

## Marine Invertebrates – Important Habitat 1 – Rock Platform Submerged at High Tides

### description

Marine invertebrates include a wide variety of both sessile (immobile) and mobile organisms that can be found in a diverse range of habitats. Rock platform is an important invertebrate habitat because it provides a lot of structure, which is important for species where a secure attachment is required. At the BC Marine Conservation Analysis (BCMCA) Marine Invertebrate Experts Workshop, rock platform submerged at high tides was identified because it provides habitat for distinct invertebrate communities

This atlas page illustrates a subset of the 36 different coastal classes derived from the BC Shorezone Mapping system, a systematic methodology for mapping the biophysical character of the Shorezone by way of aerial low tide oblique surveys for the entire BC coastline. Coastal Classes are derived from the BC Shorezone Mapping system, a systematic methodology for mapping the biophysical character of the Shorezone by way of aerial low tide oblique surveys for the entire BC coastline. The system involves the subdivision of the Shorezone into along-shore units and across-shore components. Coastal Classes are an overall indicator of repeatable collections of across-shore components contained within the unit defined by a systematic consideration of substrate, sediment, width and slope. This surrogate feature for invertebrate habitat has been created by querying the coastal classes where rock platform submerged at high tides are described as a major substrate feature.

The coastal classes included are as follows:

- Rock Platform Wide
- Rock Platform Narrow



PHOTO: HOLLY LAWRENCE



PHOTO: JOEL BLIT

### data sources

- Province of British Columbia – Shorezone Mapping System

### data resolution

- Data from the BC Shorezone Mapping System is linked to shoreline segments that average approximately 400 metres in length. There are a total of 90,027 shoreline segments with some attribute information.

### date collected

- 1979-2008

### date compiled

- 2009

### reviewers

- Not reviewed.

### reviewer comments

- None provided.

### caveats of use

- Recommended date of expiry for use of these data in a marine planning context: None provided.

### map, feature data and metadata access

- Visit [www.bcmca.ca/data](http://www.bcmca.ca/data) for more information.


### references

- For more detailed information on the Coastal Classes of British Columbia as described in the BC Shorezone Mapping System (March 1995) see: [www.ilmb.gov.bc.ca/risc/pubs/coastal/pysshore/index.htm](http://www.ilmb.gov.bc.ca/risc/pubs/coastal/pysshore/index.htm)



**BCMCA Atlas**  
**Marine Invertebrates**  
**Important Habitat 1**

**Legend**

 Rock Platform Submerged at High Tides

Note:  
 - Thickness of shorezone segments has been exaggerated slightly to increase visibility at this scale.  
 - This dataset consists of coastal classes recommended as a surrogate for invertebrate habitat including:

- Rock Platform Wide
- Rock Platform Narrow

**Data Sources:**

Province of British Columbia - Shorezone Mapping System

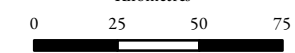
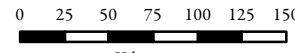
**Base Data:**

ESRI Base Data, GeoBase, GeoBC, NOAA, Natural Resources Canada, USGS, Washington State Government

**Thematic Data:**

For more information on data sources and methods please refer to the facing page to this map

