



U.S. Department of Transportation  
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

## Metadata for Ecological Unusually Sensitive Areas (Eco USA)

### Identification\_Information:

#### Citation:

#### Citation\_Information:

Originator: U.S. Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA)

Publication\_Date: 202507

Title: UNUSUALLY SENSITIVE AREAS FOR ECOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Edition: 3

Geospatial\_Data\_Presentation\_Form: vector digital data

#### Series\_Information:

Issue\_Identification: Ecological USAs

#### Publication\_Information:

Publication\_Place: Washington, D.C.

Publisher: U.S. Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA)

Other\_Citation\_Details: Prepared by NatureServe, Arlington, Virginia for the U.S. Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA)

#### Description:

Abstract: This dataset encompasses Ecological Unusually Sensitive Areas (Eco USAs) data for ecological resources for the United States as defined in 49 CFR 195.6 (b)(1)-(5). Data depicting Eco USAs as defined in 49 CFR 195.6 (b)(6)-(7) are mapped separately as Coastal Ecological USA and available for public download at <https://www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov/CoastalEcoUSAData.aspx>. In accordance with pipeline safety laws (49 U.S.C. Section 60109(a) and Section 6 of the Pipeline Safety, Regulatory Certainty, and Job Creation Act of 2011, 49 U.S.C. 60132(d)), PHMSA is required to maintain, and update biennially, as part of the National Pipeline Mapping System (NPMS), a map of designated high-consequence areas that includes Eco USAs, excluding any proprietary or sensitive security information. This dataset is intended for use by hazardous liquid pipeline operators and regulators to help identify areas unusually sensitive to environmental damage in the event of a hazardous liquid pipeline accident.

Other Ecological USA areas are mapped separately as Coastal Eco USA and are available for public download at <https://www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov/CoastalEcoUSAData.aspx>. Through interactions with various regulatory agencies, pipeline operators, private contractors, non-profit conservation organizations, and the general public, a process has been developed and adopted by PHMSA to identify Eco USAs for ecological resources. The process consists of identifying a set of candidate ecological resources using approved data sources and applying a set of filter criteria to candidates to determine Eco USAs. The identification of Eco USAs is conducted using standardized data processing steps applied using Python scripts. The resultant Eco USA data are applicable to current and future regulatory requirements as specified by PHMSA, including but not limited to pipeline integrity management and spill response planning. For additional information concerning the data and data processing steps used to develop the Eco USAs, please refer to the documents listed in the Cross\_Reference section of this report.

Purpose: Pipeline operators conducting risk assessments can use ecological USAs, in conjunction with their pipeline information and other data, to identify areas that may suffer long-term and permanent environmental/resource damage in the event of a hazardous liquid pipeline accident. Users of these data are encouraged to read carefully the technical reports cited in the Cross Reference section to understand the limitations of the Ecological USA data.

Time\_Period\_of\_Content:

Time\_Period\_Information:

Single\_Date/Time:

Calendar\_Date: 202506

Currentness\_Reference: publication date

Status:

Progress: Complete

Maintenance\_and\_Update\_Frequency: As needed

Spatial\_Domain:

Bounding\_Coordinates:

West\_Bounding\_Coordinate: -180.000000

East\_Bounding\_Coordinate: 180.000000

North\_Bounding\_Coordinate: 75.765106

South\_Bounding\_Coordinate: 41.850233

Keywords:

Theme:

Theme\_Keyword\_Thesaurus: None

Theme\_Keyword: Ecological Unusually Sensitive Areas

Theme\_Keyword: Pipeline Safety

Theme\_Keyword: Oil Spill Planning

Theme\_Keyword: Ecological resources

Theme\_Keyword: Endangered species

Theme\_Keyword: Imperiled species

Place:

Place\_Keyword\_Thesaurus: None

Place\_Keyword: United States

Access\_Constraints: A formal request must be made to the U. S. Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration to obtain access to this data layer. For more information, the National Pipeline Mapping System website can be accessed at <http://www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov>.

Use\_Constraints: Use constraints will be supplied by the U. S. Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration upon receipt of data requests.

Note that this dataset is one resource, but not the only resource, that operators should use in determining whether their pipelines could affect a high consequence area (HCA). If the dataset does not show an ecological USA in a certain area, that does not mean it is not an HCA. If an area fits within the regulatory definition of an HCA, even if the data provided by NPMS does not show it as an HCA, it is an HCA. Operators must continually assess the locations in which their lines are located to determine if they are in an HCA/could affect HCA area.

