**Kelp collections**

***Miller’s Pt***

GPS coordinates: S34.23030° E18.47726°

Kelp collection on 25 March 2015. *Ecklonia* and *Laminaria* taken from granite boulders at a depth of ~ 6 m. Dive from 10:19 – 10:42 (Robert S and Robert W; Ross and Sam as surface swimmers). The boulders are situated on sand at a depth of approx. 7 m.

*Ecklonia* occupy the tops of the boulders, while the *Laminaria* is positioned as a fringe around the boulders. The tops of the boulders reach up to 5 m and are large flat surfaces. Steeply slope down to sand at 7 m.

***Baboon Rk***

GPS coordinates: S34.25522° E18.47825°

Kelp collection on 25 March 2015. *Ecklonia* and *Laminaria* taken from granite boulders at a depth of ~ 5.5 m. Dive from 12:03 – 12:43 (Robert S and Robert W; Ross and Sam as surface swimmers). The boulders are situated on sand at a depth of approx. 7 m.

*Ecklonia* occupy the tops of the boulders, while the *Laminaria* seems to be positioned sparsely and haphazardly in-between as individual plants, usually 1 m lower than *Ecklonia*. No *Laminaria* were found within dense beds of *Ecklonia.*

***Betty’s Bay***

Two beds were sampled in Betty’s:

GPS coordinates, Site 1: Syy.yyyyy° Exx.xxxxx°

Divers visited this site on 31 May 2015, and the dive for kelp collections was from 10:25 to 10:55. This site is situated at a depth of 8 m and *Laminaria* and *Ecklonia* were collected (*Laminaria* does not occur at shallower depths here). The bottom topography is rocky with large boulders. The boulders have dense beds of *Ecklonia* on top and on the sides with no *Laminari* occurring within these beds. *Laminaria* occur either at the fringes of these beds or as their own small clumps on smaller boulders and rocks. There is sand between the boulders and rocks.

GPS coordinates, Site 2: Syy.yyyyy° Exx.xxxxx°

The next day (1 April 2015), the site was visited again and a reef at 6 m was chosen for the collection of *Ecklonia* only – this was done to ensure that the depth was commensurate with the collections in False Bay, which are all at a depth of 6 m. The bottom is relatively flat, for a kelp reef, with very few large boulders. The rocky bottom is mostly covered with crusting coralline, sponges or light folios algae. Sandy gullies occur between the rocky kelp beds and tend to be 1 or 2 metres deeper. The overall depth gradually increases away from shore.

The Betty’s Bay collections on 31 May and 1 April 2015 coincided with Ross Coppin’s set-up and sampling of the kelp beds for his MSc.