

# AB.H1K1 BALTIC APHOTIC MUDDY SEDIMENT DOMINATED BY VARIOUS TUBE-BUILDING POLYCHAETES

## AUTHOR

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## TEXTUAL DESCRIPTION

Baltic aphotic zone bottoms with at least 90 % coverage of muddy sediment. The sediment must contain at least 20 % of mud, silt or clay (grain size less than 63 µm). Epibenthic polychaetes cover at least 10% of the seabed and more than other perennial attached erect groups. Out of the epibenthic polychaetes, various tube-building polychaetes constitutes at least 50 % of the biomass.

## PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Substrate is muddy sediment. Appears in low to moderate energy exposure classes.

## CHARACTERISTIC SPECIES

*Several species from the taxa Maldanidae and Terebellidae*

## QUALITY DESCRIPTORS

Diversity, abundance and biomass of fauna

## GEOGRAPHIC RANGE

Western Baltic Sea, including the Sound and Kattegat

## CORRESPONDENCE WITH OTHER CLASSIFICATION SYSTEMS

### HELCOM 1998:

2.7 Muddy bottoms

2.7.1 Aphotic zone

### EUNIS 2012:

A5 Sublittoral sediment

A5.3 Sublittoral mud

A5.37 Deep circalittoral mud

A5.378 Baltic muddy bottoms of the aphotic zone

<http://eunis.eea.europa.eu/habitats/2588>