Habitat Management Areas

**Identification**

**CITATION**
NOAA Fisheries Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office

**PUBLICATION DATE** 2018-04-09

**TITLE**
Habitat Management 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
- http://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/

**DESCRIPTION**

**ABSTRACT**
This dataset depicts the boundaries of the Habitat Management 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:
- Eastern Maine Habitat Management Area
- Jeffreys Bank Habitat Management Area
- Cashes Ledge Habitat Management Area
- Fippennies ledge Habitat Management Area
- Ammen Rock Habitat Management Area
- Western Gulf of Maine Habitat Management Area
- Western Gulf of Maine Shrimp Exemption Area
- Closed Area II Habitat Closure Area
- Great South Channel Habitat Management Area
- Mobile Bottom-Tending Gear Closure

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

**KEYWORDS**

**THEME**

**THEME KEYWORD** ISO 19115 Topic Category

**THEME KEYWORD** boundaries

**THEME KEYWORD** environment

**THEME KEYWORD** location

**THEME KEYWORD** oceans

**THEME KEYWORD** planningCadastre

**THEME KEYWORD** 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 KEYWORD** GARFO Keywords

**THEME KEYWORD** 3 Nautical Mile

**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** SLA

**THEME KEYWORD** Submerged Lands Act

**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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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**

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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 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**

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
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.

SOURCE INFORMATION
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

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

SOURCE INFORMATION
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
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).

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.

[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 template shapefiles 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 SLA or 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**
[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

[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 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
FILES_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
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CONTACT PERSON   Dean-Lorenz Szumylo
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RESOURCE DESCRIPTION   Downloadable Data
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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