



**JNCC Report
No: 520**

**Conceptual Ecological Modelling of Shallow Sublittoral Coarse Sediment
Habitats to Inform Indicator Selection**

Appendix 1 – 13

Alexander, D., Colcombe, A., Chambers, C. & Herbert, R.J.H.

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Appendix 1 - List of Species Included in Project Scope

Please see accompanying spreadsheet for full species list and details of how this list was refined.

Alcyonidium diaphanum
Ampelisca spinipes
Anaitides maculata
Balanus crenatus
Bathyporeia pelagica
Branchiostoma lanceolatum
Caulleriella zetlandica
Chaetozone setosa
Dosinia lupinus
Echinocyamus pusillus
Echinus esculentus
Edwardsia timida
Glycera lapidum
Halcapa chrysanthellum
Hesionura elongata
Iphinoe trispinosa
Lanice conchilega
Liocarcinus
Lumbrineris
Magelona mirabilis
Mediomastus fragilis

Microphthalmus similis
Moerella
Neopentadactyla mixta
Nephtys cirrosa
Ophiura albida
Pagurus
Pecten maximus
Pomatoceros triqueter
Protodorvillea kefersteini
Protodrilus
Sabella pavonina
Sabellaria spinulosa
Scoloplos armiger
Sertularia argentea
Spio martinensis
Spiophanes bombyx
Spisula
Timoclea ovata
Travisia forbesii
Urticina felina

Appendix 2 - List of Keywords Used as Search Terms

Amphipod	Ecosystem process	Organic Carbon
Anemone	Ecosystem service	Physical driver
Barnacle	Environmental driver	Physiographic
Benthic	Environmental position	Phytoplankton
Benthic Species	Epibenthic	Predator-Prey
Interactions	Epifauna	Interactions
Benthic topography	Errant polychaete	Prey
Bio-deposition	Feeding	Primary production
Bioengineer	Feeding method	Protodrilid
Biogeochemical process	Filter feeding	Salinity
Bioirrigation	Food resource	Seabed energy
Biological composition	Food web	Seabed mobility
Biological driver	Functional group	Seasonal variability
Biotope	Geology	Secondary production
Bioturbation	Gravel	Sedentary polychaete
Bivalve	Coarse sand	Sediment
Brittlestar	Growth form	Sediment stability
Bryozoa	Habitat provision	Species trait
Burrowing	Habitat stability	Spionidae
Burrowing anemone	Hydrodynamic flow	Sublittoral
Chemical driver	Hydroids	Substratum
Cirralittoral	Infauna	Subtidal
Climate variation	Infralittoral	Suspension feeding
Coarse sediment	Interstitial	Temperature
Community	Light attenuation	Tidal stress
Connectivity	Macrofauna	Tidal stream
Crustacea	Meiofauna	Trophic level
Cumacean	Microalgae	Tube formation
Currents	Microbial activity	Turbidity
Deposit feeding	Mobile Crustacea	Urchin
Depth	Mobility	Veneroida
Dissolved oxygen	Nitrogen flux	Water composition
Driver	Nutrient cycling	
Ecosystem function	Nutrient provision	

In addition to the search words used above, each of the selected species names (Appendix 1) were also searched for individually.

[illegible]

