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Division of Marine Fisheries

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March 12, 2015

To Fixed Gear Fishermen of Massachusetts:

Marine Fisheries will conduct a trawl survey throughout state coastal waters beginning May 4, 2015. Surveys have been conducted each May and September since 1978 to provide a consistent sampling of benthic fishes and mobile invertebrates. Survey data is used to monitor the condition of fish stocks, as well as to inform the environmental review process that minimizes construction impacts on fisheries resources. Maintaining access to the planned sampling sites is critical to the integrity of the survey.

Please review the attached table of station locations and the accompanying figures which plot the sample sites. Station location information can also be accessed on our website

(<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dfg/dmf/programs-and-projects/resource-assessment-surveys-project.html>). **We must insist that all fixed gear be kept clear of station locations (1.5 n. mi. diameter circle as shown in figure - center point reported in table) for the indicated periods until station completion.** While we will make every attempt to complete stations during the assigned period to minimize inconvenience to fixed gear fishermen, *Marine Fisheries* is prepared to attach restrictions to permit renewals (under 322 CMR 7.01 (7)), mandating that fixed gear not be set on designated trawl survey sites for the announced dates. It remains our hope that this action will be unnecessary.

Daily survey station accomplishment will be updated and posted on the *Marine Fisheries* website (<http://www.mass.gov/dmf/trawlsurvey>) and on Twitter (handle: @MassDMF). Massachusetts Lobstermen's Association will also post survey information on their webpage (<http://www.lobstermen.com>), as well as on Facebook (username: lobstermensassoc) and Twitter (handle: @masslobstermens). In the event of a delay due to weather, the schedule will be resumed as soon as working conditions permit. Fishermen can contact the R/V *Gloria Michelle* on VHF channels 13 or 16 to determine the updated daily schedule.

Personnel aboard the NOAA R/V *Gloria Michelle*, a 65' western rigged steel stern trawler with a blue hull and white deckhouse, will carefully check each site for marked gear by cruising along a selected tow path before the net is set. Twenty-minute tows undertaken at 2.5 knots cover approximately 0.8 nautical miles. We encourage communicating helpful information to the R/V officers (via channels 13 or 16).

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact me (jeremy.king@state.ma.us, (508) 990-2860 x 112). If you have any questions about the *Marine Fisheries* website, Facebook, or Twitter, please contact Elaine Brewer (elaine.brewer@state.ma.us, (978) 282-0308 x 124).

Sincerely,

Jeremy King
Senior Marine Fisheries Biologist

Cc. Paul Diodati, Director

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries
May 2015 Spring Trawl Survey Station Locations
Massachusetts Bay to New Hampshire

* Loran coordinates taken from NOAA paper charts.
Please refer to Lat/Long for best accuracy.

