

COSTA RICA

SUMMARY OF CLAIMS

TYPE	DATE	SOURCE	LIMITS	NOTES
TERRITORIAL SEA	Feb 72	Decree No. 2303	12nm	Applied also to Coco Island; innocent passage preserved.
	Jun 75	Decree No. 5699	12nm	Amended Article 6 of Constitution to establish 12nm territorial sea.
	Nov 88	Decree Law No. 18581-RE	12nm	Amends boundaries of territorial sea by redrawing straight baseline between the tip of the Nicoya Peninsula and the top of the Osa Peninsula.
ARCHIPELAGIC, STRAIGHT BASELINES, & HISTORIC CLAIMS	Nov 88	Decree Law No. 18581-RE		Established straight baselines along its Pacific Ocean coastline. <i>This claim is not recognized by the U.S. U.S. protested claim in 1989. See LIS No. 111.</i>
CONTINENTAL SHELF	Jun 75	Decree No. 5699	200nm	Claimed complete and exclusive sovereignty over soil and subsoil.
FISHING ZONE/EEZ	Jun 75	Decree No. 5699	200nm	EEZ.
	Aug 78	Law 6267		Law requiring foreign fishing vessels transiting EEZ to provide notification. <i>This requirement is not recognized by the U.S. U.S. protested requirement in 1979.</i>
	May 91	Exec. Decree 20404-P-MOPT		Permit required for foreign flag fishing to transit Costa Rican waters. <i>This requirement is not recognized by the U.S. U.S. protested requirement in 1992.</i>
MARITIME BOUNDARIES	Mar 77	Agreement		Maritime boundary agreement with Colombia (Caribbean Sea) signed. See LIS No. 84.
	Feb 82	Agreement		Maritime boundary agreement with Panama (Caribbean Sea and Pacific Ocean) EIF. See LIS No. 97.
	Apr 84	Agreement /Law No. 8084		Maritime boundary agreement with Colombia (Pacific) signed.
	Mar 85	Agreement		Maritime boundary agreement with Ecuador signed.
LOS CONVENTION	Dec 82			Signed Convention, with Declaration relating to fishing for highly migratory species in the EEZ.
	Sep 92			Ratified Convention.
	Sep 2001			Bound by Part XI Agreement.

STRAIGHT BASELINE LEGISLATION

The following is extracted from the Republic of Costa Rica's Decree Law No. 18581-RE concerning straight baselines in the Pacific Ocean, signed 14 October 1988, EIF 15 November 1988.

Article 1

The width of the territorial sea of the Republic will be measured, in the Pacific Ocean, from the following baselines:

A. In accordance with the normal baseline method: from San Francisco Point, also known as Medero (10°17' 36" N., 85°51' 19" W), to Punta Guiones (9°54' 18" N., 85°40' 15" W), and from Punta Llorona (8°35' 03" N, 83°43' 25" W.) to Punta Salsipuedes (8°26' 32" N., 83°34' 13" W.).

B. In accordance with the straight baselines method: from a point that coincides with the southern extreme of the line that encloses the mouth of Salinas Bay, the line, as determined by the Cleveland Award, to Punta Descartes (11°01' 25" N., 85°45' 25" W) to Punta Blanca (10°57' 02" N., 85°53' 16" W); from Punta Blanca to Punta Santa Elena (10°53' 29" N., 85°57' 11" W); from Santa Elena to the westernmost key of the Murcielago Islands Group (10°51' 16" N., 85°58' 50" W.); from the westernmost key of the Murcielago Islands to Cabo Velas or Morro Hermoso (10°21' 25" N., 85°52' 39" W.); from Cabo Velas or Morro Hermoso to Punta San Francisco (10°17' 36" N., 85°51' 19" W.); from Punta Guiones (9°54' 18" N., 85°40' 15" W) to the southwest tip of Cabo Blanco Island (9°32' 20" N., 85°06' 54" W.); from the southwest tip of Cabo Blanco Island to the southwest tip of Isla Del Cano (8°42' 24" N., 83°53' 30" W.); from the southwest tip of Isla Del Cano to Punta Llorona on the Osa Peninsula (8°35' 03" N., 83°43' 25" W.); from Punta Salsipuedes (8°26' 32" N., 83°34' 13" W.) to the extreme southern end of the international border line with Panama at Punta Burica.

