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towards a standard for georeferenced marine names

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Flanders Marine Institute (VLIZ)

IMDIS, 23-25 September 2013, Lucca, Italy

Outline presentation

- Objectives geographic data systems at VLIZ
- marineregions.org
 - Data structure
 - Data content (o.a. EEZ boundaries)
 - Interface & web services
 - Users
- Future plans



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Objective

- VLIZ is a National Oceanographic Data Centre (NODC): need to group and structure in a standardized way marine geographic information
 - to create a standard list of marine geographic placenames, together with their coordinates



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Problem....

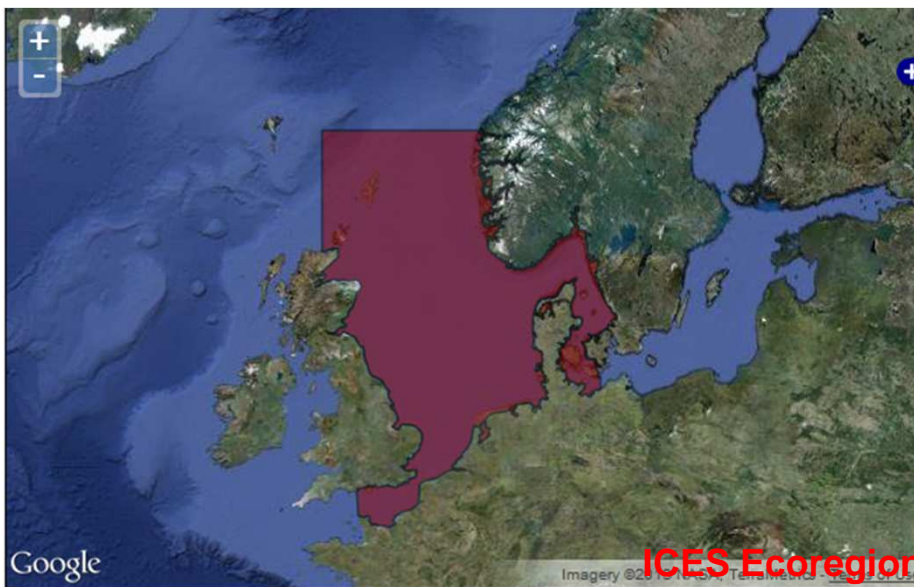
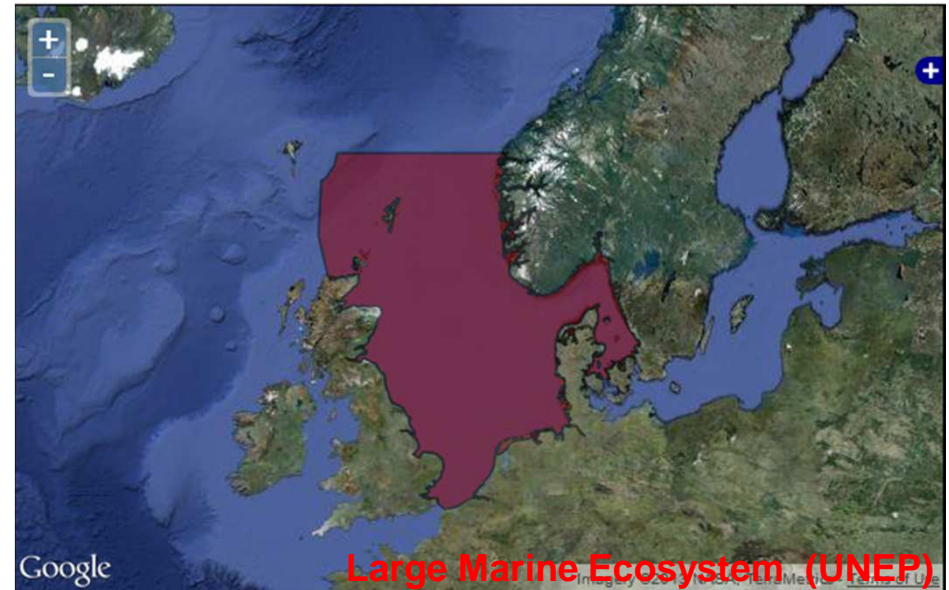
- Definition of marine placenames not always straightforward
 - Clear definitions lacking
 - Marine places harder to access, harder to define



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The North Sea?



Initiatives

- VLIMAR: Marine gazetteer (2004)
- MARBOUND: The world EEZ boundaries (2005)
- Towards one system: Marine Regions (2012)



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About

Marine Gazetteer

EEZ boundaries

Sources

Statistics

About Marine Regions

Marine Regions is a standard list of marine georeferenced place names and areas. It integrates and serves geographic information from the VLIMAR Gazetteer and the MARBOUND database and proposes a standard of marine georeferenced locations, boundaries and regions.

[Read more...](#)

Statistics

28,814 marine georeferenced places
36,079 marine place names
9,532 polygons of geographic places
12 marine geographic regional/global classifications
Maritime Boundaries (EEZ) of the world

News

Marine Natura 2000 sites available!

Added on: 2013-05-27 14:29:04 by Claus, Simon

The boundaries of the marine and coastal Natura 2000 sites, representing an ecological network of protected areas for Europe are now accessible from marineregions.org. The sites are integrated into the [marine gazetteer](#). Selection criteria used when defining a 'marine' site, was by checking if the site falls (partly) within the Exclusive Economic Zone of the country, based on the version 7 of the high resolution EEZ GIS cover. Currently 2894 marine Natura 2000 sites are available. The GIS boundaries of these sites, defined by the EU Habitat and Bird directives are provided to Marine Regions in real time through a webservice developed by the [European Environmental Agency](#). EEA map services are available [here](#).



