



Name	BioMap2: Conserving the Biodiversity of Massachusetts in a Changing World
Description	<p>To capture all the elements of biodiversity, BioMap2 approaches the conservation of Massachusetts' biological resources at multiple scales. Thus, BioMap2 combines hundreds of individual pieces of geospatial data about the state's species, ecosystems, and landscapes.</p> <p>These elements of biodiversity falls into one of two complementary categories, Core Habitat and Critical Natural Landscape. Core Habitat identifies key areas to ensure the long-term persistence of species of conservation concern, exemplary natural communities, and intact ecosystems across the Commonwealth. The specific subcomponents of Core Habitat are: Species of Conservation Concern; Priority Natural Communities; Forest Core ; Aquatic Core; Wetland Core; and Vernal Pool Core. Critical Natural Landscape identifies larger landscape areas that are better able to support ecological processes, disturbances, and wide-ranging species. The specific subcomponents of Critical Natural Landscape are: Landscape Blocks; Foraging Habitat for Tern Species; Upland Buffers of Wetland Core; Upland Buffers of Aquatic Core; and Upland Habitat to Support Coastal Adaptation. BioMap2 Core Habitat and Critical Natural Landscape overlap in many locations. Together, Core Habitat and Critical Natural Landscape identify 2.1 million acres that are key to the protection of our state's biodiversity.</p> <p>The two elements of the BioMap2 protection strategy have a varied interplay across the Commonwealth. At times, the elements that drive the focused delineation of Core Habitat are nested within a buffer of Critical Natural Landscape. In other locations, Core Habitat or Critical Natural Landscape stands alone, taking the lead in identifying locations that warrant protection for specific elements of biodiversity or for the protection of larger ecological functions.</p>
Type	- PRODUCTS: Viewers and Web-based Tools
Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Managed Ecosystems - Natural Ecosystems - Biota
Focus Area	- Conservation/ Restoration of Sensitive Species and Habitats
Region	- Regional Or State -- New England
Lead Agencies	Massachusetts Division of Fish and Wildlife
Contacts	natural.heritage@state.ma.us