MARITIME BOUNDARY AGREEMENT**COSTA RICA - COLOMBIA**

The following comments regarding an agreement between Colombia and Costa Rica, signed in March 1977, were extracted from Limits in the Seas, No. 84, "Maritime Boundary: Colombia-Costa Rica."

U.S. ANALYSIS

The boundary commences in the east at the intersection of a line drawn at 225° azimuth (true) from 11°00'00"N., 81°15'00"W., with the 10°49'00"N. parallel. The approximate coordinates of this point calculate to be 10°49'00"N., 81°26'15"W., and are shown as point A. The boundary continues along this parallel of latitude until intersecting the meridian of 82°14'00"W. longitude; turning point B thus has the coordinates 10°49'00"N., 82°14'00"W. From point B, the boundary follows the 82°14'00"W. meridian due north to "where delimitation must be made with a third State" (i.e., Nicaragua).

The distance of the known boundary (A-B) is 46.99 nm. Although it is impossible to determine precisely the northwest terminus of the Colombia-Costa Rica boundary, the boundary probably would extend at least to 11°N. before the Colombia-Nicaragua or Costa Rica-Nicaragua maritime boundary would be encountered.

No boundary delimitation principles have been specified in the treaty. The delimitation appears to have been negotiated on the basis of equitable principles established by agreement between the two states....

**TABLE C1.T57.
COSTA RICA - COLOMBIA MARITIME BOUNDARY COORDINATES**

COSTA RICA - COLOMBIA MARITIME BOUNDARY COORDINATES		
Boundary Point	Nearest Land Territory	Distance to Boundary Point (NM)
A	Colombia-Cayos de Albuquerque	83.14
	Costa Rica-Punta Mona	99.29
	Panama-Wreck Rock	95.65
B	Colombia-Cayos de Albuquerque	85.62
	Costa Rica-Isla Uvite	67.15

COSTA RICA - COLOMBIA MARITIME BOUNDARY COORDINATES		
Boundary Point	Nearest Land Territory	Distance to Boundary Point (NM)
11°00'00"N 82°14'00"W	Colombia-Cayos de Albuquerque	72.12
	Costa Rica-Isla Uvita	75.49
	Nicaragua-Blowing Rock	78.02

The following is extracted from the Treaty on the Delimitation of Marine and Submarine Areas and Maritime Cooperation between the Republic of Colombia and the Republic of Costa Rica of 6 April 1984, Additional to the Treaty signed on 17 March 1977.

Article 1

The boundary between their respective marine and submarine areas in the Pacific Ocean shall consist of a straight line drawn from a point located at latitude 05° 00' 00" north and longitude 84° 19' 00" west of Greenwich, which is the end of the maritime boundary between Costa Rica and Panama, southward towards another point located at latitude 03° 32' 00" north and longitude 84° 19' 00" west of Greenwich. From the latter point, the boundary shall continue along the boundary of the 200-mile marine area of Isla de Coco to a point at latitude 03° 03' 00" north and longitude 84° 46' 00" west of Greenwich

COSTA RICA - PANAMA

The following is extracted from the Treaty concerning Delimitation of Marine Areas and Maritime Cooperation between the Republic of Costa Rica and the Republic of Panama signed 2 February 1980, EIF February 1982.

(1) In the Caribbean Sea: The median line every point of which is equidistant from the nearest points on the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea of each State is measured in accordance with public international law; from the termination of the land boundary between the two countries, at a point located in the mouth of the Sixaola River, latitude 09° 34' 16" North, longitude 82° 34' 00" West, along a straight line to a point located at latitude 10° 49' 00" North, longitude 81° 26' 08.2" West, where the boundaries of Costa Rica, Colombia and Panama intersect.

(2) In the Pacific Ocean: The median line every point of which is equidistant from the nearest points on the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea of each State is measured in accordance with international public law; the boundary between the maritime areas of the two countries shall consist of a straight line starting at the southernmost point of the land boundary at Punta Burica and terminating at a point at latitude 05° 00' 00" North and longitude 84° 19' 00" West.