Database structure: one geographic entity (**geo-object**) has

- ✓ Coordinates (lat-long)
- ✓ Placetype
 - ✓ Physical: bay-trench-sandbank-sea...
 - ✓ Administrative: Territorial sea, contiguous zone, EEZ
- ✓ But can have different names: name not unique!!
- ✓ Multiple relations between two geo-objects
 - ✓ North Sea part of NEA
 - ✓ North Sea adjacent to Norwegian Sea
 - ✓ Rhine river flows out into the North Sea

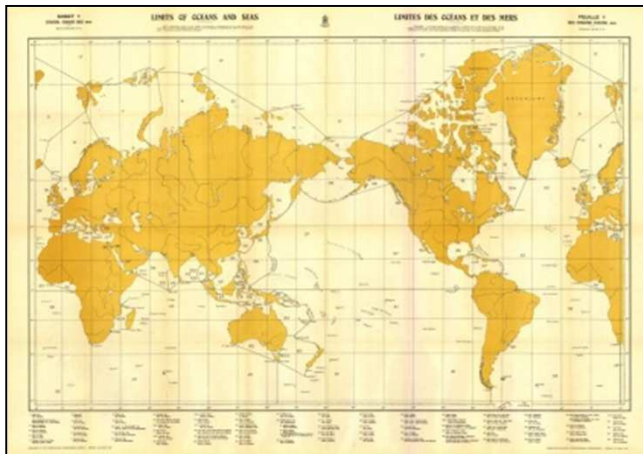


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Parent classification of marine waters

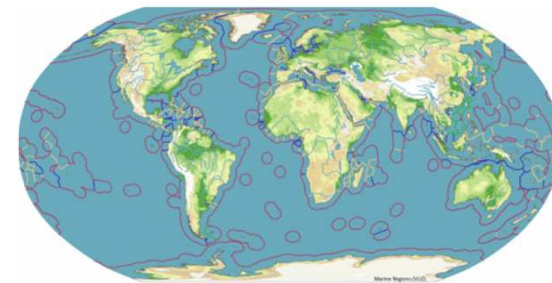
- ✓ Physical: world seas of IHO
- ✓ Administrative: EEZ boundaries



'Limits of Oceans and Seas' , IHO, 1953



IHO Sea Areas



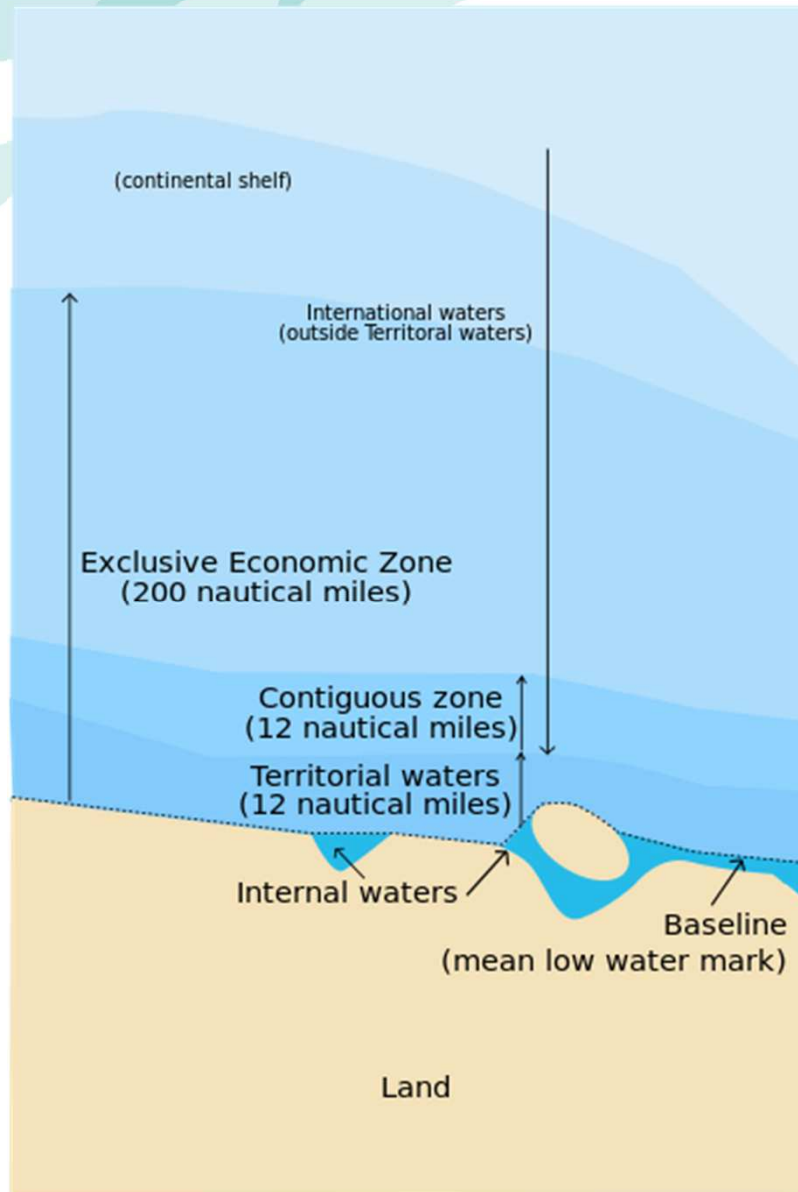
Exclusive Economic Zones Boundaries (EEZ)



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EEZ Boundaries



UN Sea convention (UNCLOS - Montego Bay, 1982)

- Territorial seas
- Contiguous zone
- Exclusive Economical Zone
- International Waters



