



Inventorying Benthic Habitats for Well-Managed Marine Ecosystems

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NOAA Satellite and Information Service | National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI)



Benthic Habitat Inventories

*What benthic habitat types exist?
Where is it and how much?*

**Where marine life exists now, and why
Predict where it may exist in the future**

*Species-habitat interactions
Predictive modeling*

Set conservation targets

*Marine protected area boundaries
Fisheries management*

**Where to site infrastructure and extract
resources**

*Wind farms
Aquaculture
Sediment mining*

What is CMECS?

The Coastal and Marine Ecological Classification Standard (CMECS)

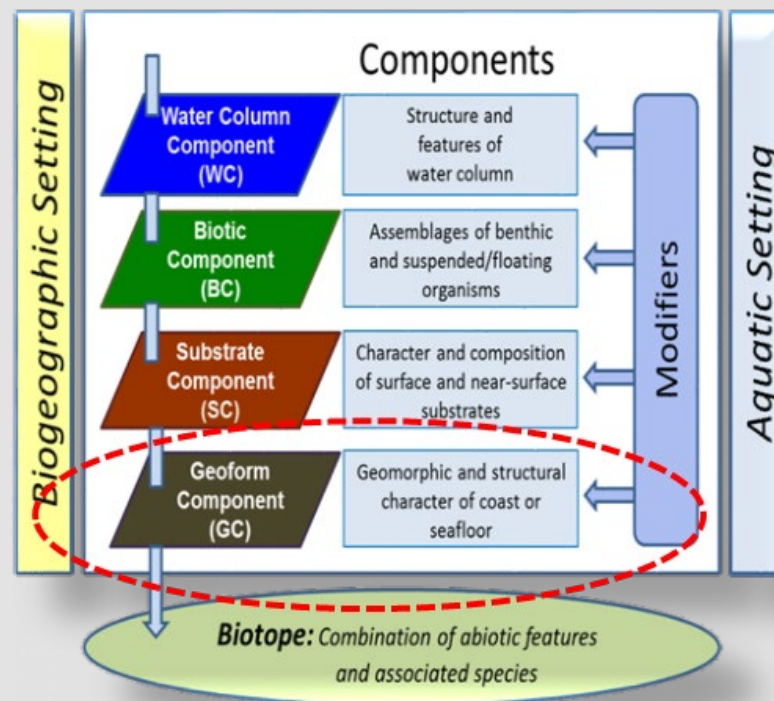
A catalog of terms and definitions used to interpret and classify marine ecological data using a simple, common terminology

A framework for organizing marine observational data to describe benthic habitat units

More Information

<https://iocm.noaa.gov/standards/cmecs-home.html>

<https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/products/coastal-marine-ecological-classification-standard>



FGDC (Federal Geographic Data Committee) 2012. FGDC-STD-018-2012. Coastal and Marine Ecological Classification Standard. Reston, VA. Federal Geographic Data Committee. <https://repository.library.noaa.gov/view/noaa/27552>



Dashboard Demonstration

Switch to live demo/recording