

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

## RELATIVE ABUNDANCE OF MAJOR MACROBIOTA\*

Taxa	
ROCKY INTERTIDAL MACROBIOTA	A
Acorn barnacles	0
Chlorophyta	0-C
Porphyra spp.	0-C
Pelvetiopsis limitata	0-C
Endocladia muricata	C
Pelvetia fastigiata	
Fucus distichus	0-C
Gigartina spp.	C
Pollicipes polymerus	C
Mytilus californianus	C
Corallina spp./Gigartina spp.	0-C
Postelsia palmaeformis	C
Halosaccion glandiforme	0-C
Iridaea spp.	C
Odonthalia spp./Rhodomela larix	0-C
Coralline algae	C
Phyllospadix spp.	C
Alaria marginata	C
Egregia menziesii	C
Laminaria spp.	C
Lessoniopsis littoralis	C
OTHER MACROBIOTA	
Kelp beds:	
Macrocystis spp.	0
Nereocystis luetkeana	C
Marine mammals:	
Elephant seal	
Harbor seal	0-A
Steller sea lion	0-A
California sea lion	0-A
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	

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

## PHYSICAL SHORE-ZONE CHARACTERISTICS

UNIT IDENTIFIERS	A
ALONGSHORE LENGTH (km)	2.7
ACROSS-SHORE WIDTH (m)	5-30
WAVE EXPOSURE	10
ACROSS-SHORE COMPONENTS (morphology, texture)	Ca, Rs Pi, Crb Rs Ore, Rs
Primary	Ca, Rs
Secondary	Bi, Cr: Rs Bi, Ccbs: Rs Ore, Rs
MICRO RELIEF	R
MACRO RELIEF	R
SUMMARY CHARACTERISTICS	Rb'mvO
OIL RESIDENCE INDEX	3
GROUND TRUTH	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, Csp ← 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.

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

<b>Platform (P)</b>			
h high-tide platform	f horizontal	t terraced	
l low-tide platform	r ramp	i irregular	
<b>River (R)</b>			
b braided	m multiple	s single channel	
<b>Bar/Trough (S)</b>	subtidal	r with rip channels	
<b>Delta (T)</b>			
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	
<b>Anthropogenic materials (A)</b>		
a metal	n concrete (solid)	w bark or wood debris
d debris, rubble	l logs	
e concrete (individually formed)	u wood (structural; e.g., pilings or boards)	
<b>Biogenic sediments (B)</b>		
l trees or wood particles	a organic litter	
s shell hash (with a texture as described below)		
<b>Clastic sediments (C)</b>		
b boulder	s sand	m mud
c cobble	sl silt	g gravel
p pebble	f clay	r rubble
<b>Bedrock (R)</b>		
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., 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:Ri).

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