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New England Essential Fish Habitat StoryMap

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Agenda

1. Why create a sensitive habitat viewer?
2. StoryMap Outline
3. StoryMap Demonstration
4. Next Steps
5. Questions and Discussion



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Why Create a Sensitive Habitat Viewer?

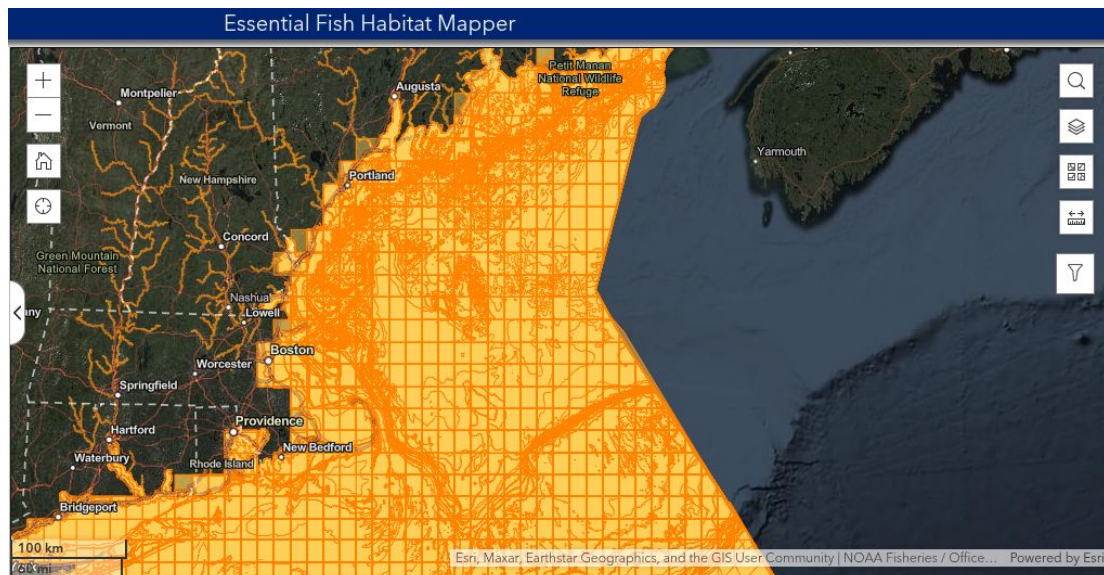
1. Expedite receiving complete EFH assessments.
2. Minimize requests for additional information.
3. Increase consultation transparency, efficiency & habitat protection.



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How is this project helpful?

- Presents relevant site-specific sensitive habitat data
- Provides sensitive habitat survey resources.



EFH Mapper (NOAA Fisheries)

Data

- Majority of data sourced from NROC or regional sources (USFWS).
 - Layers span New England



Kaitlyn Shaw

StoryMap Outline

1. Sensitive Habitat Viewer
2. Sensitive Habitat Descriptions
3. State-specific Resources



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Instructions for Use

Need to conduct an Essential Fish Habitat consultation, but not sure where to start? Follow the steps below to minimize requests for additional information and expedite the review timeline.

1. Begin with the [EFH mapper](#) to determine which Federally managed species may be present in the project action area.
2. From the EFH mapper, click on the project action area and follow 'link to text description' to view the species' text descriptions. If the conditions listed in the text description are not present at the project action area, you can note this in the [EFH assessment](#) or worksheet.
3. Use the [Sensitive Habitat Viewer](#) below to explore potential sensitive habitats in the action area and determine what surveys and habitat delineations may be required. Include this information from the Sensitive Habitat Viewer and other habitat information from [State-specific Resources](#) below in your EFH consultation.

