# New England Aquarium: Gulf of Maine - Aerial Surveys 2023-2024

**Type** Enterprise Geodatabase Feature Class

**Tags** RWSC, New England Aquarium, Gulf of Maine, Marine Mammals, Aerial Surveys, whale

### Summary

This layer represents transects from the New England Aquarium's aerial surveys conducted from 2023-2024 in the coastal Gulf of Maine area. These lines show only the planned routes for the aerial surveys and are displayed for planning and research coordination purposes.

### Description

This layer depicts transects from the New England Aquarium's aerial surveys conducted from 2023-2024 in the coastal Gulf of Maine area. The New England Aquarium received funding from an anonymous fund at the Maine Community Foundation to operate systematic aerial surveys in the waters off Maine from September - January. Observers record data for all marine species seen during the surveys. The surveys use line-transect methodology, which will be used to build a data set that can be used to estimate abundance for species with an adequate number of sightings. If right whale aggregations are detected visually or acoustically, directed aerial surveys will be conducted to photograph the whales, to allow for demographics studies (e.g., the number of males versus females, adults versus juveniles, etc.).

The Gulf of Maine surveys are run from September through January. The surveys use line-transect methodology but if right whale aggregations are detected visually or acoustically directed surveys will be conducted to photograph the whales which will allow for demographics studies.

The survey process is described in detail here: https://www.masscec.com/resources/marine-mammal-and-sea-turtle-surveys

For more information visit the project site: https://coastalstudies.org/our-work/right-whale-research/population-monitoring/ ; and the RWSC database project page: https://database.rwsc.org/details?recordId=recGfijPbg4Y8zlV7

These shapefiles display just the planned routes, to view the realized routes from all completed surveys visit: https://whalemap.org/#map

### Credits

Jessica Redfern, New England Aquarium, <a href=mailto:jredfern@neaq.org target="_blank">jredfern@neaq.org</a>

### Use limitations

These data will be used by RWSC and its expert Subcommittees, partners, and other participants to implement the Science Plan, including to understand the extent of ongoing and planned data collection activities, and to coordinate and plan future data collection and research activities with respect to offshore wind. The data will be displayed via online mapping platforms.

### Extent

West -70.624715 East -67.041869
North 44.585919 South 42.722922

### Scale Range

Maximum (zoomed in) 1:5,000
Minimum (zoomed out) 1:150,000,000

### Topics and Keywords ►

Themes or categories of the resource Biota, Oceans

Content type ⇔ Downloadable Data
Export to FGDC CSDGM XML format as Resource Description No

### Citation ►

Title New England Aquarium: Gulf of Maine - Aerial Surveys 2023-2024
Publication date 2024-07-12 00:00:00

Presentation formats ⇔ digital map

### Citation Contacts ►

Responsible party - point of contact
Individual's name Jessica Redfern
Organization's name New England Aquarium

Contact information ►
Phone
Voice NA
Address
Type postal
City NA
Administrative area NA
Postal code NA
e-mail address jredfern@neaq.org

Responsible party - originator
Individual's name Debbie Brill
Organization's name Regional Wildlife Science Collaborative for Offshore Wind
Contact's position Marine Mammals Subcommittee Lead

Contact information ►
Phone
Voice NA
Address
Type postal
City NA
Administrative area NA
Postal code NA
e-mail address Deborah.brill@duke.edu

## Resource Details ►

Dataset languages ⇔English (UNITED STATES)
Dataset character set utf8 - 8 bit UCS Transfer Format

Status on-going
Spatial representation type ⇔vector

Processing environment ⇔Microsoft Windows 10 Version 10.0 (Build 22631) ; Esri ArcGIS 13.2.2.49743

Credits
Jessica Redfern, New England Aquarium, <a href=mailto:jredfern@neaq.org target="_blank">jredfern@neaq.org</a>

ArcGIS item properties
Name ⇔rpt.rpt.NEAq_GOM_AerialSurveys
Size ⇔0.000
Location ⇔Server=rwsc-db-pg15.env.duke.edu; Service=sde:postgresql:rwsc-db-pg15.env.duke.edu; Database=rpt; User=rpt; Version=sde.DEFAULT
Access protocol ⇔ArcSDE Connection

## Extents ►

Extent
Description
Aerial Surveys conducted from 2023-2024

Geographic extent
Bounding rectangle
Extent type
Extent used for searching
West longitude -70.624715
East longitude -67.041869
North latitude 44.585919
South latitude 42.722922
Extent contains the resource Yes

Temporal extent
Beginning date 2023-01-01 00:00:00
Ending date 2024-12-31 00:00:00

