



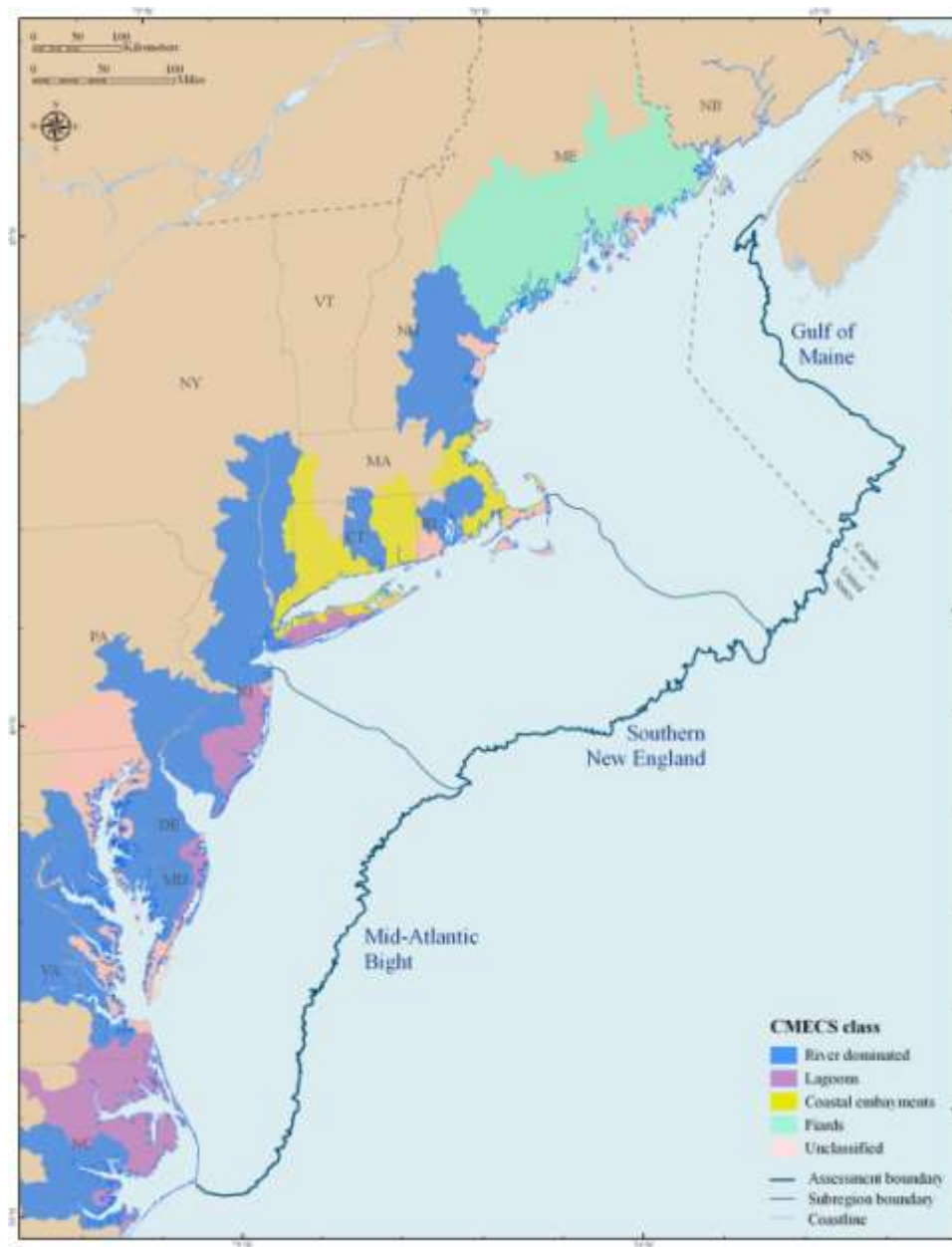
Coastal Shoreline Units (CSUs)

Habitats: Beach, flat, marsh, swamp, rocky shore/cliff, non-rocky bluff, manmade, undefined

Data Source(s): NOAA Environmental Sensitivity Index (ESI)

