

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	

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

PHYSICAL SHORE-ZONE CHARACTERISTICS

UNIT IDENTIFIERS	A	B
ALONGSHORE LENGTH (km)	9.0	0.1
ACROSS-SHORE WIDTH (m)	50-100	-
WAVE EXPOSURE	10	1-10
ACROSS-SHORE COMPONENTS (morphology, texture)	Cp, Cs Bs, Cg Bb, Csp Bf, Cs Bt, Cs	Rs, Cs Ie, Cs Bt, Cs
Primary	Ca, Csg	
Secondary	Bi, Cg Bf, Csp Bt, Cs	
MICRO RELIEF	S	-
MACRO RELIEF	S	-
SUMMARY CHARACTERISTICS	bs	Ie
OIL RESIDENCE INDEX	2	1
GROUND TRUTH	0,4	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 + Bh, 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
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Dune (D)

b blowout	f foredune	n ridge and swale
d stabilized	r random form	l longitudinal

Coastal Bay, Lagoon, Estuary (E)

b enclosed bay	e estuary
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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
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Bar/Trough (S)

subtidal	r with rip channels
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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	l silt	g gravel
p pebble	cl clay	r rubble

Bedrock (R)

I igneous	m metamorphic	s sedimentary
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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., Cs/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., Cs:Rl).

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