Extent in the item's coordinate system
westBL ⇔-70.624715
eastBL ⇔-67.041869
southBL ⇔42.722922
northBL ⇔44.585919
exTypeCode ⇔Yes

## Resource Points of Contact ►

Point of contact - point of contact
Individual's name Jessica Redfern
Organization's name New England Aquarium

Contact information ►
Phone
Voice NA
Address
Type postal
City NA
Administrative area NA
Postal code NA
e-mail address jredfern@neaq.org

## Resource Maintenance ►

Resource maintenance
Update frequency as needed

## Resource Constraints ►

Constraints
Limitations of use
These data will be used by RWSC and its expert Subcommittees, partners, and other participants to implement the Science Plan, including to understand the extent of ongoing and planned data collection activities, and to coordinate and plan future data collection and research activities with respect to offshore wind. The data will be displayed via online mapping platforms.

## Spatial Reference ►

ArcGIS coordinate system
Type ⇔ Geographic
Geographic coordinate reference ⇔ GCS_WGS_1984
Coordinate reference details ⇔
GeographicCoordinateSystem
WKID 4326
XOrigin -400
YOrigin -400
XYScale 1111948722.2222219
ZOrigin 0
ZScale 1
MOrigin 0
MScale 1
XYTolerance 8.983152841195215e-09
ZTolerance 0.001
MTolerance 0.001
HighPrecision true
LeftLongitude -180
LatestWKID 4326
WKT
GEOGCS["GCS_WGS_1984",DATUM["D_WGS_1984",SPHEROID["WGS_1984",6378137.0,298.257223563]],PRIMEM["Greenwich",0.0],UNIT["Degree",0.0174532925199433],AUTHORIT

Reference system identifier
Value ⇔ 4326
Codespace ⇔ EPSG
Version ⇔ 6.2(3.0.1)

## Spatial Data Properties ►

Vector ►
Level of topology for this dataset ⇔ geometry only

Geometric objects
Feature class name rpt.rpt.NEAq_GOM_AerialSurveys
Object type ⇔ composite
Object count ⇔ 0

ArcGIS Feature Class Properties ►
Feature class name rpt.rpt.NEAq_GOM_AerialSurveys
Feature type ⇔ Simple
Geometry type ⇔ Polyline
Has topology ⇔ FALSE
Feature count ⇔ 0
Spatial index ⇔ TRUE
Linear referencing ⇔ FALSE

## Data Quality ►

Data quality report - Conceptual consistency ►
Data quality measure reference
Measure description
Polyline shapefiles depicting aerial survey transect positions

Data quality report - Completeness omission ►
Data quality measure reference
Measure description
This dataset reflects ongoing aerial survey paths, and is complete as of 7/12/24. May be updated as needed.

## Lineage ►

Lineage statement
Received shapefiles directly from contacts

Process step ►
When the process occurred 2024-07-10 00:00:00
Description
1. Data imported into GIS

Process step ►
When the process occurred 2024-07-10 00:00:00
Description
2. All features merged into single feature

Process step ►

When the process occurred 2024-07-10 00:00:00
Description
3. Field names added and filled in

## Distribution ►

Distribution format
Name ⇔ Enterprise Geodatabase Feature Class

Transfer options
Transfer size ⇔ 0.000

## Fields ►

Details for object rpt.rpt.NEAq_GOM_AerialSurveys ►
Type ⇔ Feature Class
Row count ⇔ 0
Definition
Attribute table prepared by RWSC

Definition source
RWSC

Field OBJECTID ►
Alias ⇔ OBJECTID
Data type ⇔ OID
Width ⇔ 4
Precision ⇔ 10
Scale ⇔ 0

Field description ⇔
Internal feature number.

Description source ⇔
Esri

Description of values ⇔
Sequential unique whole numbers that are automatically generated.

Field Shape ►
Alias ⇔ shape
Data type ⇔ Geometry
Width ⇔ 8
Precision ⇔ 0
Scale ⇔ 0

Field description ⇔
Feature geometry.

Description source ⇔
Esri

Description of values ⇔
Coordinates defining the features.

Field OPERATOR ►
Alias ⇔ OPERATOR
Data type ⇔ String
Width ⇔ 254
Precision ⇔ 0
Scale ⇔ 0

Field description
The primary affiliation for the operator of the device

Description source
RWSC

Description of values
Unique name affiliation.

Field POC_EMAIL ►
Alias ⇔ POC_EMAIL
Data type ⇔ String
Width ⇔ 254
Precision ⇔ 0
Scale ⇔ 0

Field description

Email for the primary point of contact

Description source
RWSC

Description of values
Email for the primary point of contact

Field PROJECT_NAME ►
Alias PROJECT_NAME
Data type ⇔ String
Width ⇔ 254
Precision ⇔ 0
Scale ⇔ 0

Field description
Name of the project

Description source
RWSC

Description of values
Unique project name.