Area Description	Depth	Range of Dates	Latitude	Longitude	Loran	Sta. ID#
Cape Ann and North	0-30'	May 7-10	42°42.78	-70°45.51	13830.1 / 44383.2	N-1
	0-30'	May 7-10	42°40.39	-70°41.83	13819.2 / 44363.6	N-2
	31'-60'	May 7-10	42°49.76	-70°47.81	13808.0 / 44423.9	N-3
	31'-60'	May 7-10	42°41.93	-70°43.14	13819.8 / 44374.0	N-4
	61'-90'	May 7-10	42°47.30	-70°45.59	13806.3 / 44406.8	N-5
	61'-90'	May 7-10	42°43.13	-70°42.66	13810.0 / 44379.4	N-6
	61'-90'	May 7-10	42°50.12	-70°46.73	13798.7 / 44423.6	N-7
	91'-120'	May 7-10	42°50.42	-70°45.01	13785.9 / 44421.8	N-8
	91'-120'	May 7-10	42°42.85	-70°40.89	13800.0 / 44374.7	N-9
	91'-120'	May 7-10	42°42.03	-70°38.08	13787.3 / 44364.9	N-10
	121'-180'	May 7-10	42°35.45	-70°36.33	13810.0 / 44326.1	N-11
	121'-180'	May 7-10	42°36.72	-70°33.30	13784.0 / 44327.4	N-12
	121'-180'	May 7-10	42°43.30	-70°36.80	13771.4 / 44369.2	N-13
	181'+	May 7-10	42°38.15	-70°31.39	13764.5 / 44331.9	N-14
	181'+	May 7-10	42°43.06	-70°33.74	13753.0 / 44362.1	N-15
Massachusetts Bay	0-30'	May 5-8	42°17.02	-70°51.72	14001.8 / 44251.9	N-16
	0-30'	May 6-8	42°26.93	-70°55.48	13977.6 / 44315.6	N-17
	31'-60'	May 5-8	42°17.37	-70°51.50	13998.9 / 44253.5	N-18
	31'-60'	May 6-8	42°26.89	-70°54.34	13969.9 / 44313.2	N-19
	31'-60'	May 5-8	42°13.94	-70°44.50	13970.8 / 44220.7	N-20
	61'-90'	May 6-8	42°23.29	-70°53.87	13985.1 / 44291.8	N-21
	61'-90'	May 5-8	42°18.57	-70°48.32	13972.6 / 44254.7	N-22
	61'-90'	May 6-8	42°26.80	-70°52.81	13960.4 / 44309.8	N-23
	91'-120'	May 5-8	42°18.88	-70°43.82	13942.5 / 44248.2	N-24
	91'-120'	May 6-8	42°26.01	-70°51.54	13956.2 / 44302.9	N-25
	91'-120'	May 6-8	42°23.19	-70°49.36	13956.4 / 44282.9	N-26
	121'-180'	May 6-11	42°30.68	-70°40.81	13863.8 / 44308.8	N-27
	121'-180'	May 6-11	42°29.06	-70°41.93	13879.2 / 44301.8	N-28
	121'-180'	May 6-8	42°26.71	-70°49.24	13938.2 / 44302.4	N-29
	181'+	May 6-11	42°25.27	-70°39.10	13880.4 / 44275.7	N-30
	181'+	May 6-11	42°28.51	-70°38.89	13862.9 / 44293.3	N-31

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries
May 2015 Spring Trawl Survey Station Locations
Cape Cod Bay and East of Cape Cod.

* Loran coordinates taken from NOAA paper charts.
Please refer to Lat/Long for best accuracy.

