

UK P&I CLUB



LP Bulletin

Friday 22nd October 2010

Bulletin 722 - 10/10 - Whale activity update - USA

Following Bulletin 718 concerning whale activity off the coast of California, the Association would like to inform Members of restrictions imposed by the NOAA Fisheries Service as part of its Seasonal Management programme along the US East Coast.

Restrictions imposed by the NOAA require vessels to proceed at 10 knots or less in restricted areas during specific times of the year. These restrictions apply to all vessels of 65ft (19.8m) or greater in length.

Vessels are allowed to operate at speeds greater than 10kts, if necessary to maintain a safe manoeuvring speed in areas where conditions severely restrict manoeuvrability. Any deviation from the speed restriction should be entered in the logbook.

An information leaflet is attached to this bulletin which details the restricted areas advising the date when they are in force. Restrictions will apply from November until April in the areas designated as "Migratory Routes" and "Calving and Nursery Grounds", full details and coordinates can be found on page 2 of the attached document.

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NOAA FISHERIES SERVICE

Mandatory speed restrictions of 10 knots or less are required in Seasonal Management Areas along the U.S. East Coast during times when right whales are likely to be present. The purpose of this regulation is to reduce the likelihood of deaths and serious injuries to these endangered whales that result from collisions with ships.



NOAA

Vessels may operate at a speed greater than 10 knots only if necessary to maintain a safe maneuvering speed in an area where conditions severely restrict vessel maneuverability as determined by the pilot or master.

If a deviation from the 10 knot speed restriction is necessary, the following information must be entered into the logbook:

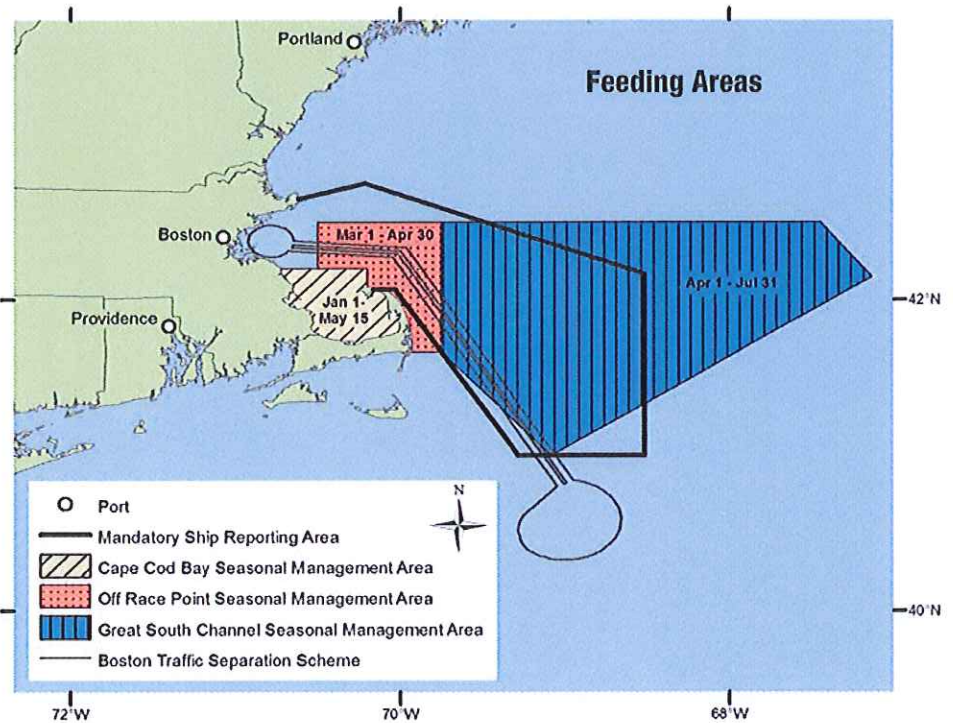
- Reasons for deviation
- Speed at which vessel is operated
- Latitude and longitude at time of deviation
- Time and duration of deviation
- Master of the vessel shall sign and date the logbook entry