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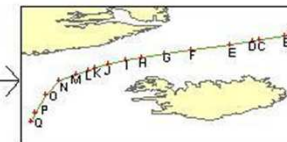
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Marbound (EEZ Boundaries)

- ✓ Applications
 - ✓ hierarchy gazetteer
 - ✓ national marine checklists
- ✓ Not freely available: digitisation
 - ✓ Compilation existing sources
 - ✓ Established in treaties
 - ✓ 200NM of baseline
 - ✓ < 400NM=>Median line

A	69°55.0'N	13°16.0'W
B	69°51.4'N	13°33.6'W
C	69°50.1'N	15°21.3'W
D	69°03.0'N	15°45.1'W
E	68°45.8'N	17°20.2'W
F	68°24.5'N	20°00.0'W
G	68°08.2'N	21°45.0'W
H	67°49.1'N	23°21.6'W
I	67°37.8'N	24°26.5'W
J	67°22.9'N	25°36.0'W
K	67°03.9'N	26°53.4'W
L	66°57.3'N	28°59.7'W
M	66°38.4'N	27°45.9'W
N	66°12.7'N	28°58.7'W
O	65°13.0'N	30°51.4'W
P	63°55.4'N	30°34.9'W
Q	63°18.8'N	30°51.8'W

Fl	lat	lon
A	69.5833	-13.26667
B	69.3567	-13.56
C	69.085	-15.355
D	69.06	-15.75167
E	68.7833	-17.33667
F	68.4983	-20
G	68.1367	-21.75
H	67.825	-23.38
I	67.63	-24.44167
J	67.3817	-25.6
K	67.065	-26.56667
L	66.955	-26.995
M	66.64	-27.785
N	66.2117	-28.97833
O	65.2167	-29.86667
P	63.9233	-30.58167
Q	63.3133	-30.86333

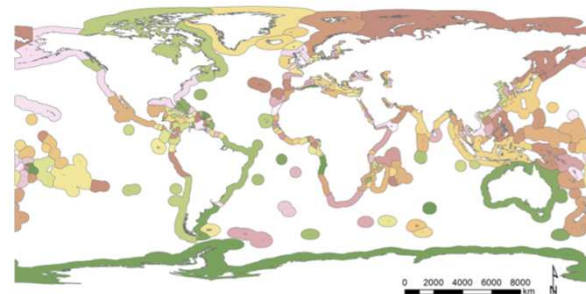
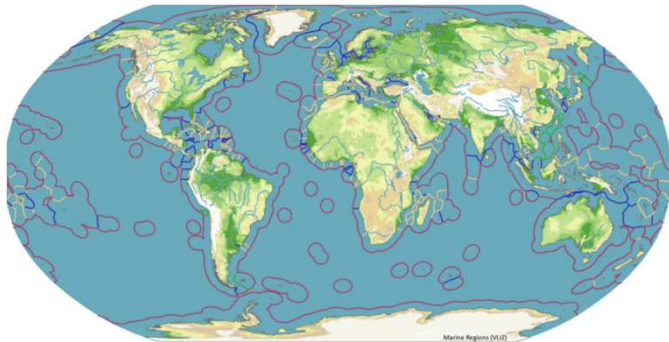


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EEZ Boundaries

- ✓ Two products
 - ✓ GIS with boundaries (polylines)
 - ✓ GIS with polygons EEZ (merge with Global Self-consistent, Hierarchical, High-resolution Shoreline Database (NOAA))



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EEZ Boundaries

- ✓ Version control
- ✓ Include comments from community

Shapefiles

Web services

Static Maps

Shapefiles

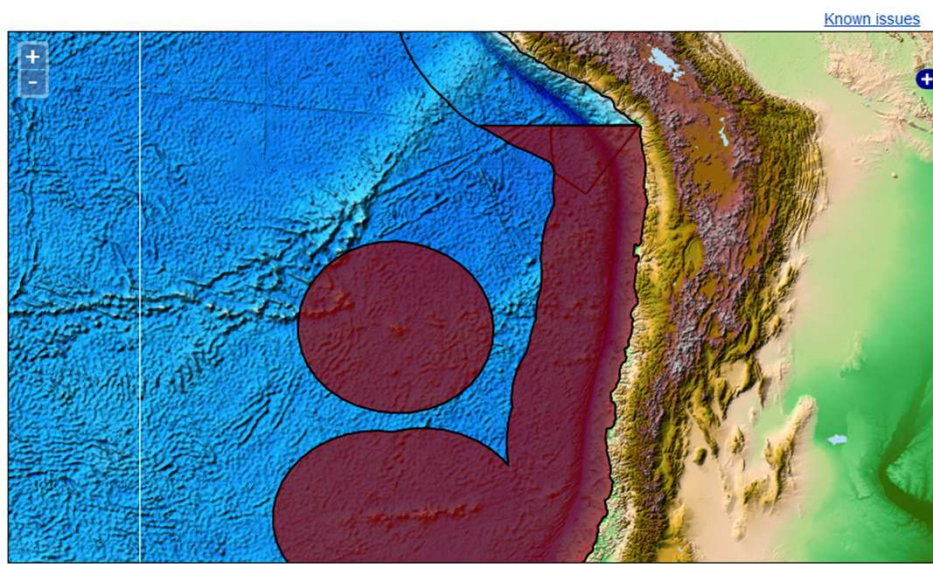
▼ Exclusive Economic Zones Boundaries (EEZ)

