Appendix C – The SMP Use Maps

1. **Identifying Use Conflicts** – The SMP process undertook the task of developing "use maps" to document and highlight the myriad of human uses and activities within Narragansett Bay and the coastal ponds. The effort was conducted in response to user-conflict concerns expressed by stakeholders. The goals of mapping human uses were to examine how the Bay and coastal ponds are used and by whom, and also to better understand utilization patterns and interactions. Furthermore, the effort aimed to enhance existing tools and resources available to state agencies to inform management decisions about water-related uses. Data used to inform these maps were collected at a series of ten stakeholder meetings held between January and May of 2013 where participants were asked to draw on paper maps to illustrate where and what activities they engage in. After all of the data was compiled, maps were scanned and brought into ESRI's ArcGIS software where the data was digitized and organized into cohesive datasets. The resulting maps are available on the SMP website (www.rismp.org), in addition to this Appendix.

2. **Valuing Data** – While such use maps can be extremely beneficial, there are also challenges. For example, people may disagree on how an area is realistically being utilized or what activity is best suited to occur in an area. The use maps developed throughout the SMP contain information provided by stakeholders with the understanding that all information would be:

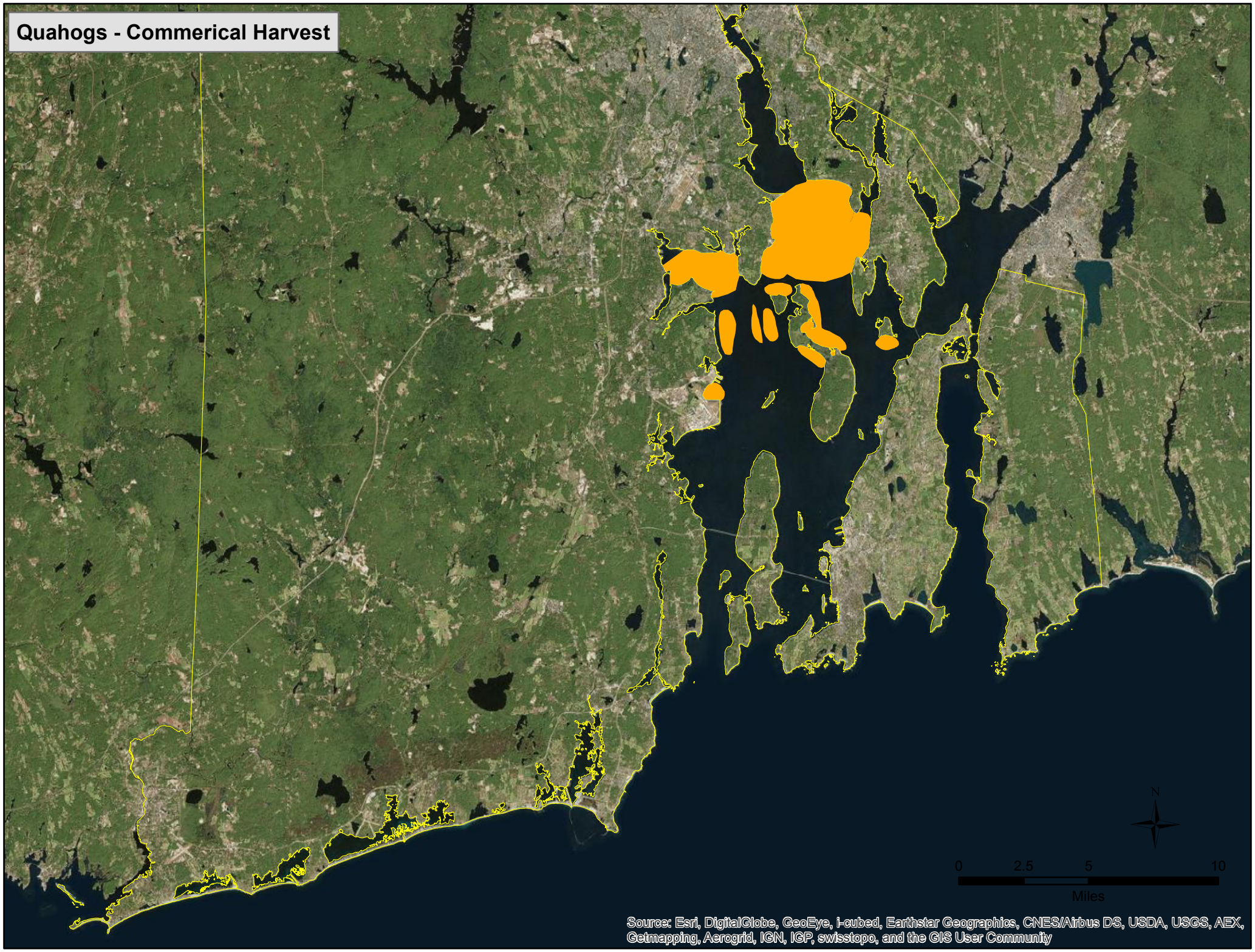
    a. Incorporated into the maps
    b. Treated as valued reflections of people's interests and uses
    c. Evaluated subject to the SMP public review process;
    d. Gathered to document and identify generally how users value certain areas and what activities users engage in; and
    e. In no way used to assign value of one activity over another or to restrict uses or activities.