Scale: US Coastline Scale 1:24,000.; Provincial Coastline Scale NB 1:24,000, NS 1:100,000

Product Details: The team subdivided the coastline within the four estuarine stratification categories into specific and contiguous Coastal Shoreline Units (CSUs). These CSUs are designed to help characterize and compare different geographies by providing distinct units where targets could be quantified. The CSUs represent a planning tool to help compare and contrast geographies with the understanding that boundary changes, or splitting/lumping of areas may be desirable when fine tuning decision making tools at more localized geographies. Each team made delineations based upon continuity of processes and natural breaks. The team collectively reviewed and approved a final set of 60 delineations. Shoreline Line Types were taken primarily from the NOAA ESI dataset which was designed for ranking sensitivity of shoreline types to oil spills. The source ESI linetypes were aggregated into 7 ecologically relevant categories (beach, flat, marsh, swamp, rocky shore/cliff, non-rocky bluff, manmade, and undefined) for ecoregional planning.



Estuarine Drainage Areas by CMECS Classification

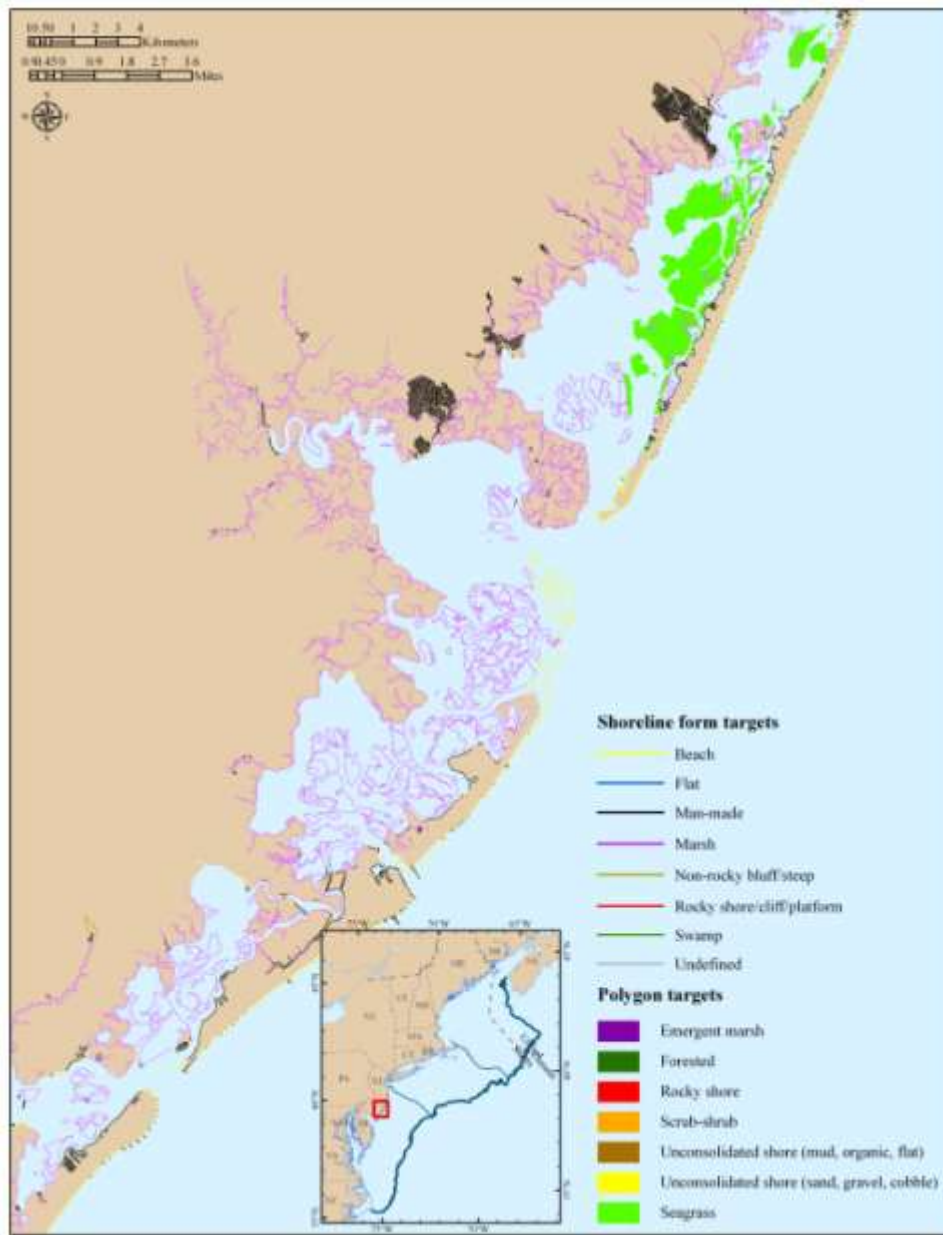
Habitats: Fjord, embayment, lagoon, riverine

