

How is Habitat Type determined?

Each Habitat Type has typical biological features (including both an indicator species list and typical associated biobands).

To determine the Habitat Type, the biomapper looks at the along-shore Units as designated and described by the physical mapper, and 1. records the observations of the biobands in the unit and looks for indicator species,

2. □ assigns a bio-(wave) exposure category,
3. □ reviews the physical mapped information, and
4. □ assigns the Habitat Type that best describes the unit.

The Habitat Type is based on the whole unit and is similar to the physical mappers use of the 'Coastal Class' category, in that the detailed across-shore data are summarized into one attribute. The simplified category describes the features of the whole unit.

Habitat Type is a summary of the biophysical classification of the whole shore unit, based on:
• □ the biobands observed,

• □ the wave exposure as indicated by the bands, and • □ the substrate types in the unit.

Legend Definitions CC - Coastal Classification number

ve Exposure
Exposed - Very high wave exposure, open ocean swellsm usually fetches >500km

VP - Very Protected - Very low wave exposure, fethces < 1km, sheltered anchorages at heads of bays and inletes

E - Exposed - Very high wave exposure, open ocean swellsm usually fetches >500km

VE - Very Exposed - Extreme high wave exposure

SE - Semi Exposed - High wave exposure, open shorelines, areas between fully exposed and more sheltered, usually fetches 50 to 500km

P - Protected - Low wave expsoure, sheltered inlets, usually fetches less than 10km

SP - Semi Protected - Moderate wave expsoure, partly sheltered, usually fetches 10-50km

vancouver island bio-mapping.									
MAJOR SUBSTRATE	BEDROCK/BOULDER	BEDROCK/BOULDER	BEDROCK/BOULDER	BEDROCK/BOULDER	SAND & GRAVEL	SAND & GRAVEL	SAND/MUD	SEDIMENT	BEDROCK OR SEDIMENT
COASTAL CLASSES	1-20	1-20	1-23, 32, 33	1-23, 33	24, 25, 26, 32	24, 25, 26, 32	27, 28, 29, 30, 31	24 - 30	
EXPOSURE (EXP BIO)	Е	SE	SP	P, VP	SP	P, VP	SP, P, VP	SE, E	VP, P, SP
HABITAT OBSERVED (HAB_OBS)	2	3 *	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
upper	Verrucaria	Verrucaria	Verrucaria	Verrucaria	Verrucaria	Verrucaria	marsh grasses & rushes		
		Enteromorpha	Enteromorpha	Enteromorpha	Enteromorpha	Enteromorpha		3	tidal current dominated; may be a
							Salicornia virginica		
	Balanus glandula	Balanus glandula	Balanus glandula	Balanus glandula	Balanus glandula	Balanus glandula	Balanus glandula		Protected wave
	Pelvetiopsis limitata	Fucus distichus	Fucus distichus	Fucus distichus	Fucus di stichus	Fucus distichus	Fucus distichus]	exposure but shows
middle									an assemblage of indicator species
	Semibalanus carriosus	Semibalanus carriosus	Semibalanus carriosus		Semibalanus carriosus				from higher wave
									exposures.
	Pollicipes polymerus		Mytilus trossulus	Mytilus trossulus	Mytilus trossulus	Mytilus trossulus	Mytilus trossulus	no visible macrobiota	Lipoda Co.
			Ulva/ Ulvaria spp.	Ulva/ Ulvaria spp.	Ulva/ Ulvaria spp.	Ulva/ Ulvaria spp.	Ulva/ Ulvaria spp.	due to sediment	
mid/low	Mytilus californianus	Mytilus californianus						mobility	
		Microcladia/Iridea type mixed reds	Gigartina/Odonthalia type mixed reds	Gigartina/Odonthalia type mixed reds	Gigartina/Odonthalia type mixed reds	Gigartina/Odonthalia type mixed reds			
	Postelsia palmaeformis								
		Hedophyllum sessile							
		Codium fragile	Codium fragile		Codium fragile				
lower	Lessoniopsis littoralis		Laminaria saccharina	Laminaria saccharina	Laminaria saccharina	Laminaria saccharina			
		Egregia menziesii							
	Laminaria setchellii	Laminaria setchellii							
		Laminaria groenlandica	Laminaria groenlandica		Laminaria groenlandica				
	Alaria nana.	Alaria marginata.	Alaria marginata.		Alaria marginata.				
		Eisenia arborea							
	Lithothamnion	Lithothamnion	Lithothamnion		Lithothamnion				
			Sargassum muticum		Sargassum muticum				
		Agarum sp	Agarum sp	Agarum sp	Agarum sp	Agarum sp			
		Phyllospadix scouleri							
subtidal		Macrocystis integrifolia	Macrocystis integrifolia	Macrocystis integrifolia	Macrocystis integrifolia	Macrocystis integrifolia			
	Nereocystis luetkeana	Nereocystis luetkeana	Nereocystis luetkeana		Nereocystis luetkeana				
		Strongylocentrotus	Strongylocentrotus		Strongylocentrotus				
		franciscanus	franciscanus		franciscanus				
			Zostera marina	Zostera marina	Zostera marina	Zostera marina	Zostera marina		

