Shoreline Habitat

The Habitat Type provides a simplified picture of the "look" of the unit overall, based on the detailed biophysical attributes that have been mapped. The Habitat Type category is a summary of the observations of both the unit's biologial and geomorphological features.
Each Habitat Type has a definition that includes the typical substrate, wave exposure and biobands. For example, for the Semi-exposed, Immobile substrate Habitat Type, part of the definition of that class is a certain combination of the most likely biobands and indictor species present at a bedrock shoreline with no mobile sediment present.

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.

Legend Definitions
CC - Coastal Classification number

Wave Exposure
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 exposure, sheltered inlets, usually fetches less than 10km
SP - Semi Protected - Moderate wave exposure, partly sheltered, usually fetches 10-50km
VP - Very Protected - Very low wave exposure, fetches < 1km, sheltered anchorages at heads of bays and inlets

Legend

Unit Break Points
- Undefined

Immobile Substrates
- 1 - Bedrock - CC 1-20 - VE
- 2 - Bedrock - CC 1-20 - E
- 3 - Bedrock/Boulder - CC 1-23, 32, 33 - SE
- 4 - Bedrock/Gravel - CC 1-23, 33 - SP
- 5 - Bedrock/Gravel - CC 1-23,33 - P/VP

Mobile/Partially Mobile Substrates
- 6 - Sand & Gravel - CC 24-26, 32 -SP
- 7 - Sand & Gravel - CC 24-26,32 - VP/P
- 8 - Estuary or Sand/Mud - CC 27-31 - VP/P/SP
- 9 - Sediment - CC 21 - 30 - SE/E

Current Dominated
- 10 - Bedrock or Sediment - CC 34 -VP/P/SP

Tidal Lagoon
- 11 - Bedrock or Sediment - CC 35 - VP/P/SP

CC	Type
Rock Shore Types - characterized by a lack of clastic sediments such as gravel or sand.
1	Rock Ramp, Wide
2	Rock Platform, Wide
3	Rock Cliff Narrow
4	Rock Ramp, Narrow
5	Rock Platform Narrow
Rock and Sediment Shore Types - rock and pockets of clastic sediments
6	Ramp with Gravel Beach, Wide
7	Platform with Gravel Beach, Wide
8	Cliff with Gravel Beach
9	Ramp with Gravel Beach, Narrow
10	Platform with Gravel Beach, Narrow
11	Ramp with Sand and Gravel Beach, Wide
12	Platform with Sand and Gravel Beach, Wide
13	Cliff with Sand and Gravel Beach
14	Ramp with Sand and Gravel Beach, Narrow
15	Platform with Sand and Gravel Beach, Narrow
16	Ramp with Sand Beach, Wide
17	Platform with Sand Beach, Wide
18	Cliff with Sand Beach
19	Ramp with Sand Beach, Narrow
20	Platform with Sand Beach, Narrow

CC	Type
Sediment Shore Types - have substrates that have little or no bedrock cropping out
21	Gravel Flat, Wide
22	Gravel Beach
23	Gravel Flat or Fan
24	Sand and Gravel Flat or Fan, Wide
25	Sand and Gravel Beach
26	Sand and Gravel Flat or Fan, Narrow
27	Sand Beach, Wide
28	Sand Flat
29	Mud Flat
30	Sand Beach, narrow
31	Estuaries
Man Made Materials
32	Man-made, permeable
33	Man-made, impermeable
Current Dominated
34	Channel
Tidal Lagoon
35	Tidal Lagoon

Table SOG. GOES WITH SSOG AND NSOG, part of CR
Habitat Classification for "Exposure Bio" (EXP_BIO) and "Habitat Observed" (HAB_OBS) based on visible macro-biota assemblages for the Georgia Basin.
Species assemblages revised according to analysis of field observations. See summary in Table 5 and Table 6.

MAJOR SUBSTRATE	BEDROCK/BOULDER	BEDROCK/BOULDER	BEDROCK/BOULDER	SAND & GRAVEL	SAND & GRAVEL	SAND/MUD	SEDIMENT	BEDROCK OR SEDIMENT
COASTAL CLASSES	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)	SE	SP	P, VP	SP	P, VP	SP, P, VP	SE, E	VP, P, SP
HABITAT OBSERVED (HAB_OBS)	3 *	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
upper	Verrucaria	Verrucaria	Verrucaria				marsh grasses & rushes	tidal current dominated; may be a Protected wave exposure but shows an assemblage of indicator species from higher wave exposures.
	Balanus glandula	Balanus glandula	Balanus glandula	Balanus glandula	Balanus glandula	Balanus glandula	Salicornia virginica	
	Fucus distichus	Fucus distichus	Fucus distichus	Fucus distichus	Fucus distichus	Balanus glandula	Balanus glandula	
middle							Fucus distichus	
	Semibalanus cariosus	Semibalanus cariosus	Semibalanus cariosus					
		Mytilus trossulus	Mytilus trossulus	Mytilus trossulus	Mytilus trossulus	Mytilus trossulus	no visible macrobiota due to sediment mobility	
		Ulva / Ulvaria spp	Ulva / Ulvaria spp	Ulva / Ulvaria spp	Ulva / Ulvaria spp	Ulva / Ulvaria spp		
middlow	Anthopleura organisms	Anthopleura organisms	Anthopleura organisms					
	Gelidium/Hectorochaetum	Gelidium/Hectorochaetum	Gelidium/Hectorochaetum	Gelidium/Hectorochaetum				
	Leathesia / Petrotis/	Leathesia / Petrotis/	Leathesia / Petrotis/	Leathesia / Petrotis/				
	other bleached reds	other bleached reds	other bleached reds	other bleached reds				
		Crassostrea gigas	Crassostrea gigas	Crassostrea gigas	Crassostrea gigas			
			Prasiola submissima	Prasiola submissima				
lower		bleached corallina reds	Agarum sp.					
		Laminaria saccharina	Laminaria saccharina	Laminaria saccharina	Laminaria saccharina			
		Alaria spp						
	Sargassum muticum	Sargassum muticum	Sargassum muticum	Sargassum muticum	Sargassum muticum **			
		Microcladia/ Iridaea type	Microcladia/ Iridaea type	Microcladia/ Iridaea type				
		mixed filamentous and	mixed filamentous and	mixed filamentous and				
		foliose reds	foliose reds	foliose reds				
	Lithothamnium							
	Nereocystis luetkeana	Nereocystis luetkeana		Nereocystis luetkeana				
	Strongylocentrotus	Strongylocentrotus		Strongylocentrotus				
	Franciscanus	Franciscanus		Franciscanus				
subtidal		Zostera marina	Zostera marina	Zostera marina	Zostera marina	Zostera marina		

* The SE (Semi-exposed) shoreline 'Habitat Observed' in the Strait of Georgia was observed to have the same species assemblage as typical species assemblages found in high SP (semi-protected).
** Sargassum does not occur in Very-protected (VP)