

navigation rules created under that Act and the "inland waters" definition in 46 CFR 10.103 would control regulations in 46 CFR part 10. Also, in various laws administered and enforced by the Coast Guard, the terms "State" and "United States" are defined to include some or all of the territories and possessions of the United States. The definitions in §§2.36 and 2.38 should be considered as supplementary to these statutory definitions and not as interpretive of them.

## **Subpart B—Jurisdictional Terms**

### **§2.20 Territorial sea baseline.**

*Territorial sea baseline* means the line defining the shoreward extent of the territorial sea of the United States drawn according to the principles, as recognized by the United States, of the Convention on the Territorial Sea and the Contiguous Zone, 15 U.S.T. 1606, and the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), 21 I.L.M. 1261. Normally, the territorial sea baseline is the mean low water line along the coast of the United States.

NOTE TO §2.20: Charts depicting the territorial sea baseline are available for examination in accordance with §1.10-5 of this chapter.

### **§2.22 Territorial sea.**

(a) With respect to the United States, the following apply—

(1) *Territorial sea* means the waters, 12 nautical miles wide, adjacent to the coast of the United States and seaward of the territorial sea baseline, for—

(i) Statutes included within subtitle II and subtitle VI, title 46, U.S.C.; the Ports and Waterways Safety Act, as amended (33 U.S.C. 1221-1232); the Act of June 15, 1917, as amended (50 U.S.C. 191-195); and the Vessel Bridge-to-Bridge Radiotelephone Act (33 U.S.C. 1201-1208), and any regulations issued under the authority of these statutes.

(ii) Purposes of criminal jurisdiction pursuant to Title 18, United States Code.

(iii) The special maritime and territorial jurisdiction as defined in 18 U.S.C. 7.

(iv) Interpreting international law.

(v) Any other treaty, statute, or regulation, or amendment thereto, interpreted by the Coast Guard as incorporating the definition of territorial sea as being 12 nautical miles wide, ad-

jacent to the coast of the United States and seaward of the territorial sea baseline.

(2) Unless otherwise specified in paragraph (a)(1) of this section, *territorial sea* means the waters, 3 nautical miles wide, adjacent to the coast of the United States and seaward of the territorial sea baseline.

(3) In cases where regulations are promulgated under the authority of statutes covered by both paragraphs (a)(1) and (a)(2) of this section, the Coast Guard may use the definition of territorial sea in paragraph (a)(1) of this section.

(b) With respect to any other nation, *territorial sea* means the waters adjacent to its coast that have a width and baseline recognized by the United States.

[USCG-2001-9044, 68 FR 42598, July 18, 2003, as amended by USCG-2003-14792, 68 FR 60470, Oct. 22, 2003]

### **§2.24 Internal waters.**

(a) With respect to the United States, *internal waters* means the waters shoreward of the territorial sea baseline.

(b) With respect to any other nation, *internal waters* means the waters shoreward of its territorial sea baseline, as recognized by the United States.

### **§2.26 Inland waters.**

*Inland waters* means the waters shoreward of the territorial sea baseline.

### **§2.28 Contiguous zone.**

(a) For the purposes of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 *et seq.*), *contiguous zone* means the zone, 9 nautical miles wide, adjacent to and seaward of the territorial sea, as defined in §2.22(a)(2), that was declared to exist in Department of State Public Notice 358 of June 1, 1972 and that extends from 3 nautical miles to 12 nautical miles as measured from the territorial sea baseline.

(b) For all other purposes, *contiguous zone* means all waters within the area adjacent to and seaward of the territorial sea, as defined in §2.22(a), and extending to 24 nautical miles from the territorial sea baseline, but in no case extending within the territorial sea of