

Level III and IV Ecoregions of New England

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Ecoregions denote areas of general similarity in ecosystems and in the type, quality, and quantity of environmental resources. They are designed to serve as a spatial framework for the research, assessment, management, and monitoring of ecosystems and ecosystem components. These general purpose regions are critical for structuring and implementing ecosystem management strategies across federal agencies, state agencies, and nongovernment organizations that are responsible for different types of resources within the same geographical areas. The approach used to compile this map is based on the premise that ecological regions can be identified through the analysis of patterns of biotic and abiotic phenomena, including geology, physiography, vegetation, climate, soils, land use, wildlife, and hydrology. The relative importance of each characteristic varies from one ecological region to another regardless of the hierarchical level. The Ecoregions of New England map was compiled at a scale of 1:250,000. Compilation of this map was part of a collaborative project primarily between US EPA Region 1, US EPA National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory (Corvallis, Oregon), USGS, USDA-NRCS, New England state environment and natural resource agencies, as well as with other collaborators and contributors.

The project is associated with interagency efforts to develop a common framework of ecological regions. Reaching that objective requires recognition of the differences in the conceptual approaches and mapping methodologies applied to develop the most common ecoregion-type frameworks, including those developed by the USDA-Forest Service, the US EPA, and the USDA-NRCS. As each of these frameworks is further refined, their differences are becoming less discernible. Collaborative ecoregion projects, such as this one in New England, are a step toward attaining consensus and consistency in ecoregion frameworks for the entire nation.

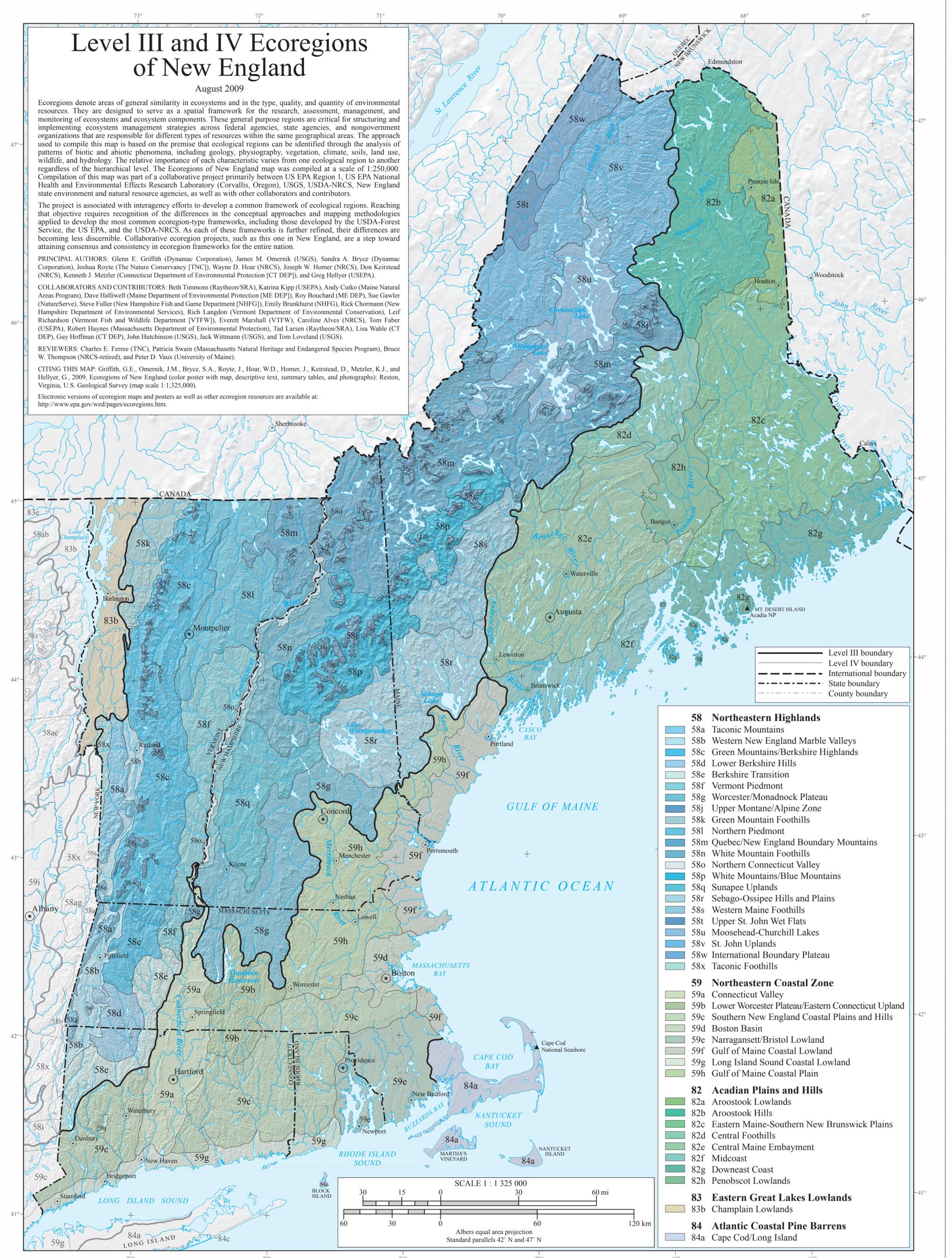
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Electronic versions of ecoregion maps and posters as well as other ecoregion resources are available at: <http://www.epa.gov/wed/pages/ecoregions.htm>



— Level III boundary
 — Level IV boundary
 - - - International boundary
 - - - State boundary
 - - - County boundary

- 58 Northeastern Highlands**
 - 58a Taconic Mountains
 - 58b Western New England Marble Valleys
 - 58c Green Mountains/Berkshire Highlands
 - 58d Lower Berkshire Hills
 - 58e Berkshire Transition
 - 58f Vermont Piedmont
 - 58g Worcester/Monadnock Plateau
 - 58j Upper Montane/Alpine Zone
 - 58k Green Mountain Foothills
 - 58l Northern Piedmont
 - 58m Quebec/New England Boundary Mountains
 - 58n White Mountain Foothills
 - 58o Northern Connecticut Valley
 - 58p White Mountains/Blue Mountains
 - 58q Sunapee Uplands
 - 58r Sebago-Ossipee Hills and Plains
 - 58s Western Maine Foothills
 - 58t Upper St. John Wet Flats
 - 58u Moosehead-Churchill Lakes
 - 58v St. John Uplands
 - 58w International Boundary Plateau
 - 58x Taconic Foothills
- 59 Northeastern Coastal Zone**
 - 59a Connecticut Valley
 - 59b Lower Worcester Plateau/Eastern Connecticut Upland
 - 59c Southern New England Coastal Plains and Hills
 - 59d Boston Basin
 - 59e Narragansett/Bristol Lowland
 - 59f Gulf of Maine Coastal Lowland
 - 59g Long Island Sound Coastal Lowland
 - 59h Gulf of Maine Coastal Plain
- 82 Acadian Plains and Hills**
 - 82a Aroostook Lowlands
 - 82b Aroostook Hills
 - 82c Eastern Maine-Southern New Brunswick Plains
 - 82d Central Foothills
 - 82e Central Maine Embayment
 - 82f Midcoast
 - 82g Downeast Coast
 - 82h Penobscot Lowlands
- 83 Eastern Great Lakes Lowlands**
 - 83b Champlain Lowlands
- 84 Atlantic Coastal Pine Barrens**
 - 84a Cape Cod/Long Island

