



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 - PNP

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
- 10 - Bedrock or Sediment - CC 34 - VP/P/SP
- 11 - Bedrock or Sediment - CC 35 - VP/P/SP

Current Dominated

Tidal Lagoon

CC Type

Rock Shore Types

Sediment Shore Types

Man-Made Material

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 biological 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 indicator 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 biographer 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

Wave Exposure

- E - Exposed - Very high wave exposure, open ocean swells 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

Table WCVL GOES WITH BIO_AREAS WCVL SCVL WCVL North, J&F
Habitat Classification for "Exposure Bio" (EXP_BIO) and "Habitat Observed" (HAB_OBS) based on visible macro-biota assemblages for the West Coast Vancouver Island bio-mapping.

MAJOR SUBSTRATE	BECKROCK/BOULDER	BECKROCK/BOULDER	BECKROCK/BOULDER	BECKROCK/BOULDER	SAND & GRAVEL	SAND & GRAVEL	SAND/MUD	SEDIMENT	BECKROCK 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	VP, P, SP
EXPOSURE (EXP_BIO)	E	SE	SP	P, VP	SP	P, VP	SP, P, VP	SE, E	VE, P, SP
HABITAT OBSERVED (HAB_OBS)	2	3*	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
upper	<i>Fenestrata</i>	<i>Fenestrata</i>	<i>Fenestrata</i>	<i>Fenestrata</i>	<i>Fenestrata</i>	<i>Fenestrata</i>	<i>marsh grasses & rocks</i>		
middle	<i>Balanus glandula</i>	<i>Salicornia virginica</i>	High current dominated may be a Protected wave exposure but shows an assemblage of indicator species from higher wave exposure.						
lower	<i>Enteromorpha flexilis</i>	<i>Enteromorpha flexilis</i>	no visible macrobiota. Be in medium mobility						