Sensitive Habitat Viewer



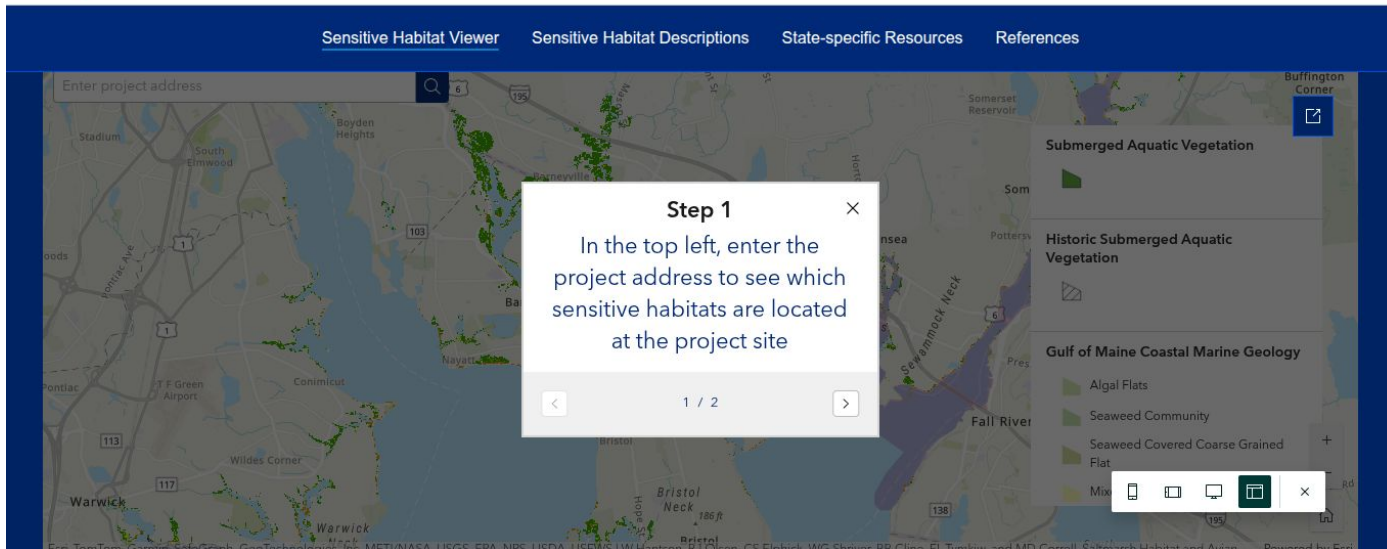
Essential Fish Habitat of New England

[Sensitive Habitat Viewer](#)

[Sensitive Habitat Descriptions](#)

[State-specific Resources](#)

[References](#)



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Sensitive Habitat Viewer



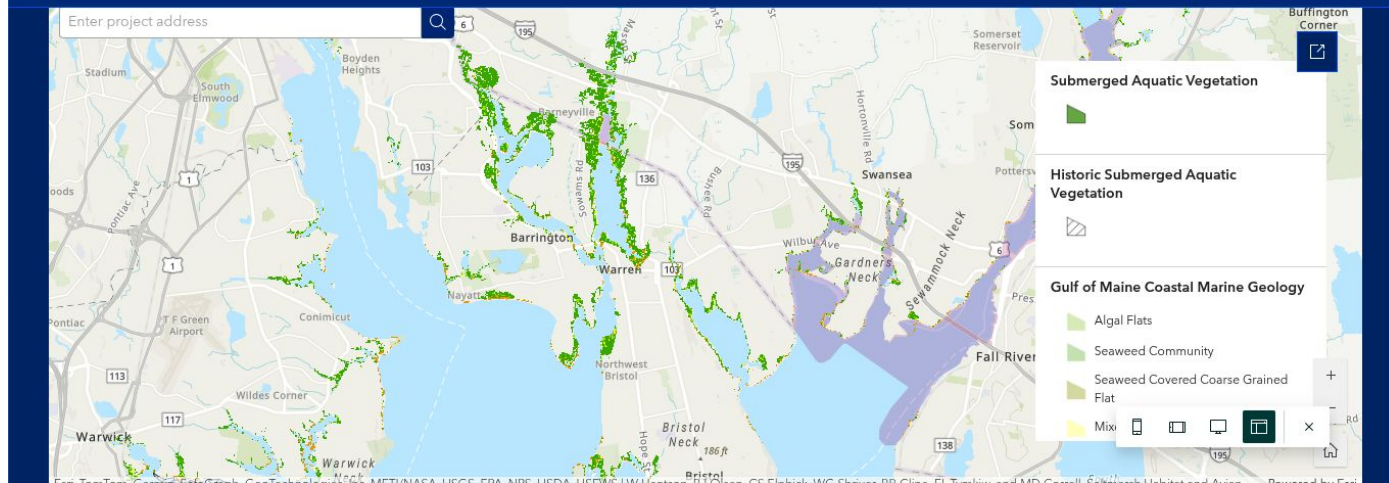
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[Sensitive Habitat Viewer](#)

