

Glossary



*Coastal County*¹

A coastal county meets one of the following criteria: 1) at least 15% of a county's total land area is located within the Nation's coastal watershed; or 2) a portion of or an entire county accounts for at least 15% of a coastal cataloging unit. Any U.S. county that meets these criteria is classified as coastal.

*Coastline*²

The coastline is the line that forms the boundary between the coast and the shore. This is the line where terrestrial processes give way to marine processes such as tidal currents and wind waves.

County Equivalent

States use alternative terminology to designate the geographic area that is larger than a municipality but smaller than a state. The most commonly used term for this entity is "county." Louisiana calls these entities "parishes," while Alaska calls them "boroughs" and "census areas." Parishes, boroughs, and census areas are considered county equivalents.

*Disaster Declaration*³

A Disaster Declaration is made by a U.S. President, upon request of a governor in the face of a major event like a hurricane, tornado, or a severe and disrupting winter storm that overwhelms local and state resource and response capabilities. The authority to declare disasters and emergencies resides in the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (PL 100-707, November 23, 1988) as amended by the Disaster Relief Act of 1974 (PL 93-288). The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) oversees this process.

*Emergency Declaration*³

An Emergency Declaration is more limited in scope and without the long-term federal recovery programs of a Major Disaster Declaration. It is made by a U.S. President, upon the request of a governor. Generally, federal assistance and funding are provided to meet a specific emergency need or to help prevent a major disaster from occurring. The authority to declare emergencies resides in the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (PL 100-707, November 23, 1988) as amended by the Disaster Relief Act of 1974 (PL 93-288). The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) oversees this process.

*Ethnicity or Ethnic Group*⁴

This discussion of ethnic groups applies to both Census 2000 and the American Community Survey 2004 and later years, unless otherwise stated. For detailed information about race and ethnic groups, see the technical documentation for each survey or census available at the U.S. Census Bureau website.

There are two minimum categories for ethnicity: "Hispanic or Latino" and "Not Hispanic or Latino." The federal government considers race and Hispanic origin to be two separate and distinct concepts. Hispanics and Latinos may be of any race.

The responses in the 1990 census showed that the placement of the question on Hispanic origin may have contributed to some confusion about the federal government's distinction between race and ethnicity. In the 1990 census the question on race appeared before the question on Hispanic origin, with two intervening questions, and about 40% of the respondents who selected "Other Race" wrote in a Hispanic or Latino ethnicity. To highlight the distinction between race and Hispanic origin beginning with Census 2000, the question on race was placed after the question on Hispanic origin. Also, there was a note to respondents instructing them to answer both questions.

*Exclusive Economic Zone or EEZ*⁵

The EEZ is the area that extends from the seaward boundaries of the coastal states to 200 nautical miles. The seaward boundary for most states is 3 nautical miles with the exceptions of Texas, Puerto Rico, and the Gulf Coast of Florida which is 9 nautical miles. The U.S. claims and exercises sovereign rights and exclusive fishery management authority over all fish and continental shelf resources to this 200 nautical mile boundary.

Federally-recognized Native American (American Indian) Tribes or Nations

The list of current federally-recognized tribes can be found on the Bureau of Indian Affairs website, accessible from <http://www.doi.gov/bia/docs/TLD-Final.pdf>. A government-to-government relationship pertains between these Native American Tribal entities and the U.S. Government.

*Fish Stock*⁵

The living resources in the community or population from which catches are taken in a fishery. Use of the term fish stock usually implies that the particular population is more or less isolated from other stocks of the same species and hence self-sustaining. In a particular fishery, the fish stock may be one or several species of fish but here is also intended to include commercial invertebrates and plants.

*Fishery*⁵

1. Generally, a fishery is an activity leading to harvesting of fish. It may involve capture of wild fish or raising of fish through aquaculture; 2. A unit determined by an authority or other entity that is engaged in raising or harvesting fish. Typically, the unit is defined in terms of some or all of the following: people involved, species or type of fish, area of water or seabed, method of fishing, class of boats, and purpose of the activities; 3. The combination of fish and fishermen in a region, the latter fishing for similar or the same species with similar or the same gear types.

Fishery Management Council or Regional Fishery Management Council or FMC⁵

A regional fisheries management body established by the Magnuson-Stevens Act to manage fishery resources in eight designated regions of the United States.

