

Long Island Sound, NY; USA



Terrestrial photograph of a vegetated mussel reef overlying a pebble/gravel beach at low tide. The field of view in foreground is approx. 2.5 meters. The dominant biota consist of Atlantic blue mussel and smooth cordgrass.



General location map



Aerial photo showing site in sheltered bay.

CMECS Classification

Biogeographic Setting:

- Realm: Temperate Northern Atlantic
- Province: Cold Temperate Northwest Atlantic
- Ecoregion: Virginian

Aquatic Setting:

- System: Estuarine
- Subsystem: Coastal
- Tidal Zone: Intertidal

Water Column Component: N/A

Geoform Component:

- Tectonic Setting: Passive Continental Margin
- Physiographic Setting: Continental Shore Complex
- Geoform Origin: Geologic
- Level 1 Geoform: Beach
- Level 2 Geoform: Beach
- Level 2 Geoform Type: Pocket Beach

Substrate Component:

- Substrate Origin: Geologic Substrate
- Substrate Class: Unconsolidated Mineral Substrate
- Substrate Subclass: Coarse Unconsolidated Substrate
- Substrate Group: Gravel
- Substrate Subgroup: Pebble
- Co-Occurring Element: Coarse Sand

Biotic Component

- Biotic Setting: Benthic/Attached Biota
- Biotic Class: Reef Biota
- Biotic Subclass: Mollusk Reef Biota
- Biotic Group: Mussel Reef
- Biotic Community: *Mytilus* Communities
- Co-Occurring Element: *Spartina alterniflora*/*Distichlis spicata* Tidal Herbaceous Wetland Vegetation