- World EEZ v7 (2012-11-20, 67 MB) - downloads: 2425
[\[Download\]](#) [\[Low res\]](#) [\[KML\]](#) [\[Change history\]](#) [\[Known issues\]](#)
- World EEZ v6.1 (2011-05-12, 84 MB) - downloads: 5579
[\[Download\]](#) [\[Low res\]](#) [\[KML\]](#) [\[Change history\]](#) [\[Known issues\]](#)
- World EEZ v6 (2011-03-30, 84 MB) - downloads: 6367
[\[Download\]](#) [\[Low res\]](#) [\[KML\]](#) [\[Change history\]](#) [\[Known issues\]](#)
- World EEZ v5 (2009-10-01, 86 MB) - downloads: 3799
[\[Download\]](#) [\[KML\]](#) [\[Change history\]](#) [\[Known issues\]](#)
- World EEZ v4 (2009-08-11, 86 MB) - downloads: 610
[\[Download\]](#) [\[KML\]](#) [\[Change history\]](#)
- World EEZ v3 (2009-04-30, 85 MB) - downloads: 604
[\[Download\]](#) [\[KML\]](#) [\[Change history\]](#)
- World EEZ v2 (2008-10-31, 4 MB) - downloads: 1150
[\[Download\]](#) [\[Change history\]](#)
- World EEZ v1 (2006-01-26, 4 MB) - downloads: 1713
[\[Download\]](#)

Marbound (EEZ Boundaries)

✓ Sensitive information: disputed areas

- Search
- Map interface
- Methodology
- About




Lat: -35.39 Lon: -78.53

WORLD EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONES, VERSION 7 (2012)

Exclusive Economic Zone	Country	Sovereign	EEZ_ID	MRGID	Date of last change	Area (m ²)	Longitude	Latitude
Chilean Exclusive Economic Zone (disputed - Chilean point of view)	Chile	Chile	224	8465	2011/03/30	2.985193892E12	-76.145857295486	-38.879311683859





REPÚBLICA DE CHILE
REPUBLICA DE CHILE
BRUSSELS

Brussels, 27 February 2012

DIV-63 R-0021 2.

IN: 27-02-2012

To be handled door: *Buza*

TD

Mr. Koen Verlaeckt
Secretary General
Department of Foreign Affairs
Flemish Government
Boudenwijnlaan 30 b80
Brussels 1000

Dear Mr. Secretary-General,


I refer to my letter dated 7 February 2011, regarding the clarification by the Maritime Institute of Flanders (VLIZ) of the data showed in its web page Maritime Boundaries Database.

On this respect I would like to point out that although some of the information presented in the said database regarding the boundary Chile - Peru was corrected, there is still some information that needs to be clarified by the VLIZ to be accurate and impartial regarding this boundary:

- a clear distinction is made between the maritime boundary Chile/Argentina (with a link to the Peace and Friendship Treaty of 1984) and the maritime boundary Chile/Peru. In the latter case there is only a link to a Peruvian document published in the newspaper "El Comercio", in March 2009. There is no reference to any source to explain the Chilean position which is the international recognized boundary between both countries.
- VLIZ has not incorporated any Chilean source of information, in spite that the Treaties of 1952 and 1954 are widely available in different web pages, including the one to the Division of Ocean Affairs of the United Nations Organizations.
- The documentary and geographical information regarding the Chilean boundaries has mistakes. For example, Easter Island (Isla de Pascua) is not a "dependency" (dependencia) neither an "overseas territory" (territorio de ultramar) of Chile, but part of its territory.

I would very much appreciate if these comments were passed to VLIZ in order to incorporate them to its Maritime Boundaries Database.

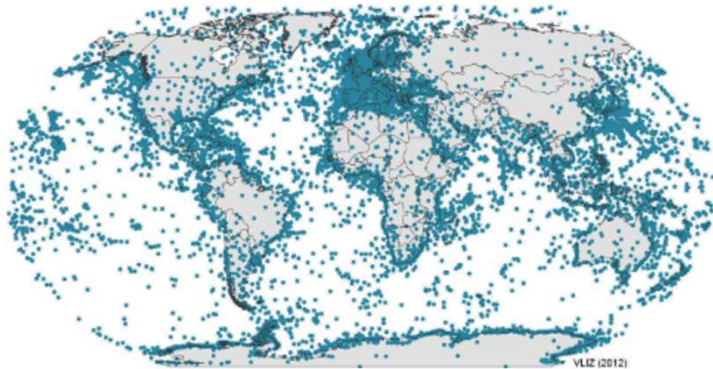
I take this opportunity to renew the assurances of my highest consideration.



Chilean Ambassador
Ambassador of Chile

Data content Marine Regions

- 36,081 place names, representing 28,814 marine geographic places



- Regional checklists
(Antarctic, Black Sea, North Sea...)
- Global checklists
(SCUFN, UNESCO Marine Heritage Sites, ASFA, WoRMS....)
- Marine boundaries
(EEZ, IHO, MEOW, LME, FAO Fishing zones, SeaVox, Longhurst, ICES, Natura2000 Sites, Marine Regions)

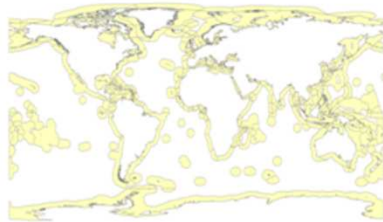


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Marine Regions: intersect EEZ and IHO Seas

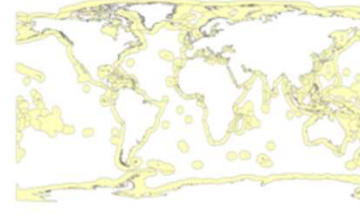
Intersect Tool



Erase EEZ and countries



Merge of both layers



MRGID 25281

Status Proposed standard

Name	Language	Name	Source
English	United States part of the Gulf of Mexico		

PlaceType Marine Region

Latitude 27° 29' 10" N (27.48611°)

