

# AB.B1E1 BALTIC APHOTIC HARD CLAY DOMINATED BY MYTILIDAE

## AUTHOR

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## TEXTUAL DESCRIPTION

Baltic aphotic bottoms at least 90 % coverage of hard clay. Epibenthic bivalves cover at least 10% of the seabed and more than other perennial attached erect groups. Out of the epibenthic bivalves, Mytilidae constitutes at least 50 % of the biomass.

## PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Substrate is hard clay. Occur at high energy exposure areas.

## CHARACTERISTIC SPECIES

*Mytilus spp.*, *Modiolus modiolus*

## CORRESPONDENCE WITH OTHER CLASSIFICATION SYSTEMS

### HELCOM 1998:

2.3 Hard clay bottoms

2.3.1. Aphotic zone

EUNIS 2012:

### OSPAR list of threatened biotopes:

*Modiolus modiolus* beds

- Habitat occurs in the OSPAR Region II (including Kattegat) and is listed threatened and/or declining in this region