Identification

CITATION
CITATION INFORMATION
ORIGINATOR NOAA Fisheries Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office
PUBLICATION DATE 2016-05-01
TITLE Sector Small-Mesh Fishery Exemption 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 Sector Small-Mesh Fishery Exemption 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:
- Sector Small-Mesh Fishery Exemption Area 1
- Sector Small-Mesh Fishery Exemption Area 2

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 2016-05-01
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
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
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

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
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.

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.

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.
This boundary was used for delineating the COLREGS boundaries.

The Federal Register is the official daily publication for rules, proposed rules, and notices of Federal agencies and organizations, as well as executive orders and other presidential documents.

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 STEP**
**PROCESS DESCRIPTION**
[Get Definition Text] The current legal spatial definition for the Regulated Area was copied from the Federal Register Final Rule.

**PROCESS DATE**  2013

**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 Coastline 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**  2016

**PROCESS STEP**
**PROCESS DESCRIPTION**
[COLREGS] Where specified in the Regulated Area definition, inshore and offshore waters were separated following COLREGS lines. These inlet/bay crossings were drawn after consulting a combination of a) the COLREGS definitions in 33 CFR 80, b) the NOAA Coastal Services Center COLREGS shapefile, and c) the NOAA Medium Resolution Shoreline shapefile because COLREGS lines described by a single source may not always fully cross the specified waterway as depicted by the source shoreline data set.

**PROCESS DATE**  2016

**PROCESS STEP**
**PROCESS DESCRIPTION**
[Add Attributes] The standardized attribute schema was applied to the shapefile, and the fields were defined.

**PROCESS DATE**  2016

**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**  2016

**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.
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.

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.

The shapefile, with accompanying metadata, was uploaded for public download on the NOAA NMFS GARFO GIS website.

**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 Label**: Shape
- **Attribute Definition**: Feature geometry
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<th>Attribute Definition Source</th>
<th>ESRI</th>
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<td>Attribute Domain Values</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unrepresentable Domain</td>
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<td>Coordinate geometry</td>
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**Attribute**

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<th>Attribute Label</th>
<th>GARFO_ID</th>
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<td><strong>Attribute Definition</strong></td>
<td>A unique identifier used to identify and track this feature; a new GARFO_ID is generated for each version of a Regulated Area (i.e. whenever boundaries or attributes are changed, edited or updated)</td>
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<table>
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<th>Attribute Definition Source</th>
<th>GARFO</th>
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<td>Attribute Domain Values</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unrepresentable Domain</td>
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<td>System-generated number</td>
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**Attribute**

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<th>Attribute Label</th>
<th>AREANAME</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Attribute Definition</strong></td>
<td>Official name of the Regulated Area, usually the area name as printed in the CFR</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attribute Definition Source</th>
<th>GARFO</th>
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**Attribute**

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<th>Attribute Label</th>
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<td><strong>Attribute Definition</strong></td>
<td>Most commonly used name. May be identical to AREANAME, an abbreviation of AREANAME, or a different name altogether.</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Attribute Definition Source</th>
<th>GARFO</th>
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<td>Attribute Domain Values</td>
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**Attribute**

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<th>AREAGROUP</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Attribute Definition</strong></td>
<td>Specifies if the Regulated Area is part of a group of related areas</td>
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<th>Attribute Definition Source</th>
<th>GARFO</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attribute Domain Values</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unrepresentable Domain</td>
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<td>Free text name</td>
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**Attribute**

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<th>Attribute Label</th>
<th>DESCRIBE</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Attribute Definition</strong></td>
<td>A brief description of the purpose of the Regulated Area</td>
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<th>Attribute Definition Source</th>
<th>GARFO</th>
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<td>Attribute Domain Values</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unrepresentable Domain</td>
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**Attribute**

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<th>Attribute Label</th>
<th>CFRTITLE</th>
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<td><strong>Attribute Definition</strong></td>
<td>CFR Title citation where the Regulated Area is legally defined</td>
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<th>Attribute Definition Source</th>
<th>GARFO</th>
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<td>Attribute Domain Values</td>
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<td>Unrepresentable Domain</td>
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ATTRIBUTE
ATTRIBUTE LABEL CFRPT
ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION
CFR Part citation where the Regulated Area is legally defined
ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION SOURCE GARFO
ATTRIBUTE DOMAIN VALUES
UNREPRESENTABLE DOMAIN
Free text name

ATTRIBUTE
ATTRIBUTE LABEL CFRPTTXT
ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION
CFR Part citation header text
ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION SOURCE GARFO
ATTRIBUTE DOMAIN VALUES
UNREPRESENTABLE DOMAIN
Free text name

ATTRIBUTE
ATTRIBUTE LABEL CFRSUB
ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION
CFR Subpart citation where the Regulated Area is legally defined
ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION SOURCE GARFO
ATTRIBUTE DOMAIN VALUES
UNREPRESENTABLE DOMAIN
Free text citation

ATTRIBUTE
ATTRIBUTE LABEL CFRSUBTXT
ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION
CFR Subpart citation header text
ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION SOURCE GARFO
ATTRIBUTE DOMAIN VALUES
UNREPRESENTABLE DOMAIN
Free text name

ATTRIBUTE
ATTRIBUTE LABEL CFRSXN
ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION
CFR Section citation where the Regulated Area is legally defined
ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION SOURCE GARFO
ATTRIBUTE DOMAIN VALUES
UNREPRESENTABLE DOMAIN
Free text citation

