

# **AB.M1I Baltic aphotic mixed substrate characterized by epibenthic crustacea**

## **Author**

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## **Textual description**

Baltic aphotic bottoms with 10- 90 % coverage of hard (rock/boulders/stone) and 10-90 % soft substrata (e.g. muddy/coarse sediment/sand). Sessile/semi-sessile epibenthic crustacea cover at least 10 % of the seabed and more than other perennial attached erect groups.

## **Physical environment**

Substrate is soft or crystalline rock, boulders or stones mixed with mobile substrates such as sand or coarse substrate. Depth is typically from 20 to 100 meters.

## **Characteristic species**

Balanidae

## **Quality descriptors**

Diversity, abundance and biomass of fauna.

## **Geographic range**

Whole Baltic Sea

## **Anthropogenic threats**

Eutrophication

## **Correspondence with other classification systems**

**HELCOM 1998:**

2.8Mixed 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>