

BBCA Metrics

Core totals metrics:

TOT = Total benthic macrophyte cover – includes drift reds (DR) but excludes animals or other non-submersed aquatic vegetation constituents (e.g. mangrove prop roots/seedlings, benthic mat algae).

TDR = Total drift red algae – after scoring, DR should be removed from quadrat sample area, taking care to not disturb the underlying macrophyte position and profile. For defining purposes, DR is any algae that is **not attached to the substrate and/or is free-living**. Epiphytic algae **should not** be counted as drift.

T-DR = Total benthic macrophyte cover after DR removal – excludes animals and other benthic constituents.

TSG = Total seagrass cover.

TMA = Total macroalgae cover – includes calcareous green algae, fleshy green algae, red algae (fleshy and coralline), and brown algae. **Excludes DR and epiphytic algae.**

TCAL = Total calcareous green algae – includes *Penicillus*, *Halimeda*, *Udotea*, *Rhipocephalus*, *Acetabularia*, and *Neomeris* (rare species that is not included on BB sheet).

TGO = Total green other algae – includes *Caulerpa*, *Batophora*, *Dasycladus*, *Avrainvillea*, *Chara*, etc.

TRO = Total red other algae – includes *Laurencia*, coralline reds, etc. **Excludes DR and epiphytic algae.**

TBR = Total brown algae – includes *Dictyota*, *Sargassum*, etc.

Seagrass, algae, and rare species metrics:

TT = *Thalassia testudinum* – receives a score when present.

HW = *Halodule wrightii* – receives a score when present.

SF = *Syringodium filiforme* – receives a score when present.

HD = *Halophila decipiens* – receives a score when present.

HE = *Halophila engelmannii* – receives a score when present.

HJ = *Halophila johnsonii* – receives a score when present.

RM = *Ruppia maritima* – receives a score when present.

PEN = *Penicillus spp.* – FHAP will score when present, DERM will note presence with check.

RHI = *Rhipocephalus spp.* – FHAP will score when present, DERM will note presence with check.

HAL = *Halimeda spp.* – FHAP will score when present, DERM will note presence with check.

UDO = *Udotea spp.* – FHAP will score when present, DERM will note presence with check.

ACE = *Acetabularia spp.* – FHAP will score when present, DERM will note presence with check.

BAT = *Batophora* – FHAP will score when present, DERM will note presence with check.
NOTE: may also be used interchangeably and/or in conjunction with to denote *Dasycladus* as well.

CA = *Caulerpa spp.* – FHAP will score when present, DERM will note presence with check.
NOTE: all pooled species present to be scored as a total.

ANA = *Anadyomene spp.* – FHAP will score when present.

SAR = *Sargassum spp.* – FHAP will score when present, DERM will note presence with check.
NOTE: all pooled species present to be scored as a total.

HC = Hard and soft coral species – pooled species (hard and soft) total will be scored when present. **NOTE:** corals are **not included** in total benthic macrophyte cover.

SP = Sponge species – pooled species total will be scored when present. **NOTE:** sponges are **not included** in total benthic macrophyte cover.

NOTE: DERM will continue to note total green algae (**TGA**) cover (calcareous + fleshy) in order to compare older data with newer data. This will be revisited after one year to assess the comparability and sufficiency of the set of green algal categories. Pending the outcome of this assessment, it is expected that the total green algae category then will be dropped.