



Figure 7. Map of shaded relief bathymetry colored by backscatter intensity (Butman and others, 2003) showing location of tripod moorings 530, 540 and 552 (overlapping red circles) at Site A in western Massachusetts Bay south of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) ocean outfall. The yellow triangle is the location of the U.S. Coast Guard B buoy. Backscatter intensity is a measure of surface sediment texture and bottom roughness. Generally, high backscatter intensity (shown as red and yellow) is associated with rock outcrops, gravel, and coarse-grained sediment, medium backscatter intensity (green) is associated with sandy sediments, and low backscatter intensity (shown as blue) characterizes finer grained sediments. The tripods are located in an area of high backscatter intensity in about 30 m water depth on the southern flank of a ridge that runs approximately northwest-southeast. The MWRA outfall appears as two parallel rows (about 2 km long) of individual mounds of material; the mounds are rock materials discarded on the sea floor from the holes drilled for the risers that extend to the outfall tunnel below. The diffuser heads, about 3 m high and 4 m in diameter and located between the rows, are not well resolved in this image. For a map of a larger area around the mooring site, see Butman and others (2003).