[Sensitive Habitat Descriptions](#)

[State-specific Resources](#)

[References](#)



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Sensitive Habitat Descriptions

storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/32ba2227ed1d4a42944449f7e0da21bd/preview

Commerce Learnin... GARFO Acronyms -

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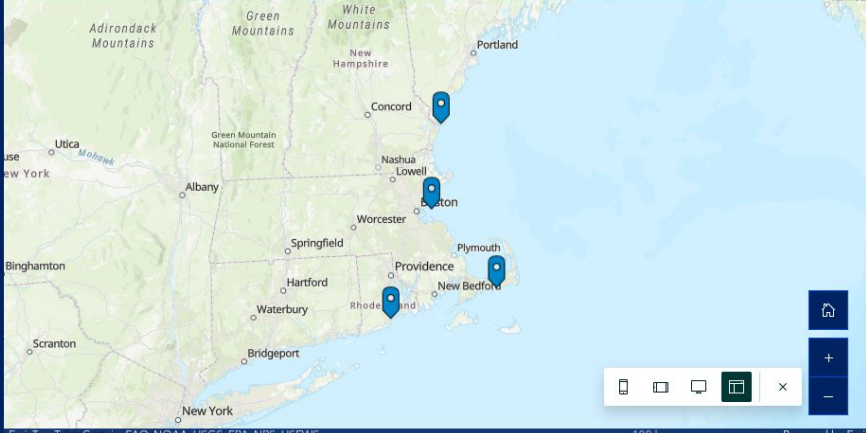
Sensitive Habitat Viewer Sensitive Habitat Descriptions State-specific Resources References

Mudflat
Mudflats, also known as tidal flats, are broad, flat areas along the coast that are exposed during lo...

Submerged Aquatic Vegetation
Rooted plants that grow below the water's surface in fresh, estuarine, and marine environments ar...

Natural Rocky Habitat
Natural rocky habitats are found in intertidal and subtidal zones, and are composed of pebble...

Salt Marsh
Salt marshes are coastal wetlands found in intertidal zones that are flooded and drained by...



The map displays the New England region, including parts of New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut. Blue pins are placed on the map to indicate the locations of sensitive habitats. The pins are located in the following areas: Concord, New Hampshire; Boston, Massachusetts; Lowell, Massachusetts; Worcester, Massachusetts; Springfield, Massachusetts; Hartford, Connecticut; Waterbury, Connecticut; Bridgeport, Connecticut; New York City, New York; and New Bedford, Massachusetts. The map also shows major geographical features such as the Adirondack Mountains, Green Mountains, White Mountains, and the Atlantic Ocean. A legend in the bottom right corner of the map area shows icons for different map styles (satellite, topographic, etc.) and a scale bar.

State-Specific Resources



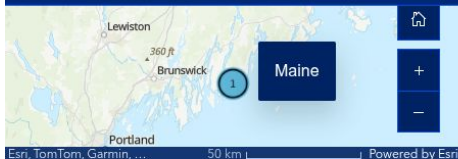
Essential Fish Habitat of New England

Sensitive Habitat Viewer

Sensitive Habitat Descriptions

State-specific Resources

References



1

Maine

Maine Office of
GIS Data
Catalog

Maine DEP
Seagrass
Viewer

Maine Stream Habitat Viewer

Maine's coast features



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The background of the slide is a photograph of several salmon swimming in clear, blue water. The fish are seen from below, showing their silvery scales and pinkish-red internal organs. The water has a wavy, rippled texture. A dark blue curved shape is on the left side of the slide, and a white curved shape is on the right side.

Demonstration



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Next Steps

- Work with Mid-Atlantic colleagues to replicate tool using regional data so it's useful for the whole GARFO region.
- StoryMap link and updated EFH worksheet will be posted to our website



Thank you!

Questions?