



Beds of giant and bull kelp (*Macrocystis pyrifera* and *Nereocystis luetkeana*) are widely recognized as important habitat for a wide variety of marine organisms including species of juvenile rockfish. Kelp beds offer refuge from predators and support a microcosm of food web interactions. They tend to occur in exposed or semi-exposed coastal locations.

Kelp Beds - Relative Importance

Low  High 

Note: To help make kelp lines visible, the thickness of each line has been exaggerated

0 40 80 120 160 km

Kelp Data: Several datasets merged from BC Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management (but not including the shorezone units); DFO; and Parks Canada. Overlapping data were sorted such that higher values appear on top. Mapping: Living Oceans Society

April 2013