

Central and Northern California Coastal Marine Habitats: Oil Residence and Biological Sensitivity Indices

RELATIVE ABUNDANCE OF MAJOR MACROBIOTA*

Taxa	A	B
ROCKY INTERTIDAL MACROBIOTA		
Acorn barnacles		
Chlorophyta		
Porphyra spp.		
Pelvetiopsis limitata		
Endocladia muricata		
Pelvetia fastigiata		
Fucus distichus		
Gigartina spp.		
Pollicipes polymerus		
Mytilus californianus		
Corallina spp./Gigartina spp.		
Postelsia palmaeformis		
Halosaccion glandiforme		
Iridaea spp.		
Odonthalia spp./Rhodomela larix		
Coralline algae		
Phyllospadix spp.		
Alaria marginata		
Egregia menziesii		
Laminaria spp.		
Lessoniopsis littoralis		
OTHER MACROBIOTA		
Kelp beds:		
Macrocystis spp.		
Nereocystis luetkeana		
Marine mammals:		
Elephant seal		
Harbor seal		
Steller sea lion		
California sea lion		
Seabird nesting colonies:		
Fork-tailed storm petrel		
Leach's storm petrel		
Ashy storm petrel		
Brandt's cormorant		
Double-crested cormorant		
Pelagic cormorant		
Black oystercatcher		
Western gull		
Common murre		
Pigeon guillemot		
Cassin's auklet		
Rhinoceros auklet		
Tufted puffin		
Threatened/Endangered Species:		
Aleutian Canada goose		
Southern sea otter	C	C

*Relative abundance for summer conditions: 0 = occasional, C = common, A = abundant

PHYSICAL SHORE-ZONE CHARACTERISTICS

UNIT IDENTIFIERS	A	B
ALONGSHORE LENGTH (km)	14.0	0.2
ACROSS-SHORE WIDTH (m)	100-200	100-200
WAVE EXPOSURE	10	1-10
ACROSS-SHORE COMPONENTS (morphology, texture)	D1,Cs Bb,Cs Bf,Cs Bt,Cs	Ee,Cs Ie,Cs
Primary		
Secondary		
MICRO RELIEF	S	-
MACRO RELIEF	S	-
SUMMARY CHARACTERISTICS	bs	Ie
OIL RESIDENCE INDEX	2	1-2
GROUND TRUTH	3,4	0

ABBREVIATED PHYSICAL SHORE-ZONE CODING EXPLANATION

This is an abbreviated legend for the physical shore-zone coding sheets; consult the main text for a complete discussion of codes and rationale. Only the across-shore descriptors for morphology and texture are discussed.

ACROSS-SHORE COMPONENTS - dominant morphologic and textural character of each across-shore component, described in a landward to seaward sequence. Each component consists of a geomorphic form descriptor and a substrate descriptor:
FORM = Bb, Csg + TEXTURE

The primary geomorphic forms are initially described by a series of 12 codes:

A Anthropogenic	E Coastal Bay, Lagoon, Estuary	P Platform
B Beach	I Inlet	R River
C Cliff	M Marsh	S Bar/Trough
D Dune	O Offshore Rocks	T Delta

Each of these groups is then further modified by codes as indicated below.

Anthropogenic (A)	e causeway	j jetty	m marina	t trench
	f float	g groin	r boat ramp	s seawall
				w wharf
Beach (B)	b berm	i inclined slope	s storm ridge	
	c washover channel	m multiple intertidal bars	t low-tide terrace	
	f beach face	r single intertidal bar	w washover	
Cliff (C)	a active or erosional	p passive	c caves present	
Dune (D)	b blowout	f foredune	s ridge and swale	
	d stabilized	r random form	l longitudinal	
Coastal Bay, Lagoon, Estuary (E)	b enclosed bay	e estuary		
Inlet (I)	e ephemeral	a opening fixed by offshore structures		
	s stable	f flood-tidal delta	l ebb-tidal delta	
Marsh (M)	c tidal creek			
Offshore Rocks (O)	e intertidal reef	s sea stack		
	r rock outcrop (>2 m above M.S.L. and <10 m in width or length)			

Platform (P)	h high-tide platform	f horizontal	t terraced
	l low-tide platform	r ramp	i irregular
River (R)	b braided	m multiple	s single channel
Bar/Trough (S)	subtidal	r with rip channels	
Delta (T)	c channel	m multiple channels	p delta plain
	f fan	s single channel	v crevasse
	l levee		

Substrate type or sediment texture are described in detail by a series of codes. The sediments or materials of the shore are initially coded into one of four groups:

A anthropogenic materials	C clastic sediments
B biogenic sediments	R bedrock

Each of these groups is then further modified by texture or composition as indicated below.

Anthropogenic materials (A)	a metal	n concrete (solid)	w bark or wood debris
	d debris, rubble	t logs	
	e concrete (individually formed)	u wood (structural; e.g., pilings or boards)	
Biogenic sediments (B)	l trees or wood particles	o organic litter	
	s shell hash (with a texture as described below)		
Clastic sediments (C)	b boulder	s sand	m mud
	c cobble	# silt	g gravel
	p pebble	f clay	r rubble
Bedrock (R)	i igneous	m metamorphic	s sedimentary

Where more than one texture is present in an across-shore component, several substrates or textures may be indicated. Where one texture physically overlies another, it is indicated by a slash (e.g., Cg/Rs, and over rock). Where several mutually exclusive textures occur within a component, such as rock outcrops within a sand beach, a colon is used to indicate that association (e.g., Cg:R1).

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