3. **Incorporating Data into Management** – It is a goal of the SMP that the developed maps will be considered in and guide the state agencies decision-making processes, but how the information will be used is at the discretion of the managers/state agencies. Also, these maps are not intended to support or demonstrate a need to increase or reduce the occurrence of certain activities. Rather, the goal is to highlight the diverse uses of our waters and the importance of balancing uses and reaching compromises among user groups.

a. ***Data Gaps*** – The SMP recognizes the maps are not a complete representation of how Rhode Island's waters are used by the public. These maps reflect only data collected during ten publically announced stakeholder meetings. The bias towards shellfishing activity (commercial and recreational) is evident. The State's aquaculture lease sites are not depicted on the final maps, but an interactive map with this data can be found online at the Northeast Ocean Data Portal website: http://www.northeastoceandata.org/maps/aquaculture/.

b. Some activities that were illustrated on the maps have been left out of the final maps due to concerns that they are omnipresent and cannot be realistically portrayed in the use maps. These activities include boating, swimming, sailing, kayaking–all of which take place throughout our waters, particularly within the coastal ponds. One of the challenges is that there was no differentiation between to boating and kayaking or between sailing and windsurfing. Future iterations and updates of the maps would benefit from these distinctions.

4. It is recognized that many people spent considerable time marking where on the maps they conduct these activities; it is a fundamental challenge in any use mapping exercise to correctly and fully display the level of uses in a realistic, equitable manner. In addition, these uses may change over time, both throughout the year and over successive years. Therefor it is important to continue to update and adapt these use maps in order to provide the most accurate, useful product for agencies to consider. The process of updating is time-intensive and requires many perspectives to be captured and recorded, however the investment is meaningful in its reflection of a useful and complete representation of uses on the water.


Quahogs - Commerical Harvest
N
0
2.5
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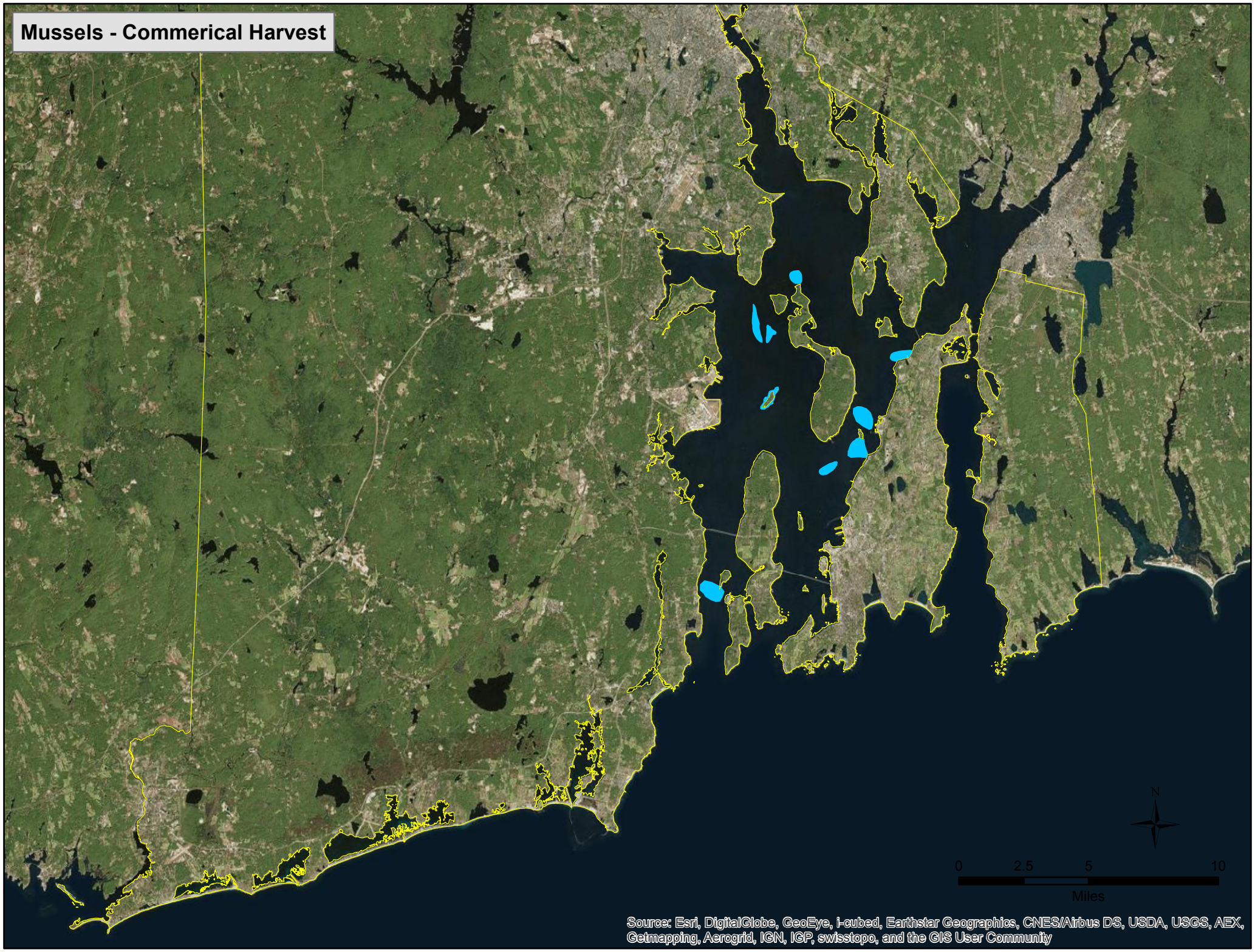
10
Miles
Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community