Longitude 88° 43' 49.9" W (-88.730529°)

Min. Lat 23° 49' 22" N (23.8228°)

Min. Long 97° 46' 9.6" W (-97.7693°)

Max. Lat 30° 42' 4" N (30.7011°)

Max. Long 80° 23' 15.2" W (-80.3876°)

Relations Part of [Gulf of Mexico](#) (IHO Sea Area) [\[view hierarchy\]](#)
Part of [United States Exclusive Economic Zone](#) (EEZ) [\[view hierarchy\]](#)

Map



English High seas of the North Atlantic Ocean

PlaceType Marine Region

Latitude 30° 6' 31.3" N (30.108681°)

Longitude 38° 20' 38.8" W (-38.344124°)

Min. Lat 0° 0' 0" N (0°)

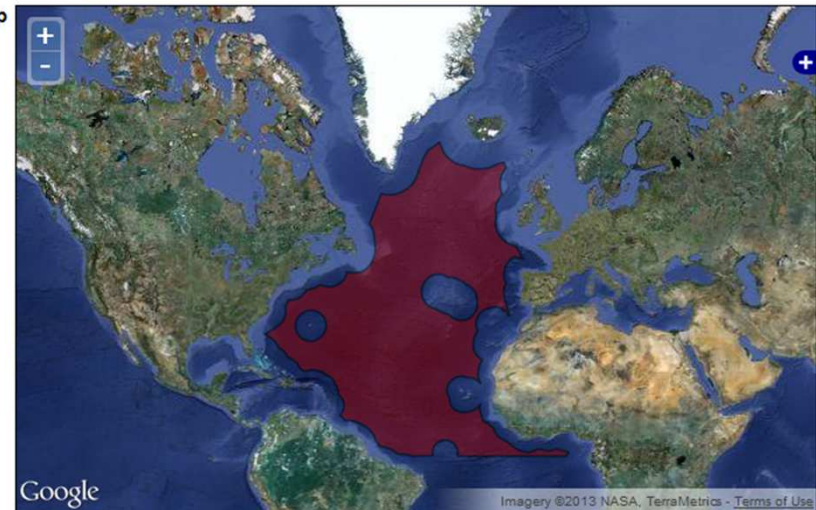
Min. Long 76° 58' 3.1" W (-76.9675°)

Max. Lat 63° 18' 48" N (63.3133°)

Max. Long 3° 14' 7.5" E (3.2354°)

Relation Part of [North Atlantic Ocean](#) (IHO Sea Area) [\[view hierarchy\]](#)

Map



Marine Regions: MRGID



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Standards

Place names change over time, and the same names may be used for different locations. Available gazetteers may find locations of some marine place names, but a truly global standard for marine place names is lacking. Marine Regions tries to establish for the first time a standardized list of georeferenced marine place names and marine areas. In order to preserve the identity of the marine geographic objects from the database, and to name and locate the geographic resources on the web, we promote the Marine Regions Geographic Identifier, or the **MRGID**.

MRGID

Marine Regions Geographic Identifier

- unique:
- persistent:
- identifier: to refer to a Geographic Object

For an identifier to be persistent, it requires the governing body to arrange for the identifier to be available for the long term. Use of the MRGID, as URI and persistent identifier has the commitment of the Flanders Marine Institute, issuing the identifier to maintain the http domain registration, and a strategy for managing the domain and the web servers.



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Marine Regions webinterface



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Marine Gazetteer geographic name search

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

(alphabetical search)



Enter the geographic name you want to look up. Valid wildcards are '%' and '_' ('%' replaces zero or more characters, '_' replaces a single character; click [here](#) for details and examples).

Search	Geographic name	<input type="text"/>
Place type	Sandbank	<input type="text"/>
Source	(any)	<input type="text"/>
Latitude	<input type="text"/>	Radius: <input type="text" value="5"/>
Longitude	<input type="text"/>	Radius: <input type="text" value="5"/>



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Marine Gazetteer Search results

Your search for " " returned 132 records, showing records 1-100

[Aberdeen Bank](#) (Sandbank)
[Adlergrund](#) (Sandbank)
[Akkaert Bank](#) (Sandbank)
[Amrumbank](#) (Sandbank)
[Appelzak](#) (Sandbank)
[Bakkegrund](#) (Sandbank)
[Baland Bank](#) (Sandbank)
[Balgzand](#) (Sandbank)
[Ballastplaat](#) (Sandbank)
[Banc de Saint-Pol](#) (Sandbank)
[Banjaard](#) (Sandbank)
[Bank zonder Naam](#) (Sandbank)
[Bankje van Zoutelande](#) (Sandbank)
[Bergen Bank](#) (Sandbank)

entral/



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Marine Gazetteer Placedetails

MRGID 2437

Status Proposed standard

Name	Language	Name	Source
------	----------	------	--------

Dutch	Akkaert Bank	ASFA	thesaurus
-------	--------------	------	-----------

PlaceType Sandbank

Latitude 51° 25' 22.6" N (51.42294°)

Longitude 2° 52' 37.1" E (2.876971°)

Precision 14280 meter

Min. Lat 51° 21' 17.8" N (51.3549°)

Min. Long 2° 42' 8.4" E (2.7023°)

Max. Lat 51° 29' 27.4" N (51.491°)

Max. Long 3° 3' 5.8" E (3.0516°)

Source ASFA thesaurus, available online at <http://www4.fao.org/asfa/asfa.htm>

hp



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Marine Regions webinterface

Relation Part of [Zeeland Banks](#) (Sandbank System) [\[view hierarchy\]](#)

