



Navtech

Technologies to Protect Marine Mammals

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American Pilots' Association**



APA Overview



■ The national association of the piloting profession since 1884. Our objectives are to:

- Advance the highest pilotage standards**
- Champion pilot safety**
- Promote and defend the State Pilot System**



APA Overview

Each day, pilots are asked to take all sizes and types of vessels through narrow channels in congested waters where one miscalculation could mean disaster. They are trained, highly professional individuals, whose judgments must be spot-on for the hundreds of decisions they must make at every turn to bring a vessel safely to its berth or out to sea.

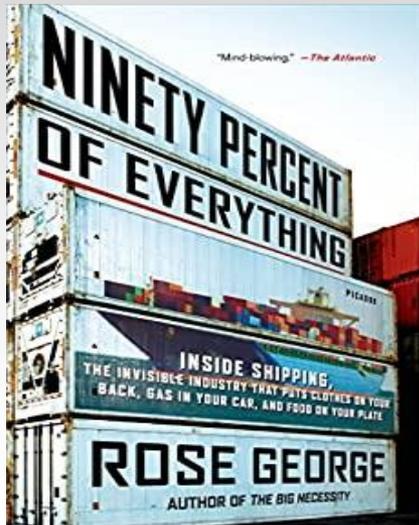
**- Vice Admiral Brian Salerno
U.S. Coast Guard**



Pilotage



- ***Purpose of pilotage is to ensure the safe, efficient and environmentally-responsible movement of maritime commerce.***
- ***Maritime commerce is critical to our Nation***





Pilotage

- *Pilotage is navigation safety and environmental protection regulation...perhaps the most effective form of regulation*
- **Why? Not just a regulation directing ship to do or not do something, but places on ships an individual with local knowledge and shiphandling skills, whose sole purpose is to protect the waterway and the public interest.**
- *Pilots are strong advocates of other such regulations....provided these regulations do not interfere with pilotage.*



North Atlantic Right Whale (NARW)



- ***Early 2000s – NOAA established voluntary measures to protect NARW***
- ***2008 – NOAA made seasonal (Nov-May) 10kt speed restrictions mandatory***
 - ***Pilots worked within the rulemaking to ensure a "navigation safety" deviation clause was added to regs***
 - ***Pilots have complied with regs, while also maintaining navigation safety and keeping commerce moving***



NOAA 2022 Proposal

■ *2022 - NOAA/NMFS proposed DRAMATIC changes to NARW speed restriction regs*

■ *Theses changes would:*

- ▣ *Place pilots/boat crews in danger***
- ▣ *Impact safe navigation***
- ▣ *Damage maritime supply chain***

■ *This view is shared by:*

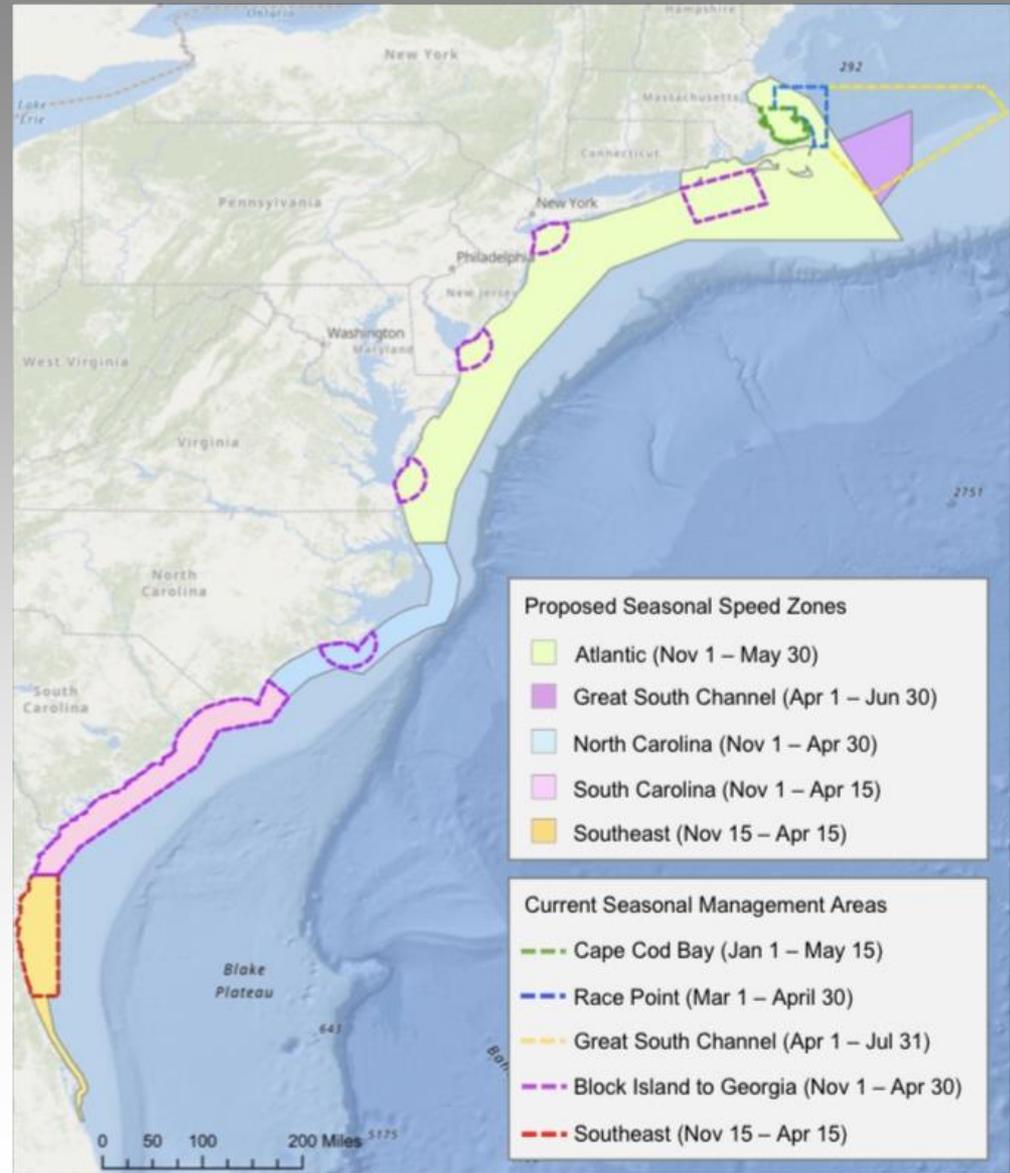
- ▣ *Ports***
- ▣ *Maritime Labor***
- ▣ *Chamber of Shipping***



