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| **National layer attribute** | **Description** |
| Data\_BC | Title of source dataset used for biotic classification (NA if no biota data available) |
| Data\_SC | Title of source dataset used for substratum classification (NA if no substrata data available) |
| Source\_BC | Owners of source dataset used for biotic classification (NA if no biota data available) |
| Source\_SC | Owners of source dataset used for substratum classification (NA if no substrata data available) |
| Info\_BC | URL for metadata record containing information on source dataset used for biotic classification (NA if no biota data available) |
| Info\_SC | URL for metadata record containing information on source dataset used for substratum classification (NA if no substrata data available) |
| Date\_BC | Date of collection of dataset used for biotic classification (NA if no biota data available) |
| Date\_SC | Date of collection of dataset used for substratum classification (NA if no substrata data available) |
| Methods\_Br | Broadscale data collection methods e.g multibeam, aerial photography |
| Methods\_F | Finescale data collection methods e.g. underwater video, diver survey |
| MEOW\_Realm | [location] Realm – Marine Ecoregions of the World (Spalding et al. 2007)  |
| MEOW\_Prov | [location] Province – Marine Ecoregions of the World (Spalding et al. 2007)  |
| MEOW\_Eco | [location] Ecoregion – Marine Ecoregions of the World (Spalding et al. 2007)  |
| IMCRA\_Prov | [location] Province – Integrated Marine and Coastal Regionalisation of Australia (IMCRA, 2006)  |
| IMCRA\_Bio | [location] Bioregion – Integrated Marine and Coastal Regionalisation of Australia (IMCRA, 2006)  |
| AS\_System | Aquatic Setting – System. Describes the aquatic setting in terms of freshwater influence. |
| AS\_Subsys | Aquatic Setting – Subsystem. Describes the aquatic setting in terms of geomorphology or depth.  |
| AS\_TidalZ | Aquatic Setting – Tidal Zone. Describes the tidal zone. |
| AS\_BDepth | Aquatic Setting – Biotic Depth Zone. Describes the photic zone of the benthos with regard to the biota that are typically able to grow and survive in those conditions. |
| SC\_Level1 | Substratum Component – Level 1. Divides substrata based on hardness. |
| SC\_ Level2 | Substratum Component – Level 2. Divides substrata based on consolidation and broad grainsize categories. |
| SC\_ Level3 | Substratum Component – Level 3. Divides substrata based on grainsize based on Udden-Wentworth standard. |
| SC\_ Level4 | Substratum Component – Level 4. Divides substrata into fine-scale grainsize classes according to Udden-Wentworth Standard and Blair and McPherson (1999) classification. |
| SO\_ Level1 | Substratum Origin – Level 1 |
| SO\_ Level2 | Substratum Origin – Level 2 |
| SO\_ Level3 | Substratum Origin – Level 3 |
| SO\_ Level4 | Substratum Origin – Level 4 |
| BC\_ Level1 | Biotic Component – Level 1. Describes the presence or absence of biota. |
| BC\_ Level2 | Biotic Component – Level 2. Broad phylogentic groups. |
| BC\_ Level3 | Biotic Component – Level 3. Further divisions of broad phylogenetic groups. |
| BC\_ Level4 | Biotic Component – Level 4. Broad taxonomic groups. |
| BC\_Species | Biotic Component – Species. Identification of individual species. This may include morphospecies classification where species identification is not possible. |
| BC\_Co\_Occ | Biotic Component – Co-Occurring Species. Describes non-dominant biota and/or biota of particular note or importance e.g. threatened or rare species. |
| Hab\_ORIG | Original benthic habitat classification from source dataset(s) (note: where biotic and substratum classification have been derived from different datasets, this attribute contains both classifications) |
| NAT\_HAB\_CLS | Seamap Australia National Benthic Habitat Classification – the dominant habitat type assigned for spatial visualisation purposes. This is either a biotic or substratum classification at the finest level of resolution available (down to BC\_Level4 or SC\_Level4). Where both biotic and substratum information are available for a given polygon, the biotic classification is given priority (for layer styling/visualisation). |