Point\_of\_Contact:

Contact\_Information:

Contact\_Organization\_Primary:

Contact\_Organization: Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

Contact\_Person: GIS Manager

Contact\_Position: Contracting Officer Technical Representative

Contact\_Electronic\_Mail\_Address: npms@dot.gov

Data\_Set\_Credit: This project was conducted by the U. S. Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration. Raw data and information contributing to the development of ecological USAs were provided by The NatureServe Network, the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, the Ramsar Sites Information Service (<https://www.ramsar.org/>), the Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences, and others (refer to the lineage section for details). Research Planning, Inc. (RPI) provided technical support and was responsible for creating the final

technical report. NatureServe was primarily responsible for processing the raw data, conducting and verifying model runs, and preparing the final datasets and metadata for delivery to PHMSA.

Security\_Information:

Security\_Classification: Restricted

Native\_Data\_Set\_Environment: ESRI ArcGIS Pro 3.2.2

Cross\_Reference:

Citation\_Information:

Originator: U. S. Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

Title: UNUSUALLY SENSITIVE AREAS FOR ECOLOGICAL RESOURCES: STANDARDS AND BEST PRACTICES FOR DATABASE UPDATES

Geospatial\_Data\_Presentation\_Form: document

Publication\_Information:

Publication\_Place: Washington, D.C.

Publisher: U. S. Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

Other\_Citation\_Details: Prepared by Research Planning, Inc., Columbia, South Carolina for the U. S. Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

Online\_Linkage: <https://www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov/USAEcoData.aspx>

Cross\_Reference:

Citation\_Information:

Originator: U. S. Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

Title: 49 CFR Part 195, Pipeline Safety: Areas Unusually Sensitive to Environmental Damage; Final Rule

Geospatial\_Data\_Presentation\_Form: document

Publication\_Information:

Publication\_Place: Washington, D.C.

Publisher: National Archives and Records Administration

Other\_Citation\_Details: Federal Register, Vol. 65, No. 246, Pages 80530-80546, December 21, 2000

Online\_Linkage: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2000/12/21/00-31756/pipeline-safety-areas-unusually-sensitive-to-environmental-damage>

Data\_Quality\_Information:

Logical\_Consistency\_Report: Integrity checks were run on all input datasets, using the process detailed in the technical reports. Additional review was conducted by RPI.

Completeness\_Report: These data represent a synthesis of currently available digital data from a variety of sources. For additional information refer to the reports listed in the Cross Reference section above.

Positional\_Accuracy:

Horizontal\_Positional\_Accuracy:

Horizontal\_Positional\_Accuracy\_Report: The Ecological USA dataset was developed from pre-existing digital sources and reflects the positional accuracy of these original data. See the Lineage and Process\_Description sections for more information on the original source data and how these data were integrated or manipulated to create the final dataset.

Lineage:

Source\_Information:

Source\_Citation:

Citation\_Information:

Originator: The NatureServe Network

Publication\_Date: 2024

Title: NatureServe National Species Dataset

Publication\_Information:

Publication\_Place: Arlington, VA

Publisher: NatureServe

Online\_Linkage: <http://www.natureserve.org/>

Online\_Linkage: <https://www.natureserve.org/documenting-species-ecosystems>

Type\_of\_Source\_Media: None

Source\_Time\_Period\_of\_Content:

Time\_Period\_Information:

Single\_Date/Time:

Calendar\_Date: 2024

Source\_Currentness\_Reference: publication date

Source\_Citation\_Abbreviation: NS\_BLD

Source\_Contribution: Element Occurrence (EO) data for species and ecological communities that are imperiled (G1/G2), have federal U.S. Endangered Species Act (USES) status of Listed Threatened or Listed Endangered, or are Depleted Marine Mammal (DMM) species or population stocks, as defined by the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA).

Source\_Information:

Source\_Citation:

Citation\_Information:

Originator: Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF)

Publication\_Date: 2024

Title: GBIF Occurrence Data

Geospatial\_Data\_Presentation\_Form: vector digital data

Publication\_Information:

Publisher: GBIF

Online\_Linkage: <https://www.gbif.org/>

Type\_of\_Source\_Media: None

Source\_Time\_Period\_of\_Content:

Time\_Period\_Information:

Single\_Date/Time:

Calendar\_Date: unknown

Source\_Currentness\_Reference: publication date

Source\_Citation\_Abbreviation: GBIF

Source\_Contribution: Observation data for species occurring in Rhode Island, the District of Columbia (DC), and Hawaii was used due to the absence of Element Occurrence data for those jurisdictions. This is the first time GBIF information has been used to fill this gap in data. The observation data was filtered for species with an imperiled (G1/G2) status, have federal U.S. Endangered Species Act (USES) status of Listed Threatened or Listed Endangered, or are Depleted Marine Mammal (DMM) species or population stocks, as defined by the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA).

