applicable regulations in conjunction with use of this dataset.

*** Temporal Considerations *** Regulated Area boundary definitions are subject to change or modification. Published datasets may represent historic, current, or future Regulated Areas. When changes to fishing regulations affect this dataset, it will be archived and replaced by an updated version as soon as feasible. Approved Regulated Area boundaries may also be published prior to their effective date. It is the user’s responsibility to ensure the applicable Regulated Area boundaries are being used.

*** Shorelines/Base Layers *** The accuracy of this dataset is dependent upon the accuracy and resolution of the datasets (e.g., shoreline, bathymetry, shared administrative boundaries) used in the creation process. Source datasets used are specified in the metadata. These data sources were selected for their suitability to a broad audience, and may not be suitable for specific uses requiring higher-resolution information.
Coastlines change. Unless otherwise noted, where the NOAA Medium Resolution Shoreline is used, assume the regulatory boundary reaches the most current coastline delineation available.

**Point of Contact**

**Contact Information**

**Primary Contact Person** Doug Potts

**Contact Organization** NOAA Fisheries Service Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office, Sustainable Fisheries Division

**Contact Position** GIS Committee Sustainable Fisheries Representative

**Address**

**Address Type** mailing and physical address

**Address** 55 Great Republic Drive

**City** Gloucester

**State or Province** MA

**Postal Code** 01930

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**Contact Electronic Email Address** doug.potts@noaa.gov

**Contact Instructions**

http://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/

**Security Information**

**Security Classification System** FIPS Pub 199

**Security Classification** public

**Security Handling Description** Standard Technical Controls

**Data Quality**

**Logical Consistency Report**

Check Geometry test has been performed in ArcGIS.

**Completeness Report**

Features represented are valid. No geometry problems were detected.

**Positional Accuracy**

**Horizontal Positional Accuracy**

**Horizontal Positional Accuracy Report**

Data were collected using methods that are accurate to within 2-5 meters (EPA National Geospatial Data Policy [NGDP] Accuracy Tier 2). For more information, please see EPA's NGDP at http://epa.gov/geospatial/policies.html

**Lineage**

**Source Information**

**Source Citation**

**Citation Information**

**Originator** Department of Commerce (DOC), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)

**Publication Date** 2018-04-09

**Title**

Electronic Code of Federal Regulations

**Edition** Special Edition of the Federal Register

**Geospatial Data Presentation Form** document

**Publication Information**

**Publication Place** Washington, DC

**Publisher** Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Administration and the Government Printing Office

Other Citation Details

The Electronic Code of Federal Regulations (e-CFR) is a current, daily updated version of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). It is not an official legal edition of the CFR. The e-CFR is an
unofficial editorial compilation of CFR material and Federal Register amendments. Because the e-CFR is updated daily, the PUBLICATION DATE identified above refers to “e-CFR Data is current as of” date posted on the e-CFR website at the time the spatial definition was accessed online.

ONLINE LINKAGE http://www.ecfr.gov

TYPE OF SOURCE MEDIA online
SOURCE TIME PERIOD OF CONTENT
TIME PERIOD INFORMATION SINGLE DATE/TIME
CALENDAR DATE 2018-04-09
SOURCE CURRENTNESS REFERENCE publication date
SOURCE CITATION ABBREVIATION e-CFR

Spatial definitions for Regulated Area boundaries.

ORIGINATOR Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement, Mapping and Boundary Branch
PUBLICATION DATE 2010-10-05
TITLE Atlantic NAD83 Submerged Lands Act Boundary
GEOSPATIAL DATA PRESENTATION FORM vector digital data
SERIES INFORMATION SERIES NAME Digital Offshore Cadastre ISSUE IDENTIFICATION current
PUBLICATION INFORMATION PUBLICATION PLACE Herndon, Virginia
PUBLISHER Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement, Mapping and Boundary Branch
ONLINE LINKAGE http://www.boemre.gov/offshore/mapping/atlantic.htm

LARGER WORK CITATION
ORIGINATOR Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement, Mapping and Boundary Branch
PUBLICATION DATE 2010-10-05
TITLE BOEMRE Offshore Cadastral Data
GEOSPATIAL DATA PRESENTATION FORM map
PUBLICATION INFORMATION PUBLICATION PLACE Herndon, Virginia
PUBLISHER Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement, Mapping and Boundary Branch

TYPE OF SOURCE MEDIA digital download (ESRI shapefile)
SOURCE TIME PERIOD OF CONTENT TIME PERIOD INFORMATION RANGE OF DATES/TIMES BEGINNING DATE 2005 ENDING DATE 2008
SOURCE CURRENTNESS REFERENCE publication date
SOURCE CITATION ABBREVIATION SLA
SOURCE CONTRIBUTION
This source marine boundary was used to generate template shapefiles, which were copied and used when Regulatory Area boundaries followed portions of the Submerged Lands Act boundary (a.k.a. 3 nautical mile line; a.k.a. Fed-State boundary).

