

**LISMaRC Phase II Epifauna Shallow Suction Sample Locations and Taxa and Biogenic Feature Abundance in the Long Island Sound Cable Fund Initiative Phase II area of eastern Long Island Sound Collected during Wet Diving Operations (2017-18)**

**METADATA**

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**Dataset Title:** LISMaRC Phase II Epifauna Shallow Suction Sample Locations and Taxa and Biogenic Feature Abundance in the Long Island Sound Cable Fund Initiative Phase II area of eastern Long Island Sound Collected during Wet Diving Operations (2017-18)

Filename:

*LISMaRC\_BenthicEcology\_2017\_18\_EpifaunaWetDivingSuctionSamples\_EcolCharacterization.xlsx*

**Online Linkage:** <http://www.marine-geo.org/portals/lis/>

**Abstract:** The XLS file includes record of analyzed suction samples collected during wet diving operations during 2017 and 2018. Data includes sample location, date, taxa, and abundance of collected organisms, and file names of the orthogonal images associated with the specific samples. These are the complete records of each analyzed suction sample.

**Dataset purpose:** This data was used to assess the efficacy of using orthogonal imagery to characterize benthic emergent and epifauna.

**Time period of content:** *{cruise or sampling dates/ranges with month & year}* Samples were collected between August 2017 and August 2018 during 1-day trips to wet diving sample locations. RV Osprey and RV Zostera were used during these sample trips.

**Dataset Status:** complete

**Update Frequency:** planned

**Theme Keywords:** Eastern Long Island Sound, Phase II Area, wet diving, suction samples, epifauna, emergent fauna, algae, seafloor habitat, University of Connecticut, UConn

**Access Constraints:** none

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Users are strongly encouraged to contact the original investigators responsible for data made available on this site. Where appropriate, researchers are also encouraged to consider collaboration and/or co-authorship with original investigators.

Data should not be used for navigation purposes.

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**Data Quality Considerations:** see below

**Attribute accuracy:** Data reports presence or abundance of organisms collected from the surface of a 0.5 m<sup>2</sup> area of seafloor. Collected samples were analyzed in full and accurately represent the organisms at that location.

**Completeness:** Each sample record reports the complete results of analysis, sample location, sample date, and orthogonal images associated with the suction sample.

**Positional accuracy:**

Horizontal Positional Accuracy: Position was recorded manually from the location of the attending research vessel at the commencement of the dive. Both the RV Osprey and RV Zostera use Garmin GPSMAP systems, with reported positional accuracy between 5 and 15 lateral m. This position was then applied to each image and suction sample collected, providing a general location.

**Process Steps:** Samples were collected via suction sampling. Suction sampling consisted of collecting epifauna within a 0.5m<sup>2</sup> quadrat area using a compressed air suction sampler. Samples were collected in sealable 0.5mm mesh bags connected to the suction sampler then transferred to storage containers and preserved in 70% EtOH for later processing. The 0.5m<sup>2</sup> area selected for suction sampling was imaged prior to and following collection. Samples were sorted and collected organisms were identified to the lowest possible taxa. When possible, taxa abundance was determined; when this was not possible, taxa presence was reported.

**Attributes:**

**SAMPLE\_ID:** Unique identifier of suction sample; formatted as *[Date (ISO 8601)]\_ [Sample Site ID]\_S\_ [Sample Container Identifier]*.

IMAGES\_ASSOCIATED: Unique identifier of images of the 0.5m<sup>2</sup> area sampled.

YEAR: Year of image capture; formatted as integer value [2017-2018].

DATE\_ISO8601: Date of image capture; formatted in ISO 8601 standard.

LONGITUDE: Longitude of sample site; formatted in decimal degrees; World Geodetic System 1984 datum.

LATITUDE: Latitude of sample site; formatted in decimal degrees; World Geodetic System 1984 datum.

SAMPLE\_AREA: Sample block or site of wet diving sample location.

NEAR\_SAMPLE\_AREA: Sample blocks or sites nearest wet diving sample location.

DIVE\_SITE\_ID: Unique Identifier of image capture location [SD01-SD12].

DIVE\_SITE: Text identifier of image capture location.

Identified Taxa and Biogenic Features (individually listed in dataset): Organisms identified to lowest possible taxonomic level and biogenic features; abundance of taxa were reported formatted as integer values; presence of taxa were reported as present [“present”] or absent [0] formatted as text.

**Metadata reference:** *{minimally: Name, org, phone/email}* Ivar G. Babb, Department of Marine Sciences, University of Connecticut, 860-405-9123, [babb@uconn.edu](mailto:babb@uconn.edu)