



Notice to Fish Harvesters

NORTH ATLANTIC RIGHT WHALE - NOTICE OF GRID CLOSURE: GV52, GV53, GV54, GW45, GW46, GW47, GW52, GW53, GW54, GX45, GX46, GX47, GX52, GX53, GX54, GY45, GY46, GY47

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) – May 11, 2020 – The Gulf and Quebec Regions are providing notice of new grid closures due to the confirmed presence of North Atlantic Right Whale (NARW). The information presented herein is consistent with the 2020 NARW management measures previously announced by DFO.

All times listed in this document are in Atlantic Daylight Time (ADT). This document also includes all NARW related grid closures currently in effect in Canadian waters.

Upcoming closures in the Gulf of St Lawrence

The following grids will be closing on **May 16, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.:**

- Full grids **GV52, GV53, GV54, GW45, GW46, GW47, GW52, GW53, GW54, GX45, GX46, GX47, GX52, GX53, GX54, GY45, GY46, GY47**

The above date has been revised from the one communicated in the pre-notice to allow an additional delay for these grid closures due to the marine weather forecast. All gear affected by this notice must be removed from the closed area before the time of closure.

General

Please refer to Annex 1 for a summary of current grid closures.

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.

Any reference to the term “Notice” in this document means this “Notice to Fish Harvesters”. The Notice to Fish Harvesters, including its annexes, is provided for information purposes only. In case of discrepancy between the information in the Notice to Fish Harvester and a Variation Order, the latter will prevail.

Coordinates

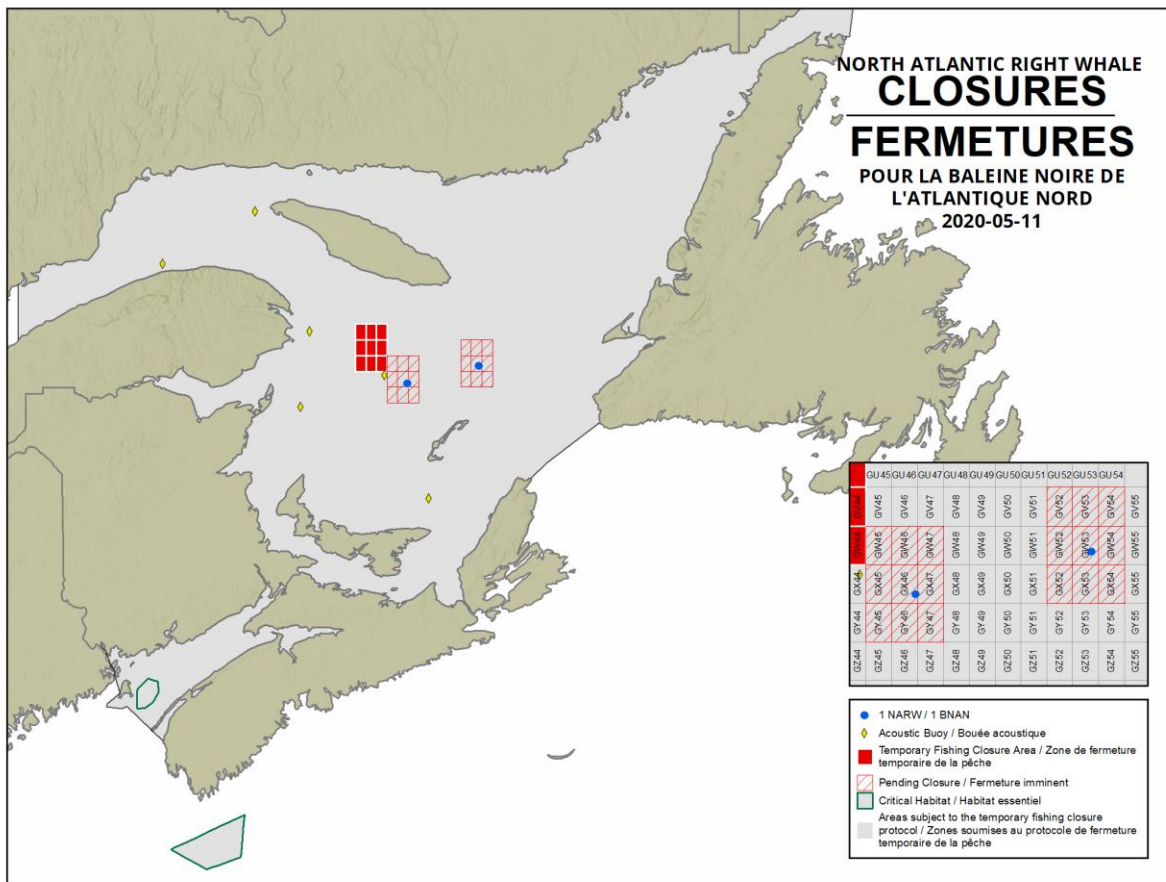
The coordinates representing the contour of the temporary grid closure in the waters of the **Gulf of St Lawrence** are listed below for the western closure :

Points	Position*	
	North Latitude (N)	West Longitude (W)
1	48 40 00.00	-63 10 00.00
2	48 40 00.00	-62 40 00.00
3	48 20 00.00	-62 40 00.00
4	48 20 00.00	-62 10 00.00
5	47 50 00.00	-62 10 00.00
6	47 50 00.00	-62 40 00.00
7	48 10 00.00	-62 40 00.00
8	48 10 00.00	-63 10 00.00
9	48 40 00.00	-63 10 00.00

The coordinates representing the contour of the temporary grid closure in the waters of the **Gulf of St Lawrence** are listed below for the eastern closure:

Points	Position*	
	North Latitude (N)	West Longitude (W)
1	48 30 00.00	-61 30 00.00
2	48 30 00.00	-61 00 00.00
3	48 00 00.00	-61 30 00.00
4	48 00 00.00	-61 00 00.00
5	48 30 00.00	-61 30 00.00

**Area enclosed by 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.*



Prepared by the Atlantic Marine Mammal Hub, Fisheries and Oceans Canada / Préparé par le Centre des mammifères marins de l'Atlantique, Pêches et Océans Canada

Map identifying all grid closures in Atlantic Canada due to the detection of NARW

For more information:

Regular updates and maps indicating detections will be posted here:

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

Annex 1 – Gulf of St Lawrence – Grid closure summary

The closures are in effect for the following fisheries when the fishing seasons are open in the Gulf, Newfoundland & Labrador, and Quebec Regions: 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.

The following grids will be closing on :

- **May 16, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.**
 - Full grids **GV52, GV53, GV54, GW45, GW46, GW47, GW52, GW53, GW54, GX45, GX46, GX47, GX52, GX53, GX54, GY45, GY46, GY47**

The following grids remain temporary closed until further notice in the Gulf of St Lawrence:

- Full grids **GU42, GU43, GU44, GV42, GV43, GV44, GW42, GW43, GW44**