Mussels - Commerical Harvest
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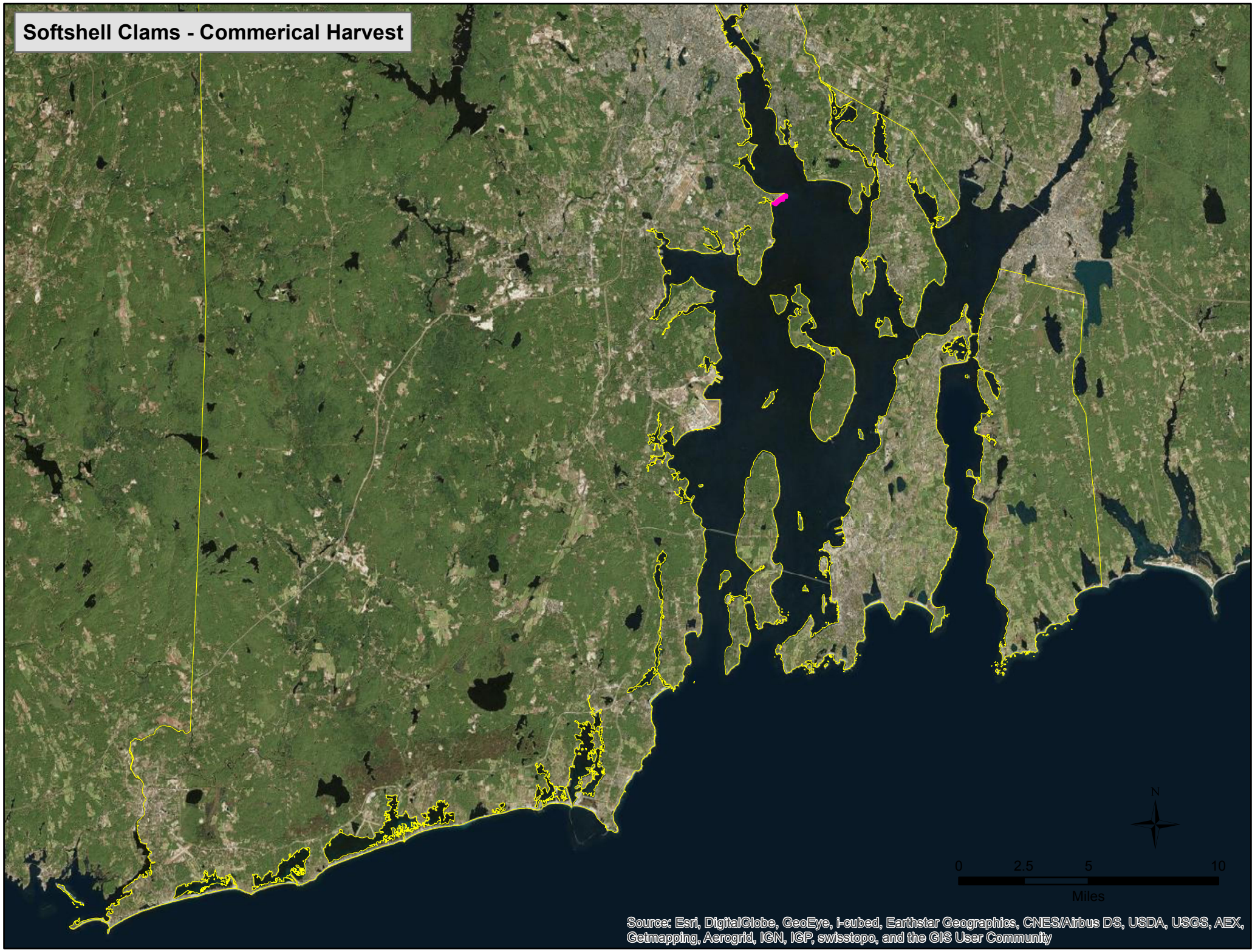
Miles
Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community