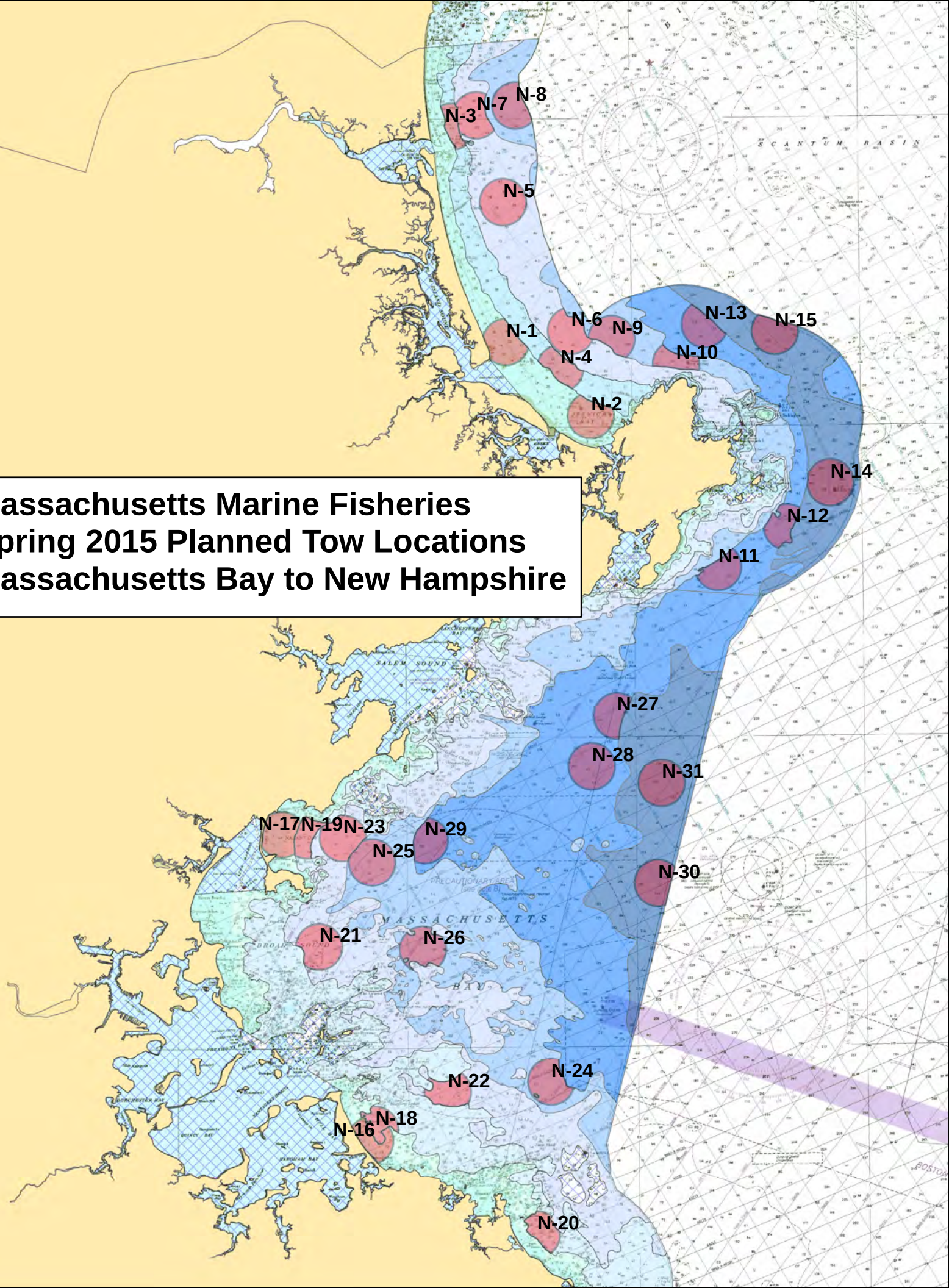
Area Description	Depth	Range of Dates	Latitude	Longitude	Loran	Sta. ID#
Western Cape Cod Bay	0-30'	May 4-12	41°57.52	-70°36.59	13997.8 / 44109.8	C-1
	0-30'	May 4-7, 10-12	41°50.75	-70°30.98	13994.2 / 44059.1	C-2
	0-30'	May 4-6, 10-12	41°44.94	-70°17.30	13938.3 / 44002.4	C-3
	31'-60'	May 4-6, 10-12	41°46.66	-70°26.50	13985.3 / 44027.0	C-4
	31'-60'	May 4-7, 10-12	41°48.42	-70°28.72	13991.0 / 44041.2	C-5
	31'-60'	May 4-6, 10-12	41°46.29	-70°20.91	13953.7 / 44016.2	C-6
	61'-90'	May 4-6, 10-12	41°47.31	-70°20.09	13944.2 / 44021.1	C-7
	61'-90'	May 5-11	42°05.35	-70°34.52	13948.9 / 44152.8	C-8
	61'-90'	May 4-7, 10-12	41°50.78	-70°28.45	13978.7 / 44055.2	C-9
	91'-120'	May 4-12	41°57.76	-70°30.41	13959.0 / 44100.8	C-10
	91'-120'	May 4-6, 8-12	41°54.00	-70°25.98	13949.3 / 44070.9	C-11
	91'-120'	May 4-6, 8-12	41°54.47	-70°23.42	13931.8 / 44069.8	C-12
	121'-180'	May 8-13	42°02.45	-70°25.13	13904.9 / 44120.2	C-13
	121'-180'	May 5-11	42°03.77	-70°30.24	13929.9 / 44136.3	C-14
	121'-180'	May 4-6, 8-12	41°59.35	-70°25.53	13921.9 / 44102.2	C-15
Eastern Cape Cod Bay	0-30'	May 8-13	41°57.27	-70°05.96	13814.6 / 44059.4	C-16
	0-30'	May 4-6, 10-13	41°50.79	-70°09.21	13864.0 / 44025.7	C-17
	31'-60'	May 8-13	41°53.44	-70°07.50	13841.9 / 44039.1	C-18
	31'-60'	May 4-6, 10-13	41°50.13	-70°11.63	13881.4 / 44025.6	C-19