Shallow Sublittoral Coarse Sediments

1. Regional to Global Drivers

2. Water Column Processes

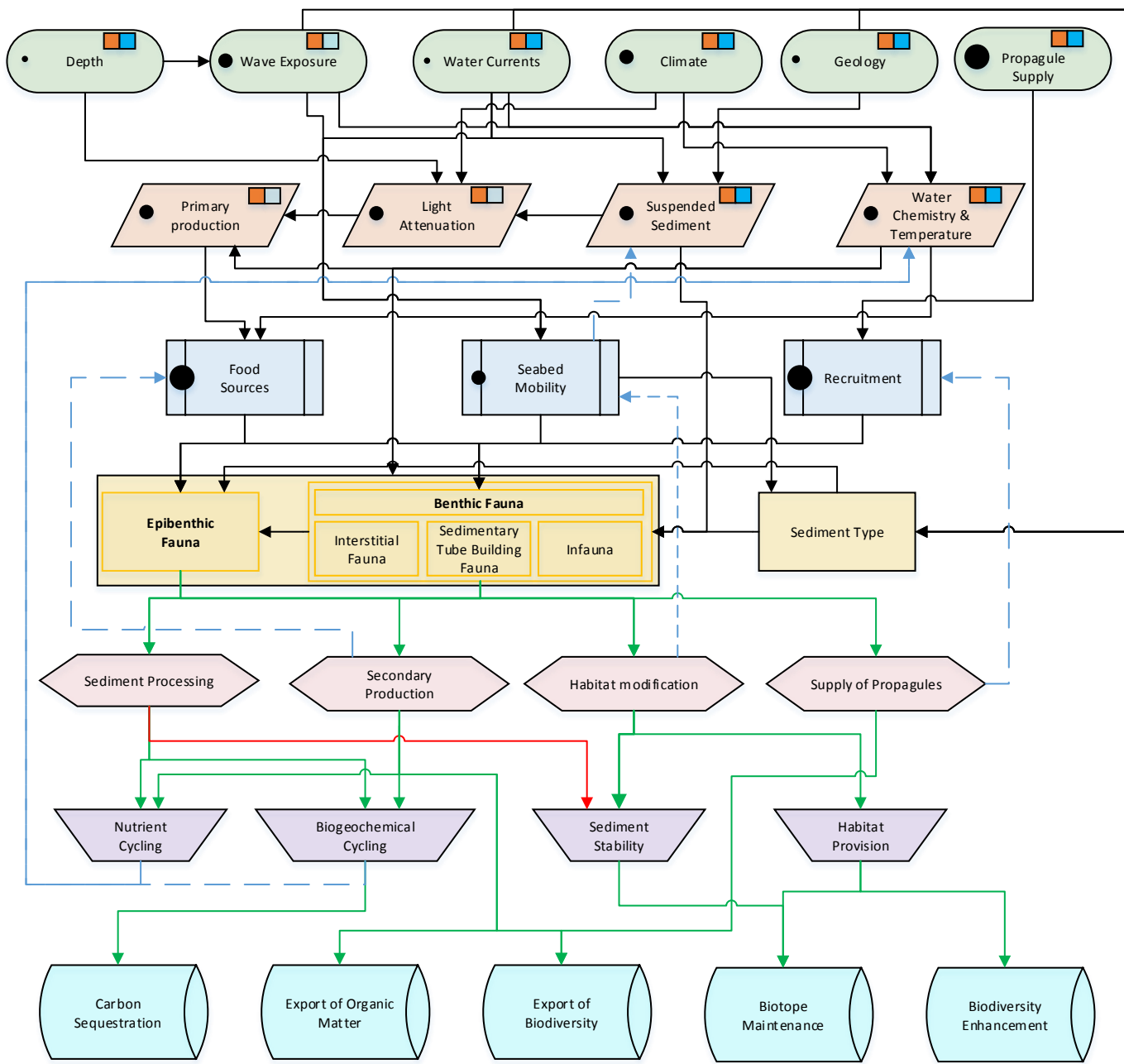
3. Local Processes/Inputs at the Seabed

4. Habitat and Biological Assemblage

5. Output Processes

6. Local Ecosystem Functions

7. Regional to Global Ecosystem Functions



Legend

Driver Relevance to Infralittoral/Circalittoral

- Low Relevance Infralittoral (orange square)
- High Relevance Infralittoral (dark orange square)
- Low Relevance Circalittoral (light blue square)
- High Relevance Circalittoral (dark blue square)

Degree of Natural Variability

- Low natural variability (small black dot)
- Moderate natural variability (medium black dot)
- High natural variability (large black dot)

Interaction Types

- Feedback (dashed blue line)
- Driving Influence (solid black line)
- Positive Interaction (green line)
- Negative Interaction (red line)

