A NEW MAP OF GLOBAL ECOLOGICAL MARINE UNITS (EMUS)

ROGER SAYRE, U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

1 JUN 2017 BLUE PLANET SYMPOSIUM



The GEO Global Ecosystem Mapping Initiative





GEOSS Task GI-14 GEO ECO: Global Ecosystem Mapping

- Develop a standardized, robust, and practical global ecosystems classification and map for the planet's terrestrial, freshwater, and marine ecosystems.
- USA Responsible Member; USGS Responsible Federal Agency; Dr. Roger Sayre Task Lead.
- Esri is a partner, engaged in producing and hosting the content. Esri leads are Dawn Wright and Sean Breyer.

Global Ecological Land Units (ELUs)

Globally comprehensive

~4000 ELUs

Climate/Landform/Geology/Vegetation

250 m spatial resolution

Global Ecological Marine Units (EMUs)

Globally comprehensive and true 3D

37 EMUs

Temperature/Salinity/Oxygen/Nitrate/Phosphate/Silicate

27 km m spatial resolution





A Three-Dimensional Mapping of the Ocean Based on Environmental Data

By Roger G. Sayre, Dawn J. Wright, Sean P. Breyer, Kevin A. Butler, Keith Van Graafeiland, Mark J. Costello, Peter T. Harris, Kathleen L. Goodin, John M. Guinotte, Zeenatul Basher, Maria T. Kavanaugh, Patrick N. Halpin, Mark E. Monaco, Noel Cressie, Peter Aniello, Charles E. Frye, and Drew Stephens





What Are Ecosystems?

Odum (1953): Systems of biotic communities interacting with their environment.







How Can Global Terrestrial Ecosystems Be Mapped in a Standardized, Robust, and Practical Manner?

The Ecophysiographic Stratification Approach





Example: Warm Wet Plains on Metamorphic Rock with Mostly Deciduous Forest



3,639 Ecological Land Unit Classes

What Do We Know About The Ocean?



Global Ecological Marine Units (EMUs) -Physically and Chemically Distinct Volumetric Regions



52 million points from NOAA's World Ocean Atlas (WOA 2013) database k-means statistical clustering in 3D

Temperature Salinity Dissolved Oxygen Nitrate Phosphate Silicate

Global Ecological Marine Units (EMUs)



Surface-occurring EMUs



EMUs at 1000 m Depth



Bottom-occurring EMUs



37 Subartarctic, South Atlantic and North Pacific Bathypelagic (AA_SAT_NP_bathy)

EMU 13 Summary

Technical Name:

- Bathypelagic
- Very Cold
- Euhaline
- Hypoxic
- High Nitrate
- Medium Phosphate
- High Silicate

Common Name:

- Deep
- Very Cold
- Normal Salinity
- Low Oxygen
- High Nitrate
- Medium Phosphate
- High Silicate



EMU 13 Summary Statistics

	Minimum	Mean	Maximum	Standard Dev.	
Temperature (°C)	-0.38	1.93	5.54	0.51	
Salinity (unitless)	33.43	34.67	34.93	0.05	
Dissolved Oxygen (µmol/l)	1.69	3.26	4.33	0.43	
Nitrate (µmol/l)	25.26	37.03	48.49	1.08	
Phosphate (µmol/l)	0.53	2.60	3.36	0.12	
Silicate (µmol/l)	88.01	138.03	189.63	19.05	
Thickness (m)	0.00	90.34	5323.00	36.76	
Unit Top Depth (m)	-5500.00	-2955.62	-10.00	998.83	

EMU Volume (km³)	347060603.65		
Percent of EMU to Global	25.40%		

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Visualizing ELUs and EMUs







-300

-800

26

10

220

500

450

EMU:	24
Volume	0.85%

Euhaline-Oxic-Warm to Very Warm-Epipelagic with (Low Nitrate-Low Silicate-Low Phosphate) Nutrients

	Temperature	Salinity	Dissolved O ₂	Nitrate	Phosphate	Silicate	Thickness	Unit Top
Minimum	18.78	34.73	1.76	0.00	0.01	0.25	5.00	-250.00
Maximum	29.54	36.26	5.51	15.01	1.40	17.58	25.00	0.00
Average	24.77	35.39	4.58	2.05	0.31	2.95	7.40	-56.42
SD	2.52	0.30	0.43	2.67	0.23	1.94	6.50	43.14

livingatlas.arcgis.com/emu

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Next Set of Global Ecosystem Maps: ECUs and EFUs

Ecological Coastal Units (ECUs)

Ecological Freshwater Units (EFUs)





Data

www.esri.com/ecological-marine-units Pubs Sayre et al., 2017, Oceanography, 30(1): 90-103. AAG Booklet: http://www.aag.org/cs/global_marine_ecosystems Exposure

Nature News feature, 3 January 2017





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