

# AB.B2 BALTIC APHOTIC HARD CLAY CHARACTERIZED BY SPARSE MACROSCOPIC EPIBENTHIC BIOTIC STRUCTURES

## AUTHOR

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## TEXTUAL DESCRIPTION

Baltic bottoms in the aphotic zone with at least 90 % coverage of hard clay. Coverage of sessile macroscopic epifauna is 0-10%.

## PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

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

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

Aphotic zone areas which form a mosaic of both hard and soft substrata. Coverage of sessile macroscopic epifauna is 0-10%.

## GEOGRAPHIC RANGE

Whole Baltic Sea

## CORRESPONDENCE WITH OTHER CLASSIFICATION SYSTEMS

### HELCOM 1998:

2.3 Hard clay bottoms

2.3.1 Aphotic zone