

Marine Invertebrates – Selected Molluscs and Crustaceans

description

Foundation species can either form or alter structural habitat, which can be used by other marine species, or form distinct marine communities that would not be present otherwise. Select crustaceans, e.g. barnacles, can be considered foundation species, as their burrowing behaviour creates shelter for different species. Crustaceans can also function as benthic disturbers and play an important role in intertidal communities. Molluscs are also considered to be important intertidal and subtidal species. The flat-tip paddock (*Penitella penita*), for example, bores channels in shale, which then become protected habitat for other species. The role of these foundation species in creating communities and producing rich habitats for other organisms makes them ecologically important.

This atlas page displays the locations of specimens that have been collected or compiled by the Royal British Columbia Museum. The points displayed are those for the crustacean and mollusc species that were recommended at the BC Marine Conservation Analysis (BCMCA) Marine Invertebrate Experts Workshop in October 2007 and include:

- Crustaceans: *Ampelisca* spp., *Balanus glandula*, *Balanus nubilus*, *Neotrypaea californiensis*
- Molluscs: *Crassadoma gigantean*, *Mytilus* complex, *Penitella penita*, *Vermetus compactus*



PHOTO: ARRAN EDMONSTONE



PHOTO: 2009 FOTO FRIENDS

data sources

- Royal British Columbia Museum – Crustacean specimen records and Mollusc specimen records

data resolution

- More recent data were collected using GPS. Older data coordinates were estimated.

date collected

- Crustaceans: 1849-1999
- Molluscs: 1923-2005

date compiled

- 2012

reviewers

- Not reviewed.

reviewer comments

- None provided.

caveats of use

- Few data are available to map the full extent of the habitat of these species of molluscs and crustaceans.
- Survey effort is not consistent across all planning units or across all areas of the coast. Areas with no data may not have been surveyed and these data gaps are not necessarily indicative of an absence of these species of crustaceans and molluscs. Some locations may still be important to these species but currently lack associated data to confirm their value.
- 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
Marine Invertebrates
Selected Molluscs
and Crustaceans