Compliance Guide for Right Whale Ship Strike Reduction Rule (50 CFR 224.105)

ATTENTION: All vessels greater than or equal to 65 ft (19.8 m) in overall length and subject to the jurisdiction of the United States and all vessels greater than or equal to 65 ft in overall length entering or departing a port or place subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

YOU MUST SLOW TO SPEEDS OF 10 KNOTS OR LESS IN SEASONAL MANAGEMENT AREAS

Northeast U.S. Seasonal Management Areas



Feeding Areas

Cape Cod Bay

January 1 - May 15
Includes all waters of Cape Cod Bay with Northern Boundary of 42°04'56.5"N, 070°12'W to 42°12'N, 070°12'W then due west back to shore.

Off Race Point

March 1 - April 30
Waters Bounded by:
42°04'56.5"N 070°12'W
42°12'N, 070°12'W
42°12'N, 070°30'W
42°30'N, 070°30'W
42°30'N, 069°45'W
41°40'N, 069°45'W
then due west back to shore.

Great South Channel

April 1 - July 31
Waters Bounded by:
42°30'N, 069°45'W
42°30'N, 067°27'W
42°09'N, 067°08'24"W
41°00'N, 069°05'W
41°40'N, 069°45'W
then back to starting pt.

The rule does not apply to waters inshore of COLREGS lines.

Mid-Atlantic U.S. Seasonal Management Areas

Migratory Route

November 1 through April 30

Vessel speed is restricted in the following areas:

- Block Island Sound waters bounded by:
 - 40°51'53.7" N 070°36'44.9" W
 - 41°20'14.1" N 070°49'44.1" W
 - 41°04'16.7" N 071°51'21.0" W
 - 40°35'56.5" N 071°38'25.1" W
 then back to starting point.
- Within a 20-nm (37 km) radius of the following (as measured seaward from the COLREGS lines):
 - Ports of New York/New Jersey:
 - 40°29'42.2"N 073°55'57.6"W
 - Entrance to the Delaware Bay (Ports of Philadelphia and Wilmington):
 - 38°52'27.4"N 075°01'32.1"W
 - Entrance to the Chesapeake Bay (Ports of Hampton Roads and Baltimore):
 - 37°00'36.9"N 075°57'50.5"W
 - Ports of Morehead City and Beaufort, NC:
 - 34°41'32.0"N 076°40'08.3"W
- Within a continuous area 20 nm from shore between Wilmington, NC, to Brunswick, GA, bounded by the following:

Point	Latitude	Longitude
A	34°10'30"N	077°49'12"W
B	33°56'42"N	077°31'30"W
C	33°36'30"N	077°47'06"W
D	33°28'24"N	078°32'30"W
E	32°59'06"N	078°50'18"W
F	31°50'00"N	080°33'12"W
G	31°27'00"N	080°51'36"W

and west back to the shore.

