



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

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.

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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. an

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.

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3. reviews the physical mapped information, and
4. assigns the Habitat Type that best describes the unit

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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 habitats observed

- the biobands observed,
- the wave exposure as indicated by the bands, and
- the substrate type in the site.

- the substrate types in the unit.

Legend Definitions
CC - Coastal Classification number

Wave Exposure

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

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

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SP - Semi Protected - Moderate wave exposure, partly sheltered, usually fetches 10-50km
VP - Very Protected - Very low wave exposure, fetches over 10km, sheltered by large west heads of bays and inlets

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

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	<i>Verrucaria</i>	<i>Verrucaria</i>	<i>Verrucaria</i>			marsh grasses & rushes	no visible macrobiota due to sediment mobility	tidal current dominated; may be a Protected wave exposure but shows an assemblage of indicator species from higher wave exposures.
						<i>Salicornia virginica</i>		
	<i>Balanus glandula</i>	<i>Balanus glandula</i>	<i>Balanus glandula</i>	<i>Balanus glandula</i>	<i>Balanus glandula</i>	<i>Balanus glandula</i>		
	<i>Fucus distichus</i>	<i>Fucus distichus</i>	<i>Fucus distichus</i>	<i>Fucus distichus</i>	<i>Fucus distichus</i>	<i>Fucus distichus</i>		
middle	<i>Semibalanus cariosus</i>	<i>Semibalanus cariosus</i>		<i>Semibalanus cariosus</i>				
		<i>Mytilus trossulus</i>	<i>Mytilus trossulus</i>	<i>Mytilus trossulus</i>	<i>Mytilus trossulus</i>	<i>Mytilus trossulus</i>		
		<i>Ulva/ Ulvaria spp.</i>	<i>Ulva/ Ulvaria spp.</i>	<i>Ulva/ Ulvaria spp.</i>	<i>Ulva/ Ulvaria spp.</i>	<i>Ulva/ Ulvaria spp.</i>		
mid/low	<i>Anthopleura elegantissima</i>	<i>Anthopleura elegantissima</i>						
	<i>Gelidium/Gastroclonium/ Leathesia/ Prionitis/ other bleached reds</i>			<i>Gelidium/Gastroclonium/ Leathesia/ Prionitis/ other bleached reds</i>				
		<i>Crassostrea gigas</i>	<i>Crassostrea gigas</i>	<i>Crassostrea gigas</i>	<i>Crassostrea gigas</i>			
		<i>Pisaster ochraceous</i>		<i>Pisaster ochraceous</i>				
lower	bleached coralline reds	bleached coralline reds						
		<i>Agarum sp.</i>		<i>Agarum sp.</i>				
		<i>Laminaria saccharina</i>	<i>Laminaria saccharina</i>	<i>Laminaria saccharina</i>	<i>Laminaria saccharina</i>			
	<i>Alaria spp.</i>							
	<i>Sargassum muticum</i>	<i>Sargassum muticum</i>	<i>Sargassum muticum</i> ***	<i>Sargassum muticum</i>	<i>Sargassum muticum</i> **			
		<i>Microcladia/ Iridea type mixed filamentous and foliose reds</i>		<i>Microcladia/ Iridea type mixed filamentous and foliose reds</i>				
	<i>Lithothamnion</i>							

<i>franciscanus</i>	<i>franciscanus</i>	<i>franciscanus</i>	
	<i>Zostera marina</i>	<i>Zostera marina</i>	<i>Zostera marina</i>

The SE (Semi-exposed) shoreline ‘Habitat Observed’ in the Strait of Georgia was observed to have the same species assemblage as typ-

