

# **AB.M1 Baltic aphotic mixed substrate characterized by macroscopic epibenthic biotic structures**

## **Author**

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## **Textual description**

Baltic bottoms in the photic zone with less than 90% coverage of a certain substrate type. Mixed substrates comprise any proportion of mix of any substrate type of soft/mobile and/or hard/non-mobile substrates. Coverage of sessile macroscopic epifauna is  $\geq 10\%$ .

## **Physical environment**

Salinity range: All; Exposure range: All; Depth range: Below photic zone - more common on elevations.

## **Characteristic species**

*Mytilus spp.*, *Cordylophora caspia*, *Balanus improvisus*

## **Mapping advise (habitat delineation, identification, similar types)**

Aphotic zone areas with less than 90% coverage of a certain substrate type. Coverage of sessile macroscopic epifauna is  $\geq 10\%$ .

## **Geographic range**

Whole Baltic Sea

## **Correspondence with other classification systems**

**HELCOM 1998:**

2.8 Mixed sediment bottoms

2.8.1 Aphotic zone

**EUNIS 2012:**

A5 Sublittoral sediment

A5.4 : Sublittoral mixed sediments

A5.41 : Sublittoral mixed sediment in low or reduced salinity

A5.412 : Baltic mixed sediment bottoms of the aphotic zone

<http://eunis.eea.europa.eu/habitats/2589>