

# AA.M1B2 BALTIC PHOTIC MIXED SUBSTRATE DOMINATED BY *ZANNICHELLIA SPP.* AND/OR *RUPPIA SPP.* AND/OR *ZOSTERA NOLTII*

## AUTHOR

HELCOM RED LIST Biotope Expert Team

## TEXTUAL DESCRIPTION

Baltic bottoms in the photic zone with more than 10 %, but less than 90 % coverage of both hard and soft substrata. Submerged rooted plants cover least 10 % of the seabed and more than other perennial attached erect groups. Out of the submerged rooted plants, *Zannichellia spp.* and/or *Ruppia spp.* and/or *Zostera noltii* constitute at least 50 % of the biovolume.

## PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Salinity range: low to moderate; Exposure range: low to moderate; Depth range: photic zone from about 0.1 to 4 meters.

## CHARACTERISTIC SPECIES

*Zannichellia palustris*, *Ruppia maritime*, *Zostera noltii*

## QUALITY DESCRIPTORS

Lower limit of vegetation, amount of epiphytic algae

## GEOGRAPHIC RANGE

Whole Baltic Sea

## ANTHOPOGENIC THREATS

Eutrophication

## CORRESPONDENCE WITH OTHER CLASSIFICATION SYSTEMS

**HELCOM 1998:**

2.8 Mixed sediment bottoms

2.8.2 Sublittoral photic zone

2.8.2.2 Dominated by macrophyte vegetation

**EUNIS 2012:**

A5 Sublittoral sediment

A5.5 Sublittoral macrophyte-dominated sediment

A5.53 Sublittoral seagrass beds

A5.534 : [Ruppia] and [Zannichellia] communities

<http://eunis.eea.europa.eu/habitats/509>