



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.

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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 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.

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

- 3.□reviews the physical map
- 4.□assigns the Habitat Type to

Table MIDCOAST and NORTH COAST project area which includes BIO AREAS CC, JS and NC. The Species/ wave exposure/ substrate table for Habitat Classification (HAB_OBS), for the Mid-coast BC study area, from Johnstone Strait/Central Coast Mapping Regions 5, 6 and 7.											
SUBSTRATE STABILITY	IMMOBILE SUBSTRATES				MOBILE OR PARTIALLY MOBILE SUBSTRATES				CURRENT-DOMINATED	TIDAL LAGOON	
MAJOR SUBSTRATE	BEDROCK	BEDROCK/BOULDER	BEDROCK/GRAVEL	BEDROCK/GRAVEL	SAND & GRAVEL	SAND & GRAVEL	SAND/MUD	SEDIMENT	BEDROCK OR SEDIMENT	BEDROCK OR SEDIMENT	
COASTAL CLASSES	1-20	1-23, 32, 33	1-23, 33	1-23, 33	24 – 30, 32 no SAL band	24 – 30, 32 no SAL band	24 - 30, 31 has SAL band	24-30	34	35	
EXPOSURE (EXP BIO)	E	SE	SP	VP, P	SP	VP, P	VP, P, SP	SE, E	VP, P, SP	VP, P, SP	
COMMUNITY CODE (HAB OBS)	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
upper	<i>Verrucaria</i> <i>Enteromorpha</i>	<i>Verrucaria</i> <i>Enteromorpha</i>	<i>Verrucaria</i> <i>Enteromorpha</i>	<i>Verrucaria</i> <i>Enteromorpha</i>	<i>Verrucaria</i> <i>Enteromorpha</i>	<i>Verrucaria</i> <i>Enteromorpha</i>	grasses & rushes <i>Salicornia virginica</i>	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. Assemblage observed is 'anomalous' for the wave energy of the site.	<i>Balanus glandula</i> <i>Fucus distichus</i>	
	<i>Balanus glandula</i> <i>Fucus distichus</i>	<i>Balanus glandula</i> <i>Fucus distichus</i>	<i>Balanus glandula</i> <i>Fucus distichus</i>	<i>Balanus glandula</i> <i>Fucus distichus</i>	<i>Balanus glandula</i> <i>Fucus distichus</i>	<i>Balanus glandula</i> <i>Fucus distichus</i>					
middle	<i>Pollipices polymerus</i> <i>Mytilus californianus</i>	<i>Mytilus californianus</i>	<i>Mytilus trossulus</i> *	<i>Mytilus trossulus</i> *			<i>Mytilus trossulus</i> *				
	<i>Semibalanus cariosus</i>	<i>Semibalanus cariosus</i>	<i>Semibalanus cariosus</i> <i>Ulva/ Ulvaria spp.</i>	<i>Ulva/ Ulvaria spp.</i>	<i>Semibalanus cariosus</i> <i>Ulva/ Ulvaria spp.</i>	<i>Ulva/ Ulvaria spp.</i>	<i>Ulva/ Ulvaria spp.</i>				
mid/low	<i>Hedophyllum sessile</i> <i>Alaria 'nana' morph</i> <i>Phyllospadix scouleri</i>								ponded water in lagoon creates narrow intertidal and a reduced biota in brackish water, may have associated current dominated at outflow		
lower	<i>Lessoniopsis littoralis</i>		<i>Laminaria groenlandica</i> <i>Laminaria saccharina</i> <i>Alaria 'marginata' morph</i>	<i>Laminaria saccharina</i>	<i>Laminaria groenlandica</i> <i>Laminaria saccharina</i> <i>Alaria 'marginata' morph</i>	<i>Laminaria saccharina</i>					
	<i>Lithothamnion</i>	<i>Lithothamnion</i>	<i>Lithothamnion</i>		<i>Lithothamnion</i>						
subtidal	<i>Nereocystis luetkeana</i>	<i>Nereocystis luetkeana</i>	<i>Nereocystis luetkeana</i> <i>Macro cystis integrifolia</i> <i>Agarum spp.</i>	<i>Macro cystis integrifolia</i> <i>Agarum spp.</i>	<i>Macro cystis integrifolia</i> <i>Agarum spp.</i>	<i>Nereocystis luetkeana</i> <i>Macro cystis integrifolia</i> <i>Agarum spp.</i>	<i>Macro cystis integrifolia</i> <i>Agarum spp.</i>				