Fishery Management Plan or FMP⁵

1. A document prepared under supervision of the appropriate fishery management council (FMC) for management of stocks of fish judged to be in need of management. The plan must generally be formally approved. An FMP includes data, analyses, and management measures; 2. A plan containing conservation and management measures for fishery resources, and other provisions required by the Magnuson-Stevens Act, developed by fishery management councils or the Secretary of Commerce.

Fishing Community

For this report, a selected fishing community refers to a community that was selected by an expert in a region primarily based on the highest commercial landings by weight in 2006. This definition differs from what is presented in the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1802, Sec. 3(16)).

Group Quarters⁴

The U.S. Census Bureau classifies all people not living in households as living in group quarters. There are two types of group quarters: institutional (for example, correctional facilities, nursing homes, and mental hospitals) and non-institutional (for example, college dormitories, military barracks, group homes, missions, and shelters). In Alaskan fishing communities, group quarters are dormitories occupied by fishing industry seasonal workers who come from elsewhere.

Hispanic or Latino origin⁴

People who identify with the terms “Hispanic” or “Latino” are those who classify themselves in one of the specific Hispanic or Latino categories listed on the Census 2000 or American Community Survey questionnaire: “Mexican,” “Puerto Rican,” or “Cuban,” as well as those who indicate that they are “other Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino.” Origin can be viewed as the heritage, nationality group, lineage, or country of birth of the person or the person’s parents or ancestors before their arrival in the United States. People who identify their origin as Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino may be of any race.

Household⁴

A household includes all the people who occupy a housing unit as their usual place of residence.

Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act or Magnuson-Stevens Act or MSA⁵

Federal legislation responsible for establishing the fishery management councils (FMCs) and the mandatory and dis-

cretionary guidelines for federal fishery management plans (FMPs). This legislation was originally enacted in 1976 as the Fishery Management and Conservation Act; its name was changed to the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act in 1980, and in 1996 it was renamed the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

Marine Coastal County

For this report, a marine coastal county is a coastal county that is adjacent to an ocean coastline.

Permit⁵

Also known as a license, a permit is a document giving a producer the right to operate in a fishery according to the terms established by the regulating authority.

Protected Species⁵

Refers to any species which is protected by either the Endangered Species Act (ESA) or the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), and which is under the jurisdiction of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). This includes all threatened, endangered, and candidate species, as well as all cetaceans and pinnipeds, excluding walruses.

Race⁴

Race is a self-identification data item in which respondents choose the race or races with which they most closely identify.

Species⁵

A group of animals or plants having common characteristics that are able to breed together to produce fertile (capable of reproducing) offspring, and maintain their separateness from other groups of animals or plants.

Species Group⁵

A group of species considered together because they are difficult to differentiate without detailed examination (very similar species) or because data for the separate species are not available (e.g. in fishery statistics or commercial categories).

Territorial Sea⁵

Extends 12 nautical miles offshore of the United States. Individual states exercise authority over marine fisheries in water from the coastline to 3 nautical miles offshore, and out to 9 nautical miles for Texas, Puerto Rico, and the Gulf coast of Florida.

Tidal Shoreline⁶

The tidal shoreline is the line of contact between the land and waters that change their elevation with the rise and fall of the tides. Because the water elevation changes with tidal fluctuations, the practice is to calculate the mean high water line. This value is then used to draw the lines representing the tidal shoreline.

Glossary Source Materials

- ¹"Coastal Counties" (accessed 16 July 2008). U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce. Available at: http://www.census.gov/geo/landview/lv6help/coastal_cty.html
- ²"Glossary of Coastal Terminology" (accessed 16 July 2008). B. Voigt. Washington State Department of Ecology, Olympia, WA, March 1998. Publication No. 98-105. Available at: <http://www.csc.noaa.gov/text/glossary.html>
- ³"The Disaster Process and Disaster Aid Programs" (accessed 10 September 2008). Federal Emergency Management Agency, U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Available at: <http://www.fema.gov/hazard/dproc.shtm>
- ⁴"Glossary" (accessed 16 July 2008). American FactFinder, U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce. Available at: http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html?_lang=en
- ⁵NOAA Fisheries Glossary. October 2005. K. Blackhart, D.G. Stanton, and A.M. Shimada, eds. Revised edition, June 2006. NOAA Technical Memorandum NMFS-F/SPO-69. National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce. Available at: http://www.st.nmfs.gov/st4/documents/F_Glossary.pdf
- ⁶"Glossary" (accessed 16 July 2008). NOAA's Coral Reef Information System. National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce. Available at: <http://www.coris.noaa.gov/glossary/welcome.html>