

# Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Plan 2015 Changes Summary

## What Changes Have Been Approved?

The following changes have been made to the Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Plan:

### MINIMUM NUMBER OF TRAPS PER TRAWL REQUIREMENT EXEMPTIONS

#### EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

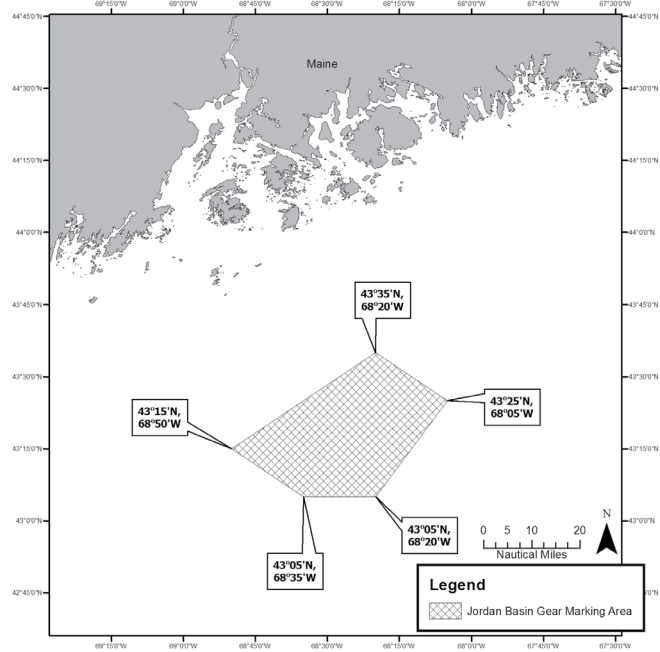
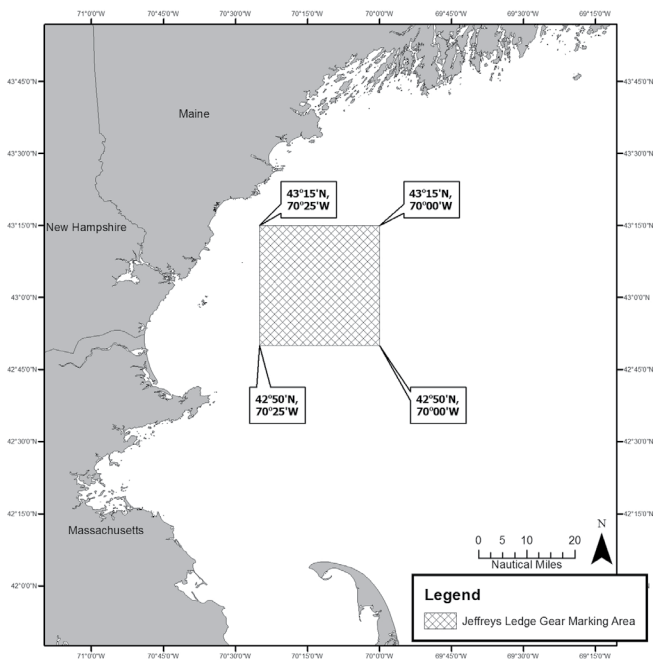
The following additional state waters will be exempt from the Plan's minimum trap per trawl requirements:

- Rhode Island state waters;
- Portions of Massachusetts state waters;
- Waters within 1/4 mile of Matinicus Island group, Maine; and
- Waters within 1/4 mile Isle of Shoals, Maine

### NEW GEAR MARKING AREAS

#### EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2015

Two new gear marking areas have been added for gillnets and trap/pots: Jeffreys Ledge and Jordan Basin.



*For more information on these and other ALWTRP requirements, visit our website: [www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/whaletrp](http://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/whaletrp)*



## **NEW GEAR MARKING COLOR SCHEMES**

**EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015, EXCEPT  
JORDAN BASIN AND JEFFREYS LEDGE AREAS (EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2015)**

The following gear marking requirements will be added to the current gear marking schemes. This list only includes NEW gear marking areas requirements being added in 2015. Gear marking area requirements not listed below will remain in effect with their current gear marking schemes.

AREA	OLD GEAR MARKING COLOR	NEW GEAR MARKING COLOR(S)
<b>Exempt RI state waters</b>	<b>RED</b>	<b>RED &amp; BLUE</b>
<b>Exempt MA state waters in LMA 1</b>	<b>RED</b>	<b>RED &amp; WHITE</b>
<b>Exempt MA state waters in LMA2</b>	<b>RED</b>	<b>RED &amp; BLACK</b>
<b>Exempt MA state waters in Outer Cape</b>	<b>RED</b>	<b>RED &amp; YELLOW</b>
<b>Isle of Shoals Maine</b>	<b>RED</b>	<b>RED &amp; ORANGE</b>
<b>Jordan Basin (Trap/Pot)*</b>	<b>RED (OR BLACK)</b>	<b>RED (OR BLACK) &amp; PURPLE*</b>
<b>Jordan Basin (Gillnet)*</b>	<b>GREEN</b>	<b>GREEN &amp; YELLOW*</b>
<b>Jeffreys Ledge (Trap/Pot)*</b>	<b>RED</b>	<b>RED &amp; GREEN*</b>
<b>Jeffreys Ledge (Gillnet)*</b>	<b>GREEN</b>	<b>GREEN &amp; BLACK*</b>

Please note: The rope must be marked at least three times (top, middle, bottom) and each mark must total 12-inch in length. If the mark consists of two colors then each color mark may be 6-inch for a total mark of 12-inches.

## **How Do I Get More Information?**

### **Contact NOAA Fisheries Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office**

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**or visit our website:**

**[www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/whaletrp](http://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/whaletrp)**

