

Marine Invertebrates – Important Habitat 2 – Rock Substrate with High Current

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 substrate with high current is an important habitat for those marine invertebrates, such as sessile organisms or filter feeders, which may require a secure attachment site and a high current for access to food. At the BC Marine Conservation Analysis (BCMCA) Marine Invertebrate Experts Workshop, rock substrate with high current 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 substrate is described as a major substrate feature. The resulting shoreline segments were intersected with areas classified as high or medium tidal current by a circulation model developed by Fisheries and Oceans Canada. Please see the atlas page titled “Physical Representation – Tidal Current” for more information on the model.

The coastal classes included are as follows:

- Rock Ramp Wide
- Rock Platform Wide
- Rock Cliff Wide
- Rock Ramp Narrow
- Rock Platform Narrow
- Rock Ramp with Gravel Beach Wide
- Rock Platform with Gravel Beach
- Rock Cliff with Gravel Beach Narrow
- Rock Ramp with Gravel Beach Narrow
- Rock Platform with Gravel Beach Narrow



PHOTO: JOEL BLITZ



PHOTO: 2009 FOTO FRIENDS

data sources

- Fisheries and Oceans Canada – Institute of Ocean Sciences - Dr. Mike Foreman (data used in the preparation of this feature).
- 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 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

BCMCA Atlas

Marine Invertebrates

Important Habitat 2

Legend

~ Rock Substrate - High Current

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 Ramp Wide
- Rock Platform Wide
- Rock Cliff Wide
- Rock Ramp Narrow
- Rock Platform Narrow
- Rock Ramp with Gravel Beach Wide
- Rock Platform with Gravel Beach
- Rock Cliff with Gravel Beach Narrow
- Rock Ramp with Gravel Beach Narrow
- Rock Platform with Gravel Beach 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

0 25 50 75 100 125 150

Kilometres

0 25 50 75

Nautical Miles

1:4,250,000 *

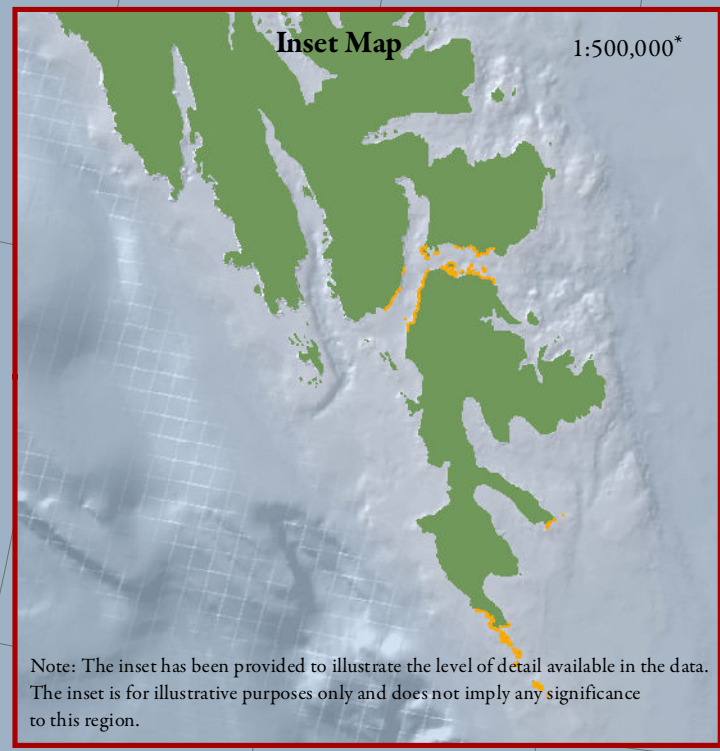
* Written scales are approximate and are based on a 11 x 17 inch paper size.

Prepared for:



Map template by Caslys Consulting Ltd.

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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.