Level III and IV Ecoregions of EPA Region 4

Ecoregions shown are of general utility in conservation, and for the type, quality, and quantity of environmental services they are designed to serve as a spatial framework for ecosystem-based management. Ecoregions are directly applicable to environmental decision-making, which is critical for sustainable management of ecosystems and ecosystem services. The spatial framework enables uniformity to improve the accuracy of assessments and outcomes in the ultimate performance of ecosystem management actions. Ecoregions are increasingly being employed in the design of new monitoring programs and the design of conservation efforts.

The purpose of this map of Level III and IV Ecoregions of EPA Region 4 is to: (1) highlight the region’s natural areas and processes of conservation concern; (2) illustrate the hierarchical nature of the ecoregions; and (3) promote discussion and debate about natural resource management. The Journal of the Iowa Academy of Sciences 101(1):5-13.


U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Environmental Research Laboratory, Corvallis, OR. Progress and Status Report 1979-1999. SCALE 1:3,000,000

Gulf of Mexico

Atlantic Ocean