Version 1.3

Please see a accompanying report for model restrictions and limitations

Sub-model 1. Epifauna

1. Regional to Global Drivers

2. Water Column Processes

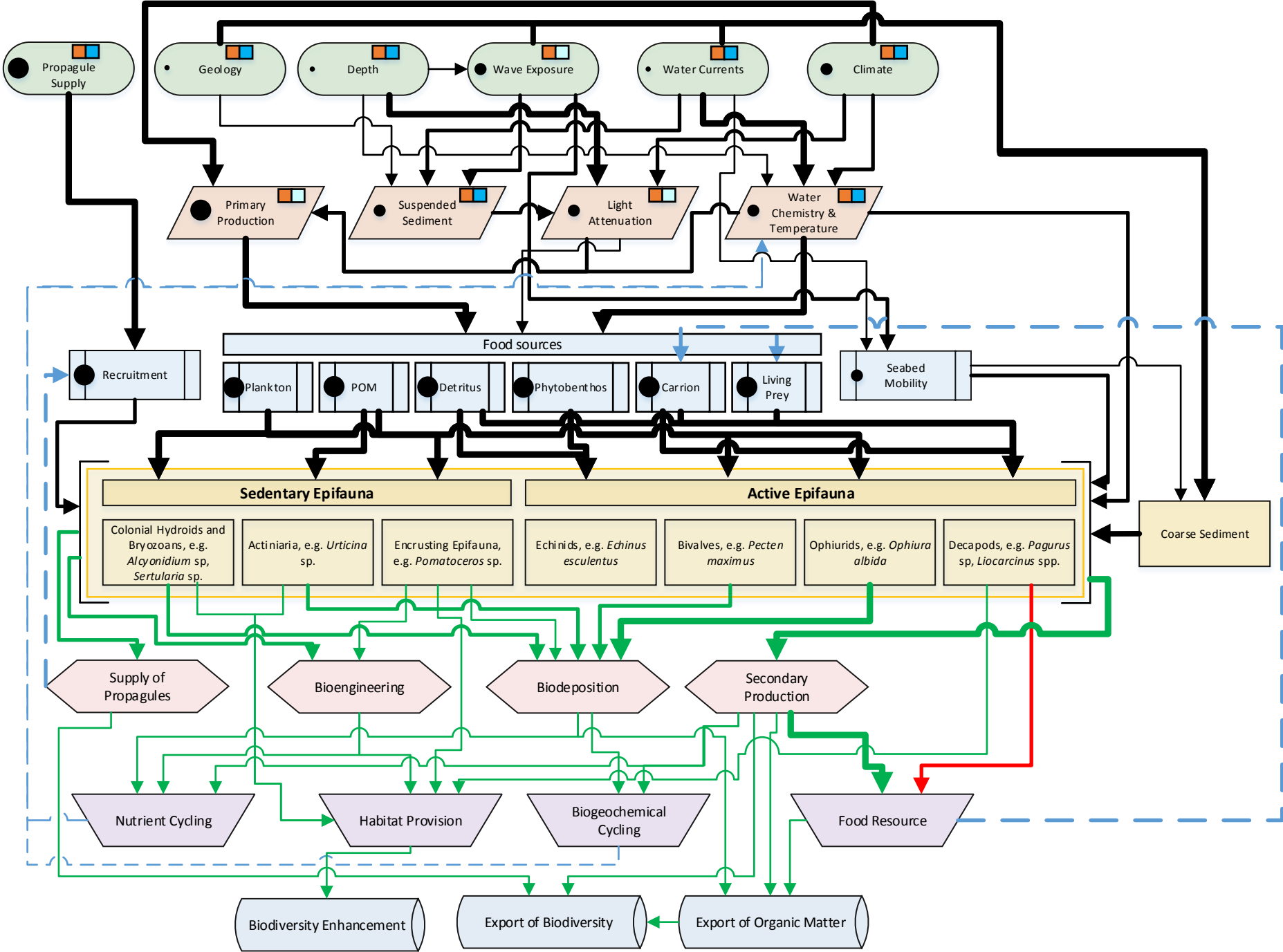
3. Local Processes/Inputs at the Seabed

4. Habitat and Biological Assemblage

5. Output Processes

6. Local Ecosystem Functions

7. Regional to Global Ecosystem Functions



Sub-model 2. Sedimentary Tube Building Fauna

1. Regional to Global Drivers

2. Water Column Processes

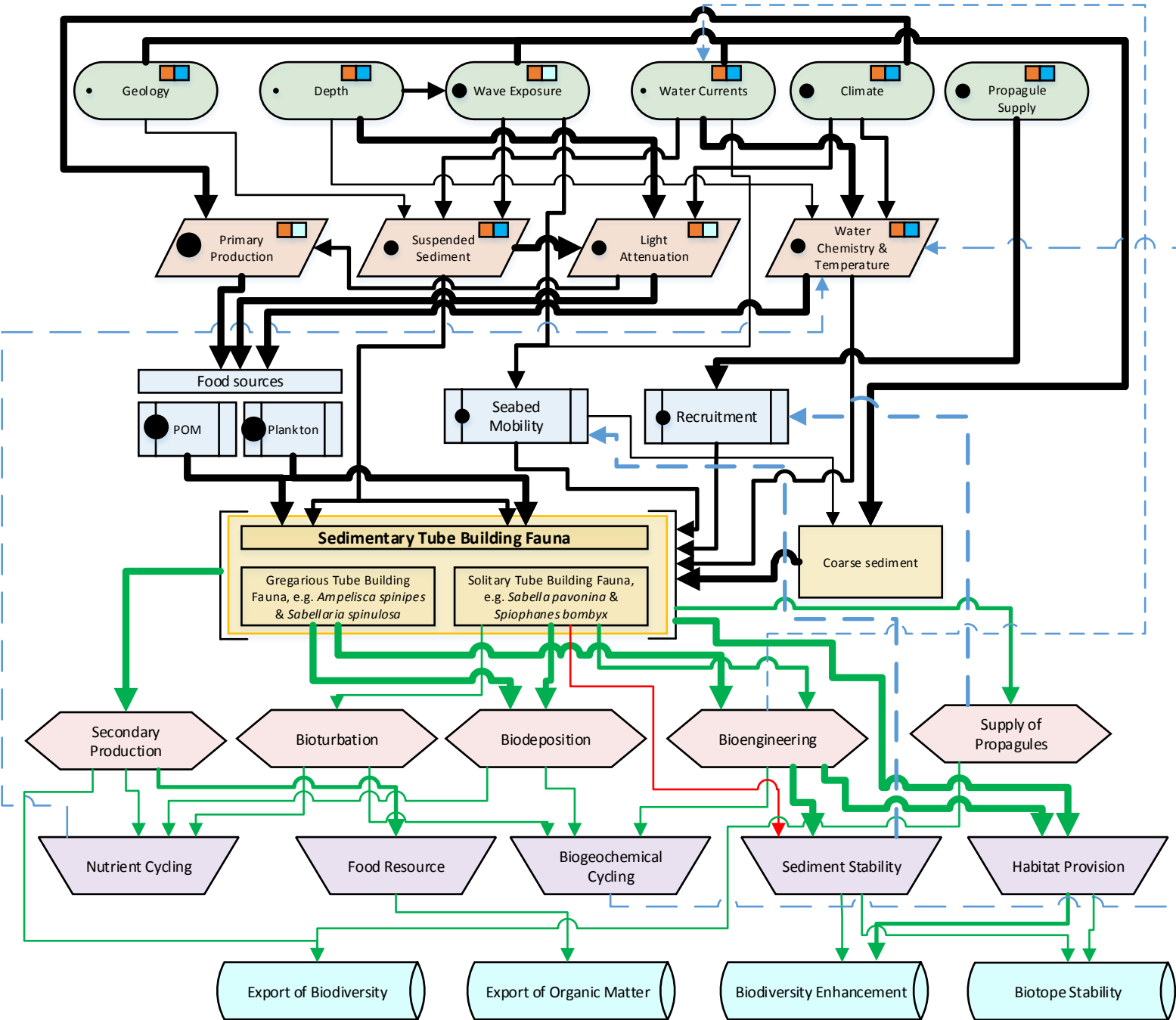
3. Local Processes/Inputs at the Seabed

4. Habitat and Biological Assemblage

5. Output Processes

6. Local Ecosystem Functions

7. Regional to Global Ecosystem Functions



Sub-model 3. Infauna

1. Regional to Global Drivers

2. Water Column Processes

