

***Ostrea edulis* beds**

EUNIS Code: A5.435

National Marine Habitat Classification for UK & Ireland code: SS.SMx.IMx.Ost

Beds of the oyster *Ostrea edulis* occurring at densities of 5 or more per m² on shallow mostly sheltered sediments (typically 0-10m depth, but occasionally down to 30m). There may be considerable quantities of dead oyster shell making up a substantial portion of the substratum. The clumps of dead shells and oysters can support large numbers of the ascidians *Asciella aspersa* and *Asciella scabra*. Several conspicuously large polychaetes, such as *Chaetopterus variopedatus* and terebellids, may be present as well as additional suspension-feeding polychaetes such as *Myxicola infundibulum*, *Sabella pavonina* and *Lanice conchilega*. A turf of seaweeds such as *Plocamium cartilagineum*, *Nitophyllum punctatum* and *Spyridia filamentosa* may also be present (Connor *et al*, 2004).

See OSPAR Agreement 2008-07 for references