

STATE COASTAL ZONE BOUNDARIES

April 22, 2004

STATE	DEFINITION OF STATE'S COASTAL ZONE (The seaward boundary of the Great Lake States is the U.S.-Canada International boundary, and for all other States is the 3 nautical mile territorial sea, except for those States marked with an asterisk (*))
ALABAMA	Alabama's coastal zone extends inland to the continuous 10-foot elevation contour in Baldwin and Mobile Counties.
ALASKA	Alaska's coastal zone is based on three zones based on biophysical relationships: (1) zone of direct interaction - the area where physical and biological processes are a direct function of contact between land and sea; (2) the zone of direct influence - the area closely affected and influenced by the close proximity of land and sea; and (3) the zone of indirect influence - the area beyond the zone of indirect influence to the limit of identifiable land/sea interaction. Local coastal programs may establish more specific boundaries.
AMERICAN SAMOA	American Samoa's coastal zone is the entire Territory.
CALIFORNIA & BCDC	<p>California's coastal zone generally extends 1,000 yards inland from the mean high tide line. In significant coastal estuarine habitat and recreational areas it extends inland to the first major ridgeline or 5 miles from the mean high tide line, whichever is less. In developed urban areas, the boundary is generally less than 1,000 yards.</p> <p>The coastal zone for the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) includes the open water, marshes and mudflats of greater San Francisco Bay, and areas 100 feet inland from the line of highest tidal action. The boundary also includes: the Suisun marsh and buffer zone; managed wetlands diked off from the Bay; and open waters diked off from the Bay and used in salt production.</p>
CONNECTICUT	Connecticut's coastal zone has two tiers incorporated within the 36 coastal townships. The first tier is bounded by a continuous line delineated by a 1,000 foot linear setback measured from the mean high water mark in coastal waters; or a 1,000 foot linear setback measured from the inland boundary of state regulated tidal wetlands; or the continuous interior contour elevation of the one hundred year frequency coastal flood zone; whichever is farthest inland. The second tier is the area between the inland boundary of the 36 coastal communities and the inland boundary of the first tier.
DELAWARE	Delaware's coastal zone includes the whole state.
FLORIDA *	Florida's coastal zone is the entire State, but has two tiers. Local governments eligible to receive coastal management funds are limited to those Gulf and Atlantic coastal cities and counties which include or are contiguous to state water bodies where marine species of vegetation constitute the dominant plant community. Florida's seaward boundary in the Gulf of Mexico is 3 marine leagues (9 nautical miles) and is 3 nautical miles in the Atlantic.
GEORGIA	Georgia's coastal zone includes the 11 counties that border tidally-influenced waters or have economies that are closely tied to coastal resources.

GUAM	Guam's coastal zone is the entire Territory.
HAWAII	Hawaii's coastal zone is the entire state.
INDIANA	Indiana's coastal zone is based on watershed boundaries within coastal townships and the counties of Lake, Porter and LaPorte. To create an inland boundary that is identifiable in practical landmarks, the coastal zone boundary is described based on the U.S. Geological Survey Quadrangle maps and major roads for each county. The coastal zone boundary is located in the northern portions of Lake, Porter, and LaPorte Counties. At its widest extent, the boundary extends away from the shoreline 17 miles to the Crown Point area and at its narrowest point, less than 2 miles, just north of Hudson Lake in LaPorte County. <i>See NOAA, Indiana Lake Michigan Coastal Program and Final Environmental Impact Statement, Appendix C (April 2002), to determine the precise coastal zone boundary in a particular area of the State.</i>
LOUISIANA	Louisiana's coastal zone varies from 16 to 32 miles inland from the Gulf coast and generally follows the Intracoastal Waterway running from the Texas-Louisiana state line then follows highways through Vermilion, Iberia, and St. Mary parishes, then dipping southward following the natural ridges below Houma, then turning northward to take in Lake Pontchartrain and ending at the Mississippi-Louisiana border.
MAINE	Maine's coastal zone includes the inland line of coastal towns on tidewaters and all islands.
MARYLAND	Maryland's coastal zone extends to the inland boundary of the 16 counties bordering the Atlantic Ocean, the Chesapeake Bay, and the Potomac River (as far as the municipal limits of Washington, D.C), and includes Baltimore City and all local jurisdictions within the counties.
MASSACHUSETTS	Massachusetts' coastal zone extends 100 feet inland of specified major roads, RR tracks, or other visible right of ways which are located within a half mile of coastal waters or salt marshes. The coastal zone includes all islands, transitional and intertidal areas, and coastal wetlands and beaches. In instances where the road boundary excludes significant resource areas, the boundary line may depart from the road to encompass.
MICHIGAN	Michigan's coastal zone, generally, extends a minimum of 1,000 feet from the ordinary high water mark. The boundary extends further inland in some locations to encompass coastal lakes, rivermouths, and bays; floodplains; wetlands; dune areas; urban areas; and public park, recreation , and natural areas.
MINNESOTA	Minnesota's coastal zone is divided into three areas. The first includes the area of the St. Louis River in Carlton County, south of Duluth. The second is the city of Duluth and surrounding areas of urban growth and expansion to the north and west. The third is the region between the Duluth city limits north to the Canadian border, also known as the "North Shore," which includes portions of St. Louis, Lake, and Cook Counties. <i>See NOAA, Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program Final Environmental Impact Statement, Chapter One, (May 1999), to determine the precise coastal zone boundary in a particular area of the State.</i>
MISSISSIPPI	Mississippi's coastal zone includes the 3 counties adjacent to the coast. The coastal zone includes these counties, as well as all adjacent coastal waters. Included in this