Map

Map interface showing a satellite view of the North Sea region. The map includes zoom controls (+/-) and the Google logo. A list of marine regions is displayed on the right side of the map, including:

- Irish Exclusive economic Zone (EEZ)
- Irish Sea and St. George's Channel (IHO Sea Area)
- Ivory Coast Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)
- Kenmare River (Inlet)
- Labrador Sea (IHO Sea Area)
- Leeward Islands (Island Group)
- Liberian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)
- Little Egg Inlet (Bay)
- Lower New York Bay (Bay)
- Macaronesian Islands (Island Group)
- Madeira (Island)
- Maio (Island)
- Massachusetts Bay (Bay)
- Mauritanian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)
- Moroccan Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)
- North East Atlantic (General Sea Area)
- North Sea (IHO Sea Area)
- Belgian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)
- Coastal Banks (Sandbank System)
- Flemish Banks (Sandbank System)
- Hinder Banks (Sandbank System)
- Zeeland Banks (Sandbank System)
- Akkaert Bank (Sandbank)
- Goote Bank (Sandbank)
- Thornton Bank (Sandbank)
- Westpit (Swale)

lat: 50.55 lon: 2.39

Download Layer: **NorthSea:shoalsbcs** - format:

KML
KMZ

Edit history Last edited on 2005-01-01 00:00:00 by db_admin

[\[Google\]](#) [\[Google scholar\]](#) [\[Google images\]](#)

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Add a Gazetteer Item

MRGID (Automatically generated)

Preferred Appellation*

Appellation Source (none)

Placetype*

Language* English

Parent Locality* [\[help\]](#)

Latitude [decimal degrees]

Longitude [decimal degrees]

Minimum Latitude [decimal degrees]

Minimum Longitude [decimal degrees]

Maximum Latitude [decimal degrees]

Maximum Longitude [decimal degrees]

You are logged in as:

Simon Claus

[\[Log out\]](#) [\[My Marine Gaz...\]](#)



Web services

1. WMS | WFS services: retrieve maps | features

2. SOAP | Restful services: retrieve names,
MRGID, coordinates,
classifications



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Web services

SOAP services | Rest services: methods

Search

Browse

About

Tutorial

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Restfull methods

	/getGazetteerRecordsByName	Show/Hide	List Operations	Expand Operations	Raw
GET	/getGazetteerRecordsByName.json/{name}/{like}/				Get matching records by name
GET	/getGazetteerRecordsByName.xml/{name}/{like}/				Get matching records by name
	/getGazetteerRecordsByNames	Show/Hide	List Operations	Expand Operations	Raw
	/getGazetteerRecordsByType	Show/Hide	List Operations	Expand Operations	Raw
	/getGazetteerRecordsBySource	Show/Hide	List Operations	Expand Operations	Raw
	/getGazetteerRecordByMRGID	Show/Hide	List Operations	Expand Operations	Raw
	/getGazetteerRelationsByMRGID	Show/Hide	List Operations	Expand Operations	Raw
	/getGazetteerWMS	Show/Hide	List Operations	Expand Operations	Raw
	/getGazetteerRecordsByLatLong	Show/Hide	List Operations	Expand Operations	Raw
	/getGazetteerTypes	Show/Hide	List Operations	Expand Operations	Raw
	/getGazetteerSources	Show/Hide	List Operations	Expand Operations	Raw
	/getGazetteerNamesByMRGID	Show/Hide	List Operations	Expand Operations	Raw

example-soapservice-combi.xlsxm - Microsoft Excel

File Home Insert Page Layout Formulas Data Review View Acrobat

Clipboard: Paste, Cut, Copy, Format Painter

Font: Calibri, 11, Bold, Italic, Underline, Text Color, Background Color

Alignment: Wrap Text, Merge & Center

Number: General, Currency, Percentage, Decimals, Thousands Separator

Styles: 60% - Accent6, Accent1, Accent2, Accent3, Accent5, Accent6, Comma, Comma

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1	Get gazetteer records	by name								
2		MRGID	preferredGazetteerName	prefer	placeType	latitude	longitude	minLatitu	maxLatitude	minLongit
3	Get matching Records	2350	North Sea	en	IHO Sea Area	55.96853	2.698768	50.93706	61	-4.43
4		8542	North Sea	en	Large Marine Ecosystem	56.50826	3.790361	50.9672	62.04932	-5.35
5	north sea	17441	Central North Sea	en	General Sea Area	53.12	2.81			
6	Pacific	17977	Northern North Sea	en	General Sea Area	59	1.8			
7		21912	North Sea	en	Marine Ecoregion of the World (MEC)	55.5428	4.59313			
8		22165	North Sea	en	ICES Ecoregion	56.946517	3.043141	49.2804	62	-4
9		22253	Southern North Sea	en	General Sea Area	51.36492	1.98853			
10		22762	German part of the North Sea	en	Marine Region	54.59282	6.78346			
11		23647	North Sea	en	SeaVoX SeaArea - level 3					
12		24177	North Sea	en	SeaVoX SeaArea - subocean	56.4705033	2.762777227	51.09617233	60.9144516	-3.8951
13		25231	Danish part of the North Sea	en	Marine Region	55.467586	6.65237	53.242809	57.485517	
14		25232	Dutch part of the North Sea	en	Marine Region	53.623705	4.188582	51.262027	55.765	2.53
15		25233	Norwegian part of the North Sea	en	Marine Region	58.591406	4.058819	56.086667	61	1.48
16		25234	French part of the North Sea	en	Marine Region	51.18799	2.104363	50.937058	51.557769	1.54
17		25235	United Kingdom part of the North Sea	en	Marine Region	56.67095	0.34006	51.037694	61	-4.43
18		26567	Belgian part of the North Sea	en	Marine Region	51.465715	2.703969			
19										
20		1903	Pacific Ocean	en	General Sea Area	-0.8917408	-149.625	-60	58.2165184	128.65
21		1908	North Pacific Ocean	en	IHO Sea Area	29.10826	-154.3535	1.00E-05	58.21652	128.65
22		1910	South Pacific Ocean	en	IHO Sea Area	-28.71112	-148.6665	-60	2.577762	129.91
23		5294	North Pacific Central Water	en	Water mass					
24		5295	North Pacific Intermediate Water	en	Water mass					
25		5296	Pacific Subarctic Water	en	Water mass					
26		5300	South Pacific Central Water	en	Water mass					
27		5304	South Pacific Intermediate Water	en	Water mass					
28		6028	Pacific-Antarctic Rise	en	Rise	-45	-120			
29		6159	North West Pacific Basin	en	Basin	34	155			
30		6976	Central Pacific Basin	en	Basin	9	180			
31		7200	Pacific-Antarctic Ridge	en	Ridge			-61.5	-54.5	
32		7219	South West Pacific Basin	en	Basin	-42	132	-23	-57	
33		7374	Mid-Pacific Seamounts	en	Seamount(s)			20	20	
34		7456	East Pacific Rise	en	Rise			23	-54.5	
35		8563	Insular Pacific-Hawaiian	en	Large Marine Ecosystem	23.27083	-166.6275	17.39859	29.14307	-179
36		8567	Pacific Central-American Coastal	en	Large Marine Ecosystem	9.074343	-96.30147	-4.358077	22.50676	-115