	61'-90'	May 8-13	41°57.63	-70°08.00	13825.0 / 44064.6	C-20
	61'-90'	May 8-13	41°53.23	-70°10.35	13859.7 / 44042.2	C-21
	91'-120'	May 8-13	41°57.76	-70°11.80	13847.0 / 44071.2	C-22
	91'-120'	May 8-13	41°56.19	-70°11.82	13854.1 / 44062.1	C-23
	121'-180'	May 8-13	42°06.87	-70°27.67	13899.3 / 44150.3	C-24
	121'-180'	May 8-14	42°01.64	-70°15.12	13848.2 / 44099.1	C-25
	181'+	May 8-14	42°06.02	-70°18.46	13847.3 / 44130.0	C-26
	181'+	May 8-14	42°03.85	-70°20.08	13867.6 / 44120.0	C-27
East of Cape Cod	0-30'	May 11-15	42°03.67	-70°04.87	13777.5 / 44094.9	B-1
	0-30'	May 11-15	41°35.86	-69°57.17	13861.8 / 43918.0	B-2
	31'-60'	May 11-15	41°37.91	-69°53.97	13834.6 / 43925.9	B-3
	31'-60'	May 11-15	42°04.64	-70°06.44	13782.1 / 44102.8	B-4
	31'-60'	May 11-15	41°53.36	-69°56.54	13778.0 / 44022.5	B-5
	61'-90'	May 11-15	41°49.93	-69°54.87	13784.6 / 43999.7	B-6
	61'-90'	May 11-15	42°01.89	-70°01.12	13763.9 / 44078.9	B-7
	91'-120'	May 11-15	41°46.27	-69°52.15	13786.0 / 43974.0	B-8
	91'-120'	May 11-14	42°06.02	-70°09.69	13794.6 / 44115.9	B-9
	91'-120'	May 11-15	41°49.95	-69°53.46	13776.4 / 43997.7	B-10
	121'-180'	May 11-14	42°07.16	-70°13.83	13813.7 / 44129.1	B-11
	121'-180'	May 11-15	41°49.54	-69°52.41	13772.4 / 43993.8	B-12
	121'-180'	May 11-14	42°06.02	-70°12.81	13813.2 / 44121.0	B-13

