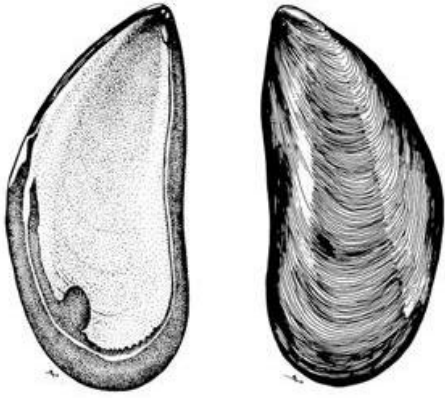


# Blue mussel Gulf of Maine

## IDENTIFICATION



### SCIENTIFIC NAME

*Mytilus edulis*

### SPECIES NAME(S)

Blue mussel

### COMMON NAMES

Edible mussel, United States

### STOCK IDENTIFICATION

The blue mussel (*Mytilus edulis*) is a widely distributed boreo-temperate species occurring in the Arctic, North Pacific, and North Atlantic Oceans. On the east coast of North America, its range extends from Labrador to Cape Hatteras, North Carolina, and it is common throughout the North Atlantic and Mid-Atlantic Regions. It is most common in the littoral to sublittoral zones (<99 m) of oceanic and polyhaline to mesohaline estuarine environments; however, it has been found in deeper and cooler waters (100 to 499 m) that enable it to penetrate as far south as Charleston, South Carolina (Newell 1989).

To expand mussel production, Maine (USA) mussel producers are developing suspension culture using 12 m triple pontoon raft systems. Each raft produces 45 tonnes of mussels in an 18 month rearing cycle. In Maine, the best commercial mussel beds are found a few feet above and below MLW between Casco Bay and Jonesport. Six of the most productive areas are Casco Bay, Muscongus Bay, Tenants Harbor to Vinalhaven, Stonington to Deer Isle, Sorrento to Mt. Desert Narrows, and the Jonesport area.



### RELATED LINKS:

- [Gulf of Maine Research Institute \(GMRI\)](#)

## ASSESSMENT

No related analysis

## SCORES

### Management Quality:

Management Strategy	Managers Compliance	Fishers Compliance
NOT YET SCORED	NOT YET SCORED	NOT YET SCORED

### Stock Health:

Current Health	Future Health
NOT YET SCORED	NOT YET SCORED

## FIPS

- Maine blue mussel - dredge/rake:

Stage 3 , Progress Rating C , Type: Fip , Evaluation Start Date: 2 Jun 2018

## MSC

No related MSC fisheries



## RECOMMENDATIONS

### RETAILERS & SUPPLY CHAIN


- This profile is not currently high on our priority list for development, and we can't at this time provide an accurate prediction of when it will be developed. To speed up an evaluation of the sustainability status of lower priority fisheries we have initiated a program whereby industry can directly contract SFP-approved analysts to develop a FishSource profile on a fishery. More information on this External Contributor Program is available at <https://www.sustainablefish.org/Programs/Science/External-Contributor-Program>.

# Fisheries

Within FishSource, the term "fishery" is used to indicate each unique combination of a flag country with a fishing gear, operating within a particular management unit, upon a resource. That resource may have a known biological stock structure and/or may be assessed at another level for practical or jurisdictional reasons. A fishery is the finest scale of resolution captured in FishSource profiles, as it is generally the scale at which sustainability can most fairly and practically be evaluated.

 MANAGEMENT UNIT	 FLAG COUNTRY	 FISHING GEAR
US Gulf of Maine	United States	Miscellaneous
		Towed dredges

## Management Unit

 MANAGEMENT UNIT	ORGANIZATION	FISHING AREA
US Gulf of Maine	Gulf of Maine Research Institute (GMRI)	FAO 31