Source\_Information:

Source\_Citation:

Citation\_Information:

Originator: WHSRN

Publication\_Date: 20220224

Title: Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network (WHSRN)

Geospatial\_Data\_Presentation\_Form: vector digital data

Publication\_Information:

Publisher: WHSRN

Other\_Citation\_Details: Updated February 24, 2022

Online\_Linkage: <https://www.whsrn.org/>

Type\_of\_Source\_Media: None

Source\_Time\_Period\_of\_Content:

Time\_Period\_Information:

Single\_Date/Time:

Calendar\_Date: 20231221

Source\_Currentness\_Reference: publication date

Source\_Citation\_Abbreviation: WHSRN

Source\_Contribution: Migratory Waterbird Concentration Areas

Source\_Information:

Source\_Citation:

Citation\_Information:

Originator: Rhode Island Natural Heritage Survey (RINHS)

Publication\_Date: 2024

Title: Rhode Island Occurrence Data

Geospatial\_Data\_Presentation\_Form: vector digital data

Publication\_Information:

Publisher: RINHS

Online\_Linkage: <https://rinhs.org/>

Type\_of\_Source\_Media: None

Source\_Time\_Period\_of\_Content:

Time\_Period\_Information:

Single\_Date/Time:

Calendar\_Date: 20240417

Source\_Currentness\_Reference: publication date

Source\_Citation\_Abbreviation: RINHS

Source\_Contribution: Observation data for species occurring in Rhode Island that are imperiled (G1/G2), have federal U.S. Endangered Species Act (USES) status of Listed Threatened or Listed Endangered, or are Depleted Marine Mammal (DMM) species or population stocks, as defined by the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA).

Source\_Information:

Source\_Citation:

Citation\_Information:

Originator: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WADFV)

Publication\_Date: 2023

Title: Washington Animal Observation Data

Geospatial\_Data\_Presentation\_Form: vector digital data

Publication\_Information:

Publisher: WADFV

Online\_Linkage: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/>

Type\_of\_Source\_Media: None

Source\_Time\_Period\_of\_Content:

Time\_Period\_Information:

Single\_Date/Time:

Calendar\_Date: 2023

Source\_Currentness\_Reference: publication date

Source\_Citation\_Abbreviation: WADFV

Source\_Contribution: Observation data for animal species occurring in the state of Washington that are imperiled (G1/G2), have federal U.S. Endangered Species Act (USES) status of Listed Threatened or Listed Endangered, or are Depleted Marine Mammal (DMM) species or population stocks, as defined by the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA).

Source\_Information:

Source\_Citation:

Citation\_Information:

Publication\_Date: 20231201



Title: Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar)

Geospatial\_Data\_Presentation\_Form: vector digital data

Publication\_Information:

Publisher: The Ramsar Convention Secretariat

Other\_Citation\_Details: Ramsar GIS data downloaded in December 2023 from:  
<https://rsis.ramsar.org/>

Online\_Linkage: <https://www.ramsar.org/>

Type\_of\_Source\_Media: None

Source\_Time\_Period\_of\_Content:

Time\_Period\_Information:

Single\_Date/Time:

Calendar\_Date: 20231201

Source\_Currentness\_Reference: publication date

Source\_Citation\_Abbreviation: Ramsar

Source\_Contribution: Migratory Waterbird Concentration Areas

Source\_Information:

Source\_Citation:

Citation\_Information:

Originator: NOAA Office of Response and Restoratin

Title: Environmental Sensitivity Index (ESI) Data

Geospatial\_Data\_Presentation\_Form: vector digital data

Publication\_Information:

Publication\_Place: Silver Spring, Maryland

Publisher: NOAA Office of Response and Restoration

Online\_Linkage: [https://response.restoration.noaa.gov/esi\\_download](https://response.restoration.noaa.gov/esi_download)

Type\_of\_Source\_Media: None

Source\_Citation\_Abbreviation: ESI

Source\_Contribution: Environmental Sensitivity Index (ESI) Species data for species that are imperiled (G1/G2), have federal U.S. Endangered Species Act (USESA) status of Listed Threatened or

Listed Endangered, or are Depleted Marine Mammal (DMM) species or population stocks, as defined by the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA).

Source\_Information:

Source\_Citation:

Citation\_Information:

Originator: Texas General Land Office

Publication\_Date: 20231207

Title: Environmental Sensitivity Index (ESI) Data - Texas Lower Coast

Geospatial\_Data\_Presentation\_Form: vector digital data

Publication\_Information:

Publication\_Place: Austin, TX

Publisher: Texas General Land Office

Other\_Citation\_Details: Downloaded December 2023

Online\_Linkage: <https://www.glo.texas.gov/land/gis-maps-and-data>

Type\_of\_Source\_Media: None

Source\_Time\_Period\_of\_Content:

Time\_Period\_Information:

Single\_Date/Time:

Calendar\_Date: 20231207

Source\_Currentness\_Reference: publication date

Source\_Citation\_Abbreviation: ESI-TX Lower

Source\_Contribution: Environmental Sensitivity Index (ESI) Species data for species in the Texas Lower Coast that are imperiled (G1/G2), have federal U.S. Endangered Species Act (USES) status of Listed Threatened or Listed Endangered, or are Depleted Marine Mammal (DMM) species or population stocks, as defined by the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA).