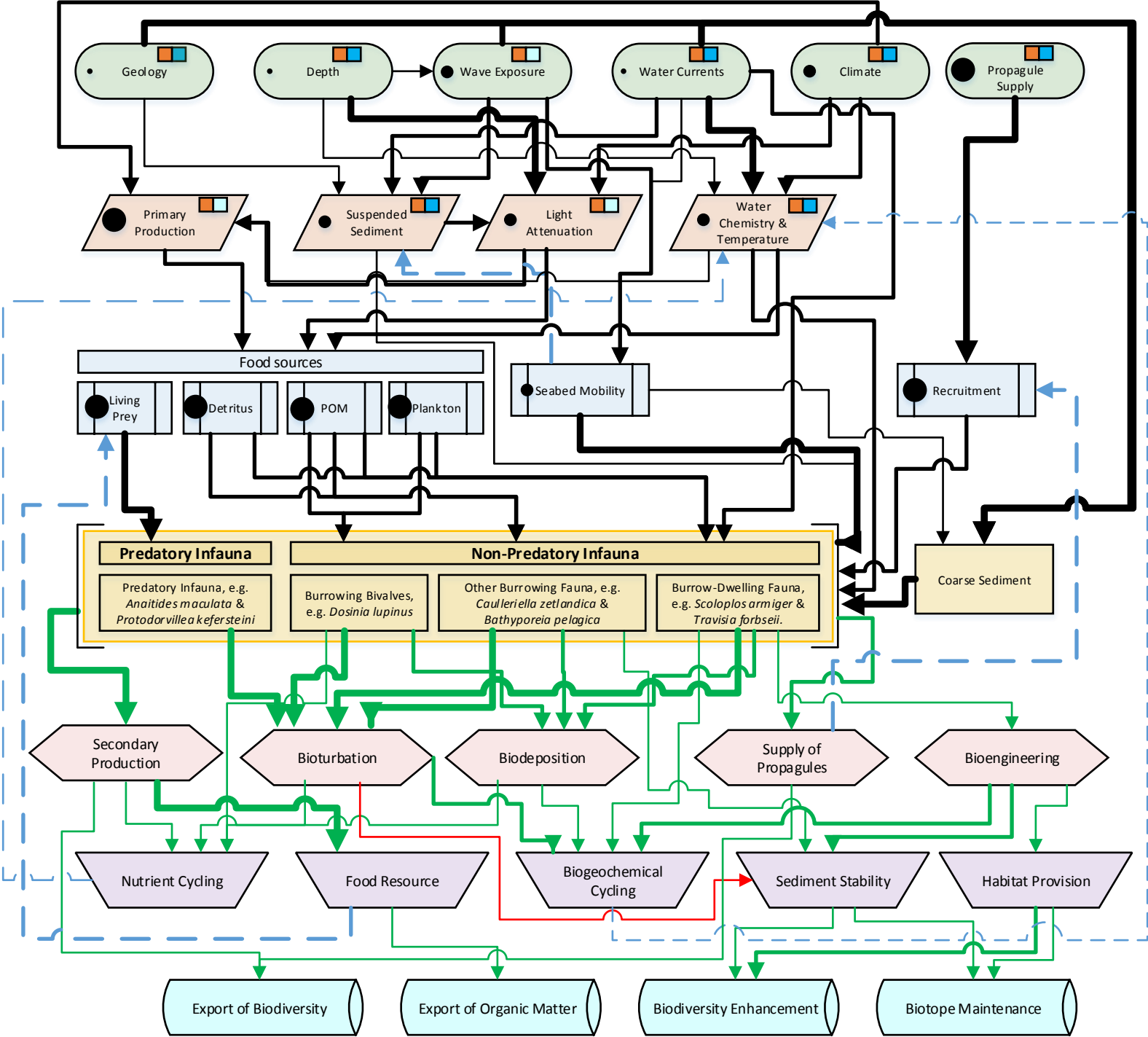
3. Local Processes/Inputs at the Seabed

4. Habitat and Biological Assemblage

5. Output Processes

6. Local Ecosystem Functions

7. Regional to Global Ecosystem Functions



Sub-model 4. Interstitial Fauna

1. Regional to Global Drivers

2. Water Column Processes

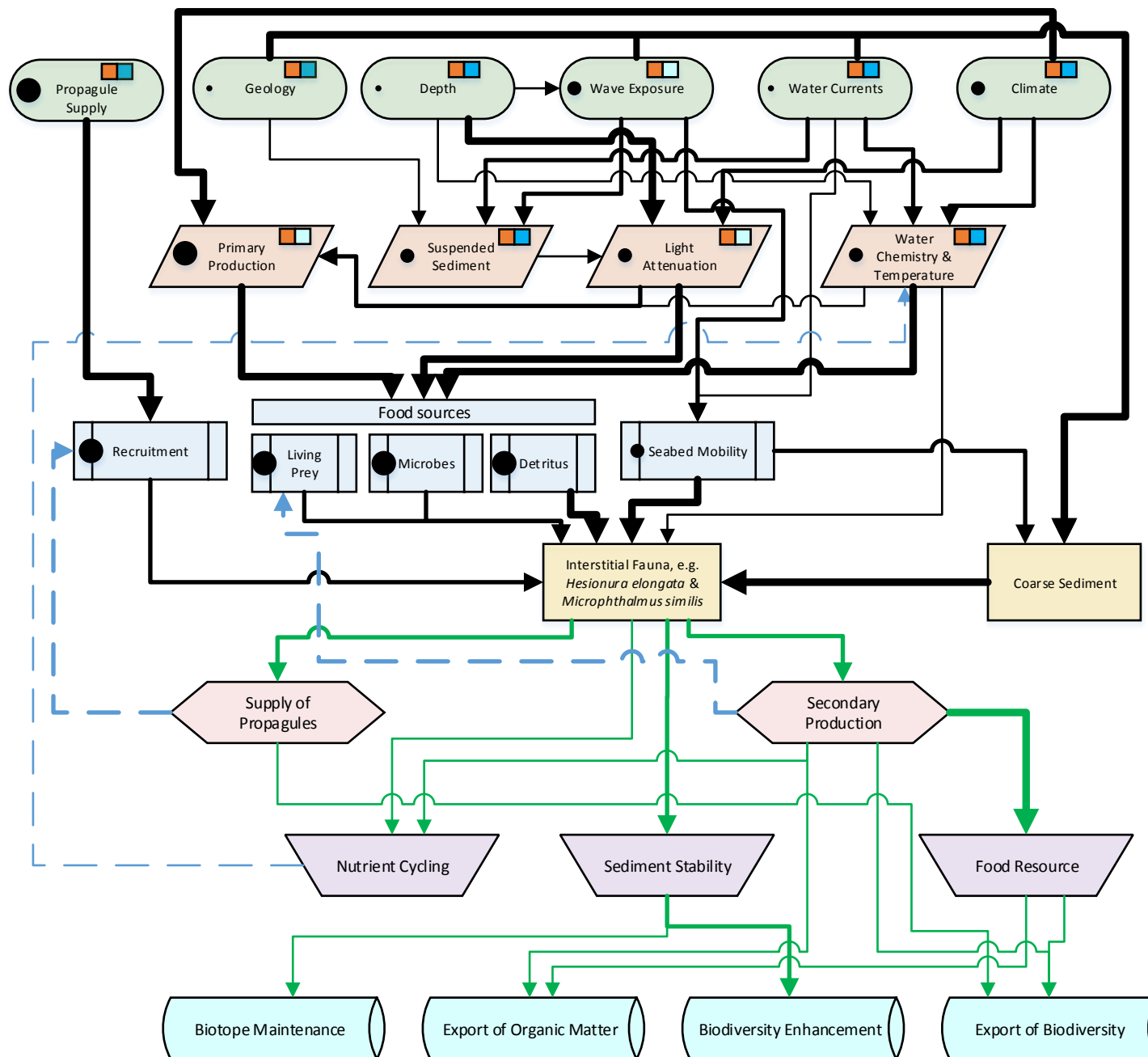
3. Local Processes/Inputs at the Seabed

4. Habitat and Biological Assemblage

5. Output Processes

6. Local Ecosystem Functions

7. Regional to Global Ecosystem Functions



Legend

Magnitude of Influence

- Small (thin line)
- Medium (medium line)
- Large (thick line)
- Driving Influence (thick black line)
- Positive Interaction (green line)
- Negative Interaction (red line)
- Feedback (dashed blue line)