**SOURCE INFORMATION**
**SOURCE CITATION**
**CITATION INFORMATION**
**ORIGINATOR** Department of Commerce (DOC), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Ocean Service (NOS), Office of Coast Survey (OCS)
**PUBLICATION DATE** 2011-05-01
**TITLE** USMaritimeLimitsNBoundaries
**EDITION** 1
**GEOSPATIAL DATA PRESENTATION FORM** vector digital data
**PUBLICATION INFORMATION**
**PUBLICATION PLACE** Silver Spring, MD
**PUBLISHER** NOAA's Ocean Service, Office of Coast Survey (OCS)
**ONLINE LINKAGE** http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/csdl/mbound.htm

**SOURCE CONTRIBUTION**
This source marine boundary was used to generate template shapefiles, which were copied and used when Regulatory Area boundaries followed portions of the US Exclusive Economic Zone.

**SOURCE INFORMATION**
**SOURCE CITATION**
**CITATION INFORMATION**
**ORIGINATOR** Department of Commerce (DOC), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Ocean Service (NOS), Special Projects (SP)
**PUBLICATION DATE** 1998
**TITLE** NOAA's Medium Resolution Digital Vector Shoreline (1998) for the Contiguous United States
**GEOSPATIAL DATA PRESENTATION FORM** vector digital data
**PUBLICATION INFORMATION**
**PUBLICATION PLACE** Silver Spring, MD
**PUBLISHER** NOAA's Ocean Service, Special Projects (SP)
**ONLINE LINKAGE** http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/mgg/shorelines/noaamrdvs.html

**SOURCE SCALE DENOMINATOR** 70000
**TYPE OF SOURCE MEDIA** digital download (ESRI shapefile)
**SOURCE TIME PERIOD OF CONTENT**
**TIME PERIOD INFORMATION**
**RANGE OF DATES/TIMES**
**BEGINNING DATE** 1988
**ENDING DATE** 1992
**SOURCE CURRENTNESS REFERENCE** publication date
**SOURCE CITATION ABBREVIATION** NOAA Medium Resolution Shoreline
**SOURCE CONTRIBUTION**
This source shoreline was used to generate template shapefiles, which were copied and used when Regulatory Area boundaries followed portions of the US Atlantic coastline. This data source
was selected for its suitability to a broad audience, and may not be suitable for specific uses requiring higher-resolution information. Coastlines change. Unless otherwise noted, where the NOAA Medium Resolution Shoreline is used, assume the regulatory boundary reaches the most current coastline delineation available.

**PROCESS STEP**

**PROCESS DESCRIPTION**

[Template Generation] Many NMFS Regulated Areas in Northeast and Mid-Atlantic Waters (Regulated Areas) share boundaries that are partially coincident with any combination of the following: 1) the U.S. Atlantic coastline; 2) the Submerged Lands Act boundary; 3) the U.S.-Canada Maritime Boundary in the Gulf of Maine; 4) the outward extent of the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone (a.k.a. the "200-nautical mile line"). To standardize Regulated Area features sharing these boundaries, published shapefiles of the shared administrative boundaries were obtained from the authoritative agencies. A shoreline was selected that was suitable for general mapping purposes, freely and publicly available, of medium-resolution, and covering the extent of the U.S.. When necessary, the boundaries were transformed to NAD83. A series of template polygon shapefiles were then generated, using these authoritative boundaries as the outward extents of the polygon. All templates were generated in NAD83 geographic coordinate system. The templates created are: 1) Coast-to-EEZ: bounded by the coastline, the U.S.-Canada Maritime Boundary, the U.S. EEZ, and 81°W longitude off the southern extent of Florida (an arbitrary cut-off for the Atlantic); 2) Coast-to-SLA: bounded by the coastline, the U.S.-Canada Maritime Boundary, the Submerged Lands Act boundary, and 81°W longitude off the southern extent of Florida; 3) SLA-to-EEZ: bounded by the Submerged Lands Act boundary, the U.S.-Canada Maritime Boundary, the U.S. EEZ, and 81°W longitude off the southern extent of Florida. These templates were subsequently copied and edited, as needed by the Regulated Area spatial definitions.

**PROCESS DATE** 2013

**PROCESS STEP**

**PROCESS DESCRIPTION**

[Get Definition Text] The current legal spatial definition for the Regulated Area was copied from the e-CFR website.

