

EIM Help – Marine Benthic Macroinvertebrate Data

Version 1.0
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We only enter raw counts for each taxon into EIM - not density estimates or metric values because they are calculated values.

When entering **Marine Benthic Macroinvertebrate** data into EIM, insert the following values in addition to the standard required fields:

- Field Activity Type (Column D): Enter "**Sample.**"
- Field Activity Area and UOM (Columns K & L): For example **".10"** and **"m2."**
- Percent Sample Sorted (Column AN): Usually **"100"** for marine samples.
- Sample ID (Column R): Use your field ID's or create a unique ID for each of your samples.
- Sample Composite Flag (Column V): Enter **"Y"** if composited, **"N"** if not. If sample was a composite, you also need to enter an additional result with a Result Parameter Name of **"Number of Benthic Samples in Composite."**
- Sample Matrix (Column W): Enter **"Solid/Sediment."**
- Sample Source (Column X): Enter **"Marine Taxonomy."**
- Sample Method Code* (Columns AB – AE): There are four Sample Method Code fields available. Use the 1st one to indicate how the sample was *collected*. For example, **"VANVEEN.10."** Use the 2nd one to indicate how your sample was *processed*; make sure your mesh size is included in the method code, for example, **"SIEVE-1MM."** You can use the 3rd to indicate your *preservation* method, such as **"FORMALIN10%."**
- Result Parameter Name (Column AS): Enter **"Number of Individual Organisms"** for individual counts or **"Number of Colonial Organisms"** for colonial animals counted as 1.
- Result Reported Value (Column AW): Enter the actual count for each taxon.
- Result Value UOM (Column AX): Enter **"Count."**
- Result Lab Name* (Column BJ): Enter name of lab that identified and counted your taxa.
- Result Taxon Name* and Result Taxon TSN* (Column BM and BN): Enter the Taxonomic Name and the Taxonomic Serial Number (unless there is no TSN).
- Result Taxon Life Stage Code (Column BP): Indicate the life stage if other than adult.

* For a current list of valid values, see the Reference Tables in the EIM Data Loader, Data Editor, or Database Search modules.