Calving and Nursery Grounds

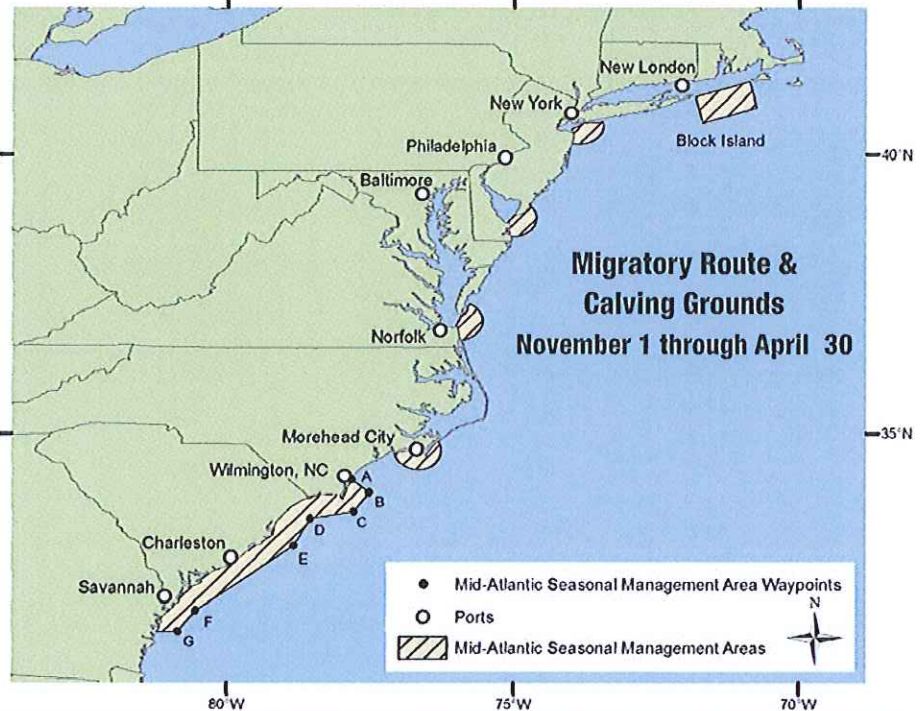
November 15 through April 15

Vessel speed is restricted in the area bounded to the north by latitude 31°27'N; to the south by latitude 29°45'N; to the east by longitude 080°51'36"W.

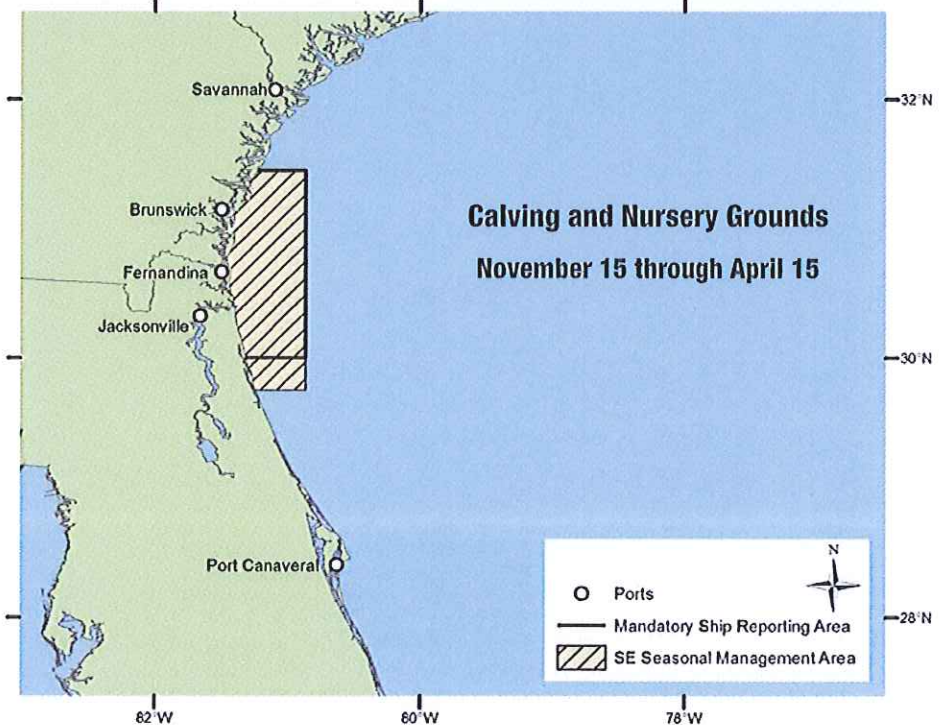
For more information, visit:

- <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/shipstrike>
- <http://nero.noaa.gov/shipstrike>
- <http://rightwhalesouth.nmfs.noaa.gov>

Right Whale Ship Strike Reduction Rule expires on December 9, 2013



Southeast U.S. Seasonal Management Area



The rule does not apply to waters inshore of COLREGS lines.

Voluntary Dynamic Management Areas (DMAs) may also be established by NOAA Fisheries Service. Mariners are encouraged to avoid these areas or reduce speeds to 10 knots or less while transiting through these areas. NOAA Fisheries Service will announce DMAs to mariners through its customary maritime communication media.

This serves as NOAA's small entity compliance guide.

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U.S. Department of Commerce | National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration | National Marine Fisheries Service