Softshell Clams - Commerical Harvest
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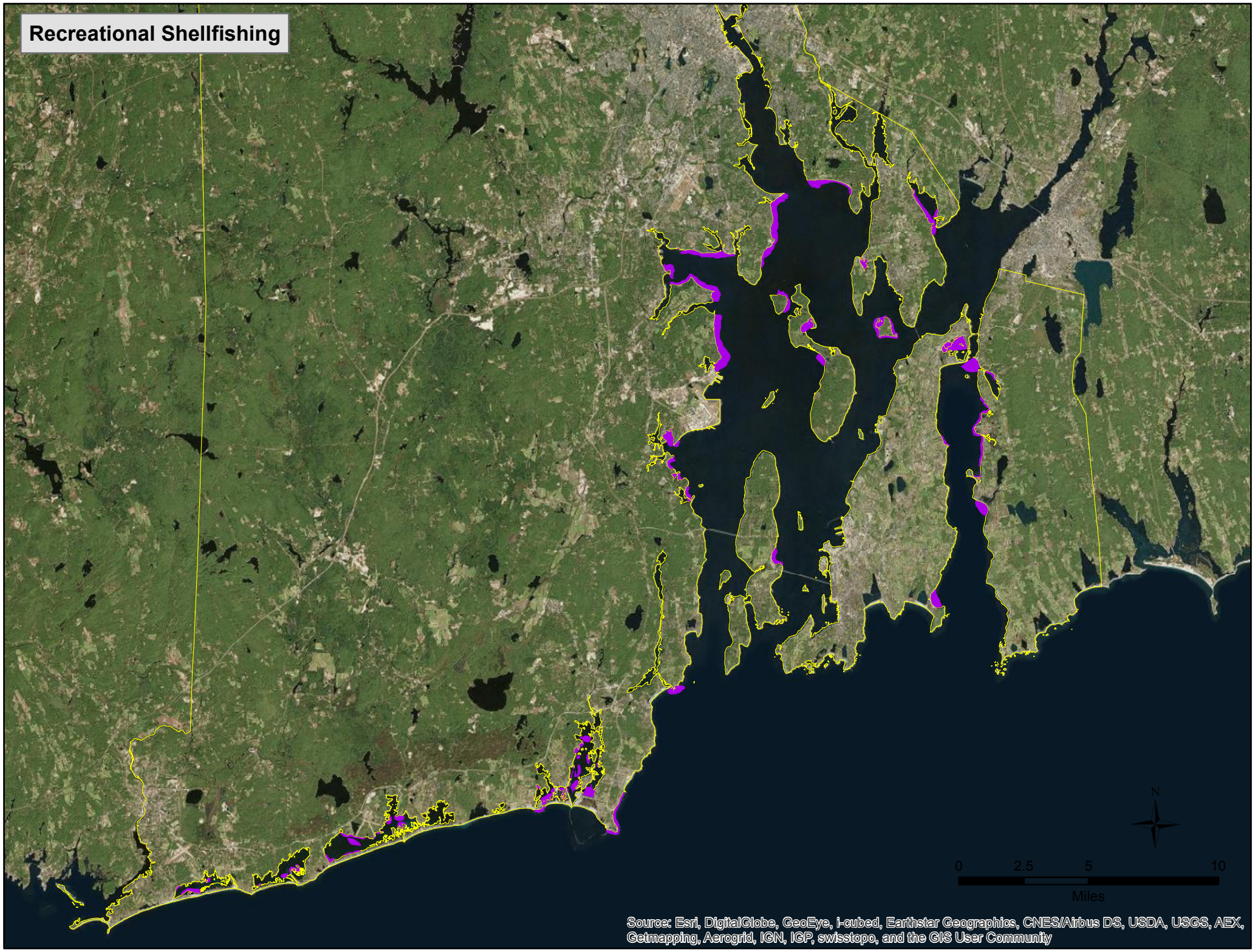
Miles
Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community


Recreational Shellfishing
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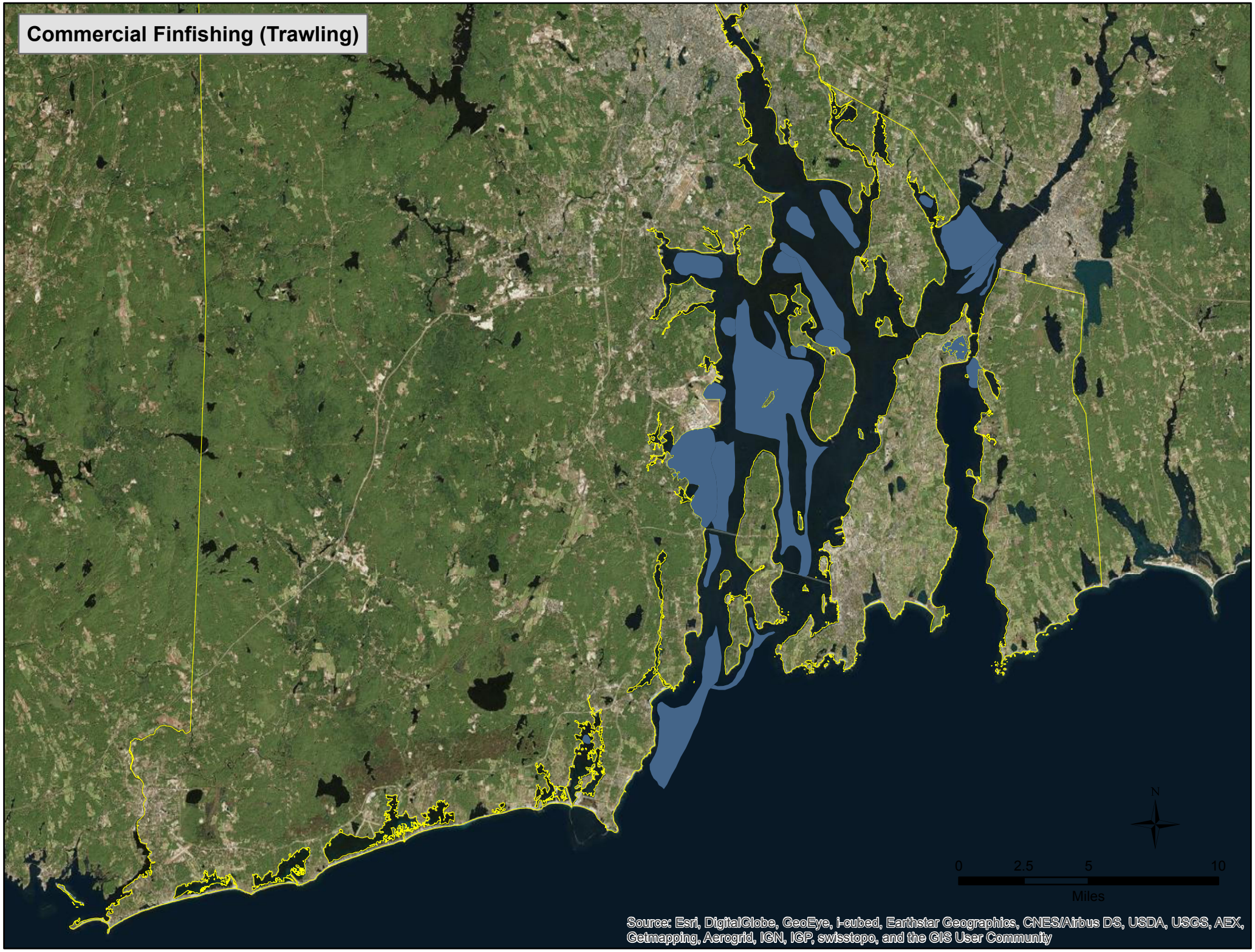
Miles
Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community