Data Source(s): NOAA Coastal Assessment Framework - Coastal Estuarine Watersheds. Department of Commerce (DOC), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Ocean Service (NOS), Special Projects (SP), Coastal Resources Assessment Branch (CRAB) ; additional attributes from EPA N.Detenbeck related to Madden and Grossman, 2004.

Years: 1999

Scale: 1:100,000 (not given in metadata)

Product Details: The estuarine drainage area units were used to represent the regional CMECS classification used to stratify the areas into fjord, riverine, lagoon, or embayment estuary types. The Estuarine Drainage Area units were also used to link over NOAA Eutrophication summary attributes, to show levels of eutrophication in each estuary.



Coastal Habitats

Habitats: Emergent marsh, Forested, Rocky shore, Scrub-shrub, Unconsolidated shore (sand, gravel, cobble), and unconsolidated shore (mud, organic, flat).

Data Source(s): USFWS National Wetlands Inventory

Years: 1970-2008

Scale: 1:100,000

Product Details: Habitat types that occurred along the coast were mapped by extracting intertidal coded polygon from the National Wetland Inventory in the U.S. and by extracting coastal ecosystem polygons from the Northern Appalachian Ecoregional Planning coastal target polygon dataset (TNC, 2003) in Canada. The polygons were placed into the following 6 intertidal habitat categories 1) Unconsolidated Shore (sand, gravel, cobble), 2) Unconsolidated Shore (mud, organic, flat), 3) Emergent Marsh, 4) Forested Wetland, 5) Rocky Shore, and 6) Scrub-Shrub Wetland.



Seagrass

Data Source(s) and years:

ME - Maine Department of Marine Resources (1997 & 2005)

NH – NH Granit (2004 - 2007)

MA - MA DEP - Wetlands Conservancy Program (1995 & 2001)

RI - RIDEM - Narragansett Bay Estuarine Program, RI GIS (2000)

CT - CT Department of Environmental Protection (1993-95, 2002, 2006)

