British Columbia
Marine Conservation Analysis

Ecological – Feature Count

description

One of the goals of BC Marine Conservation Analysis (BCMCA) is to collaboratively identify areas of high conservation value and areas important to human use in Canada's Pacific Ocean. The BCMCA project has been designed to make these products available for use in marine planning. In order to identify areas of high conservation value, the BCMCA ran Marxan analyses using a wide range of ecological data, recommended by subject matter experts, as conservation features. These and other data are illustrated in the BCMCA Atlas.

Of the 196 features illustrated in the BCMCA Atlas pages, 171 (plus one bird feature not displayed in the atlas due to its endangered status) were included in the Marxan analyses to identify marine areas of high conservation value. Features were omitted for two general reasons: either the subject matter experts did not recommend targeting these features in a Marxan analysis, or the data were received too late for inclusion.

This map was generated by overlaying all of the ecological features collated by the BCMCA to go into the Marxan analysis features. The map illustrates the number of different ecological features that inform each 2 kilometre by 2 kilometre planning unit. Of the 120,499 total planning units in the study area, 83 planning units scattered along the edges actually contain no ecological data (zero features). There were a total of 172 different features used in the Marxan analysis. As the facing map shows, up to 58 of them overlap. Feature count values were classified for illustration using quantiles. (A quantile is established by dividing the frequency distribution of a variable into equal groups: that is, each quantile contains the same fraction of the total number of values being measured.)

For a list of all the features included in this tally, please refer to these atlas pages:

- Fish and Invertebrate Feature Count
- Marine Bird Feature Count
- Marine Mammal Feature Count
- Marine Plant Feature Count
- Physical Features Feature Count

PHOTO: JOHN BROUWER

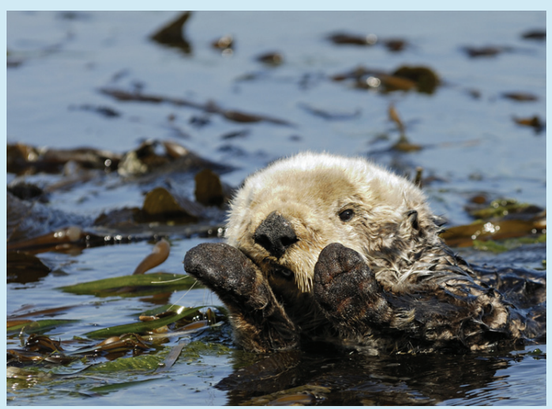

PHOTO: HEATHER A. CRAIG

data sources

- Alan Burger
- Baja California to the Bering Sea (B2B) study
- Bernard Schroeder
- Bird Studies Canada
- British Columbia Breeding Bird Atlas
- British Columbia Conservation Data Centre
- Capital Regional District
- Community Mapping Network
- Cynthia Durance
- Environment Canada (Canadian Wildlife Service)
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada
- Flathead Lake Biological Station (University of Montana)
- InterRidge
- Laskeek Bay Conservation Society
- Living Oceans Society
- Louis Druehl
- Marine Geoscience Data System
- Michael Coon
- Natural Resources Canada
- Pacific Estuary Conservation Program
- Parks Canada
- Province of British Columbia
- Raincoast Conservation Foundation
- Royal British Columbia Museum
- Seamounts Online
- University of British Columbia
- University of British Columbia Herbarium
- Wendy Szaniszlo

(Note: Please see individual feature atlas pages and/or metadata for feature specific data sources.)

data resolution

- Features were tallied by their presence in 2 kilometre by 2 kilometre planning units.

date compiled

- 2010

reviewers

- Not reviewed.

reviewer comments

- None provided.

caveats of use

- Survey effort is not consistent across all planning units or across all areas of the coast. Areas with fewer features may not have been surveyed and these data gaps are not indicative of an absence of biodiversity or conservation value in these areas.
- This map is a compilation of data collected by many people, for different purposes, using different survey techniques with different methodologies within each technique and, therefore, it should not be used beyond the purpose it was created for which is to illustrate the distribution of ecological features that the BCMCA collated to go into the Marxan analysis.
- Please see individual feature atlas pages and metadata for feature or species specific caveats.
- 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.

BCMCA Atlas

Ecological

Feature Count

Legend

Feature count
(by planning unit)

- 0 - 2
- 3
- 4
- 5 - 6
- 7 - 11
- 12 - 58

Note:
- Classification based on 6 quantiles.

Data Sources:
For more information on data sources please refer to the facing page to this map

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:

BC Marine Conservation Analysis

Map template by Caslys Consulting Ltd.
September 13, 2010

Inset Map 1:500,000*

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.