

Appendix 5.2.2 – Biotope description

SS.SSa.CMuSa.AalbNuc

Abra alba and *Nucula nitidosa* in circalittoral muddy sand or slightly mixed sediment

Biotope description

Non-cohesive muddy sands or slightly shelly/gravelly muddy sand characterised by the bivalves *Abra alba* and *Nucula nitidosa*. Other important taxa include *Nephtys* spp., *Chaetozone setosa* and *Spiophanes bombyx* with *Fabulina fabula* also common in many areas. The echinoderms *Ophiura albida* and *Asterias rubens* may also be present. The epibiotic biotope EcorEns may overlap this biotope. This biotope is part of the *Abra* community defined by Thorson (1957) and the infralittoral etage described by Glémarec (1973).

Situation

No situation data available.

Temporal variation

Numbers of adult *Abra alba* can exceed 1000 m²

Characterising Species				
Taxa	Frequency	Typical Abundance	% Contribution to similarity	Abundance (no. ²)
<i>Echiurus echiurus</i>		P		
<i>Goniada maculata</i>	●●●	P	1	9
<i>Nephtys</i>	●●●●●	C	5	55
<i>Nephtys hombergii</i>				
<i>Scoloplos armiger</i>	●●●●	P	2	20
<i>Spiophanes bombyx</i>	●●●●	F	6	47
<i>Chaetozone setosa</i>	●●●●	C	6	78
<i>Scalibregma inflatum</i>	●●●	P	1	31
<i>Owenia fusiformis</i>	●●●	P	1	13
<i>Lanice conchilega</i>	●●●●	O	39	
<i>Lanice conchilega</i>	●●●	P	1	14
<i>Nucula nitidosa</i>	●●●●●	F	16	122
<i>Solenidae</i>	●●	S	3	53
<i>Fabulina fabula</i>	●●●●	C	10	87
<i>Abra alba</i>	●●●●●	A	21	513
<i>Abra prismatica</i>	●●●	F	2	22
<i>Asterias rubens</i>	●●●●	O	41	
<i>Ophiura albida</i>	●●●●	R	20	
<i>Ophiura albida</i>	●●●	A	2	41