Source\_Information:

Source\_Citation:

Citation\_Information:

Originator: Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE)

Publication\_Date: 20240709

Title: Environmental Sensitivity Index (ESI) Data - Offshore Information for Coastal Zone Area Contingency Planning

Geospatial\_Data\_Presentation\_Form: vector digital data

Publication\_Information:

Publication\_Place: Washington, D.C.

Publisher: Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement

Other\_Citation\_Details: Downloaded July 2024

Online\_Linkage: [https://www.bsee.gov/sites/bsee.gov/files/2024-07/Arctic Sensitive Species GDB.zip](https://www.bsee.gov/sites/bsee.gov/files/2024-07/Arctic%20Sensitive%20Species%20GDB.zip)

Online\_Linkage: [https://www.bsee.gov/sites/bsee.gov/files/2024-04/Cook Inlet Sensitive Species GDB.zip](https://www.bsee.gov/sites/bsee.gov/files/2024-04/Cook%20Inlet%20Sensitive%20Species%20GDB.zip)

Online\_Linkage: [https://www.bsee.gov/sites/bsee.gov/files/2024-01/BSEE\\_GOM\\_GEOG\\_NAD83.gdb.zip](https://www.bsee.gov/sites/bsee.gov/files/2024-01/BSEE_GOM_GEOG_NAD83.gdb.zip)

Online\_Linkage: [https://www.bsee.gov/sites/bsee.gov/files/2024-09/CA Offshore ESI and Species Profiles Geodatabase.zip](https://www.bsee.gov/sites/bsee.gov/files/2024-09/CA%20Offshore%20ESI%20and%20Species%20Profiles%20Geodatabase.zip)

Type\_of\_Source\_Media: None

Source\_Time\_Period\_of\_Content:

Time\_Period\_Information:

Single\_Date/Time:

Calendar\_Date: 20240709

Source\_Currentness\_Reference: publication date

Source\_Citation\_Abbreviation: ESI-BSEE

Source\_Contribution: Environmental Sensitivity Index (ESI) Species data for species in the offshore areas of the Gulf states, Southern California, Cook Inlet, and Arctic Alaska that are imperiled (G1/G2), have federal U.S. Endangered Species Act (USES) status of Listed Threatened or Listed Endangered, or are Depleted Marine Mammal (DMM) species or population stocks, as defined by the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA).

Source\_Information:

Source\_Citation:

Citation\_Information:

Originator: US Geological Survey (USGS) Gap Analysis Program (GAP)

Publication\_Date: 20230516

Title: Protected Areas Database of the United States (PAD-US), version 1.4

Edition: Version 3.0

Geospatial\_Data\_Presentation\_Form: vector digital data

Publication\_Information:

Publication\_Place: <http://gapanalysis.usgs.gov/padus/>

Publisher: USGS Gap Analysis Program (GAP)

Other\_Citation\_Details: U.S. Geological Survey, Gap Analysis Program (GAP). May 2023. Protected Areas Database of the United States (PAD-US), version 3.0 Combined Feature Class – Word Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) Submission.

Online\_Linkage: <https://gapanalysis.usgs.gov/padus/>

Online\_Linkage: <http://gapanalysis.usgs.gov/padus/data/>

Type\_of\_Source\_Media: None

Source\_Time\_Period\_of\_Content:

Time\_Period\_Information:

Single\_Date/Time:

Calendar\_Date: 20230516

Source\_Currentness\_Reference: publication date

Source\_Citation\_Abbreviation: USGS PAD

Source\_Contribution: Site boundaries for RAMSAR sites that are in point format only.

Source\_Information:

Source\_Citation:

Citation\_Information:

Originator: Wisconsin Natural Heritage Inventory

Publication\_Date: 2017

Title: Door Peninsula Coastal Wetlands

Online\_Linkage: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/nhi/>

Type\_of\_Source\_Media: None

Source\_Citation\_Abbreviation: WI NHI

Source\_Contribution: Site boundaries for RAMSAR sites that are in point format only.

