

**Technical Corrections for Herring Management Area Boundaries
Submitted by NMFS NERO
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The NERO GIS Specialist completed a comprehensive review of boundary definitions for existing Fishing Regulated Areas in the Northeast, as part of a project to develop official GIS shapefiles illustrating those boundaries. During that process, the GIS Specialist made the following recommendations to clarify and improve the area boundaries defined as part of the Herring FMP.

These technical corrections will be addressed in the rulemaking for Herring Framework 3. The text proposed to be replaced is shown in ~~strikeout~~ and the proposed corrections are shown in *italics*.

1. § 648.200(f)(1) Management Area 1 (Gulf of Maine)

All U.S. waters of the Gulf of Maine (GOM) north of a line extending from a point at ~~70°00' W. long. and 41°39' N. lat., 41° 39' N. lat., 70° 00' W. long. to 42°53'14" N. lat., 67° 44'35" W. long.~~ *42° 53' 14.32125" N. lat., 67° 44' 33.01613" W. long.*, thence northerly along the ~~Hague Line US-Canada Maritime Boundary~~ to the U.S.-Canadian border, to include state and Federal waters adjacent to the States of Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts. Management Area 1 is divided into Area 1A (inshore) and Area 1B (offshore). The line dividing these areas is described by the following coordinates:

Point	N. lat.	W. long.
1	41°58'	70° 00'
2	42°38'	70° 00'
3	42°53'	69° 40'
4	43°12'	69° 00'
5	43°40'	68° 00'
6	43°58'	67° 22' (the U.S.-Canada Maritime Boundary) <i>43°58'16.0314" 67° 21'26.157" (the U.S.-Canada Maritime Boundary)</i>

These corrections are to revise text for consistency and update coordinates with the legally defined US/Canada Maritime Boundary.

2. § 648.200(f)(2) Management Area 2 (South Coastal Area)

All ~~waters west of 70° 00' W. long., south of 41°39' N. lat., to include state and Federal waters, adjacent to the States of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina.~~ *inclusive of sounds and bays, bounded on the east by 70°00'W. long. and the outer limit of the US Exclusive Economic Zone; bounded on the north and west by the southern coastline of Cape Cod, Massachusetts and the coastlines of Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and North Carolina; and bounded on the south by a line following the lateral seaward boundary between North Carolina and South Carolina from the coast to the Submerged Lands*

Act line, approximately 78° 29' 46.46" W. long., 33° 48' 46.37" N. lat, and then heading due east along 38°48'46.37" N. lat. to the outer limit of the US Exclusive Economic Zone.

These corrections are to revise boundaries to include bodies of water along the coast like bays and sounds and revise the southern boundary to better match the boundary between North Carolina and South Carolina.

3. § 648.200(f)(3) Management Area 3 (Georges Bank)

All U.S. waters east of 70°00' W. long. and southeast of the line that runs from a point at 70°00' W. long. and 41°39' N. lat., northeasterly to the ~~Hague Line at 42°53'14" N. lat., 67°44'35" W. long.~~ *US-Canada Maritime Boundary at 42° 53' 14.32125" N. lat., 67° 44' 33.01613" W. long.*

These corrections are to revise text for consistency and update coordinates with the legally defined US/Canada Maritime Boundary.

4. § 648.201(e) (Unnamed section, West of Cutler Set-Aside Area)

Up to 500 mt of the Area 1A sub-ACL shall be allocated for the fixed gear fisheries in Area 1A (weirs and stop seines) that occur west of ~~44° 36.2 N. Lat. and 67° 16.8 W. long~~ *west of 67° 16.8 W. long* (Cutler, Maine). This set-aside shall be available for harvest by fixed gear within the specified area until November 1 of each fishing year. Any portion of this allocation that has not been utilized by November 1 shall be restored to the sub-ACL allocation for Area 1A.

This correction is to revise the definition to more correctly specify an area "west of" a longitude.