Legend

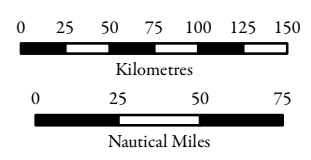
- Crustaceans
- Molluscs

Data Sources:
 Royal British Columbia Museum

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 *

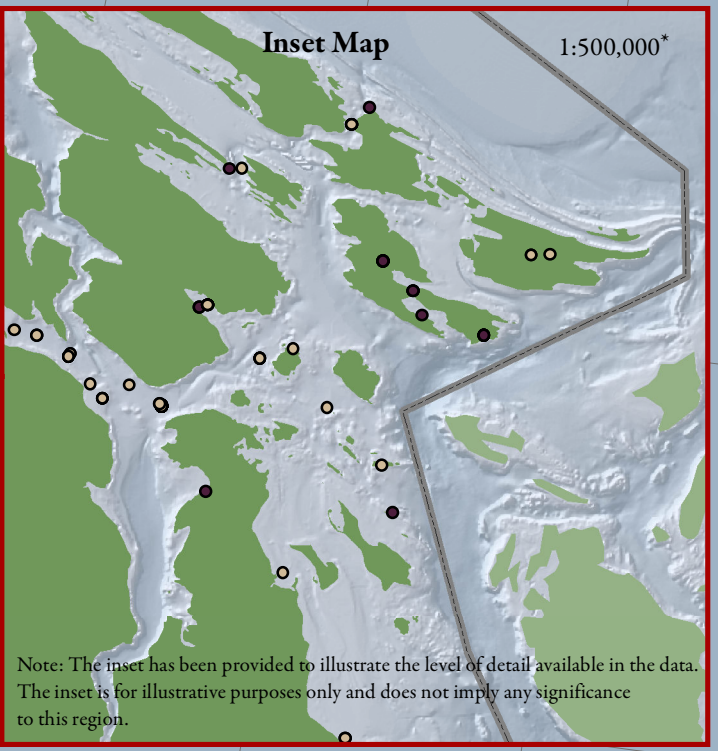
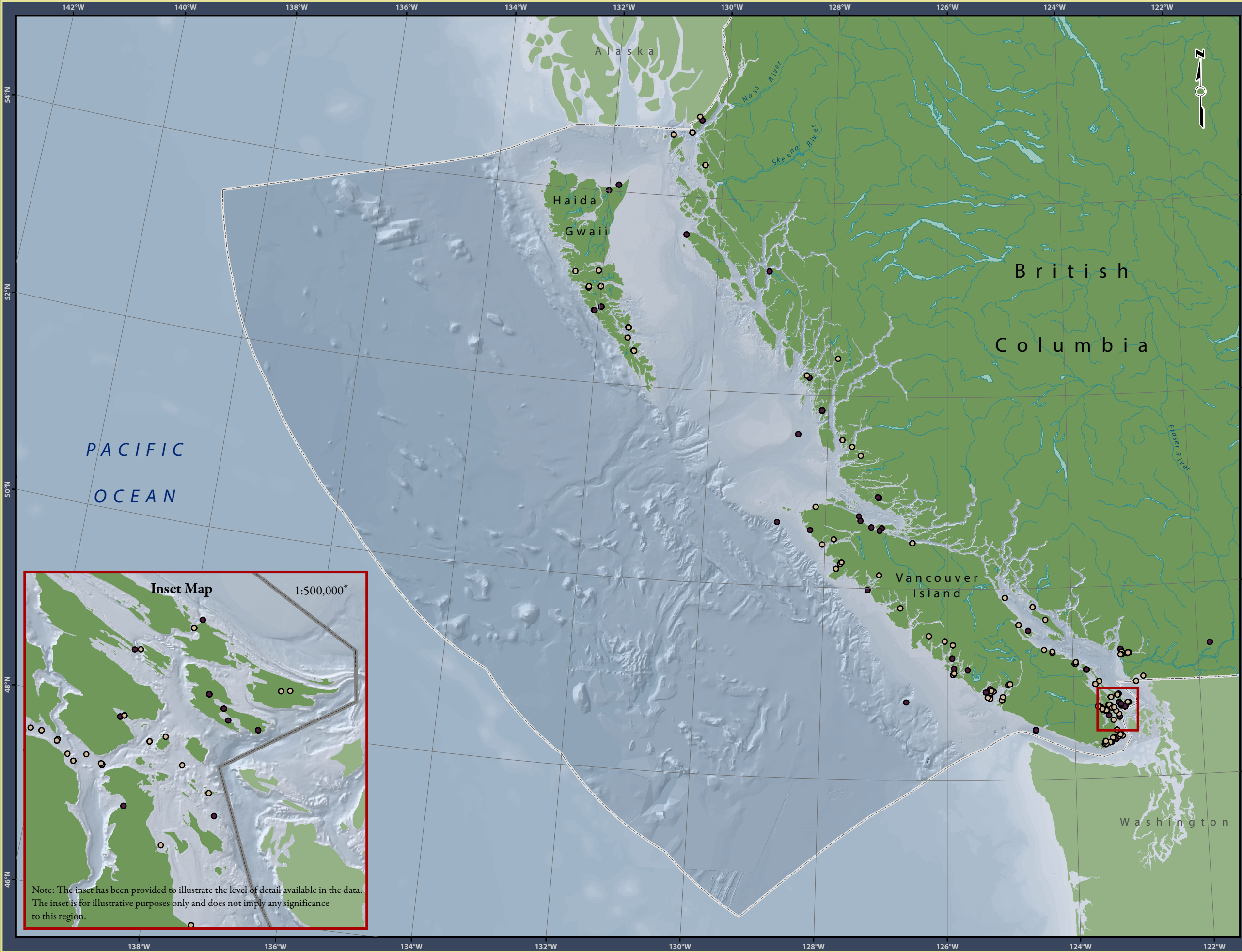
* Written scales are approximate and
 are based on a 11 x 17 inch paper size.

Prepared for:



Map template by Caslys Consulting Ltd.

November 15, 2012



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.