



Figure 2.5b. Map showing topography in shaded relief view, colored by backscatter intensity, in western Massachusetts Bay in the area around the new ocean outfall (from Butman and others, 2003c). Locations of bottom photographs in Figure 2.6 are shown as yellow squares and labeled A-F. The red regions represent areas of high backscatter intensity, typically boulders or gravel (Figure 2.6a), and often occur on the crests of the topographic highs. The blue regions represent areas of low backscatter intensity, typically deposits of fine grained sediments (Figure 2.6c), and often occur in the topographic lows. The green and yellow color regions represent areas of intermediate backscatter intensity, typically sand with varying amounts of gravel (Figure 2.6b, e, f). The faint stripes that run northeast-southwest about 100 m apart are data artifacts that run parallel to the ship track. The two parallel rows of mounds are formed from material discarded on the sea floor from the shafts drilled for the 55 diffuser heads that comprise the outlet of new ocean outfall. Long-term sampling of the sediments was carried out by the USGS in an area of fine-grained sediments to the west of the ocean outfall (station 3 in about 33 m water depth, shown as a yellow circle; see section 7). Long-term oceanographic measurements were carried out at a site to the south of the outfall in 34 m water depth (LT-A, shown as a yellow triangle; see sections 3, 4 and 6). Depth contours shown in white and labeled in meters.