Source\_Information:

Source\_Citation:

Citation\_Information:

Originator: The Nature Conservancy, South Carolina Conservation

Publication\_Date: 2024

Title: Francis Beidler Forest

Online\_Linkage: <https://scconservation-tnc.hub.arcgis.com/>

Type\_of\_Source\_Media: None

Source\_Citation\_Abbreviation: TNC

Source\_Contribution: Site boundaries for RAMSAR sites that are in point format only.

Source\_Information:

Source\_Citation:

Citation\_Information:

Originator: Michigan Natural Features Inventory

Publication\_Date: 2017

Title: Humbug Marsh

Online\_Linkage: <http://mnfi.anr.msu.edu/>

Type\_of\_Source\_Media: None

Source\_Citation\_Abbreviation: MI NFI

Source\_Contribution: Site boundaries for RAMSAR sites that are in point format only.

Source\_Information:

Source\_Citation:

Citation\_Information:

Originator: Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, Natural Resources Department

Publication\_Date: 2017

Title: Kakagon and Bad River Sloughs

Online\_Linkage: <http://www.badriver-nsn.gov/tribal-operations/natural-resources>

Type\_of\_Source\_Media: None

Source\_Citation\_Abbreviation: Bad River

Source\_Contribution: Site boundaries for RAMSAR sites that are in point format only.

Source\_Information:

Source\_Citation:

Citation\_Information:

Originator: GreenInfo Network

Publication\_Date: 2012

Title: San Francisco Bay Estuary

Online\_Linkage: <http://www.greeninfo.org/>

Type\_of\_Source\_Media: None

Source\_Citation\_Abbreviation: GreenInfo

Source\_Contribution: Site boundaries for RAMSAR sites that are in point format only.

Source\_Information:

Source\_Citation:

Citation\_Information:

Originator: Illinois Department of Natural Resources Owned, Managed, Leased Properties dataset

Publication\_Date: 2017

Title: Sue and Wes Dixon Waterfowl Refuge at Hennepin and Hopper Lakes

Online\_Linkage: <https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

Type\_of\_Source\_Media: None

Source\_Citation\_Abbreviation: IL DNR

Source\_Contribution: Site boundaries for RAMSAR sites that are in point format only.

Source\_Information:

Source\_Citation:

Citation\_Information:

Originator: Research Planning, Inc.

Publication\_Date: 2001

Title: RAMSAR Boundaries from 2001 EcoUSA Analysis

Type\_of\_Source\_Media: None

Source\_Citation\_Abbreviation: RPI

Source\_Contribution: Site boundaries for RAMSAR sites that are in point format only.

Source\_Information:

Source\_Citation:

Citation\_Information:

Originator: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Publication\_Date: 2019

Title: Kawainui and Hamakua Marsh Complex

Online\_Linkage: <https://planning.hawaii.gov/gis/download-gis-data-expanded/>

Type\_of\_Source\_Media: None

Source\_Citation\_Abbreviation: USFWS

Source\_Contribution: Site boundaries for RAMSAR sites that are in point format only.

Source\_Information:

Source\_Citation:

Citation\_Information:

Originator: Ohio State University

Publication\_Date: 2017

Title: Wilma H. Schiermeier Olentangy River Wetland Research Park

Type\_of\_Source\_Media: None

Source\_Citation\_Abbreviation: OSU

Source\_Contribution: Site boundaries for RAMSAR sites that are in point format only.

Source\_Information:

Source\_Citation:

Citation\_Information:

Originator: Research Planning, Inc.

Publication\_Date: 2001

Title: Ramsar Boundaries from 2001 EcoUSA Analysis

Type\_of\_Source\_Media: None

Source\_Citation\_Abbreviation: RPI

Source\_Contribution: Site boundaries for RAMSAR sites that are in point format only.

Source\_Information:

Source\_Citation:

Citation\_Information:

Originator: U.S. Geological Survey

Title: National Hydrography Dataset Plus Version 2

Publication\_Information:

Publication\_Place: Reston, VA

Publisher: USGS

Online\_Linkage: [https://dmap-data-commons-ow.s3.amazonaws.com/NHDPlusV21/Data/NationalData/NHDPlusV21\\_NationalData\\_Seamless\\_Geodatabase\\_HI\\_PR\\_VI\\_PI\\_03.7z](https://dmap-data-commons-ow.s3.amazonaws.com/NHDPlusV21/Data/NationalData/NHDPlusV21_NationalData_Seamless_Geodatabase_HI_PR_VI_PI_03.7z)

Online\_Linkage: [https://dmap-data-commons-ow.s3.amazonaws.com/NHDPlusV21/Data/NationalData/NHDPlusV21\\_NationalData\\_Seamless\\_Geodatabase\\_Lower48\\_07.7z](https://dmap-data-commons-ow.s3.amazonaws.com/NHDPlusV21/Data/NationalData/NHDPlusV21_NationalData_Seamless_Geodatabase_Lower48_07.7z)

Type\_of\_Source\_Media: None

Source\_Citation\_Abbreviation: NHDPlusV2\_HI\_PR

Source\_Contribution: Hydrography data for processing point ESI records that are considered Aquatic Open Water (AOW).