Commercial Finfishing (Trawling)
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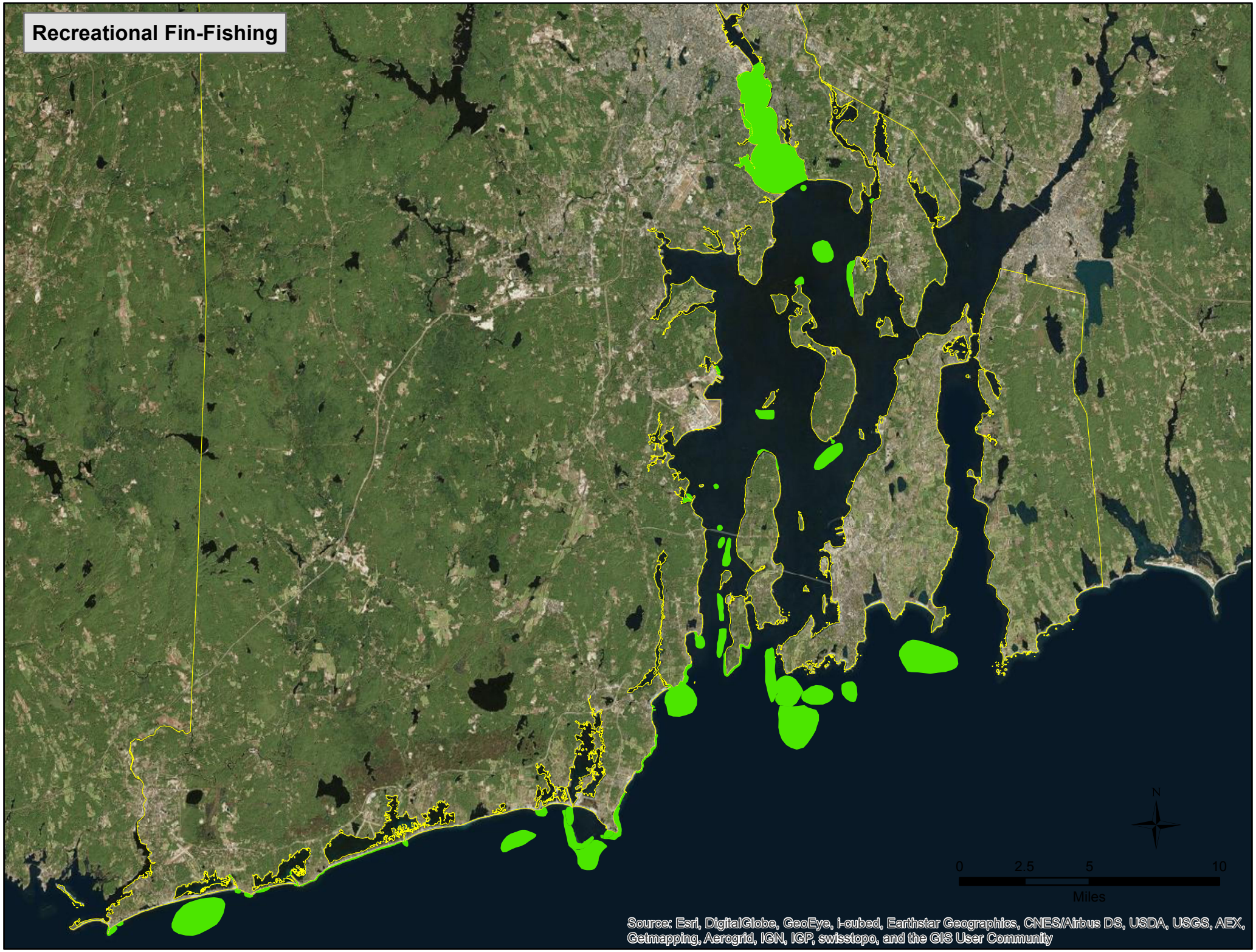
Miles
Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community