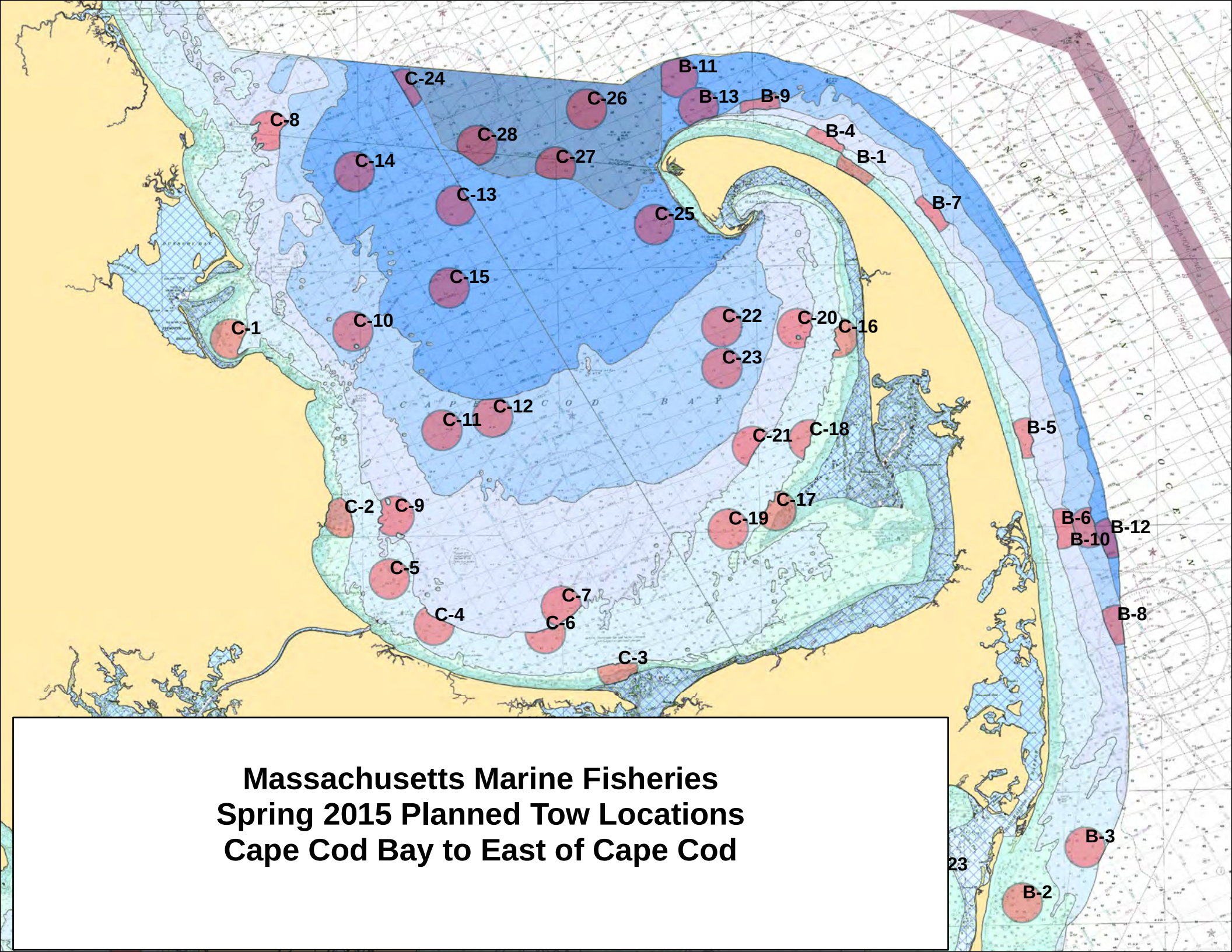
Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries
May 2015 Spring Trawl Survey Station Locations
South of Cape Cod

