

AB.B1E BALTIC APHOTIC HARD CLAY CHARACTERIZED BY EPIBENTHIC BIVALVES

AUTHOR

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TEXTUAL DESCRIPTION

Baltic aphotic zone bottoms with at least 90 % coverage of hard clay. Sessile/semi-sessile epibenthic bivalves have a coverage of at least 10%.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Substrate is hard clay. Typically high energy exposure areas.

CHARACTERISTIC SPECIES

Mytilus spp.

QUALITY DESCRIPTORS

Diversity, abundance and biomass of fauna.

GEOGRAPHIC RANGE

Whole Baltic Sea

ANTHROPOGENIC THREATS

Eutrophication

CORRESPONDENCE WITH OTHER CLASSIFICATION SYSTEMS

HELCOM 1998:

2.3 Hard clay bottoms

2.3.1 Aphotic zone