Driver Relevance to Infralittoral/Circalittoral

- Low Relevance Infralittoral (light orange square)
- High Relevance Infralittoral (dark orange square)
- Low Relevance Circalittoral (light blue square)
- High Relevance Circalittoral (dark blue square)

Degree of Natural Variability

- Low natural variability (small dot)
- Moderate natural variability (medium dot)
- High natural variability (large dot)

Version 1.3

Please see a accompanying report for model restrictions and limitations

Submodel 1. Epifauna - CONFIDENCE

1. Regional to Global Drivers

2. Water Column Processes

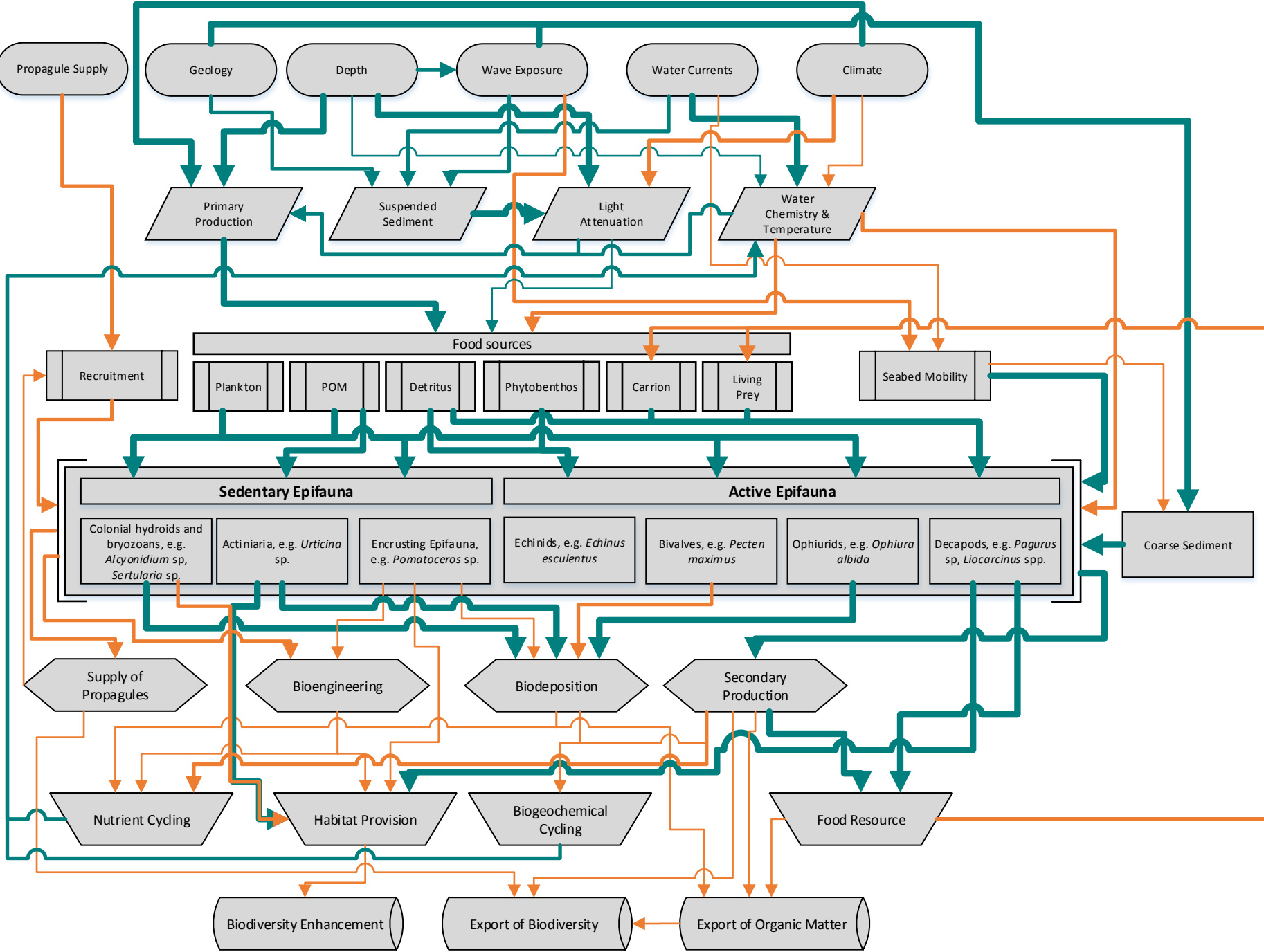
3. Local Processes/Inputs at the Seabed

4. Habitat and Biological Assemblage

5. Output Processes

6. Local Ecosystem Functions

7. Regional to Global Ecosystem Functions



Legend

- Low confidence
- Medium confidence
- High confidence
- Link informed by Literature Review
- Link informed by Expert Opinion

