

SBC LTER: DATA DOWNLOAD PROTOCOL

Overview: A protocol to find and download data packages from the SBC LTER website.

SBC LTER Website

SBC LTER organizes its data into collections which represent sampling activities or experiments. Each data collection is composed of one to several data files.

There are two options to access data:

1. **Browsing by Habitat, Measurement Type or Core Research Area:**
<http://sbclter.msi.ucsb.edu/data/catalog/>

Data Catalog

Search data:

Filter By Habitat and Measurement Type:

Habitats	Measurement Types
<input type="checkbox"/> Watershed	<input type="checkbox"/> Meteorology
<input type="checkbox"/> Beach	<input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology
<input type="checkbox"/> Reef/Kelp Forest	<input type="checkbox"/> Biogeochemistry
<input type="checkbox"/> Inshore Ocean	<input type="checkbox"/> Physical Oceanography
<input type="checkbox"/> Offshore Ocean	<input type="checkbox"/> Ecosystem Processes
	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Structure
	<input type="checkbox"/> Remote Sensing
	<input type="checkbox"/> Genomics

Filter By Research Area:

LTER Core Research Areas
<input type="checkbox"/> Primary Production
<input type="checkbox"/> Population Studies
<input type="checkbox"/> Organic Matter
<input type="checkbox"/> Inorganic Matter
<input type="checkbox"/> Disturbance Patterns
<input type="checkbox"/> Human Dimensions

- OR -

2. **Browse All Datasets and search by the data package attributes:**
<http://sbclter.msi.ucsb.edu/data/catalog/search/>

Data Package Search

Enter search term

With no search terms, all SBC LTER datasets are listed.

To search anywhere in the dataset, enter a term. Use quotes for an exact phrase ("kelp forest"), and a minus sign to exclude terms (cruise -nitrate), as for other search engines.

🔍 Identifier

DOI or ID

To filter or refine the search based on specific metadata content, use the **Advanced** search features. Datasets from the SBC LTER will be summarized below with links to complete metadata and data download (in the [EDI](#) repository).

Advanced

👤 Creator

Name

📅 Year

Start End

1955 2019

☐ Data coverage

☐ Publish year

🌐 Location

Site Name

🌿 LTER Core Area

Any

Data Collection: this includes the title of the data collection, a brief description of the data project and a list of all of the data (with associated metadata).

- Clicking a dataset will send you to the Data Package Summary page on EDI.

The EDI Data Portal: This website is curated by the Environmental Data Initiative (EDI). The EDI Data Portal contains environmental and ecological data packages contributed by a number of participating organizations. Data and metadata derived from publicly funded research are made available through this website.



Data Package Summary: a full synopsis of the selected data package generated by the EDI data portal. This page provides information about the title, citation, publication dates, abstract and allows data package and metadata downloads.

Package ID: This section displays the most recent version with the most recent upload date. To find previous versions, select the 'previous revision' or 'all revisions option'.

Package ID: knb-lter-sbc.30.17 (Uploaded 2019-01-16)
 [previous revision](#)
 [all revisions](#)

Resources: This section displays the entire data package: the most updated dataset, its associated metadata file and a data package report from EDI.

Resources: [View Full Metadata \(1138 views\)](#)
 [View Data Package Report](#)
 [Download Data](#)
 1. *Name:* Benthic community survey, giant kelp abundance, all years
 File: [Annual_Kelp_All_Years_20181127.csv](#) (4.4M; 12 downloads)

[Download Zip Archive](#)

- **View Data Package Report:** EDI evaluation of the metadata for the package. A review of data identifiers and their descriptions.
- **Download Zip Archive:** includes XML and XML report, metadata text file and a CSV data file.
- **View Full Metadata:** includes abstract, data entities, methods, protocols, site descriptions. This function will send you to the EDI Data Portal repository which is where all LTER sites store their data. The metadata on this site is essential to understand the variables of a dataset.

Resources: [View Full Metadata \(1140 views\)](#)
 [View Data Package Report](#)
 [Download Data](#)
 1. *Name:* Benthic community survey, giant kelp abundance, all years
 File: [Annual_Kelp_All_Years_20181127.csv](#) (4.4M; 12 downloads)

[Download Zip Archive](#)

- **Data Entities:** includes the column titles and descriptions. This is extremely helpful to understand what the data means.
- **Methods and Protocols:** includes a short description of the projects methods and a link to download a PDF with a complete method/protocol description.
- **Temporal, Geographic and Taxonomic Coverage:** a detailed description of sampling sites and time period for this dataset.

Detailed Metadata

☒ Data Entities

☐ Data Package Usage Rights

☐ Keywords

☒ Methods and Protocols

☐ People and Organizations

☒ Temporal, Geographic and Taxonomic Coverage

☐ Project

Code Generation: This option is used to download data directly to a data processing software. By selecting the 'Code Generation' faction, a code will be downloaded to the computer.

Code Generation: Analyze this data package using:

1. Select the type of data processing software
2. Download the package
3. Open the data code package in data processing software
4. Run code to directly download to data processing software

ADDITIONAL NOTES

Available Datasets: The most up-to-date datasets are available online at the SBC LTER website. If a dataset is not listed, it is not available yet.... meaning that it is still being processed/cleaned and cannot be accessed.

Can't view all of the data in Excel? As with most of the SBC LTER long term datasets, most of these files are extremely LARGE. If opened in excel, most of the records will not show because excel cannot display large datasets. If this is the case, open the dataset in a different statistical software program (R, Matlab, SAS etc) and you will have visual access to all records.