Source\_Information:

Source\_Citation:

Citation\_Information:

Originator: U.S. Geological Survey

Title: National Hydrography Dataset

Publication\_Information:

Publication\_Place: Reston, VA

Publisher: USGS

Online\_Linkage: [https://prd-tnm.s3.amazonaws.com/StagedProducts/Hydrography/NHD/State/GDB/NHD\\_H\\_Alaska\\_State\\_GDB.zip](https://prd-tnm.s3.amazonaws.com/StagedProducts/Hydrography/NHD/State/GDB/NHD_H_Alaska_State_GDB.zip)

Type\_of\_Source\_Media: None

Source\_Citation\_Abbreviation: NHD AK



Source\_Contribution: Hydrography data for processing point ESI records that are considered Aquatic Open Water (AOW).

Process\_Step:

Process\_Description: Pre-processing of WHSRN data for inclusion as potential EcoUSAs. For complete details, please see the technical documentation, which can be downloaded from <https://www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov/USAEcoData.aspx>.

Source\_Used\_Citation\_Abbreviation: withheld

Process\_Date: 202403

Process\_Contact:

Contact\_Information:

Contact\_Organization\_Primary:

Contact\_Organization: NatureServe

Contact\_Person: Hannah Siegel

Contact\_Position: Spatial Analyst

Contact\_Voice\_Telephone: 703-908-1800

Contact\_Electronic\_Mail\_Address: [datasupport@natureserve.org](mailto:datasupport@natureserve.org)

Process\_Step:

Process\_Description: Pre-processing of RAMSAR data for inclusion as potential EcoUSAs. For complete details, please see the technical documentation, which can be downloaded from <https://www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov/USAEcoData.aspx>.

Source\_Used\_Citation\_Abbreviation: withheld

Source\_Used\_Citation\_Abbreviation: withheld

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Source\_Used\_Citation\_Abbreviation: withheld

Source\_Used\_Citation\_Abbreviation: withheld

Source\_Used\_Citation\_Abbreviation: withheld

Process\_Date: 202403

Process\_Contact:

Contact\_Information:

Contact\_Organization\_Primary:

Contact\_Organization: NatureServe

Contact\_Person: Jordana Anderson

Contact\_Position: Spatial Analyst

Contact\_Voice\_Telephone: 703-908-1800

Contact\_Electronic\_Mail\_Address: datasupport@natureserve.org

Process\_Step:

Process\_Description: Pre-processing of NatureServe EO data for inclusion as potential EcoUSAs. NatureServe Element Occurrence (EO) data was pre-qualified for elements that had any of the following: a global conservation rank equivalent to G1 or G2, a U.S. Endangered Species status of Threatened or Endangered or were identified as a Depleted Marine Mammal. Records were excluded if they had not been observed since 1984 (40 years prior to when the data was exported) or if their precision was too low. For complete details, please see the technical documentation, which can be downloaded from <https://www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov/USAEcoData.aspx>.

Source\_Used\_Citation\_Abbreviation: withheld

Process\_Date: 202408

Process\_Contact:

Contact\_Information:

Contact\_Organization\_Primary:

Contact\_Organization: NatureServe

Contact\_Person: Hannah Siegel

Contact\_Position: Spatial Analyst

Contact\_Voice\_Telephone: 703-908-1800

Contact\_Electronic\_Mail\_Address: datasupport@natureserve.org

Process\_Step:

Process\_Description: Pre-processing of GBIF data for inclusion as potential EcoUSAs. GBIF observation data was used to fill in data gaps for D.C., Hawaii, and Rhode Island because NatureServe does not have active Network Programs in these three jurisdictions and therefore there is no source of current occurrences for species and ecological communities. A list was generated for each jurisdiction of

taxa that met any of the following pre-qualification criteria: a global conservation rank equivalent to G1 or G2, a U.S. Endangered Species status of Threatened or Endangered or were identified as a Depleted Marine Mammal. Data were downloaded for the species in each jurisdiction and records were included if they were mappable, had an observation date after 01/01/1984 and had a coordinate uncertainty of less than two kilometers. Records were buffered according to their documented coordinate uncertainty. For complete details, please see the technical documentation, which can be downloaded from <https://www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov/USAEcoData.aspx>.

