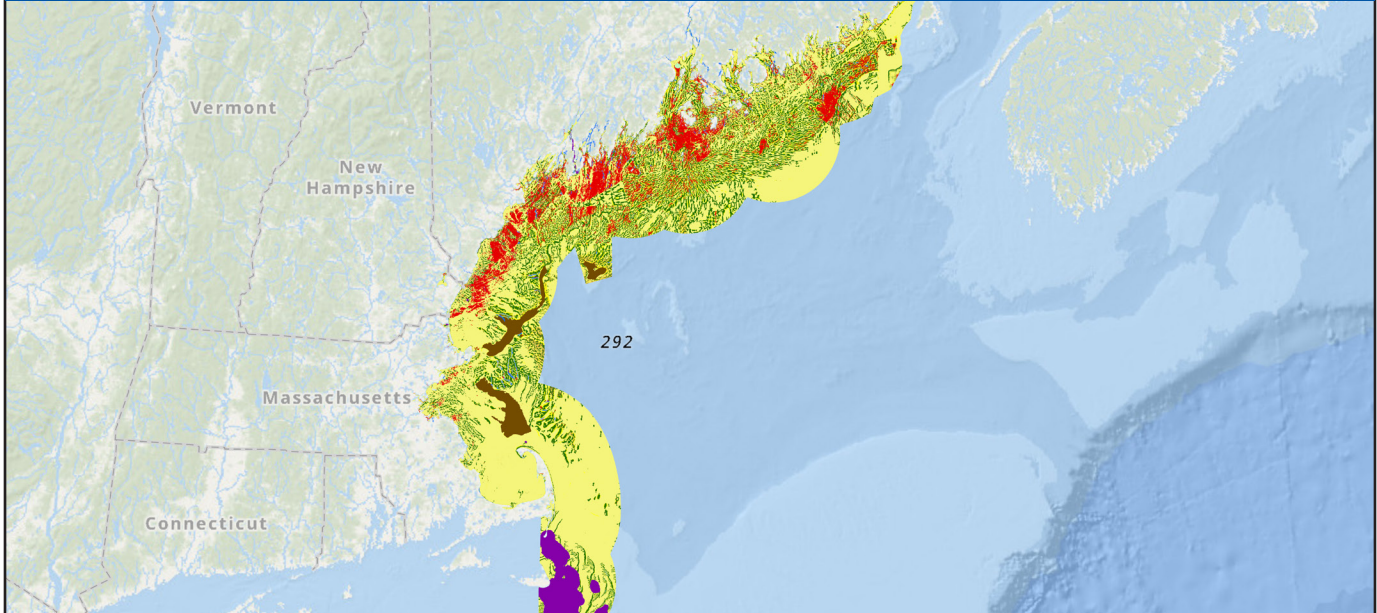


GULF OF MAINE SEASCAPE MAPPING



This project extent covers the areas of the Gulf of Maine represented in the map.

THE NEED

The Gulf of Maine is experiencing an increase in demand for ocean-related projects. The number of proposed projects that cross multiple state jurisdictions continues to grow. To help people make the best decisions possible when it comes to this important natural resource, NOAA's Office for Coastal Management funded and coordinated the development of a mapping product that can help inform the planning process.

The seascape map was developed using the seamless BlueTopo data from NOAA's Office of Coast Survey, a compilation of existing bathymetric surveys. Together, these map products show how interrelating seafloor components and habitat areas across the region are distributed.

Product Description - This map of the seafloor will provide a regional view of the Gulf of Maine from the highest annual tide on the coast out to 24 nautical miles. The Coastal and Marine Ecological Classification Standard and a consistent mapping approach were used, along with the best-quality data available to identify different bottom types, such as rocky areas, shoals, and moraines. This mapping product covers Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts.

USES

- Identifying potential project locations with suitable seafloor characteristics.
- Understanding where known sensitive habitat areas exist within the region that could trigger extra precautions during project construction and operation, or that may need to be avoided.
- Helping permitting organizations and citizens develop a general understanding of potential impacts of proposed projects.
- Providing a general understanding of the region's benthic habitat, such as what areas are hard or soft bottom, and where the basins and banks are located.

PARTNERS IN THIS EFFORT

NOAA's Office for Coastal Management
 Maine Coastal Program
 Maine Geological Survey
 New Hampshire Coastal Program
 Center for Coastal and Ocean Mapping
 Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management
 Tetra Tech

Anticipated Release Date: Winter 2022

For more information, contact Mark.Finkbeiner@noaa.gov

