

# AA.E1 BALTIC PHOTIC SHELL GRAVEL CHARACTERIZED BY MACROSCOPIC EPIBENTHIC BIOTIC STRUCTURES

## AUTHOR

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## TEXTUAL DESCRIPTION

Baltic bottoms in the photic zone with at least 90 % coverage of shell gravel; coverage of macroscopic vegetation or sessile macroscopic epifauna is at least 10 %.

## PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Salinity range: all; Exposure range: moderate to high; Depth range: photic zone

## CHARACTERISTIC SPECIES

*Saccharina latissima*, *Mytilus* spp., *Modiolus modiolus*, *Ciona intestinalis*

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

Photic zone areas consisting of dead mollusc shells or shell fragments. Coverage of macroscopic vegetation or sessile macroscopic epifauna is at least 10 %.

## GEOGRAPHIC RANGE

South-western Baltic Sea, the Sound

## ANTHROPOGENIC THREATS

Eutrophication

## CORRESPONDENCE WITH OTHER CLASSIFICATION SYSTEMS

### HELCOM 1998:

2.6 Shell gravel bottoms

2.6.2 Sublittoral photic zone

### HELCOM 2007:

## Shell gravel bottoms

- habitat under threat and/or in decline in all areas of occurrence: The Southern Baltic Proper, The Gulf of Gdansk, Bay of Mecklenburg, Kiel Bay, Little Belt, Great Belt, The Sound, Kattegat

### **EUNIS 2012:**

A5 Sublittoral sediment

A5.1 Sublittoral coarse sediment

A5.11 Infralittoral coarse sediment in low or reduced salinity

A5.113 : Baltic shell gravel bottoms in the infralittoral photic zone

<http://eunis.eea.europa.eu/habitats/2288>