

# Groundfish Closure Areas

## Identification ►

### CITATION

#### CITATION INFORMATION

ORIGINATOR NOAA Fisheries Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office

PUBLICATION DATE 2018-04-09

#### TITLE

Groundfish Closure Areas

#### 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 Groundfish Closure Areas 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:

- Cashes Ledge Closure Area
- Western Gulf of Maine Closure Area
- Closed Area II Closure 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

#### SINGLE DATE/TIME

CALENDAR DATE 2018-04-09

#### CURRENTNESS REFERENCE

Publication date

#### STATUS

PROGRESS 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

KEYWORDS

THEME

THEME KEYWORD THESAURUS ISO 19115 Topic Category

THEME KEYWORD boundaries

THEME KEYWORD environment

THEME KEYWORD location

THEME KEYWORD oceans

THEME KEYWORD planningCadastre

THEME

THEME KEYWORD THESAURUS EPA GIS Keyword Thesaurus

THEME KEYWORD Biology

THEME KEYWORD Compliance

THEME KEYWORD Conservation

THEME KEYWORD Ecology

THEME KEYWORD Ecosystem

THEME KEYWORD Environment

THEME KEYWORD Human

THEME KEYWORD Management

THEME KEYWORD Marine

THEME KEYWORD Monitoring

THEME KEYWORD Natural Resources

THEME KEYWORD Permits

THEME KEYWORD Regulatory

THEME KEYWORD Water

THEME

THEME KEYWORD THESAURUS GARFO Keywords

THEME KEYWORD Atlantic

THEME KEYWORD EEZ

THEME KEYWORD Exclusive Economic Zone

THEME KEYWORD GARFO

THEME KEYWORD Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office

THEME KEYWORD Groundfish

THEME KEYWORD Magnuson-Stevens Act

THEME KEYWORD MSA

THEME KEYWORD National Marine Fisheries Service

THEME KEYWORD National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

THEME KEYWORD NEFMC

THEME KEYWORD New England Fishery Management Council

THEME KEYWORD NMFS

THEME KEYWORD NOAA

THEME KEYWORD Northeast Multispecies

THEME KEYWORD US EEZ

PLACE

PLACE KEYWORD THESAURUS None

PLACE KEYWORD Atlantic Ocean

PLACE KEYWORD Georges Bank

PLACE KEYWORD Greater Atlantic Region

PLACE KEYWORD Gulf of Maine

PLACE KEYWORD New England

PLACE KEYWORD Southern New England

PLACE KEYWORD United States

PLACE KEYWORD US EEZ

PLACE KEYWORD US Exclusive Economic Zone

#### ACCESS CONSTRAINTS

None.

#### USE CONSTRAINTS

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NOAA Fisheries Service. NMFS Regulated Areas in Northeast and Mid-Atlantic Waters. {SHAPEFILE TITLE} [Shapefile]. Gloucester, MA: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office (GARFO) [producer] {SHAPEFILE PUBLICATION DATE}.

<http://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/gis>.

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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**

**CONTACT PERSON 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

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**CONTACT INSTRUCTIONS**

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**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

**SOURCE CONTRIBUTION**

Spatial definitions for Regulated Area boundaries.

**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>

**TYPE OF SOURCE MEDIA** digital download (ESRI shapefile)

**SOURCE TIME PERIOD OF CONTENT**

**TIME PERIOD INFORMATION**

**SINGLE DATE/TIME**

**CALENDAR DATE** 2011-05-01

**SOURCE CURRENTNESS REFERENCE**

**publication date**

**SOURCE CITATION ABBREVIATION**

US EEZ

**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.

**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 template shapefile was 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 EEZ 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

PROCESS STEP

PROCESS DESCRIPTION

[Add Attributes] 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

#### GEODETTIC 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 TYPE DEFINITION SOURCE GARFO

#### ATTRIBUTE

ATTRIBUTE LABEL FID

##### ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION

Internal feature number

ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION SOURCE ESRI

##### ATTRIBUTE DOMAIN VALUES

##### UNREPRESENTABLE DOMAIN

System-generated internal feature number

#### ATTRIBUTE

ATTRIBUTE LABEL Shape

##### ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION

Feature geometry

ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION SOURCE ESRI

##### ATTRIBUTE DOMAIN VALUES

##### UNREPRESENTABLE DOMAIN

Coordinate geometry

#### 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

Free text name

#### 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

Free text name

#### OVERVIEW DESCRIPTION

#### ENTITY AND ATTRIBUTE OVERVIEW

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.

#### ENTITY AND ATTRIBUTE DETAIL CITATION

FILEDS\_Map.xlsx fully describes the Attribute Schema used for regulated area GIS data sets. To access this document, see the Contact Information.

## Distribution Information ►

#### DISTRIBUTOR

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

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RESOURCE DESCRIPTION Downloadable Data

#### DISTRIBUTION LIABILITY

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## Metadata Reference ►

METADATA DATE 2018-04-09

METADATA FUTURE REVIEW DATE 2022-04-09

METADATA CONTACT

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METADATA STANDARD NAME FGDC Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata

METADATA STANDARD VERSION FGDC-STD-001-1998