

GREEN PORT

Port of San Diego



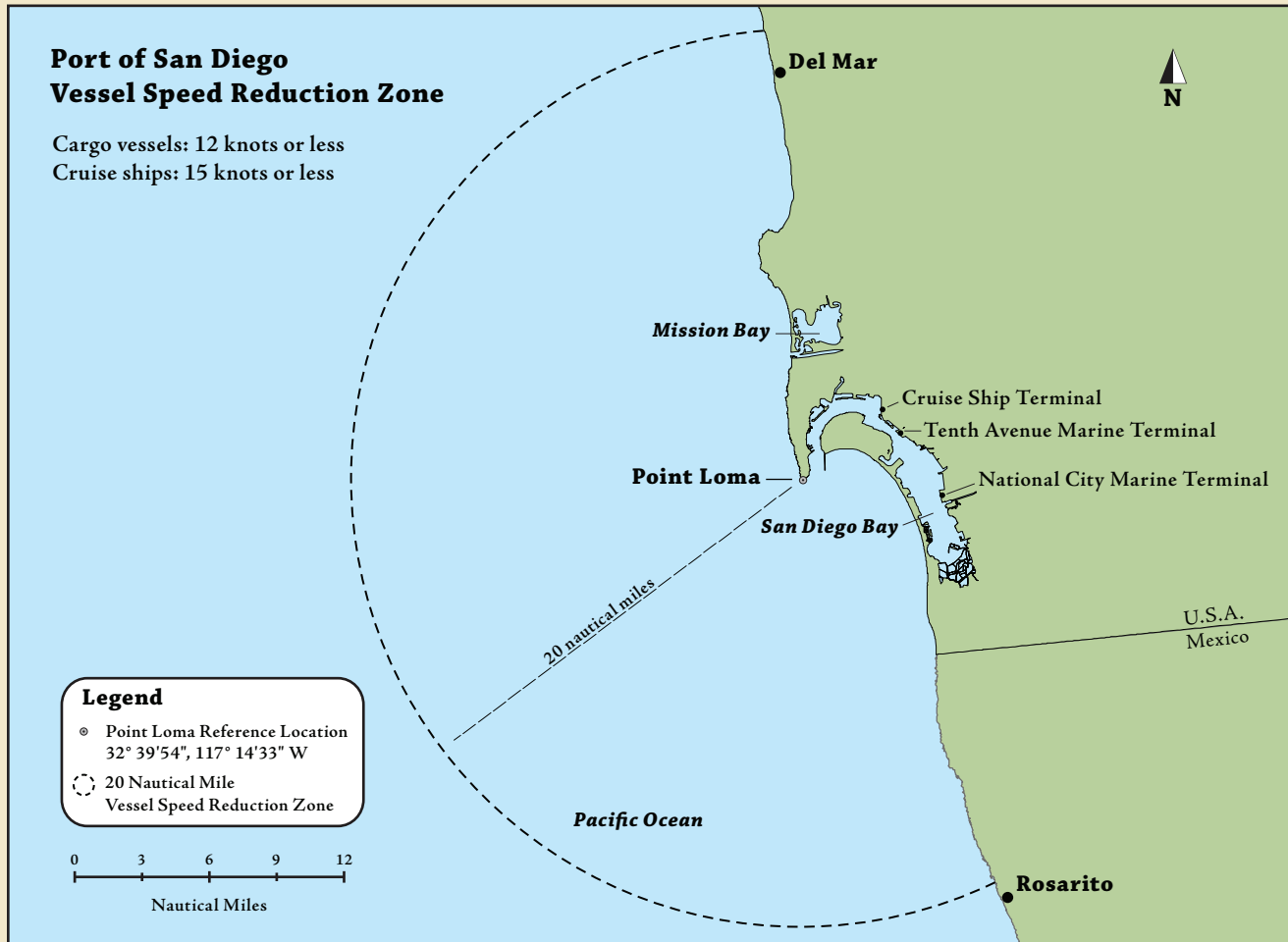
Vessel Speed Reduction Program

The Vessel Speed Reduction Program is a voluntary strategy to reduce air pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions from cargo and cruise ships by reducing speeds in the vicinity of San Diego Bay. Studies show that reducing vessel speeds decreases air emissions which ultimately lead to better air quality.

The Port asks cargo vessel operators entering or leaving San Diego Bay to observe a 12-knot speed limit. For cruise ships, a 15-knot limit is requested. The Vessel Speed Reduction zone extends 20 nautical miles seaward from Point Loma.

For more information and a map, see other side.





Why should ship operators participate in the Vessel Speed Reduction Program?

Vessel operators with at least 90% compliance for 12 consecutive months (i.e., 90% of an operator's vessels calling at the Port voluntarily reduce their speed) will be recognized for their successful participation in the program. In addition, the Port will distribute a quarterly report to vessel operators, the general public, the media and the Board of Port Commissioners. This report will highlight those operators with at least 90% compliance.

How is participation in the Program determined?

Each time a vessel calls into port, its maximum speed while in the designated zone will be calculated based on data relayed to an Automatic Identification System. Since vessel operators only need to voluntarily reduce vessel speed for 90% of their calls to be considered compliant, this allows for occasional trips with increased speed due to operational needs.

What about labor assignments?

Currently, labor is assigned when a vessel arrives at one of the terminals. When the Vessel Speed Reduction Program is implemented, labor will be assigned once a vessel reaches the Vessel Speed Reduction zone (20 nautical miles from Point Loma). This will ensure operators participating in the program retain the same access to labor as those who choose not to reduce their speeds. Entry into the Vessel Speed Reduction zone will be monitored by the Port's Maritime Division.

For more information on the Vessel Speed Reduction Program, please contact The Environmental Services Department, Green Port Program at greenport@portofsandiego.org or (619) 686-6254.

