Data Dictionary for Habitat Types in the SECAT Analysis Data Tables

The table below describes the attributes (data rows) for the habitat types in the Seafloor Elevation Change Analysis Tool (SECAT) analyses presented in this report. The metadata for the stability data are not complete if they are not distributed with this document. Attribute definitions were defined by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) during a habitat inventory study that developed habitat maps in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Definitions are sourced from the report published alongside the habitat shapefile at https://products.coastalscience.noaa.gov/collections/benthic/e95usvi_pr/. The Unclassified habitat type is defined by the USGS.

Attribute_Label	Attribute_Definition
Total Study Site	Entire study site area, not parsed by individual habitat.
Colonized pavement	Flat, low-relief, solid carbonate rock with coverage of macroalgae, hard coral, gorgonians, and other sessile invertebrates that are dense enough to partially obscure the underlying rock.
Colonized pavement with sand channels	Habitat having alternating sand and colonized pavement formations that are oriented perpendicular to the shore or bank/shelf escarpment. The sand channels of this feature have low vertical relief compared to spur and groove formations. This habitat type occurs in areas exposed to moderate wave surge such as that found in the bank/shelf zone.
Linear reef	Linear coral formations that are oriented parallel to shore or the shelf edge. These features follow the contours of the shore/shelf edge. This category is used for such commonly used terms as fore reef, fringing reef, and shelf edge reef.
Macroalgae	An area with 10 percent or greater coverage of any combination of numerous species of red, green, or brown macroalgae. Usually occurs in deeper waters on the bank/shelf zone.
Patch reef aggregated	Clustered patch reefs that individually are too small (smaller than the minimum mapping unit (MMU)) or are too close together to map separately. Where aggregate patch reefs share halos, the halo is included in the polygon.
Patch reef individual	Distinctive single patch reefs that are equal to or larger than the MMU. When patch reefs occur in submerged vegetation and a halo is present, the halo is included with the patch reef polygon.
Reef rubble	Dead, unstable coral rubble often colonized with filamentous or other macroalgae. This habitat often occurs landward of well developed reef formations in the reef crest or back reef zone.
Sand	Coarse sediment typically found in areas exposed to currents or wave energy.
Scattered coral rock in unconsolidated sediment	Primarily sand or seagrass bottom with scattered rocks or small, isolated coral heads that are too small to be delineated individually (i.e., smaller than individual patch reef).
Seagrass	Habitat with 10 percent or more cover of *Thalassia testudinum, Syringodium filiforme, Halodule wrightii, Halophila baillonis*, or some combination thereof.
Unclassified	Benthic area not covered by the benthic habitat map published by NOAA.
Unknown	Zone uninterpretable due to turbidity, cloud cover, water depth, or other interference.