Users



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About

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EEZ boundaries

Sources

Statistics

Downloads

Shapefiles

Web services

Static Maps

Shapefiles

- ▶ Exclusive Economic Zones Boundaries (EEZ)
- ▶ IHO Sea Areas
- ▶ Marineregions: intersect of EEZ's and IHO areas
- ▶ Marine and land zones: the union of world country boundaries and
- ▶ World Marine Heritage Sites
- ▶ FAO Fishing Areas
- ▶ Large Marine Ecosystems of the World
- ▶ Longhurst Biogeographical Provinces
- ▶ ICES Ecoregions
- ▶ OSPAR Boundaries
- ▶ Marine Ecoregions of the World, MEOW (Spalding et al., 2007)

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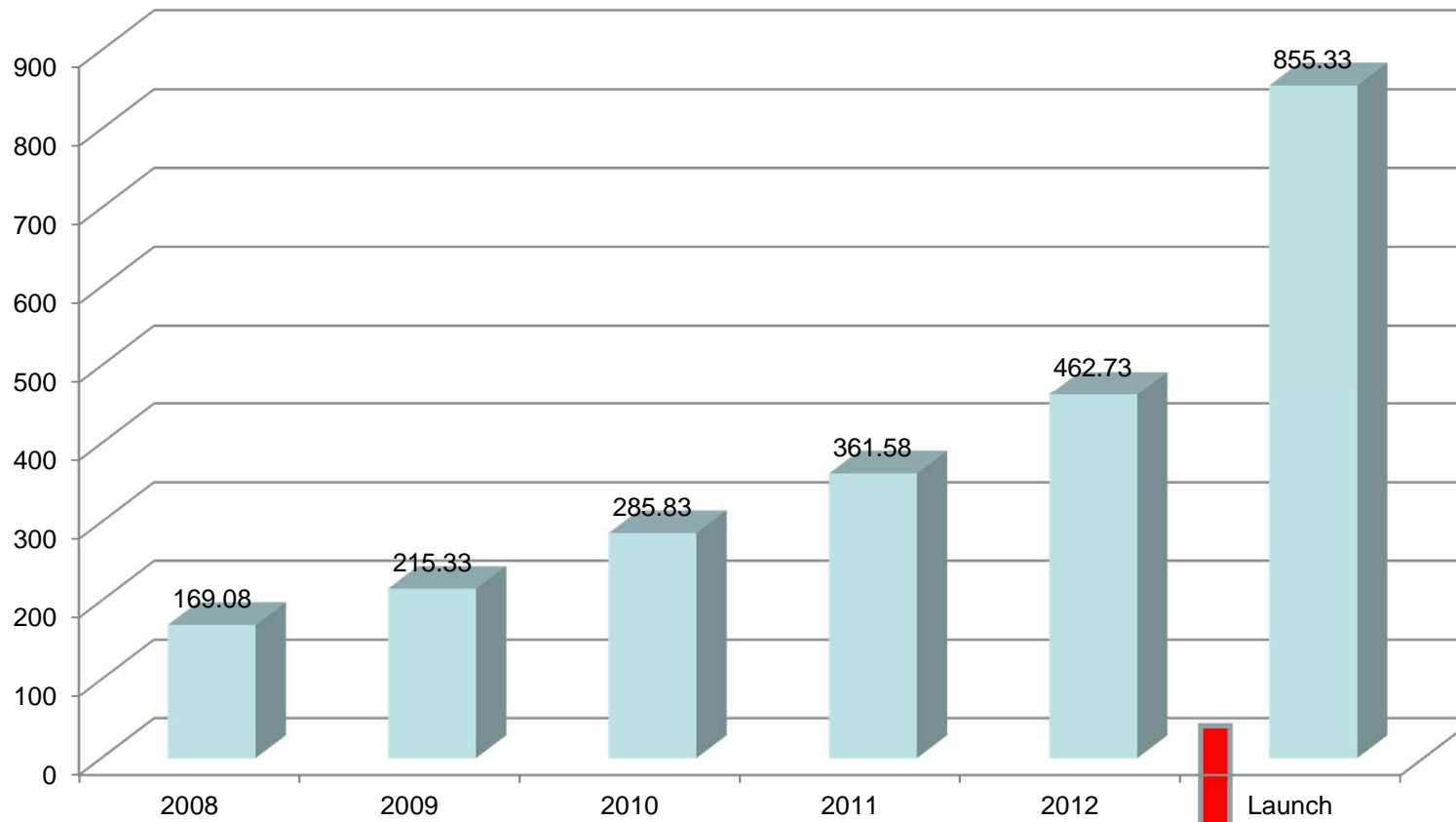


