

**Geographic Data for NMFS' Final Rule:
71 FR 27416; May 11, 2006**

These data were developed to support implementation of NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service's Final Rule to implement amendment 19 to the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP).

Coordinates outlining boundaries of Groundfish Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) and EFH Conservation Areas were extracted from Sections 660.395 – 660.399 of the final rule, and converted to various formats to facilitate access and use by the public. The coordinate files and Geographic Information System (GIS) files were developed with the utmost care. However, they are not legal boundaries and any discrepancies between these files and the Federal Register will be resolved in favor of the Federal Register.

The data are provided in two formats:

- (1) CSV format: A comma-delimited ASCII text format which includes the name of the area and the coordinate in decimal degrees and degrees minutes formats. If you have Microsoft Excel, you can double-click this file to open it in Excel, and then save as a spreadsheet format if desired.
- (2) Shapefiles: for use with GIS software, such as ESRI's ArcView and ArcInfo or other software that can import this proprietary format. Shapefiles of the point coordinates only, as well as closed polygons are provided. Note that additional data from NOAA, specifically the Exclusive Economic Zone boundary and the shoreline, were required to complete some of polygons, and are not necessarily the official legal boundary.

For further information contact:

Steve Copps (Northwest Region, NMFS),
phone: 206-526-6140; fax: 206-526-6736 and;
e-mail: steve.copps@noaa.gov.