* Loran coordinates taken from NOAA paper charts.
Please refer to Lat/Long for best accuracy.

Area Description	Depth	Range of Dates	Latitude	Longitude	Loran	Sta. ID#
Nantucket Sound	0-30'	May 13 - 23	41°32.38	-70°17.25	13992.8 / 43924.0	S-20
	0-30'	May 13 - 23	41°23.40	-70°13.17	14006.7 / 43861.6	S-21
	0-30'	May 13 - 23	41°31.73	-70°20.72	14016.0 / 43924.9	S-22
	0-30'	May 13 - 23	41°36.98	-70°01.87	13883.8 / 43931.1	S-23
	0-30'	May 13 - 23	41°35.60	-70°22.22	14008.3 / 43951.4	S-24
	0-30'	May 13 - 23	41°29.60	-70°23.00	14038.2 / 43914.6	S-25
	0-30'	May 13 - 23	41°24.93	-70°09.38	13978.7 / 43866.5	S-26
	0-30'	May 13 - 23	41°36.17	-70°13.38	13954.0 / 43942.3	S-27
	0-30'	May 13 - 23	41°32.45	-70°30.83	14072.6 / 43944.0	S-28
	0-30'	May 13 - 23	41°32.29	-70°04.06	13916.9 / 43905.6	S-29
	31'-60'	May 13 - 23	41°27.21	-70°09.88	13972.0 / 43881.4	S-30
	31'-60'	May 13 - 23	41°26.68	-70°26.97	14073.6 / 43901.7	S-31
	31'-60'	May 13 - 23	41°22.10	-70°11.44	14002.0 / 43851.1	S-32
	31'-60'	May 13 - 23	41°26.91	-70°03.84	13938.6 / 43871.7	S-33
	31'-60'	May 13 - 23	41°28.05	-70°07.94	13957.2 / 43884.1	S-34
	31'-60'	May 13 - 23	41°32.93	-70°06.58	13928.6 / 43912.7	S-35
	31'-60'	May 13 - 23	41°21.75	-70°06.31	13974.2 / 43842.2	S-36
	31'-60'	May 13 - 23	41°23.46	-70°04.19	13955.1 / 43850.2	S-37
	31'-60'	May 13 - 23	41°21.84	-70°03.80	13959.6 / 43839.8	S-38
	31'-60'	May 13 - 23	41°29.81	-70°25.71	14053.4 / 43919.8	S-39
	31'-60'	May 13 - 23	41°32.09	-70°32.09	14081.5 / 43943.3	S-40
Buzzards Bay and Vineyard Sound	0-30'	May 13 - 23	41°40.73	-70°41.68	14103.6 / 44012.8	S-1
	0-30'	May 13 - 23	41°38.08	-70°43.83	14127.2 / 43999.7	S-2
	0-30'	May 13 - 23	41°29.93	-71°03.49	14280.4 / 43976.4	S-3
	31'-60'	May 13 - 23	41°30.70	-70°45.72	14168.6 / 43954.6	S-4
	31'-60'	May 13 - 23	41°32.81	-70°42.50	14140.8 / 43963.5	S-5
	31'-60'	May 13 - 23	41°31.11	-70°48.46	14183.7 / 43961.3	S-6
	31'-60'	May 13 - 23	41°29.33	-70°48.40	14190.4 / 43949.6	S-7
	31'-60'	May 13 - 23	41°35.01	-70°42.16	14129.8 / 43977.4	S-8
	61'-90'	May 13 - 23	41°29.36	-70°54.12	14225.0 / 43958.1	S-9
	61'-90'	May 13 - 23	41°21.57	-70°52.96	14248.1 / 43904.2	S-10
	61'-90'	May 13 - 23	41°22.00	-70°49.42	14225.2 / 43902.1	S-11
	91'-120'	May 13 - 23	41°24.55	-71°00.16	14280.3 / 43935.0	S-12
Southwest of Gay Head and South of Martha's Vineyard	0-30'	May 13 - 23	41°18.83	-70°29.40	14119.0 / 43853.2	S-13
	0-30'	May 13 - 23	41°23.35	-70°26.21	14082.2 / 43878.7	S-14
	31'-60'	May 13 - 23	41°19.96	-70°28.75	14110.5 / 43859.8	S-15
	31'-60'	May 13 - 23	41°18.85	-70°33.20	14141.2 / 43858.5	S-16
	61'-90'	May 13 - 23	41°18.25	-70°38.70	14175.9 / 43862.1	S-17
	61'-90'	May 13 - 23	41°17.72	-70°44.42	14211.7 / 43866.1	S-18
	91'-120'	May 13 - 23	41°19.83	-70°54.07	14261.4 / 43894.0	S-19
South of Nantucket	0-30'	May 13 - 23	41°22.24	-69°59.19	13932.0 / 43836.3	S-41
	0-30'	May 13 - 23	41°28.25	-69°59.89	13910.5 / 43874.7	S-42
	0-30'	May 13 - 23	41°23.76	-69°58.49	13921.6 / 43844.9	S-43
	31'-60'	May 13 - 23	41°25.94	-70°01.94	13931.9 / 43863.0	S-44
	31'-60'	May 13 - 23	41°14.45	-70°09.14	14019.9 / 43798.7	S-45
	31'-60'	May 13 - 23	41°16.75	-70°19.22	14068.0 / 43826.3	S-46
	61'-90'	May 13 - 23	41°14.86	-70°16.14	14057.9 / 43810.1	S-47

**Massachusetts Marine Fisheries
Spring 2015 Planned Tow Locations
Massachusetts Bay to New Hampshire**





**Massachusetts Marine Fisheries
Spring 2015 Planned Tow Locations
Cape Cod Bay to East of Cape Cod**

Massachusetts Marine Fisheries Spring 2015 Planned Tow Locations South of Cape Cod