ATTRIBUTE
ATTRIBUTE LABEL CFRSXNTXT
ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION
CFR Section citation header text
ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION SOURCE GARFO
ATTRIBUTE DOMAIN VALUES
UNREPRESENTABLE DOMAIN
Free text name
**ATTRIBUTE**
**ATTRIBUTE LABEL** CFRPARA
**ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION**
CFR Paragraph citation where the Regulated Area is legally defined
**ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION SOURCE** GARFO
**ATTRIBUTE DOMAIN VALUES**
UNREPRESENTABLE DOMAIN
Free text citation

**ATTRIBUTE**
**ATTRIBUTE LABEL** CFRPARATXT
**ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION**
CFR Paragraph citation header text
**ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION SOURCE** GARFO
**ATTRIBUTE DOMAIN VALUES**
UNREPRESENTABLE DOMAIN
Free text name

**ATTRIBUTE**
**ATTRIBUTE LABEL** FRCITE
**ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION**
Federal Register citation of original Regulated Area spatial definition, or last modification to the spatial definition, whichever is most recent. Refers to SPATIAL DEFINITION ONLY. Subsequent FR notices may have modified the requirements affecting waters within or outside this Regulated Area.
**ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION SOURCE** GARFO
**ATTRIBUTE DOMAIN VALUES**
UNREPRESENTABLE DOMAIN
Free text name

**ATTRIBUTE**
**ATTRIBUTE LABEL** FRDATE
**ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION**
Federal Register citation date of original Regulated Area spatial definition, or the last modification to the spatial definition, whichever is most recent. Refers to SPATIAL DEFINITION ONLY. Subsequent FR notices may have modified the requirements affecting waters within or outside this Regulated Area.
**ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION SOURCE** GARFO
**ATTRIBUTE DOMAIN VALUES**
UNREPRESENTABLE DOMAIN
Date

**ATTRIBUTE**
**ATTRIBUTE LABEL** EFFECTDATE
**ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION**
Date Regulated Area officially became law, or most recent modification
**ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION SOURCE** GARFO
**ATTRIBUTE DOMAIN VALUES**
UNREPRESENTABLE DOMAIN
Date

**ATTRIBUTE**
**ATTRIBUTE LABEL** SOURCE
**ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION**
If Regulated Area is defined in the CFR, this is the citation for the Amendment/Framework/etc. that established the area. If the Regulated Area is not defined in the CFR, this is the alternative source citation establishing the Regulated Area.
**ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION SOURCE** GARFO
ATTRIBUTE
ATTRIBUTE LABEL RECURST
ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION
Annually recurring date Regulated Area becomes active
ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION SOURCE GARFO
ATTRIBUTE DOMAIN VALUES
UNREPRESENTABLE DOMAIN
Date

ATTRIBUTE
ATTRIBUTE LABEL RECUREND
ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION
Annually recurring date Regulated Area becomes inactive
ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION SOURCE GARFO
ATTRIBUTE DOMAIN VALUES
UNREPRESENTABLE DOMAIN
Date

ATTRIBUTE
ATTRIBUTE LABEL GISAUTHOR
ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION
Name of the NOAA staff person who created the GIS feature
ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION SOURCE GARFO
ATTRIBUTE DOMAIN VALUES
UNREPRESENTABLE DOMAIN
Name

ATTRIBUTE
ATTRIBUTE LABEL CREATED
ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION
Creation date of the GIS feature
ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION SOURCE GARFO
ATTRIBUTE DOMAIN VALUES
UNREPRESENTABLE DOMAIN
Date

ATTRIBUTE
ATTRIBUTE LABEL AREANOTES
ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION
Miscellaneous notes regarding the Regulated Area or feature
ATTRIBUTE DEFINITION SOURCE GARFO
ATTRIBUTE DOMAIN VALUES
UNREPRESENTABLE DOMAIN
Free text description

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
CONTACT INFORMATION
CONTACT PERSON PRIMARY
CONTACT PERSON Dean-Lorenz Szumylo
CONTACT ORGANIZATION NOAA Fisheries Service Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office, GIS Committee
CONTACT POSITION GIS Specialist
CONTACT ADDRESS
ADDRESS TYPE mailing and physical address
ADDRESS 55 Great Republic Drive
CITY Gloucester
STATE OR PROVINCE MA
POSTAL CODE 01930

CONTACT VOICE TELEPHONE 978-282-8479
CONTACT FACSIMILE TELEPHONE 978-281-9333
CONTACT ELECTRONIC MAIL ADDRESS dean.szumylo@noaa.gov
CONTACT INSTRUCTIONS http://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/

RESOURCE DESCRIPTION Downloadable Data

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Metadata Reference

METADATA DATE 2016-05-01
METADATA FUTURE REVIEW DATE 2020-05-01
METADATA CONTACT
CONTACT INFORMATION
CONTACT PERSON PRIMARY
CONTACT PERSON Dean-Lorenz Szumylo
CONTACT ORGANIZATION NOAA Fisheries Service Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office, GIS Committee
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ADDRESS TYPE mailing and physical address
ADDRESS 55 Great Republic Drive
CITY Gloucester
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metadata Standard Name</th>
<th>FGDC Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata</th>
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