Field PATH_NAME ►
Alias ⇔ PATH_NAME
Data type ⇔ String
Width ⇔ 254
Precision ⇔ 0
Scale ⇔ 0

Field description
The route ID.

Description source
RWSC

Description of values
Unique path identification.

Field START_YEAR ►
Alias ⇔ START_YEAR
Data type ⇔ Integer
Width ⇔ 4
Precision ⇔ 10
Scale ⇔ 0

Field description
The start year in the YYYY format for the start of usable data for that path (i.e. the surveys are conducted in structured survey form).

Description source
RWSC

Description of values
Year in YYYY format.

Field END_YEAR ►
Alias ⇔ END_YEAR
Data type ⇔ Integer
Width ⇔ 4
Precision ⇔ 10
Scale ⇔ 0

Field description
The end date in the D-Month format for the end of the typical survey season. (*NOT an actual date field, keeping it as text so that it doesn't add a default year)

Description source
RWSC

Description of values
Text end date for season.

Field START_DATE ►
Alias ⇔ START_DATE
Data type ⇔ String
Width ⇔ 254
Precision ⇔ 0
Scale ⇔ 0

Field description
The start date in the D-Month format for the start of the typical survey season. (*NOT an actual date field, keeping it as text so that it doesn't add a default year)

Description source
RWSC

Description of values
Text start date for season.

Field END_DATE ►
Alias ⇔ END_DATE
Data type ⇔ String
Width ⇔ 254
Precision ⇔ 0
Scale ⇔ 0

Field description
The end year in the YYYY format for the end of usable data for that path (i.e. the surveys are conducted in structured survey form). (*Default set to 2050 if no available end year)

Description source
RWSC

Description of values
Year in YYYY format.

Field FREQUENCY ►
Alias ⇔ FREQUENCY
Data type ⇔ String
Width ⇔ 254
Precision ⇔ 0
Scale ⇔ 0

Field description
Proposed/approximate frequency of surveys throughout the survey season

Description source
RWSC

Description of values
Unique frequency measure.

Field PROJECT_LINK ►
Alias PROJECT_LINK
Data type ⇔ String
Width ⇔ 254
Precision ⇔ 0
Scale ⇔ 0

Field description
Link to the project entry in the RWSC database if applicable

Description source
RWSC

Description of values
Unique link address.

Field DATE_SUBMITTED ►
Alias DATE_SUBMITTED
Data type ⇔ Date
Width ⇔ 8
Precision ⇔ 0
Scale ⇔ 0

Field description
The date the shapefiles were sent to the RWSC

Description source
RWSC

Description of values
Date field.

Field DATE_ADDED ►
Alias ⇔ DATE_ADDED
Data type ⇔ Date
Width ⇔ 8
Precision ⇔ 0

Scale ⇔0

Field description
The date the entries were added to map

Description source
RWSC

Description of values
Date field.

Field LABEL ►
Alias LABEL
Data type ⇔String
Width ⇔254
Precision ⇔0
Scale ⇔0

Field description
The proposed layer name to appear in the table of contents

Description source
RWSC

Description of values
Unique label for use in symbology.

## Metadata Details ►

Metadata language ⇔English (UNITED STATES)
Metadata character set ⇔utf8 - 8 bit UCS Transfer Format

Scope of the data described by the metadata ⇔dataset
Scope name ⇔dataset

Last update ⇔2024-09-24

ArcGIS metadata properties
Metadata format ArcGIS 1.0
Standard or profile used to edit metadata FGDC

Created in ArcGIS for the item 2024-01-24 12:31:40
Last modified in ArcGIS for the item 2024-09-24 16:23:39

Automatic updates
Have been performed Yes
Last update 2024-07-14 22:10:38
Item location history
Item copied or moved 2024-01-24 12:31:40
From C:\Users\jozog\OneDrive - HDR, Inc\GIS\HDR_NARW_Aerial_Tracklines
To \\DZ7YXT3\C$\Users\jozog\OneDrive - HDR, Inc\GIS\Aerial_for_Jackie\HDR_NARW_Aerial_Tracklines

## Metadata Contacts ►

Metadata contact - originator
Individual's name Debbie Brill
Organization's name Regional Wildlife Science Collaborative for Offshore Wind
Contact's position Marine Mammals Subcommittee Lead

Contact information ►
Phone
Voice NA
Address
Type postal
City NA
Administrative area NA
Postal code NA
e-mail address Deborah.brill@duke.edu

## Metadata Maintenance ►

Maintenance
Update frequency as needed