Recreational Fin-Fishing
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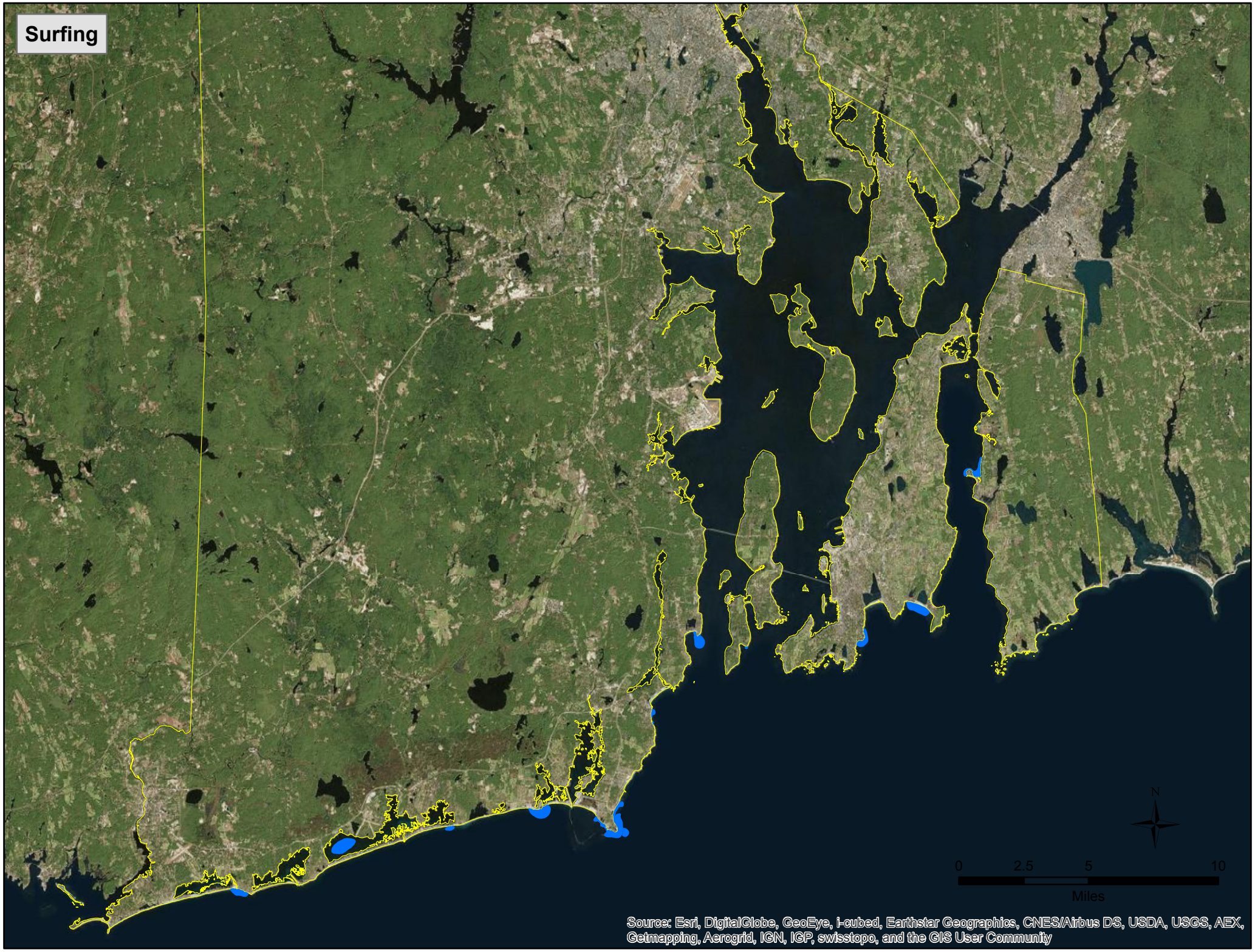
Miles
Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community


Surfing
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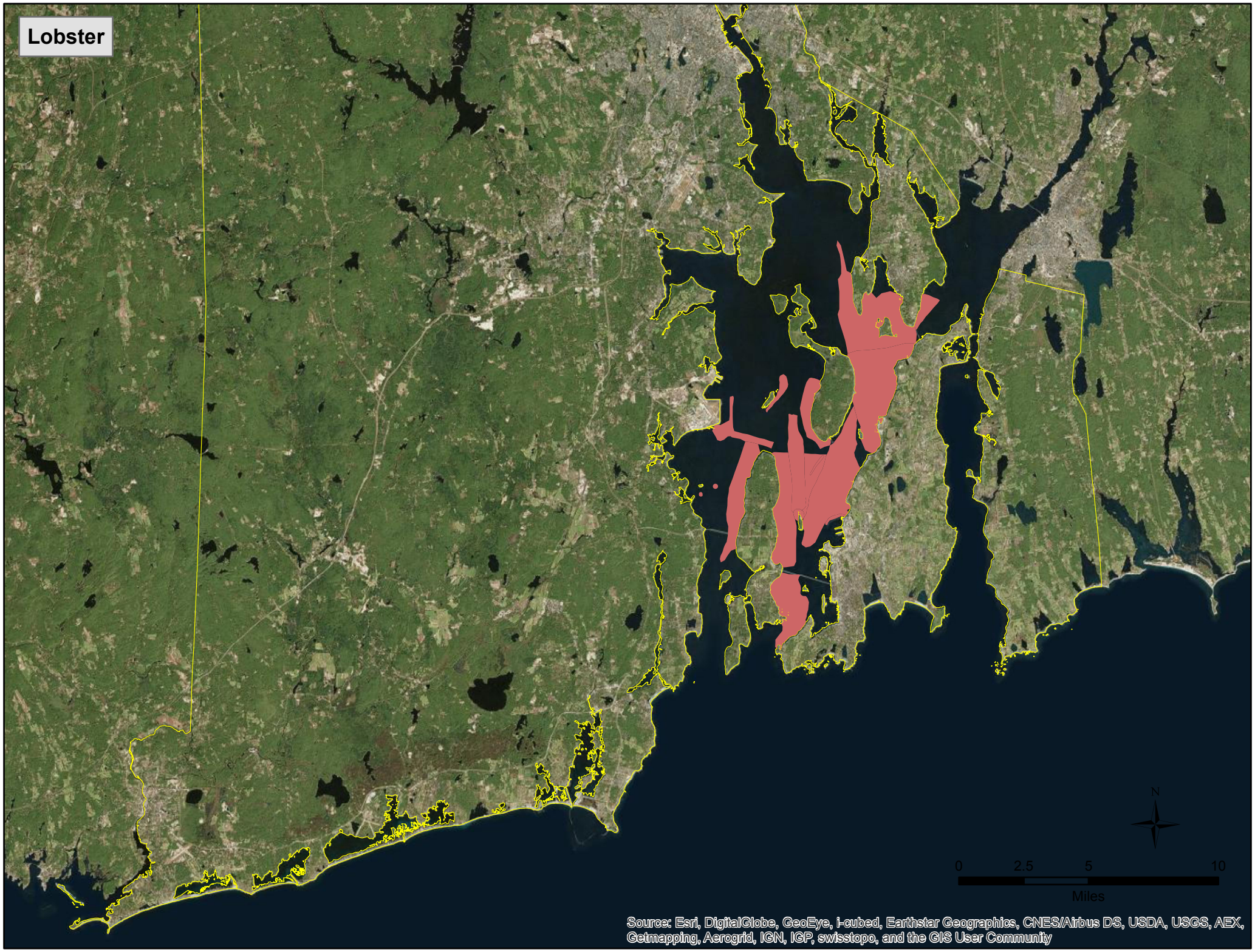
Miles
Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community


