

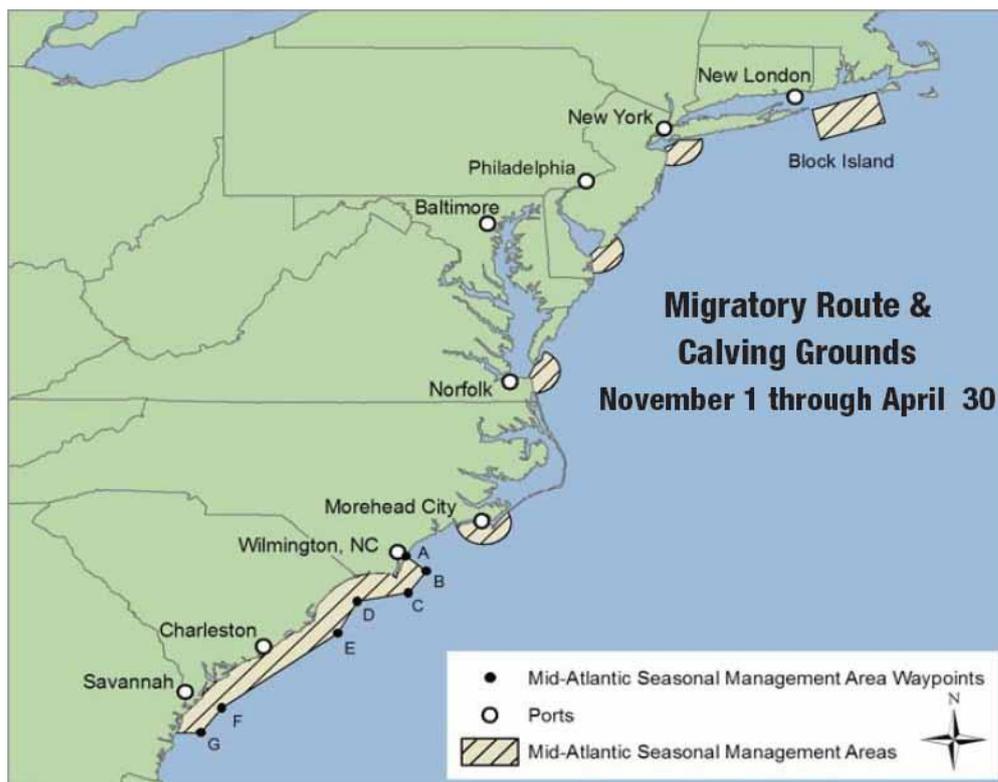


LP Bulletin

Friday 16th November 2012

Bulletin 855 - 11/12 - NOAA speed restrictions - USA

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) are increasing their vigilance in regard of the seasonal speed restrictions off the US coast



Despite NOAA advertising the speed restrictions it seems vessels are continuing to flout the speed limitation. Vessels in these areas are continually seen to be breaking these speed restrictions, in particular in the Delaware Bay entrance area are therefore being fined by NOAA. Fines levied by NOAA amount to \$5,750 per incident. NOAA are using locally sourced AIS data to monitor and record the speeds of approaching vessels and using this data as evidence.

The navigation charts of the area do not show the seasonal speed management areas and the speed restrictions details. Links to the NOAA website details such charts are given below. Right Whale Ship Strike Reduction Rule expires on December 9, 2013

It should be noted that NOAA has become more aggressive with its enforcement and are issuing many more fines. Unlike the US Coast Guard, NOAA is unlikely to agree to fine mitigation therefore there is little defence against any fines levied. The Club has been made aware of an increase in enforcement actions with NOAA actually presenting penalties for violations occurring over two years old.

Right whale ship strike main information page

http://www.noaaneews.noaa.gov/stories2010/20101101_shipstrike.html

Seasonal update message issues 1 Nov 2012

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

Charts of speed reduction areas

http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/pdfs/shipstrike/map_sma.pdf

Source of Information:

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