	definition are the barrier islands of the coast
NEW HAMPSHIRE	New Hampshire's coastal zone is the 17 coastal municipalities.
NEW JERSEY	New Jersey's coastal zone recognizes four distinct regions of the State and treats them separately. From the New York border to the Raritan Bay, the boundary extends landward from mean high water to the first road or property line. From the Raritan Bay south along the Atlantic shoreline and up to the Delaware Memorial Bridge, the boundary extends from half a mile to 24 miles inland (1,376 square miles of land area). From the Delaware Memorial Bridge northward up the Delaware River to Trenton, the boundary extends landward to the first road inclusive of all wetlands. The fourth boundary serves a 31-mile square area in the northeast corner of the state bordering the Hudson river (New Jersey Meadowlands Commission).
NEW YORK	New York's coastal zone varies from region to region while incorporating the following conditions: The inland boundary is approximately 1,000 feet from the shoreline of the mainland. In urbanized and developed coastal locations the landward boundary is approximately 500 feet from the mainland's shoreline, or less than 500 feet where a roadway or railroad line runs parallel to the shoreline at a distance of under 500 feet and defines the boundary. In locations where major state-owned lands and facilities or electric power generating facilities abut the shoreline, the boundary extends inland to include them. In some areas, such as Long Island Sound and the Hudson River Valley, the boundary may extend inland up to 10,000 feet to encompass significant coastal resources, such as areas of exceptional scenic value, agricultural or recreational lands, and major tributaries and headlands.
NORTH CAROLINA	North Carolina's coastal zone includes the 20 counties that in whole or in part are adjacent to, adjoining, intersected by or bounded by the Atlantic Ocean or any coastal sound(s). Within this boundary, there are two tiers. The first tier is comprised of Areas of Environmental Concern (AEC) and is subject to more thorough regulatory controls. AECs include: coastal wetlands, estuarine waters, public trust areas, estuarine shorelines, ocean beaches, frontal dunes, ocean erosion areas, inlet lands, small surface water supply watersheds, public water supply well-fields, and fragile natural resource areas. The second tier includes land uses which have potential to affect coastal waters even though they are not located in AECs.
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS	Northern Mariana Islands' coastal zone is the entire Commonwealth. (Note: a recent federal court decision ruled that the Commonwealth does not own the adjacent territorial sea. A consent decree allows the CNMI to manage the area.)
OHIO	Ohio's coastal zone includes portions of 9 counties bordering Lake Erie and its tributaries and varies depending on biophysical characteristics of various coastal regions- in the western part of the coast the boundary extends inland up to 15 miles along certain low lying wetland and floodplain areas; in most of the eastern part of the State, areas with high bluffs, the boundary extends inland for only about an eighth of a mile, with the exception of the Mentor Marsh area.
OREGON	Oregon's coastal zone extends inland to the crest of the coastal range, except for the following: along the Umpqua River, where it extends upstream to Scottsburg; along the Rogue River, where it extends upstream to Agness; and except in the Columbia River Basin, where it extends upstream to the downstream end of Puget Island.

PENNSYLVANIA	Pennsylvania's coastal zone along Lake Erie varies from 900 feet in urban areas to over 3 miles in more rural areas, and encompasses the floodplains of Lake Erie and tributary streams, bluff hazards recession areas, and coastal wetlands. The coastal zone along the Delaware River Estuary extends inland to 660 feet in urbanized areas, to 3.5 miles in rural areas, and includes floodplains of the Delaware and Schuylkill Rivers and their tributaries to the upper limit of tidal influence, and tidal and freshwater wetlands.
PUERTO RICO *	Puerto Rico's coastal zone, generally, extends 1,000 meters inland; however, it extends further inland in certain areas to include important coastal resources. Puerto Rico's seaward boundary is 3 marine leagues (9 nautical miles).
RHODE ISLAND	Rhode Island's coastal zone includes the whole state. However, the inland extent of the regulatory authority of the State's CZMA agency is 200 feet inland from any coastal feature, to watersheds, and to certain activities that occur anywhere within the State that include: power-generating plants; petroleum storage facilities; chemical or petroleum processing; minerals extraction; sewage treatment and disposal plants; solid waste disposal facilities; and, desalination plants.
SOUTH CAROLINA	South Carolina's coastal zone includes all lands and waters in the counties which contain any one or more of the critical areas (coastal waters, tidelands, beaches, and primary oceanfront sand dunes).
TEXAS *	Texas' coastal zone is generally the area seaward of the Texas coastal facility designation line which roughly follows roads that are parallel to coastal waters and wetlands generally within one mile of tidal rivers. The boundary encompasses all or portions of 18 coastal counties. Texas' seaward boundary is 3 marine leagues (9 nautical miles).
VIRGINIA	Virginia's coastal zone includes the 29 counties, 17 cities, and 42 incorporated towns of <i>Tidewater Virginia</i> , including the Atlantic Coast watershed and portions of the Chesapeake Bay and Albemarle-Pamlico Sound watersheds.
VIRGIN ISLANDS	Virgin Islands' coastal zone includes the entire territory.
WASHINGTON	Washington's coastal zone is the 15 coastal counties that front saltwater.
WISCONSIN	Wisconsin's coastal zone is the 15 counties that front Lake Superior, Lake Michigan, or Green Bay.