Lobster
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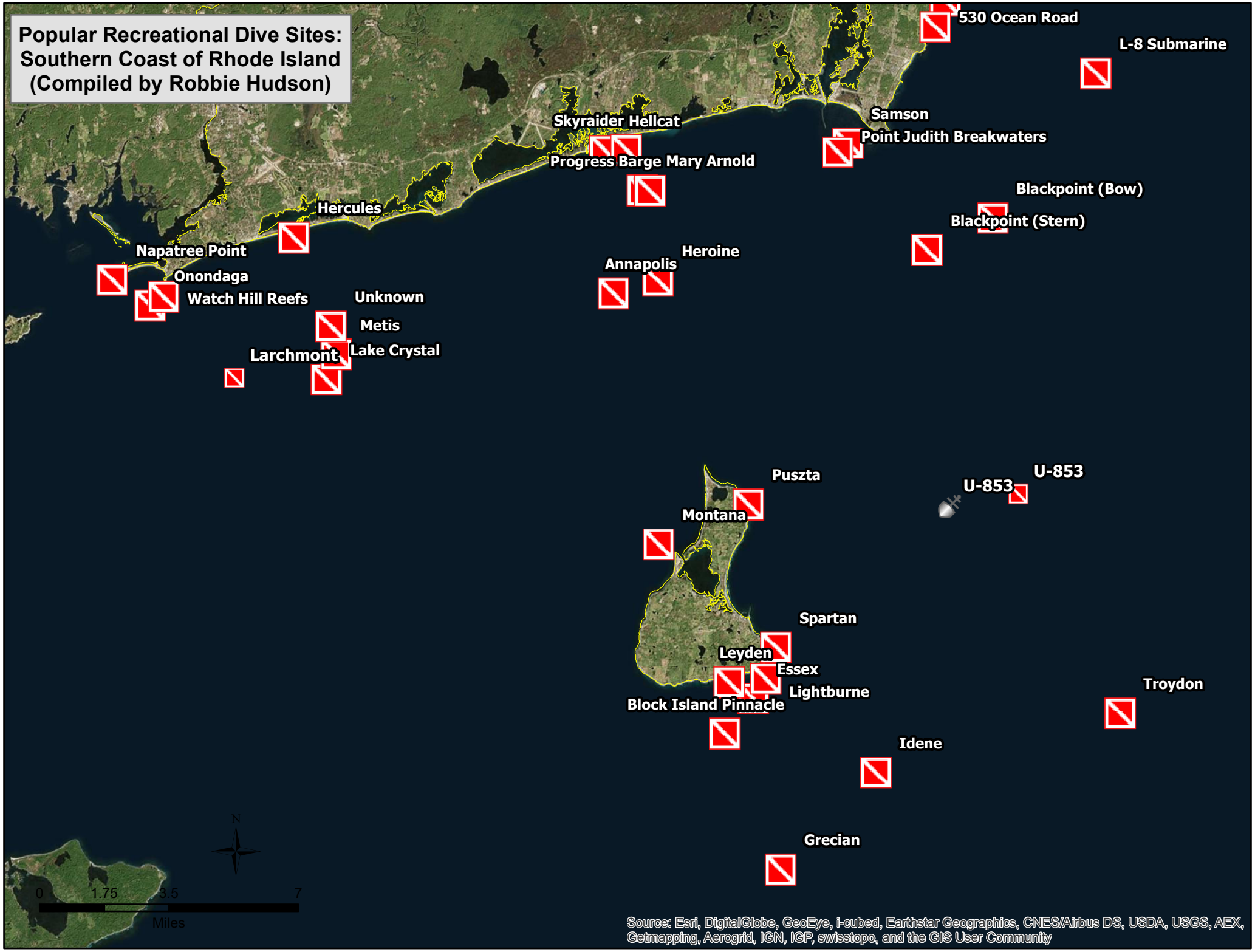
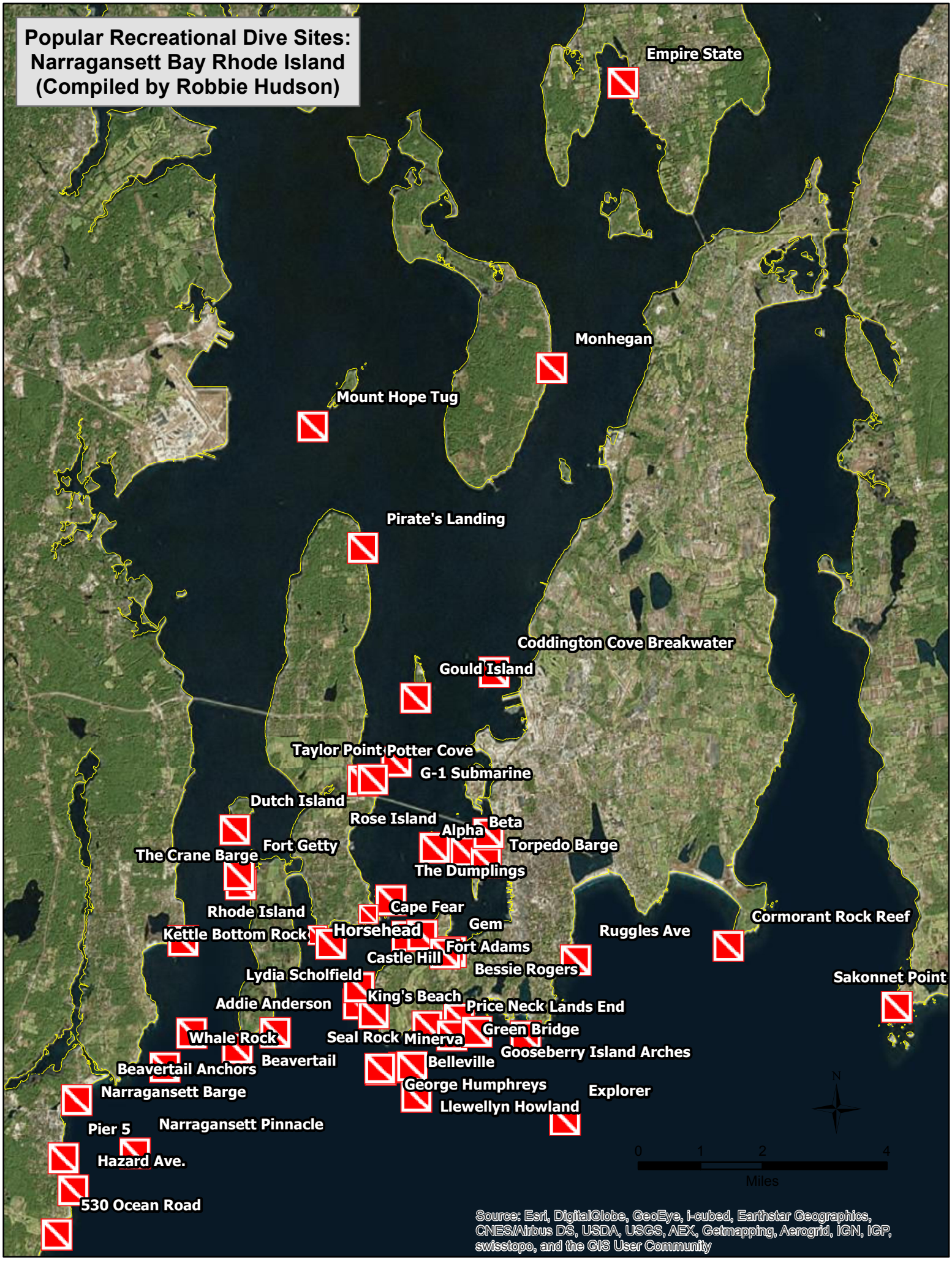
Miles
Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community


