

Name of dataset or data source:

Seabed NSW

Custodian of the dataset or data source:

ED Science (E&H)

Description:

The SeaBed NSW program provides data on the structure and composition of the seabed adjacent to our beaches. This program is funded through the NSW Coastal Reforms, combined with data from other sources. It improves our understanding of connectivity between coastal (beaches, estuaries) and marine environments, enabling improved approaches to managing and predicting the impacts of human activities, severe storms and climate change.

The program builds on the research expertise and specialist capabilities developed in 2005 as part of the HABMAP program mapping seabed habitats of our marine estate. The SeaBed NSW project maps large areas of the seafloor on the inner continental shelf using airborne laser mapping (LADS) in shallow water depths and vessel-based multi-beam sonar further offshore.

The program contributes to the goal of a continuous high-resolution digital elevation model (DEM) for the entire NSW coast. This new marine LiDAR data builds significantly on our existing database; provides a more accurate 3D surface for our wave modelling tools, enables us to answer questions about how sand moves around the coastal-marine environment and provide baseline information from which to measure change.

Seabed data is generated by collating and analysing bathymetric and marine sediment datasets, and seabed habitats defined from swath acoustic surveys and aerial photography. Data from approximately 120 kilometres of vessel-towed underwater video surveys is also used to allow field validation of swath acoustic data and a description of the visually dominant sessile biota over large areas of the seabed.

An understanding of what type of seabed there is, what it is made of and what is living there is critical so we can better manage coastal hazards and risk for NSW and ensure there are viable and healthy marine ecosystems for the future. The data are intended to inform coastal and marine management and should not be used for navigation without additional processing.

The Seabed NSW program has developed and issued the following datasets:

- [NSW Marine LiDAR Topo-Bathy 2018 Geotif](#)
- [NSW seabed landforms derived from marine lidar data 2022](#)
- [Shellharbour seabed landforms derived from multibeam echosounder data 2022](#)
- [Wollongong seabed landforms derived from multibeam echosounder data 2022](#)
- [HABMAP Multi-beam Survey Coverage Areas](#)
- [Single Beam Bathymetry & Coastal Topography Survey Coverage Areas - Coastal Marine Unit](#)
- [NSW Environment Multi Beam Echo Sounder Gridded Data](#)
- [NESP Biodiversity Hub Hunter Marine Park Multi Beam Echo Sounder Surveys](#)

Data quality rating:

★Institutional Environment - 5

- ★Accuracy - 5
- ★Coherence - 5
- ★Interpretability - 5
- ★Accessibility - 4

INSTITUTIONAL ENVIRONMENT

Excellent



- ✓ Does the information have the potential to enhance services or service delivery?
- ✓ The data aligns with the Data Quality Framework, including:
 - Legislation
 - Policies
 - Information Asset Governance
 - Standards
 - Data Management Plans
- ✓ The following governance roles and responsibilities for this asset are clearly assigned:
 - Information Asset Owner
 - Information Asset Custodian
 - Information Steward
- ✓ Data collection is authorised by law, regulation or agreement
- ✓ The Custodial agency has no commercial interest or conflict of interest in the data

ACCURACY

Excellent



- ✓ Data has been subject to a data assurance process (for example: Checking for errors at each stage of data collection and processing, or verifying data entry and making corrections if necessary.)
- ✓ Data is revised and the revision is published if errors are identified
- ✓ There are no known gaps in the data or if there are gaps (for example: non-responses, missing records, data not collected), they have been identified in caveats attached to the dataset.
- ✓ No changes have been made or other factors identified (for example: weighting, rounding, de-identification of data, changes or flaws in data collection or verification methods) that could affect the validity of the data; or any changes/factors have been identified in caveats attached to the asset.
- ✓ The data collection met the objectives of the primary user. The data correctly represents what it was designed to measure, monitor or report.

COHERENCE

Excellent



- ✓ Standard definitions, common concepts, classifications and data recording practices have been used.
- ✓ Elements within the data can be meaningfully compared.
- ✓ This data is generally consistent with similar or related data sources from the same discipline
- ✓ The data can be analysed over time (for example, there have not been any significant changes in the way items are defined, classified or counted over time).
- ✓ The data does not form part of a collection or, if it is the latest in a series of data releases, there have not been any changes in methodology or external impacts since the last data release.

INTERPRETABILITY**Excellent**

- ✓ A data dictionary is available to explain the meaning of data elements, their origin, format and relationships
- ✓ Information is available about the primary data sources and methods of data collection (e.g. instruments, forms, instructions).
- ✓ Information is available to help users evaluate the accuracy of the data and any level of error
- ✓ Information is available to explain concepts, help users correctly interpret the data and understand how it can be used
- ✓ Information is available to explain ambiguous or technical terms used in the data

- i Find out more about the data dictionary from the Custodian (contact details below).
- i Find out more about the primary data sources and methods of data collection from the Custodian (contact details below).
- i Find out more about concepts used in this dataset and how to understand or interpret the data from the Custodian (contact details below).
- i Find out more about ambiguous or technical terms used in the data from the Custodian (contact details below).

ACCESSIBILITY**Very Good**

- ✓ Data is available online with an open licence
 - ✓ Data is available in machine-processable, structured form (e.g. CSV format instead of an image scan of a table)
 - ✓ Data is described using open standards (e.g. RDF, SPARQL) and persistent identifiers (URIs or DOIs)
 - ✓ Data is linked to other data, to provide context (e.g. employee ID is linked to employee name or species name is linked to genus)
- ✗ Data is available in a non-proprietary format (e.g. CSV, XML)

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For more information about this dataset or data source, contact:

NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

Data Broker email:

data.broker@environment.nsw.gov.au

Data Broker phone:

131555

Understanding the Data Quality Statement

The data quality statement aims to help you understand how a particular dataset could be used and whether it can be compared with other, similar datasets. It provides a description of the characteristics of the data to help you decide whether the data will be fit for your specific purpose.

The Data Quality statement is prepared by the data custodian (provider of the dataset), using a questionnaire that has been developed in accordance with the NSW Government Standard for Data Quality Reporting.

About the quality rating:

The reporting questionnaire asks five questions for each of these data quality dimensions:

- Institutional Environment
- Accuracy
- Coherence
- Interpretability
- Accessibility

For each question: “yes” = 1 point; “no” = 0 points

The number of points determines the Quality Level for each dimension (high, medium, low).

Only dimensions with four or five points receive a star.

Points	Quality Level	Star / No Star
0	Poor	No Star
1	Poor	No Star
2	Fair	No Star
3	Good	No Star
4	Very Good	Star
5	Excellent	Star

Evaluating data quality

Quality relates to the data's “fitness for purpose”. Users can make different assessments about the data quality of the same data, depending on their “purpose” or the way they plan to use the data.

The following questions may help you evaluate data quality for your requirements. This list is not exhaustive. Generate your own questions to assess data quality according to your specific needs and environment.

- What was the primary purpose or aim for collecting the data?
- How well does the coverage (and exclusions) match your needs?
- How useful are these data at small levels of geography?
- Does the population presented by the data match your needs?
- To what extent does the method of data collection seem appropriate for the information being gathered?
- Have standard classifications (eg industry or occupation classifications) been used in the collection of the data? If not, why? Does this affect the ability to compare or bring together data from different sources?
- Have rates and percentages been calculated consistently throughout the data?
- Is there a time difference between your reference period, and the reference period of the data?
- What is the gap of time between the reference period (when the data were collected) and the release date of the data?
- Will there be subsequent surveys or data collection exercises for this topic?
- Are there likely to be updates or revisions to the data after official release?