**Projection:** BC Albers NAD83



1:4,250,000 \*

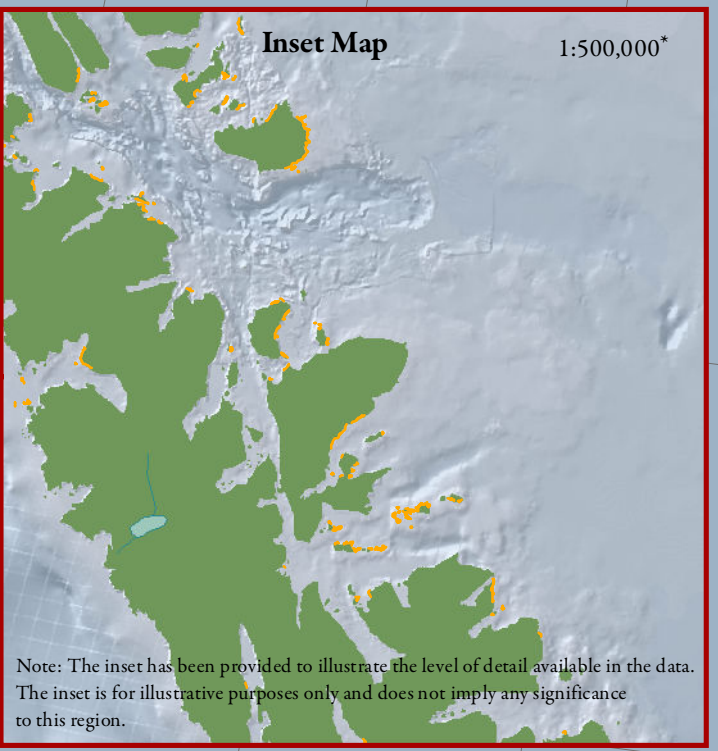
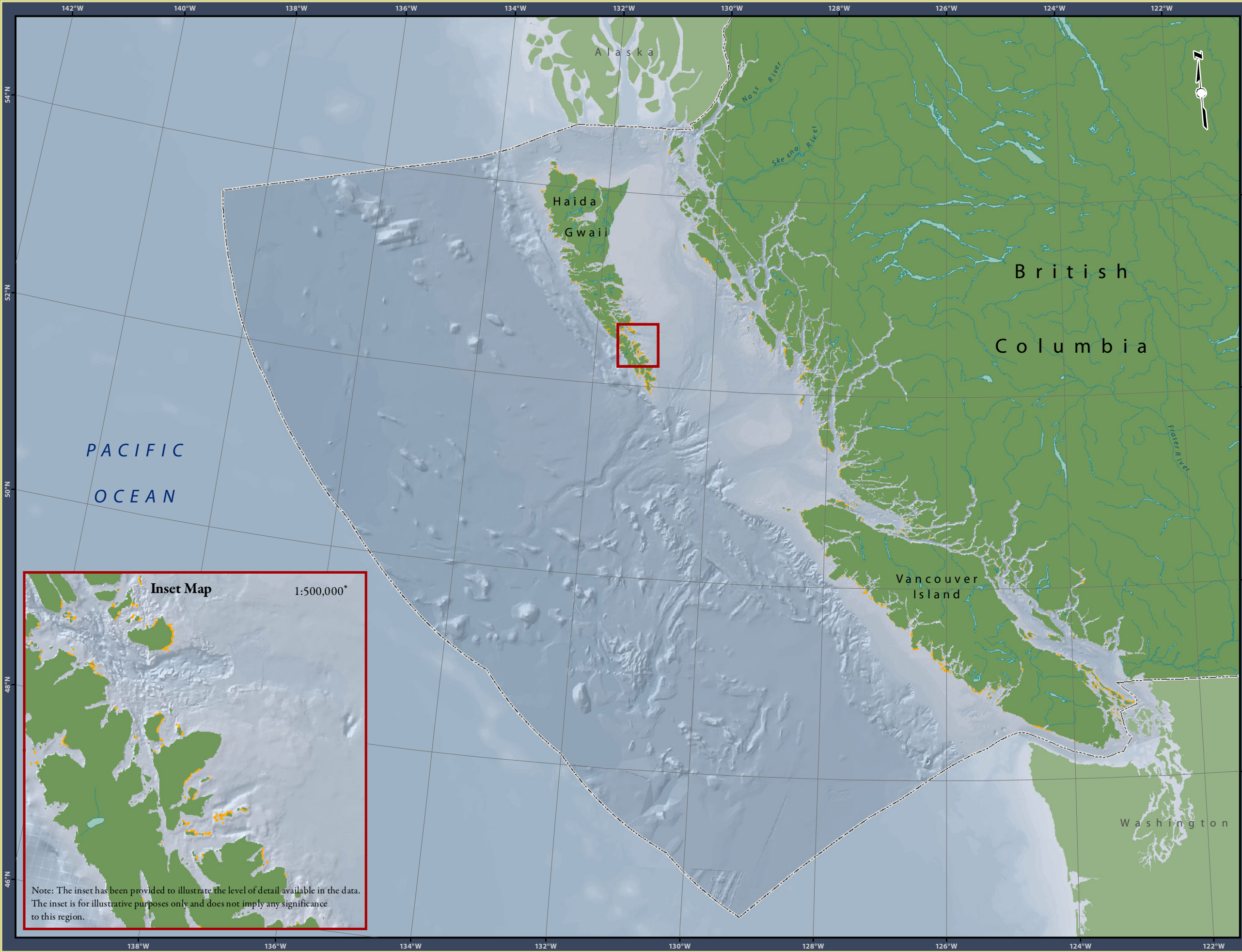
\* Written scales are approximate and are based on a 11 x 17 inch paper size.

Prepared for:



Map template by Caslys Consulting Ltd.

May 1, 2013



Note: The inset has been provided to illustrate the level of detail available in the data. The inset is for illustrative purposes only and does not imply any significance to this region.