# AA.J4 BALTIC PHOTIC SAND CHARACTERIZED BY NO MACROSCOPIC BIOTIC STRUCTURES

## AUTHOR

HELCOM RED LIST Biotope Expert Team

## TEXTUAL DESCRIPTION

Baltic bottoms in the photic zone with at least 90 % coverage of sand. Sand has less than 20 % of mud/silt/clay fraction (<63 µm), and the proportion of sand (grain size 0.063–2 mm) exceeds 70% of the combined gravel and sand fraction. No macro- or microvegetation, no macro- epi- or infauna

## PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Salinity range: all; Exposure range: all; Depth range: photic zone

## MAPPING ADVISE (HABITAT DELINEATION, IDENTIFICATION, SIMILAR TYPES)

Photic zone areas with pure sand, often characterized by ripple marks. Sediment must contain less than 20 % of mud/silt/clay fraction (<63 µm), and more than 70 % of sand (grain size 0.063–2 mm ). No macro- or microvegetation, no macro- epi- or infauna

## QUALITY DESCRIPTORS

Soft sediment covering the sand will decrease the quality.

## GEOGRAPHIC RANGE

Whole Baltic Sea

## ANTHROPOGENIC THREATS

Silting caused by eutrophication, dredging spoil deposition etc.

## CORRESPONDENCE WITH OTHER CLASSIFICATION SYSTEMS

**HELCOM 1998:**

2.5 Sandy bottoms

2.5.2 Sublittoral photic zone

2.5.2.1 Level bottoms with little or no macrophytevegetation

**EUNIS 2012:**

A5 Sublittoral sediment

A5.2 Sublittoral sand

A5.21 Sublittoral sand in low or reduced salinity

A5.211 Baltic level sandy bottoms of the infralittoral photic zone with little or no macrophyte vegetation

http://eunis.eea.europa.eu/habitats/2580

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