

The Southeast Blueprint - Offshore Marine Indicators

In the deeper marine waters of the Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of Mexico, the draft of Southeast Blueprint 2023 is based on 7 natural resource indicators that represent marine ecosystems.



Marine

- **Atlantic deep-sea coral:** Measures the number of deep-sea coral genera predicted to occur in the Atlantic Ocean (*data source: NOAA deep-sea coral and hardbottom project*).
- **Atlantic hardbottom habitat:** Measures hardbottom habitat suitability in the Atlantic Ocean (*data source: two NOAA hardbottom projects*).
- **Atlantic marine birds:** Identifies important areas in the Atlantic Ocean for 19 bird species that feed exclusively or mainly at sea (*data source: Duke University's Marine-life Data and Analysis Team marine bird models*).
- **Atlantic marine mammals:** Identifies important areas in the Atlantic Ocean for 20 species and species groups of dolphins, whales, and seals (*data source: Duke Marine Lab marine mammal models*).
- **Gulf deep-sea coral:** Measures the number of deep-sea coral genera predicted to occur in the Gulf of Mexico (*data source: NOAA deep-sea coral and chemosynthetic communities project*).
- **Gulf hardbottom habitat:** Predicts the presence of hardbottom habitat in the Gulf of Mexico based on direct observations and acoustic surveys (*data source: usSEABED sediment data, BOEM seismic water bottom anomalies*).
- **Gulf sea turtles:** Identifies important areas in the Gulf of Mexico for 4 species of sea turtles (*data source: NOAA GoMMAPPs*).
- **Gulf marine mammals:** Identifies important areas in the Gulf of Mexico for 16 species or species groups of dolphins and whales (*data source: Duke Marine Lab marine mammal models*).