Version 1.3

Please see accompanying report for model restrictions and limitations

Sub-model 2. Sedimentary Tube Building Fauna - CONFIDENCE

1. Regional to Global Drivers

2. Water Column Processes

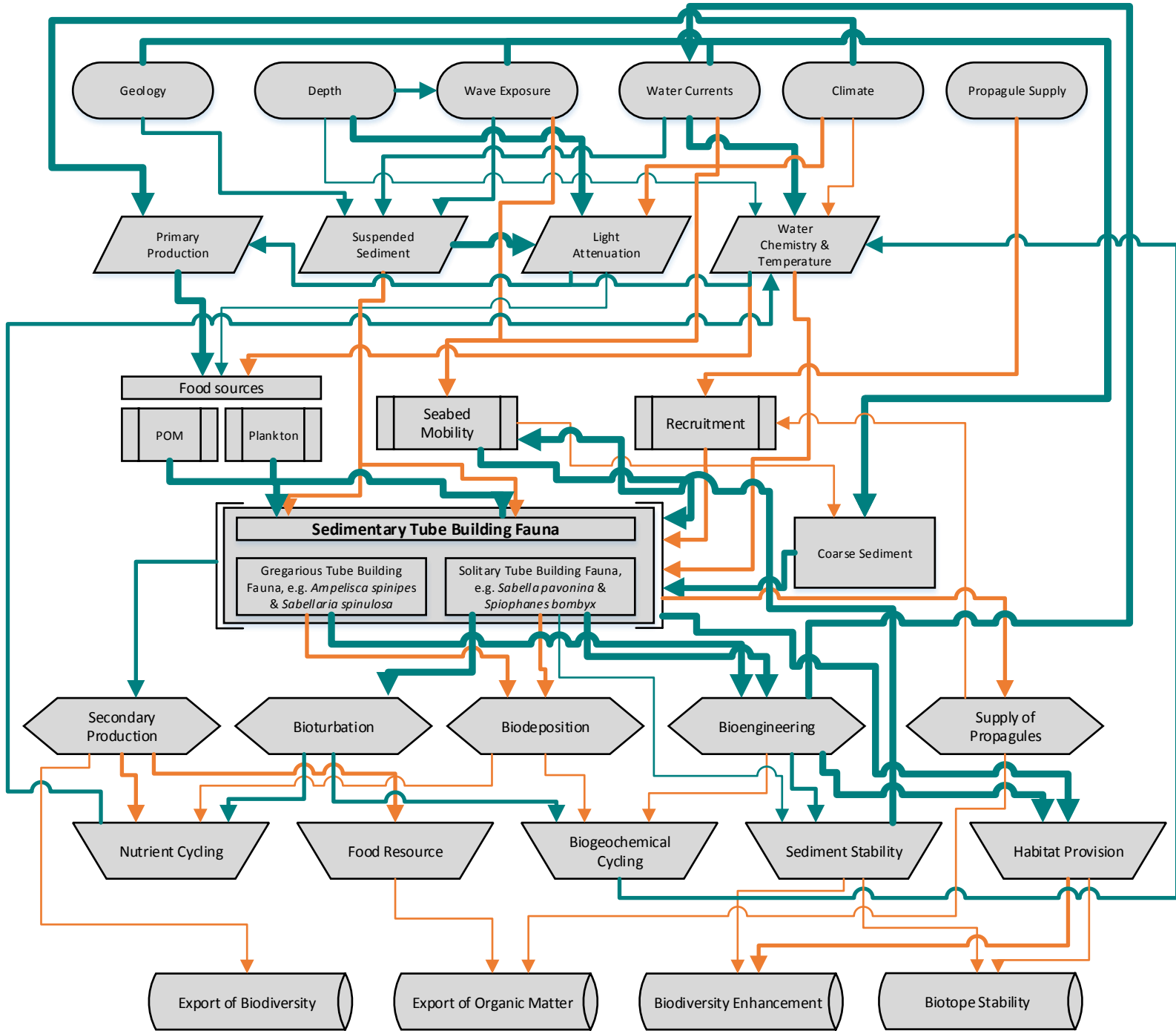
3. Local Processes/Inputs at the Seabed

4. Habitat and Biological Assemblage

5. Output Processes

6. Local Ecosystem Functions

7. Regional to Global Ecosystem Functions



Sub-model 3. Infauna - CONFIDENCE

1. Regional to Global Drivers

2. Water Column Processes

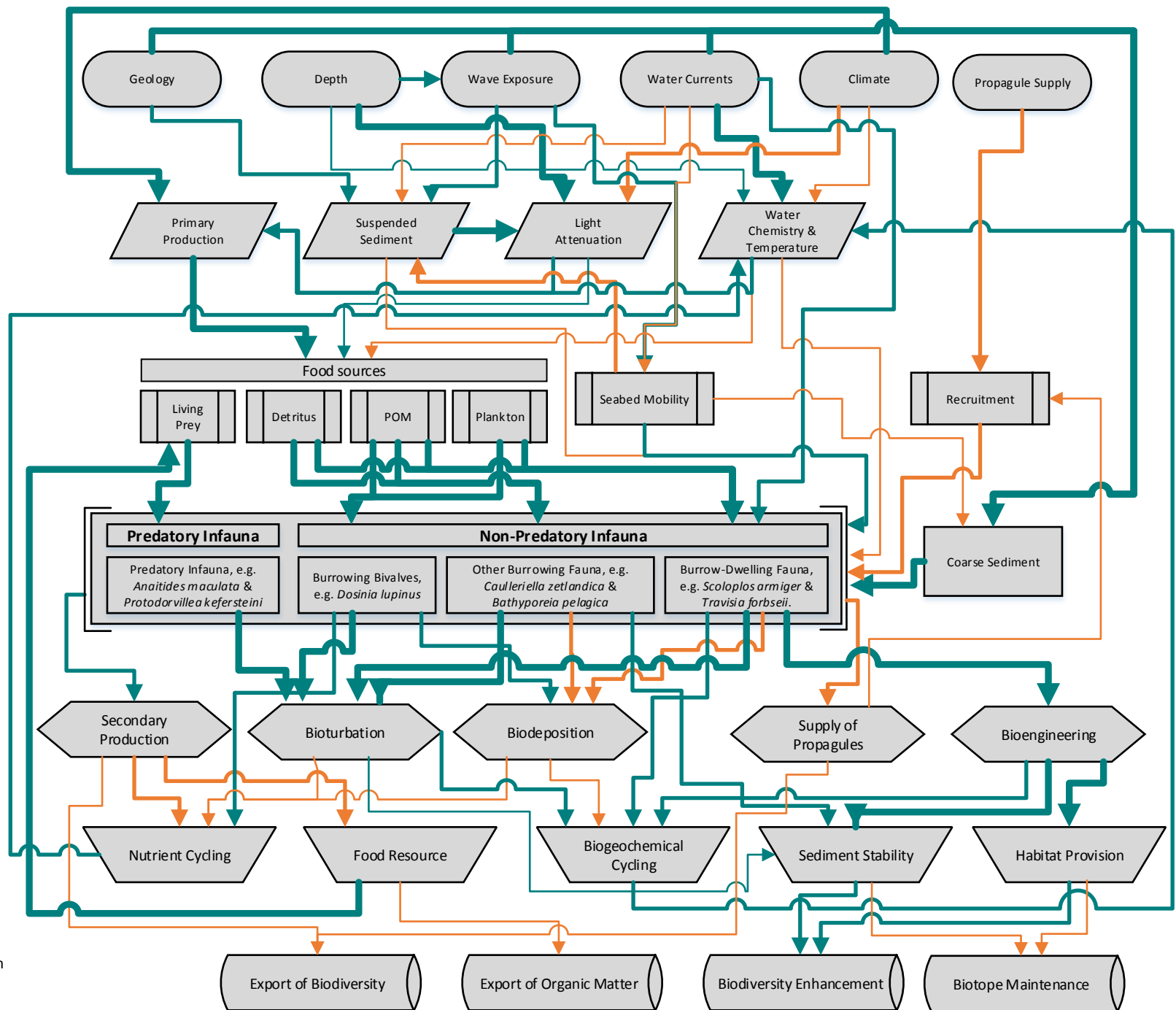
3. Local Processes/Inputs at the Seabed

4. Habitat and Biological Assemblage

5. Output Processes

6. Local Ecosystem Functions

7. Regional to Global Ecosystem Functions



Legend

- Low confidence
- Medium confidence
- High confidence
- Link informed by Literature Review
