

Marine Plants – Bull Kelp Bioband

description

Bull kelp (*Nereocystis luetkeana*) is an annual that is more opportunistic than giant kelp (*Macrocystis pyrifera*), relying on seabed perturbation to provide opportunity for colonization. Bull kelp is found in semi-protected to fully exposed areas. Its habitat is in deeper water. Bull kelp performs nutrient cycling and provides structural habitat for marine fauna.

This atlas page illustrates bioband information 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. The marine flora and fauna visible within a shore unit are described in terms of common species assemblages known as biobands. The biobands are defined by the dominant cover species. This feature displays the shoreline units where bull kelp was observed and coverage was rated as either ‘patchy’ (visible in less than 50% of the shore unit) or ‘continuous’ (visible in greater than 50% of the shore unit).



PHOTO: ED BIERMAN



PHOTO: MICHAEL HAWKES

data sources

- Province of British Columbia – Shorezone Mapping System – Bioband

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

- 2008

reviewers

- Mary Morris, Archipelago Marine Research Ltd.

reviewer comments

- None provided.

caveats of use

- Portions of Pacific Rim area and Barclay Sound are data gaps in ShoreZone mapping as are the areas in the Strait of Georgia outside of the Gulf Island. Bioband mapping was not done in those regions.
- 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 biological component of the BC Shorezone Mapping System (March 1995) see: www.ilmb.gov.bc.ca/risc/pubs/coastal/bioshore/index.htm

BCMCA Atlas

Marine Plants

Bull Kelp Bioband

Legend

~ Bull Kelp Bioband
(*Nereocystis luetkeana*)

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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