

# AA.E1C4 BALTIC PHOTIC SHELL GRAVEL DOMINATED BY KELP

## AUTHOR

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## TEXTUAL DESCRIPTION

Baltic bottoms in the photic zone with at least 90 % coverage of shell gravel. Perennial attached algae cover at least 10 % of the seabed, and more than other perennial attached erect groups. Out of the perennial attached algae, kelp constitutes at least 50 % of the biovolume.

## PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Salinity range: <11 psu; Exposure range: moderate to high; Depth range: photic zone

## CHARACTERISTIC SPECIES

*Saccharina latissima*, *Laminaria digitata*, *Laminaria hyperborea*

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

Photic zone areas consisting of dead mollusc shells or shell fragments.

## 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

A5.5 Sublittoral macrophyte-dominated sediment

A5.52 Kelp and seaweed communities on sublittoral sediment

<http://eunis.eea.europa.eu/habitats/598>