- Link informed by Expert Opinion

Version 1.3

Please see a accompanying report for model restrictions and limitations

Sub-model 4. Interstitial Fauna - CONFIDENCE

1. Regional to Global Drivers

2. Water Column Processes

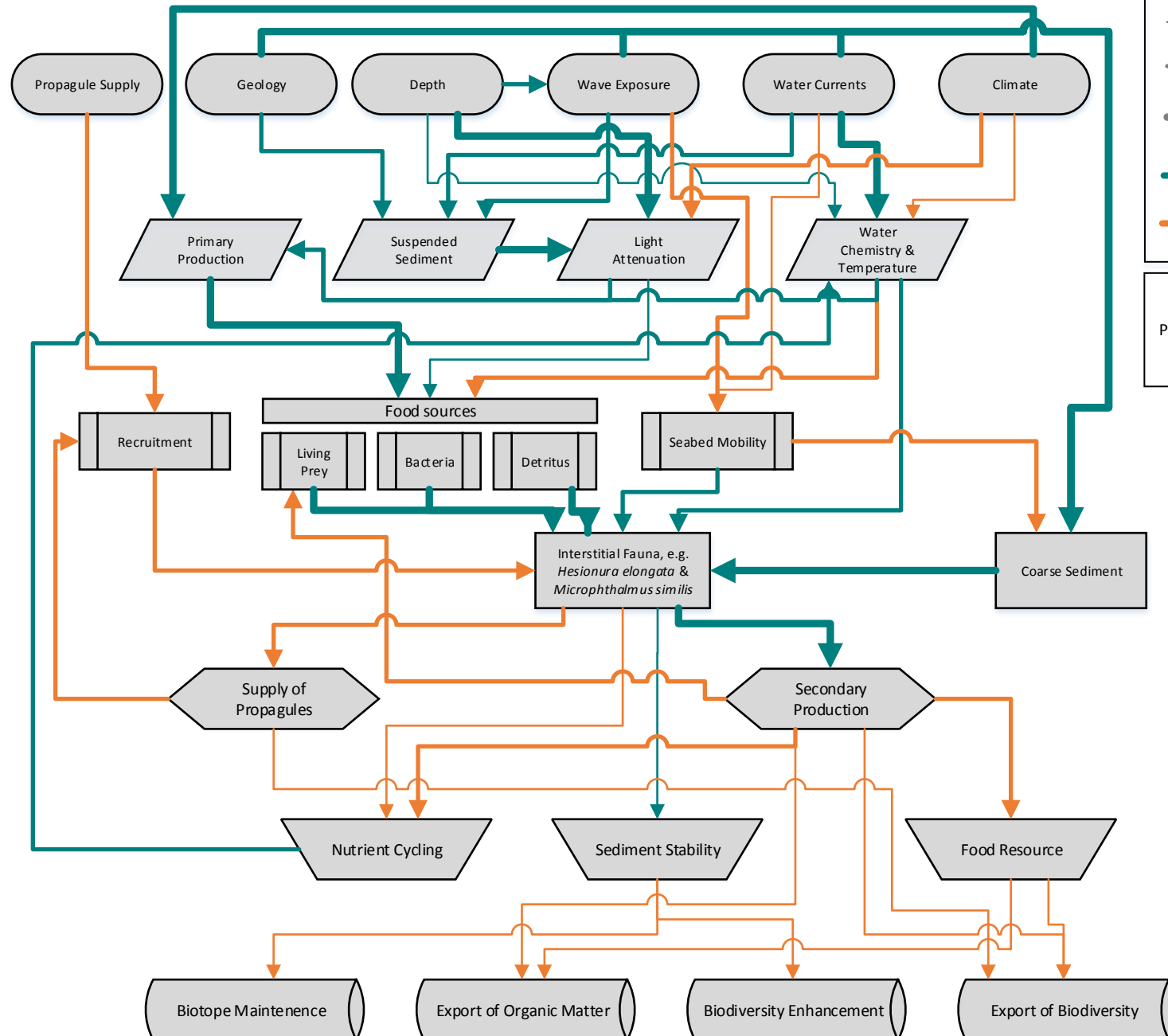
3. Local Processes/Inputs at the Seabed

4. Habitat and Biological Assemblage

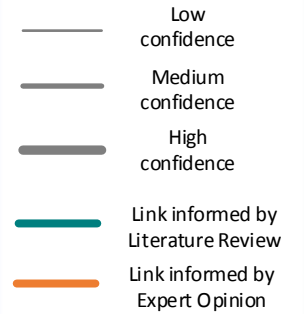
5. Output Processes

6. Local Ecosystem Functions

7. Regional to Global Ecosystem Functions



Legend



Version 1.3

Please see a accompanying report for model restrictions and limitations

Appendix 13 - Pressure Descriptions

List of anthropogenic pressures relevant to shallow sublittoral coarse sediment habitats. Pressures and descriptions are taken from the Intercessional Correspondence Group on Cumulative Effects (ICG-C; amended 25th March 2011).