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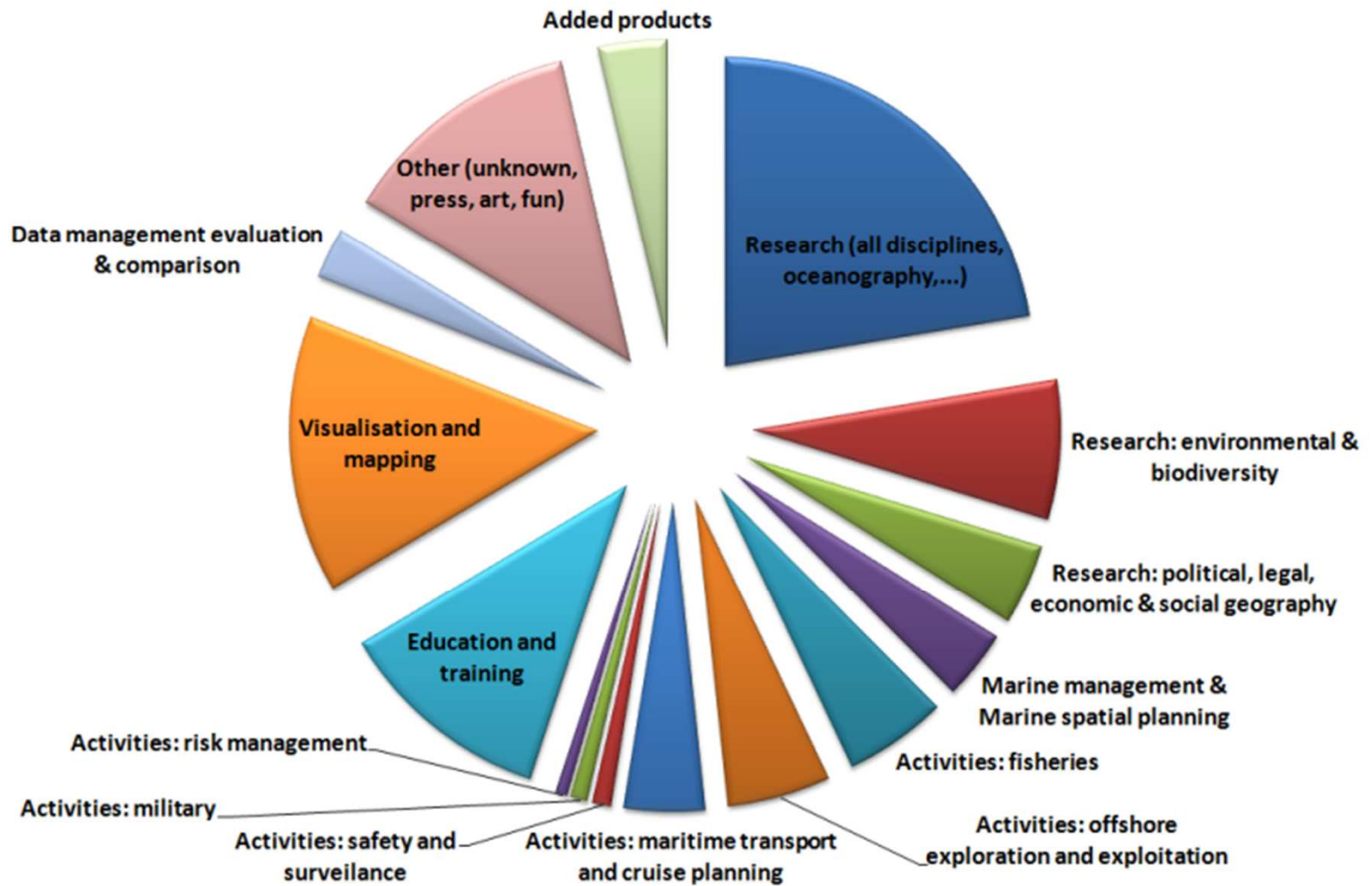
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Editorial board



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About

Marine Gazetteer

EEZ boundaries

Sources

Statistics

About

Standards

Disclaimer

FAQ

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Editors

Marine regions works with an editorial board, responsible for the content and quality control of the data. Marine Regions. We have editors that are responsible for the content of a specific source and the update of that source within Marine Regions and regional editors, that are in charge of a specific geographic area. You can apply for membership by sending your contact details, interest and proposed contribution

- Mr. Fabio Carocci
Fisheries and Aquaculture Resources Use and Conservation Division
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
Quality control EEZ Boundaries & link between the FAO Marine Areas and Marine Regions
- Mr. Evan Centanni
Political Geography Now
Quality control by providing feedback on political maritime geography issues
- Mr. David Forcucci
US Coast Guard
Quality control of the EEZ boundaries and providing geographic information from the [Arctic region](#) to Marine Regions.
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Future plans

- Further shape Editorial board
- New version EEZ
- New content



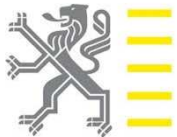
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Thank you

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