Source\_Used\_Citation\_Abbreviation: withheld

Process\_Date: 202408

Process\_Contact:

Contact\_Information:

Contact\_Organization\_Primary:

Contact\_Organization: NatureServe

Contact\_Person: Hannah Siegel

Contact\_Position: Spatial Analyst

Contact\_Voice\_Telephone: 703-908-1800

Contact\_Electronic\_Mail\_Address: [datasupport@natureserve.org](mailto:datasupport@natureserve.org)

Process\_Step:

Process\_Description: Pre-processing of ESI data for inclusion as potential EcoUSAs. ESI data were crosswalked to NatureServe species global elements and pre-qualified if they had any of the following: a global conservation rank equivalent to G1 or G2, a U.S. Endangered Species status of Threatened or Endangered or were identified as a Depleted Marine Mammal. Records were excluded using their SOURCE and CONC values if they met any of the following criteria: they originated from NatureServe Network data or were based on predictions or models (this was not applied to BSEE records). For complete details, please see the technical documentation, which can be downloaded from <https://www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov/USAEcoData.aspx>.

Source\_Used\_Citation\_Abbreviation: withheld

Source\_Used\_Citation\_Abbreviation: withheld

Source\_Used\_Citation\_Abbreviation: withheld

Source\_Used\_Citation\_Abbreviation: withheld

Source\_Used\_Citation\_Abbreviation: withheld

Source\_Used\_Citation\_Abbreviation: withheld

Process\_Date: 202412

Process\_Contact:

Contact\_Information:

Contact\_Organization\_Primary:

Contact\_Organization: NatureServe

Contact\_Person: Cameron Scott

Contact\_Position: Spatial Analyst

Contact\_Voice\_Telephone: 703-908-1800

Contact\_Electronic\_Mail\_Address: datasupport@natureserve.org

Process\_Step:

Process\_Description: Creation of EcoUSAs. Pre-processed source data were Candidate EcoUSAs. Records meeting one or more of the following filter criteria were included as EcoUSAs. Filter Criteria 1, An area containing a critically imperiled species or ecological community; Filter Criteria 2, A multi-species assemblage area; Filter Criteria 3, A migratory waterbird concentration area; Filter Criteria 4, An area containing an imperiled species, threatened or endangered species, depleted marine mammal species, or an imperiled ecological community where the species or community is aquatic, aquatic dependent, or terrestrial with a limited range.; or Filter Criteria 5, An area containing an imperiled species, threatened or endangered species, depleted marine mammal species, or imperiled ecological community where the species or community occurrence is considered to be one of the most viable, highest quality, or in the best condition, as identified by an element occurrence ranking (EORANK) of A (excellent quality) or B (good quality). EcoUSA polygons were segmented into state and offshore areas and exported to individual feature classes. An additional presence/absence feature class was created by dissolving all EcoUSAs into a single footprint. For complete details, please see the technical documentation, which can be downloaded from <https://www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov/USAEcoData.aspx>.

Process\_Date: 202503

Process\_Contact:

Contact\_Information:

Contact\_Organization\_Primary:

Contact\_Organization: NatureServe

Contact\_Person: Cameron Scott

Contact\_Position: Spatial Analyst

Contact\_Address:

Address\_Type: mailing and physical

Address: 2550 South Clark Street, Suite 930

City: Arlington

State\_or\_Province: VA

Postal\_Code: 22202

Country: US

Contact\_Voice\_Telephone: 703-908-1800

Contact\_Electronic\_Mail\_Address: datasupport@natureserve.org

Spatial\_Data\_Organization\_Information:

Indirect\_Spatial\_Reference: USA, EcoUSA

Direct\_Spatial\_Reference\_Method: Vector

Point\_and\_Vector\_Object\_Information:

SDTS\_Terms\_Description:

SDTS\_Point\_and\_Vector\_Object\_Type: GT-polygon composed of chains

Point\_and\_Vector\_Object\_Count: 1915

Entity\_and\_Attribute\_Information:

Detailed\_Description:

Entity\_Type:

Entity\_Type\_Label: Element Occurrence Polygons

Attribute:

Attribute\_Label: OBJECTID

Attribute\_Definition: Internal feature number.

Attribute\_Definition\_Source: Esri

Attribute\_Domain\_Values:

Unrepresentable\_Domain: Sequential unique whole numbers that are automatically generated.

Attribute:

Attribute\_Label: Shape

Attribute\_Definition: Feature geometry.

Attribute\_Definition\_Source: Esri

Attribute\_Domain\_Values:

Unrepresentable\_Domain: Coordinates defining the features.