**PROCESS DATE** 2018

**PROCESS STEP**

**PROCESS DESCRIPTION**

[Features From Templates] The Coast-to-EEZ and SLA-to-EEZ templates shapefile were copied. If necessary, the coordinates of the Regulated Area definition were converted to Decimal Degrees. To generate the Regulated Area boundary in ArcGIS, the template polygon was split by connecting these points in the order specified in the spatial definition. When the spatial definition specified that points were connected by following a straight line, rhumb lines were constructed. As an exception, points intended to fall along the U.S.-Canada Maritime Boundary were connected by following the geodesic line that legally defines that international boundary. When the spatial definition specified that points were connected by following the Coastline or SLA the coinciding outward extent of the template polygon was used. After all points were appropriately connected, any portions of the template outside the defined Regulated Area were discarded. When multiple Regulated Areas are a part of a larger grouping of related Regulated Areas, these steps were repeated to generate a unique feature for each Regulated Area and the features were then combined into a single shapefile. The file was projected to NAD83 Mercator Projection, and the boundaries were densified with consecutive vertices spaced no more than 10 nautical miles apart to preserve rhumb line paths in other coordinate systems. The file was projected back to the un-projected NAD83 coordinate system.

**PROCESS DATE** 2018
The standardized attribute schema was applied to the shapefile, and the fields were defined.

**PROCESS DATE** 2018

**PROCESS STEP**
**PROCESS DESCRIPTION**
[Policy Review] The Regulated Area spatial definition text, shapefile geometry and attribute values were reviewed with policy staff to verify that the shapefile accurately depicted and described the intended boundaries.

**PROCESS DATE** 2018

**PROCESS STEP**
**PROCESS DESCRIPTION**
[Check Geometry] The ESRI ArcGIS Check Geometry tool was run on the shapefile to identify any geometry problems. If problems were encountered, they were reviewed and corrected.

**PROCESS DATE** 2018

**PROCESS STEP**
**PROCESS DESCRIPTION**
[Metadata] A GARFO Regulated Area shapefile metadata template was developed using the EPA Metadata Editor v3.2. This template was applied and customized to reflect the specific characteristics of the given shapefile. The metadata was validated for FGDC CSDGM compliance.

**PROCESS DATE** 2018

**PROCESS STEP**
**PROCESS DESCRIPTION**
[Final Review] The shapefile was reviewed by members of the GARFO GIS Committee, policy experts from the GARFO Division responsible for the Regulated Area, and General Counsel, according to the GARFO GIS Data Distribution Policy.

**PROCESS DATE** 2018

**PROCESS STEP**
**PROCESS DESCRIPTION**
[Publication] The shapefile, with accompanying metadata, was uploaded for public download on the NOAA NMFS GARFO GIS website.

**PROCESS DATE** 2018-04-09

**Spatial Reference**

**HORIZONTAL COORDINATE SYSTEM DEFINITION**
**GEOGRAPHIC**

**LATITUDE RESOLUTION** 0.000001
**LONGITUDE RESOLUTION** 0.000001

**GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATE UNITS** Decimal degrees

**GEODETIC MODEL**

**HORIZONTAL DATUM NAME** North American Datum of 1983
**ELLIPSOID NAME** Geodetic Reference System 1980
**SEMI-MAJOR AXIS** 6378137.000000
**DENOMINATOR OF FLATTENING RATIO** 298.257222

**Entities and Attributes**

**DETAILED DESCRIPTION**
**ENTITY TYPE**
**ENTITY TYPE LABEL** Regulated Area
**ENTITY TYPE DEFINITION**
NMFS Regulated Areas in Northeast and Mid-Atlantic Waters

**Entity Attributes**

- **ATTRIBUTE**
  - **ATTRIBUTE LABEL** FID
  - **ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION** Internal feature number
  - **ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION SOURCE** ESRI
  - **ATTRIBUTE DOMAIN VALUES** Unrepresentable Domain

- **ATTRIBUTE**
  - **ATTRIBUTE LABEL** Shape
  - **ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION** Feature geometry
  - **ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION SOURCE** ESRI
  - **ATTRIBUTE DOMAIN VALUES** Unrepresentable Domain

- **ATTRIBUTE**
  - **ATTRIBUTE LABEL** AREANAME
  - **ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION** Official name of the Regulated Area, usually the area name as printed in the CFR
  - **ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION SOURCE** GARFO
  - **ATTRIBUTE DOMAIN VALUES** Unrepresentable Domain

- **ATTRIBUTE**
  - **ATTRIBUTE LABEL** COMMNAME
  - **ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION** Most commonly used name. May be identical to AREANAME, an abbreviation of AREANAME, or a different name altogether.
  - **ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION SOURCE** GARFO
  - **ATTRIBUTE DOMAIN VALUES** Unrepresentable Domain

**Overview Description**

Entity Attributes provide reference information for the Regulated Areas represented. Attributes provide citations for the legal spatial definition and originating documents, and currentness information for each area.

**Distribution Information**

**Distributor**

**Contact Information**

**Contact Person** Dean-Lorenz Szumylo

**Contact Organization** NOAA Fisheries Service Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office, GIS Committee

**Contact Position** GIS Specialist
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