NOAA 2022 Proposal

2022 - NOAA/NMFS proposes DRAMATIC changes to NARW speed restriction regs

- **Double the size of Seasonal Speed Zones**
- **Includes narrow, offshore dredged Federal Navigation Channels (FNC)**





NOAA 2022 Proposal

(continued)

- ***2022 - NOAA/NMFS proposes DRAMATIC changes to NARW speed restriction regs***
 - ***Change application from 65ft to 35 ft – Pilot boats***
 - ***Alter deviation clause – Unworkable and burdensome***
 - ***Criminalize navigation safety decisions***





APA Comments on NARW Proposed Rule



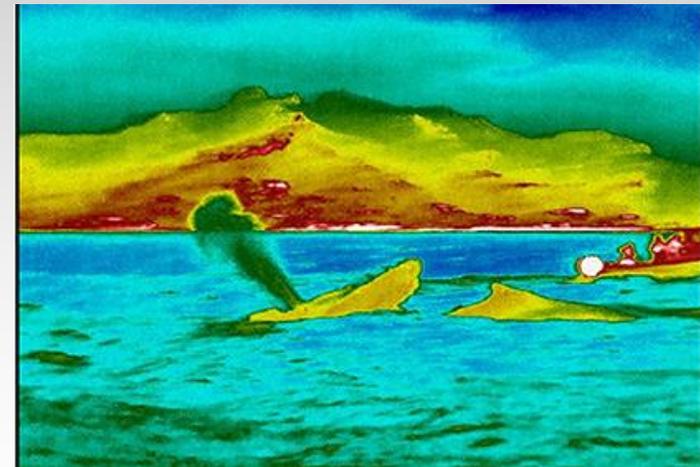
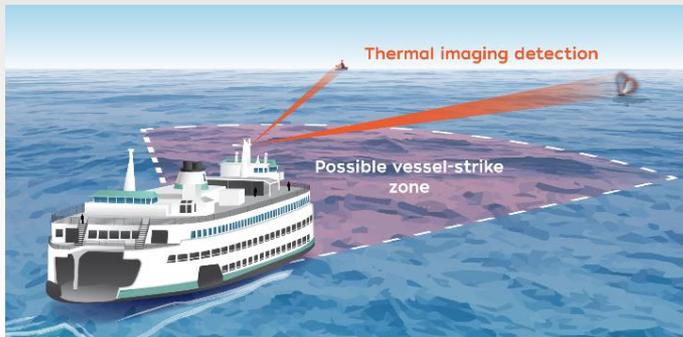
- ***Exempt pilot boats (< 50 out of nearly 16,000)***
 - ***Never been a NARW strike by a pilot boat***
- ***Exclude FNCs (<60 square miles out of 40,000)***
 - ***Never been a NARW strike by piloted vessel or in FNC***
- ***Retain navigation safety deviation clause***
- ***Do NOT criminalize safety decisions***



APA Suggestions

Collaborate and utilize technology

- **Agency should use technology to track individual NARW movements**
- **Pilot program / grants to equip ships and pilot boats with emerging detection technologies**
 - **FLIR, Thermography, smart cameras, etc.**





APA Suggestions

Collaborate and utilize technology

(continued)

- ***Sensor buoy "gates" (East-to-West) along the East Coast to monitor North-to-South migration***
- ***Supplement FNC buoys with sensors (Chile currently does so); if NARW detected, establish "dynamic speed zone"***





APA Suggestions

Collaborate and utilize technology

(continued)

- ***Work with APA and pilot groups to deploy App for reporting NARW sightings***
 - ***Pilots and pilot boat operators among best source (24x7x365)***





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