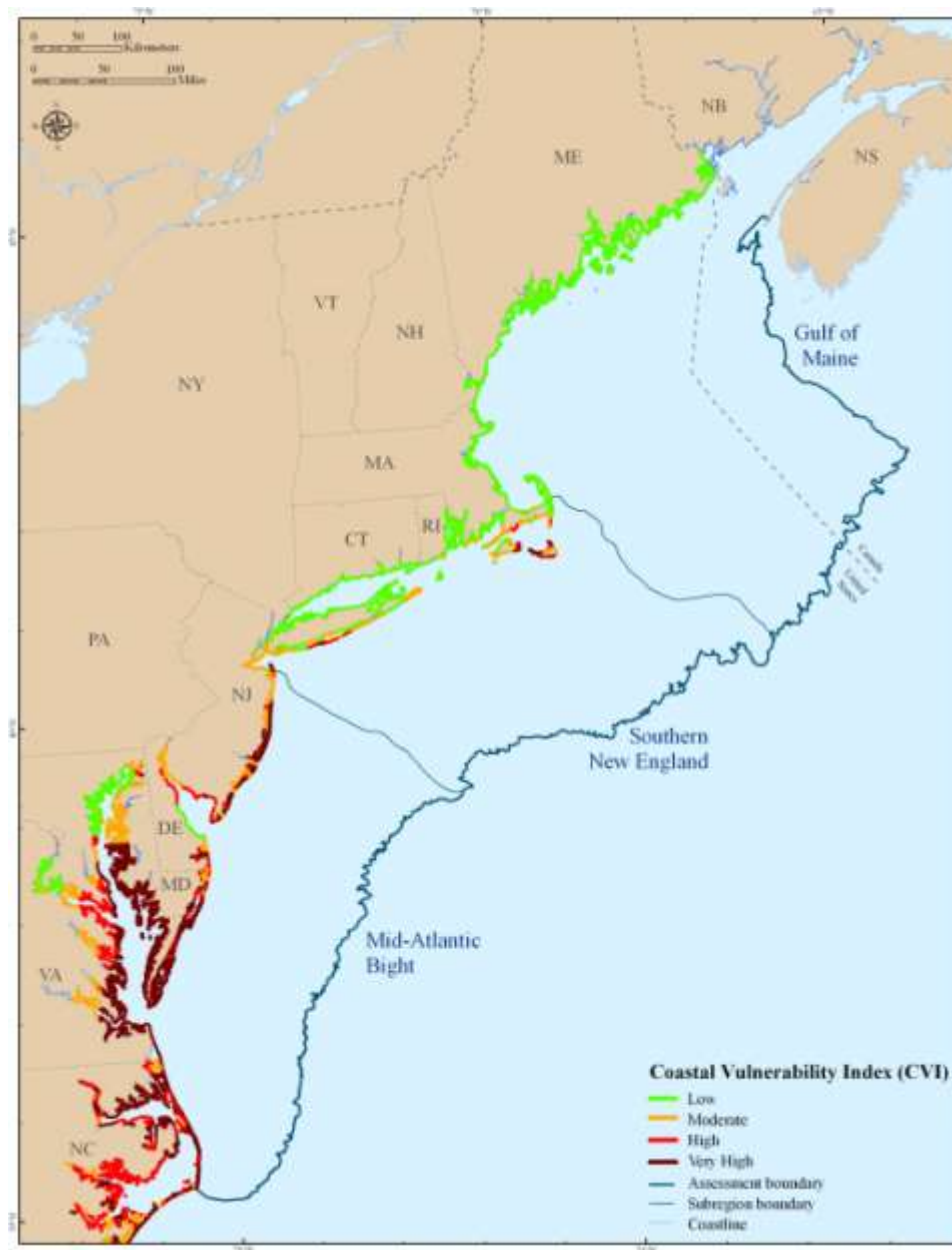
NY - Cornell Institute for Resource Information Sciences (Cornell IRIS), Hudson River National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR) and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), Albany, New York (2007)

NJ – CRSSA Rutgers University (1968, 1979, 1985-1987, 1996-1999, 2003)

DE – DE Bay ESI

MD, VA - Virginia Institute of Marine Science (1971, 1974, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1989, 1990-2008)

Product Details: With no comprehensive seagrass layer for this region, The Nature Conservancy sought to compile the best available data from the data sources listed above. The attributes of the data were standardized to include species, density, year observed, and source information. This regional compilation represents currently available data and may not represent current conditions



Coastal Vulnerability Index (CVI)

Data Source(s): Coastal Vulnerability to Sea-Level Rise: A Preliminary Database for the U.S. Atlantic, Pacific, and Gulf of Mexico Coasts. Erika S. Hammar-Klose and E. Robert Thieler. U.S. Geological Survey Digital Data Series - 68. 2001.

Years: 2001

Product Details: The coastal vulnerability index, by USGS Coastal and Marine Geology Program's National Assessment, seeks to objectively determine the relative risks due to future sea-level rise for the U.S. Atlantic, Pacific, and Gulf of Mexico coasts. Through

The use of a coastal vulnerability index, or CVI, the relative risk that physical changes will occur as sea-level rises is quantified based on the following criteria: tidal range, wave height, coastal slope, shoreline change, geomorphology, and historical rate of relative sea-level rise.

This approach combines a coastal system's susceptibility to change with its natural ability to adapt to changing environmental conditions, and yields a relative measure of the system's natural vulnerability to the effects of sea-level rise.