YRCA Coordinate Users:

A closed area was implemented in 1998 for the halibut sport fishery off the Washington coast for the purposes of reducing groundfish bycatch. In 2003, this closed area was adopted for the groundfish fishery and was called the Yelloweye Rockfish Conservation Area. The information in this file tracks the changes to coordinates of this closed area from 1998 through 2003, based on coordinates published in the halibut regulations (50 CFR 300.60 - 300.69). From 2003 onward, changes to coordinates were implemented in both the groundfish regulations (50 CFR 660.300 - 660.399) and the halibut regulations. This transition is noted in the filenames, where YRCA indicates groundfish closed areas and HCA indicates the closed area described in the halibut regulations.

Coordinates are presented in CSV format (comma-delimited ASCII text format) so that the data may be more easily used in mapping software. CSV files do not allow for multiple worksheets within a single file, therefore each set of coordinates has its own separate file. All of the coordinates can be easily downloaded using WinZip. To open the files, open the .zip file, select all or some of the closed area coordinate files and click the extract button. The numbers in the file name indicate the effective date of the change/implementation of coordinates. Dates are given in month/day/year format (i.e. 050603 indicates May 6, 2003).

The coordinates create a closed polygon, so the last coordinate on each worksheet is numbered "1" to indicate that the line ends on the same point that it began, creating a closed polygon.

Worksheet Column Header Key:

id_area	=	unique identifying number for a particular coordinate within a particular line
area_name	=	identifying name for a particular line defining a closed area polygon
lat_deg	=	degrees latitude for a particular coordinate
lat_min	=	decimal minutes for a particular coordinate, associated with the degrees latitude for that coo
lat_dir	=	latitude direction (N = North)
lon_deg	=	degrees longitude for a particular coordinate
lon_min	=	decimal minutes for a particular coordinate, associated with the degrees longitude for that c
lon_dir	=	longitude direction (W = West)
lat_dd	=	latitude for a particular coordinate, given in decimal degrees
lon_d	=	longitude for a particular coordinate, given in decimal degrees