Attribute:

Attribute\_Label: Srce\_Group

Attribute\_Definition: Name of the origin source (NatureServe, ESI, Ramsar, RINHS, WSHRN, GBIF, WADFW)

Attribute\_Definition\_Source: NatureServe

Attribute:

Attribute\_Label: ECOUNIQUE

Attribute\_Definition: unique EcoUSA ID code: ECO+[yyyy]+unique sequential numeric ID

Attribute\_Definition\_Source: NatureServe

Attribute:

Attribute\_Label: Buffer\_Area

Attribute\_Definition: Flag to indicate EcoUSA polygons within a 5-mile buffer of a state/offshore area boundary.

Attribute\_Definition\_Source: NatureServe

Attribute:

Attribute\_Label: Shape\_Length

Attribute\_Definition: Length of feature in internal units.

Attribute\_Definition\_Source: Esri

Attribute\_Domain\_Values:

Unrepresentable\_Domain: Positive real numbers that are automatically generated.

Attribute:

Attribute\_Label: Shape\_Area

Attribute\_Definition: Area of feature in internal units squared.

Attribute\_Definition\_Source: Esri

Attribute\_Domain\_Values:

Unrepresentable\_Domain: Positive real numbers that are automatically generated.

Attribute:

Attribute\_Label: OS\_ST\_NM

Attribute\_Definition: Offshore or state name: name of the state or offshore area.

Attribute\_Definition\_Source: US DOT PHMSA

Attribute:

Attribute\_Label: OS\_ST\_ABBR

Attribute\_Definition: Offshore or state name abbreviation: abbreviation of the state or offshore area name.

Attribute\_Definition\_Source: US DOT PHMSA

Distribution\_Information:

Distributor:

Contact\_Information:

Contact\_Organization\_Primary:

Contact\_Organization: US DOT PHMSA

Contact\_Person: GIS Manager

Contact\_Position: npms@dot.gov

Contact\_Electronic\_Mail\_Address: npms@dot.gov

Distribution\_Liability: Any and all data/information from the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration's National Pipeline Mapping System must be treated as DOT proprietary information. Users may not redistribute the Ecological USA data to any third party. Any requests by third parties for the Ecological USA data must be referred to the PHMSA Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety or directly to NatureServe. The Ecological USA data access must be restricted to within the user's company/agency (including any contractors/consultants) for the purpose of integrity management planning or pipeline safety inspection activities for hazardous liquid pipelines in the area of request. Products created from this data must be properly marked and treated as Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI). The Ecological USA data cannot be included on external web, tablet, or mobile applications or viewers. Users must also maintain a list of those persons that have been provided access to this information. This Eco USA data is provided with the understanding that it is not guaranteed to be correct or complete and conclusions drawn from such information are the responsibility of the user. View the full language of all data use terms in the Ecological USA Data Use Agreement available for download from <https://www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov/USAEcoData.aspx>.

Custom\_Order\_Process: To request USA data, please e-mail the following information to npms@dot.gov: First Name; Last Name; Title; Pipeline Operator Name or PHMSA State Pipeline Safety Partner Agency Name; PHMSA Operator ID; Business Phone; Business Email; State(s) Requested, and Agree to and include the following statements in your email: 1. I agree to not redistribute the Ecological USA data to any third party; 2. I agree to refer any requests by third parties for the Ecological USA data to the PHMSA Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety or directly to NatureServe; 3. I agree to restrict access to the Ecological USA data to persons within my company/agency (including my contractors/consultants) for the purpose of integrity management planning or pipeline safety inspection activities for hazardous liquid pipelines in the area for which I am requesting the data; 4. I agree to not

violate any terms in the Ecological USA Data User Agreement (the Agreement), and I acknowledge responsibility in conveying the Agreement to all persons to whom I provide access (including my contractors/consultants) for their adherence to all terms; 5. I agree to notify PHMSA in writing within 14 days of learning of any actual or potential violation of terms in the Agreement; 6. I agree to properly use the citation and warranty statement outlined in section XII of the Agreement; 7. I agree to properly mark and treat products created from this data as CUI, in compliance with terms outlined in section IV(e)(i) of the Agreement; and 8. I agree to not include the Ecological USA data on external web, tablet, or mobile applications or viewers. Instructions for requesting Eco USA data and supplemental information are available on the NPMS website at <https://www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov/USAEcoData.aspx>. Instructions and supplemental information are available on the NPMS website at <https://www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov/USAEcoData.aspx>.

Metadata\_Reference\_Information:

Metadata\_Date: 20250728

Metadata\_Contact:

Contact\_Information:

Contact\_Organization\_Primary:

Contact\_Organization: US DOT PHMSA

Contact\_Person: GIS Manager

Contact\_Position: GIS Manager

Contact\_Electronic\_Mail\_Address: [npms@dot.gov](mailto:npms@dot.gov)

Metadata\_Standard\_Name: FGDC Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata

Metadata\_Standard\_Version: FGDC-STD-001-1998

Metadata\_Time\_Convention: local time