Popular Recreational Dive Sites:
Southern Coast of Rhode Island
(Compiled by Robbie Hudson)
530 Ocean Road
L-8 Submarine
Skyraider Hellcat
Samson
Point Judith Breakwaters
Progress Barge Mary Arnold
Blackpoint (Bow)
Blackpoint (Stern)
Hercules
Napatree Point
Heroine
Annapolis
Onondaga
Watch Hill Reefs
Unknown
Metis
Lake Crystal
Larchmont
Puszta
U-853
U-853
Montana
Spartan
Leyden
Essex
Lightburne
Block Island Pinnacle
Troydon
Idene
Grecian
N
0
1.75
3.5
7
Miles
Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community


Popular Recreational Dive Sites:
Narragansett Bay Rhode Island
(Compiled by Robbie Hudson)
Empire State
Monhegan
Mount Hope Tug
Pirate's Landing
Coddington Cove Breakwater
Gould Island
Taylor Point
Potter Cove
G-1 Submarine
Dutch Island
Rose Island
Alpha
Beta
Fort Getty
The Crane Barge
Torpedo Barge
The Dumplings
Rhode Island
Cape Fear
Kettle Bottom Rock
Horsehead
Gem
Fort Adams
Castle Hill
Ruggles Ave
Cormorant Rock Reef
Bessie Rogers
Lydia Scholfield
King's Beach
Addie Anderson
Price Neck
Lands End
Sakonnet Point
Whale Rock
Seal Rock
Minerva
Green Bridge
Gooseberry Island Arches
Beavertail
Belleville
Beavertail Anchors
George Humphreys
Explorer
Narragansett Barge
Llewellyn Howland
Pier 5
Narragansett Pinnacle
Hazard Ave.
530 Ocean Road
N
0
1
2
4
Miles
Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community