

**NOAA
FISHERIES
SERVICE**

Reduce Collisions with North Atlantic Right Whales



Use Two-Way Routes To Avoid Whales

NORTHEAST REGION

JANUARY - MAY

PURPOSE:

To minimize vessel collisions with endangered right whales during the winter/spring feeding season in Cape Cod Bay (January through May). These two-way routes and two-way track were established based on historical patterns of right whale distribution during this time frame.

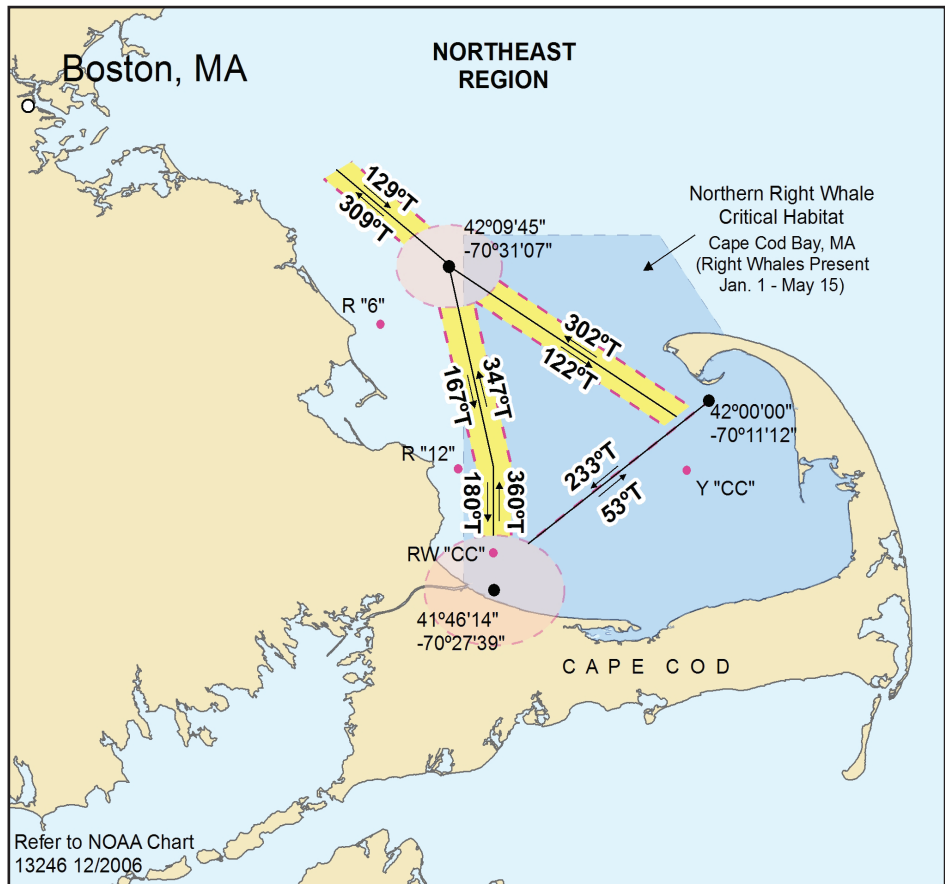
WHO, WHERE, WHEN:

The two-way routes and track shown in the chart to the right are **STRONGLY RECOMMENDED** for use by all vessels when transiting within or through Cape Cod Bay from January through May. The majority of Cape Cod Bay is designated Right Whale Critical Habitat.

HOW:

The two-way routes and track may, at times, have opposing vessel traffic and all mariners should navigate with caution. Mariners are warned that some vessels may not be able to keep the starboard side of the routes at all times.

CAUTION: Full bottom coverage surveys have not been conducted within the entire routes, so uncharted dangers may exist.

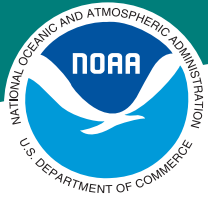


This chart is for informational purposes only and is not to be used for navigation. For navigation, refer to the current version of NOAA Chart 13246. The area shaded in blue is designed critical habitat for North Atlantic right whales 50 CFR 226.203(b). This area is a critical feeding area for whales between January and May each year.

REMEMBER:

- Speed restrictions of 10 knots or less are mandatory in Seasonal Management Areas along the U.S. East Coast during times when right whales are likely present (See 50 CFR 224.105).
- It is illegal to approach right whales closer than 500 yards (See 50 CFR 224.103 (c), regulations, and exceptions).

