



Notice to Fish Harvesters

July 18, 2018

**NOTICE OF FISHERIES CLOSURES:
PRESENCE OF NORTH ATLANTIC RIGHT WHALE**

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) – Gulf Region is providing a notice of new temporary fisheries closures of a fishing area due to the presence of North Atlantic Right Whales (NARW).

The following new grids will be closed: **HC36 (portion), HC37, HD36 (portion) and HD37 (portion)** on **July 20, 2018 at 10:00** Atlantic Daylight Time (ADT). DFO is providing a 48 hours advanced notice of a fishery closure. All gear must be removed from the closed area before the time of closure. Refer to Gulf Region variation order 2018-060 for crab.

Please note that grids GV37, GV38, GV39, GW36, GW37, GW38, GW39, GW40, GW41, GX36, GX37, GX38, GX39, GX40, GX41, GZ33 (portion), GZ34, HA33 (portion), HA34 (portion), HB34 (portion) and HC35 (portions) remain closed. The closures will remain in effect until further notice. In the event that areas are reopened, DFO will inform industry prior to their reopening.

The closures will be in effect for the following fisheries where the fishing seasons are currently opened: snow crab, toad crab, rock crab, lobster, whelk, Greenland halibut (fixed gear) and winter flounder (fixed gear). Closures will also be in effect for Atlantic halibut (fixed gear), mackerel (gillnet) and herring (gillnet) when gear is left unattended.

DFO asks licence holders to be vigilant during fishing activities concerning the presence of North Atlantic Right Whales. Furthermore, please be reminded that it is the responsibility of the licence holder to take into account the marine safety notices issued, amongst others, by Environment and Climate Change Canada and Transport Canada, as well as the standards and best practices in marine safety, and to take all measures to ensure safe fishing operations.

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The coordinates representing the contour of the grids **HC36 (portion)**, **HC37**, **HD36 (portion)** and **HD37 (portion)** are listed below:

Points	Position	
	Latitude North	Longitude West
1	47° 20' 00" N	63° 50' 00" W
2	47° 08' 08" N	63° 50' 00" W
3	47° 06' 17" N	64° 05' 27" W
4	47° 10' 49" N	64° 10' 00" W
5	47° 20' 00" N	64° 10' 00" W

The coordinates representing the contour of the **three closed areas (in red)** are listed below:

Points	Positions	
	Latitude North	Longitude West
1	48° 32' 36" N	63° 30' 00" W
2	48° 25' 16" N	63° 10' 00" W
3	48° 00' 00" N	63° 10' 00" W
4	48° 00' 00" N	64° 10' 00" W
5	48° 20' 00" N	64° 10' 00" W
6	48° 20' 00" N	64° 00' 00" W
7	48° 30' 00" N	64° 00' 00" W
8	48° 30' 00" N	63° 30' 00" W

Area enclosed by the coastlines and rhumb lines (similar to straight lines plotted on a nautical chart) joining the points listed above in the order they are listed.

Points	Positions	
	Latitude North	Longitude West
1	47° 50' 00" N	64° 31' 25" W
2	47° 50' 00" N	64° 20' 00" W
3	47° 20' 48" N	64° 20' 00" W
4	47° 40' 43" N	64° 40' 00" W
5	47° 44' 51" N	64° 40' 00" W

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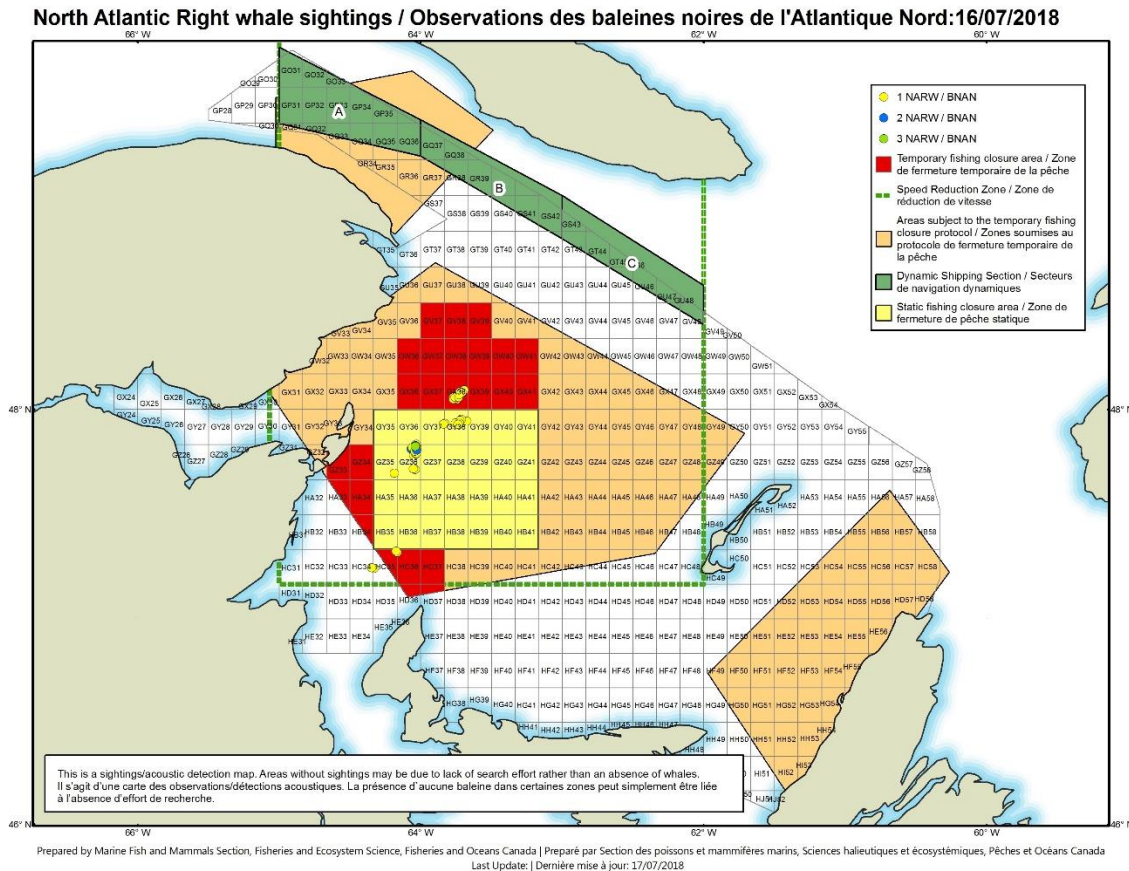
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Points	Position	
	Latitude North	Longitude West
1	47°20' 00" N	64°19' 12" W
2	47°20' 00" N	63°50' 00" W
3	47°08' 08" N	63°50' 00" W
4	47°06' 17" N	64°05' 27" W
5	47°20' 00" N	64°19' 12" W

Area enclosed by the coastlines and rhumb lines (similar to straight lines plotted on a nautical chart) joining the points listed above in the order they are listed. Point references are based on the geodesic system North American Datum 1983 (NAD83). Positions are expressed in degrees, minutes and seconds.

Map identifying the grid closures in the Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence due to the presence of NARW.



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For more information:

Regular updates and maps indicating sightings will be posted at the following address:

<http://dfo-mpo.gc.ca/species-especes/mammals-mammiferes/narightwhale-baleinenoirean/alert-alerte/index-eng.html>