

# Republic of the Marshall Islands

## MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

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### MARINE SAFETY ADVISORY No. 16-21

**To: Owners/Operators, Masters, Nautical Inspectors, Recognized Organizations**

**Subject: RIGHT WHALE SPEED RESTRICTION ZONES**

**Date: 19 October 2021**

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries has established a new Voluntary Right Whale Speed Restriction Zone (or Dynamic Management Area (DMA)) off the coast of Nags Head, North Carolina to protect an aggregation of right whales. The [DMA](#) is in effect through 22 October 2021. During this period, mariners are requested to avoid the DMA or transit at 10 knots or less to prevent collisions with right whales.

Republic of the Marshall Islands-flagged vessels are advised that violating NOAA's voluntary speed restriction zones may impact the ability of a vessel to qualify for the United States Coast Guard's E-Zero program.

Detailed information on all of NOAA's vessel strike prevention regulations and programs, including a recent review of them, can be found at <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/shipstrike/>.

This MSA is evaluated annually by the Administrator and expires one year after its issuance or renewal unless otherwise noted, superseded, or revoked.