Ecoregions of New England

The ecoregions of New England are a series of distinct biological regions that span the New England states. Each ecoregion has its own unique climate, vegetation, and wildlife characteristics. Here are some key points about each ecoregion:

- **Northeastern Highlands**: This ecoregion is characterized by its high elevation and rugged terrain. It includes the Narragansett Basin, a distinct unit of Pennsylvanian-age sedimentary rocks. This region is home to a variety of plants and animals, including moose and black bears.

- **Southern New England Coastal Plains and Hills**: This ecoregion is known for its sandy beaches, grassy dunes, and scrubby oak-pine forests. It also includes the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge, which is an important habitat for waterfowl, shorebirds, and songbirds along the Atlantic Flyway.

- **Western New England Marble Valleys**: This ecoregion is known for its marble quarries and beautiful landscapes. It includes the Taconic Mountains, known for their granite peaks.

- **Western New England Forests**: This ecoregion includes the Green Mountain Foothills, known for their chestnut oaks and shagbark and pignut hickories. It also includes the Berkshires, known for their diverse wildlife and scenic beauty.

- **Interior Plateau**: This ecoregion is characterized by its high elevation and rugged terrain. It includes the Adirondack Mountains and the Catskill Mountains.

- **Northeastern Coastal Plains**: This ecoregion is known for its sandy beaches and grassy dunes. It includes the Downeast Coast, which is known for its coastal beaches and bays.

Each ecoregion is part of a larger ecosystem that spans the entire New England region, and they all contribute to the unique biodiversity of the region.