Pressure theme	Pressure	Description	Benchmark (Tillin <i>et al.</i> 2010)
Physical damage (Reversible Change)	Habitat structure changes - surface abrasion	The disturbance of sediments where there is limited or no loss of substrate from the system. This pressure is associated with activities such as anchoring, taking of sediment/geological cores, cone penetration tests, cable burial (ploughing or jetting), propeller wash from vessels, certain fishing activities, e.g. scallop dredging, beam trawling. Agitation dredging, where sediments are deliberately disturbed by and by gravity and hydraulic dredging where sediments are deliberately disturbed and moved by currents could also be associated with this pressure type. Compression of sediments, e.g. from the legs of a jack-up barge could also fit into this pressure type. Abrasion relates to the damage of the sea bed surface layers (typically up to 50cm depth). Activities associated with abrasion can cover relatively large spatial areas and include: fishing with towed demersal trawls (fish and shellfish); bio-prospecting such as harvesting of biogenic features such as maerl beds where, after extraction, conditions for recolonisation remain suitable or relatively localised activities including: seaweed harvesting, recreation, potting, aquaculture. Change from gravel to silt substrate would adversely affect herring spawning grounds.	Damage to seabed surface features
Physical damage (Reversible Change)	Habitat structure changes - sub-surface abrasion		Sub seabed-surface structural damage
Physical damage (Reversible Change)	Habitat structure changes - removal of substratum (extraction)	Unlike the 'physical change' pressure type where there is a permanent change in sea bed type (e.g. sand to gravel, sediment to a hard artificial substrate) the 'habitat structure change' pressure type relates to temporary and/or reversible change, e.g. from marine mineral extraction where a proportion of seabed sands or gravels are removed but a residual layer of seabed is similar to the pre-dredge structure and as such biological communities could re-colonise; navigation dredging to maintain channels where the silts or sands removed are replaced by non-anthropogenic mechanisms so the sediment typology is not changed.	Extraction of sediment to 30cm
Biological pressures	Removal of non-target species	By-catch associated with all fishing activities. The physical effects of fishing gear on sea bed communities are addressed by the 'abrasion' pressure type so this addresses the direct removal of individuals associated with fishing/ harvesting. Ecological consequences include food web dependencies, population dynamics of fish, marine mammals, turtles and sea birds (including survival threats in extreme cases, e.g. Harbour Porpoise in Central and Eastern Baltic).	Removal of features through pursuit of a target fishery at a commercial scale
	Removal of target species	The commercial exploitation of fish and shellfish stocks, including smaller scale harvesting, angling and scientific sampling. The physical effects of fishing gear on sea bed communities are addressed by the 'abrasion' pressure type, so this addresses the direct removal / harvesting of biota. Ecological consequences include the sustainability of stocks, impacting energy flows through food webs and the size and age composition within fish stocks.	Removal of target species that are features of conservation importance or sub-features of habitats of conservation importance at a commercial scale.

Physical damage (Reversible Change)	Siltation rate changes, including smothering (depth of vertical sediment overburden)	<p>When the natural rates of siltation are altered (increased or decreased). Siltation (or sedimentation) is the settling out of silt/sediments suspended in the water column. Activities associated with this pressure type include mariculture, land claim, navigation dredging, disposal at sea, marine mineral extraction, cable and pipeline laying and various construction activities. It can result in short-lived sediment concentration gradients and the accumulation of sediments on the sea floor. This accumulation of sediments is synonymous with 'light smothering', which relates to the depth of vertical overburden. 'Light smothering' relates to the deposition of layers of sediment on the seabed. It is associated with activities such as sea disposal of dredged materials where sediments are deliberately deposited on the sea bed. For 'light smothering' most benthic biota may be able to adapt, i.e. vertically migrate through the deposited sediment.</p> <p>'Heavy smothering' also relates to the deposition of layers of sediment on the seabed but is associated with activities such as sea disposal of dredged materials where sediments are deliberately deposited on the sea bed. This accumulation of sediments relates to the depth of vertical overburden where the sediment type of the existing and deposited sediment has similar physical characteristics because, although most species of marine biota are unable to adapt, e.g. sessile organisms unable to make their way to the surface, a similar biota could, with time, re-establish.</p>	up to 30cm of fine material added to the seabed in a single event
Physical loss (Permanent Change)	Physical change (to another seabed type)	<p>The permanent change of one marine habitat type to another marine habitat type, through the change in substratum, including to artificial (e.g. concrete). This therefore involves the permanent loss of one marine habitat type but has an equal creation of a different marine habitat type. Associated activities include the installation of infrastructure (e.g. surface of platforms or wind farm foundations, marinas, coastal defences, pipelines and cables), the placement of scour protection where soft sediment habitats are replaced by hard/coarse substrate habitats, removal of coarse substrate (marine mineral extraction) in those instances where surficial finer sediments are lost, capital dredging where the residual sedimentary habitat differs structurally from the pre-dredge state, creation of artificial reefs, mariculture i.e. mussel beds. Protection of pipes and cables using rock dumping and mattressing techniques. Placement of cuttings piles from oil and gas activities could fit this pressure type, however, there may be an additional pressures, e.g. 'pollution and other chemical changes' theme. This pressure excludes navigation dredging where the depth of sediment is changes locally but the sediment typology is not changed.</p>	Permanent loss of existing saline habitat
Pollution and other chemical changes	Organic enrichment	<p>Resulting from the degraded remains of dead biota and microbiota (land and sea); faecal matter from marine animals; flocculated colloidal organic matter and the degraded remains of: sewage material, domestic wastes, industrial wastes etc. Organic matter can enter marine waters from sewage discharges, aquaculture or terrestrial/agricultural runoff. Black carbon comes from the products of incomplete combustion (PIC) of fossil fuels and vegetation. Organic enrichment may lead to eutrophication (see also nutrient enrichment). Adverse environmental effects include deoxygenation, algal blooms, changes in community structure of benthos and macrophytes.</p>	A deposit of 100gC/m ² /yr