**For more information visit:
www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/shipstrike/ or
www.nero.noaa.gov/shipstrike/**



Reduce Collisions with North Atlantic Right Whales

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Use Two-Way Routes To Avoid Whales

SOUTHEAST REGION

NOVEMBER - APRIL

PURPOSE:

To minimize vessel collisions with endangered right whales during the winter calving season from November through April. These two-way routes were established based on historical patterns of right whale distribution during this time frame.

WHO, WHERE, WHEN:

The two-way routes shown in the chart to the right are **STRONGLY RECOMMENDED** for use by all vessels when traveling into or out of the Florida ports of Jacksonville and Fernandina Beach, as well as Brunswick Harbor, Georgia, from November through April.

HOW:

The two-way routes may, at times, have opposing vessel traffic and all mariners should navigate with caution. Mariners are warned that some vessels might not be able to keep the starboard side of the routes at all times.

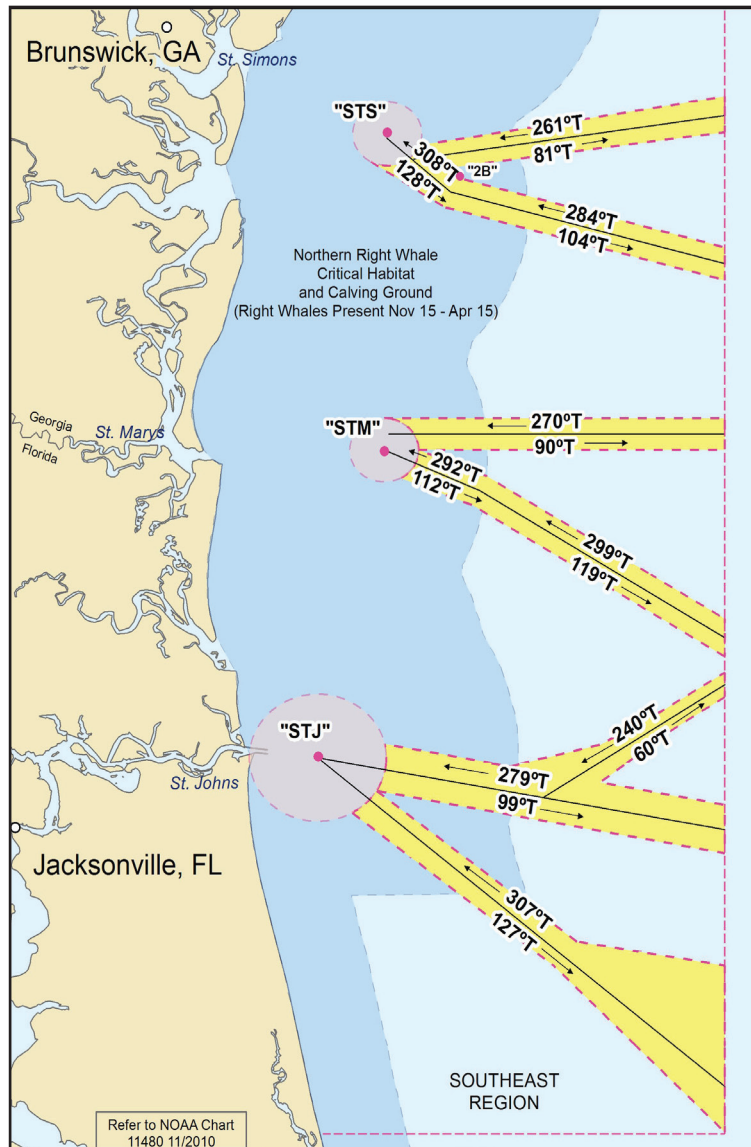
CAUTION: Full bottom coverage surveys have not been conducted within the entire routes, so uncharted dangers may exist.

TRANSITING BETWEEN ADJACENT PORTS:

When transiting between adjacent ports within the critical habitat area, it is not necessary to use the two-way routes; however, mariners should minimize travel distance and use slowest safe speed when transiting outside the lanes.

REMEMBER:

- Speed restrictions of 10 knots or less are mandatory in Seasonal Management Areas along the U.S. East Coast during times when right whales are likely present (See 50 CFR 224.105).
- It is illegal to approach right whales closer than 500 yards (See 50 CFR 224.103 (c), regulations, and exceptions).



This chart is for informational purposes only and is not to be used for navigation. For navigation, refer to the current version of NOAA Chart 11480. The area shaded in blue is a calving area of North Atlantic right whales November 15 through April 15. This area encompasses the northern portion of the designated critical habitat for the whales (see 50 CFR 226.203(c)). The red dashed line extending East from Florida coastline, then North parallel to shore is the Mandatory Ship Reporting boundary line.

For more information:
visit www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/shipstrike/ or
<http://rightwhalesouth.nmfs.noaa.gov>