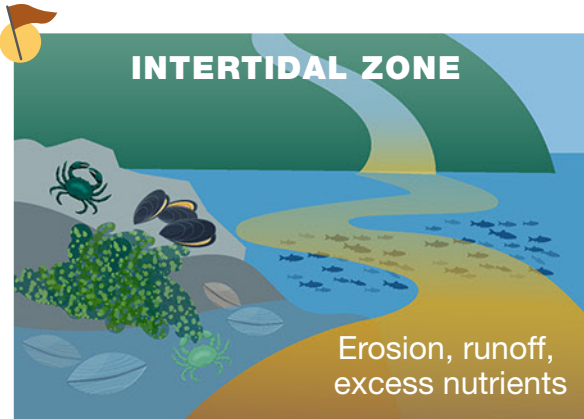


# Canada's ocean habitats from surface to seafloor

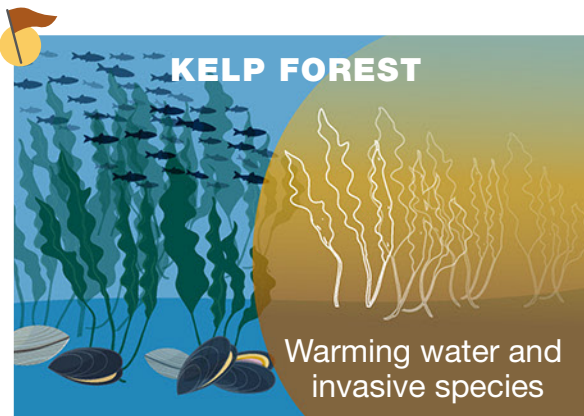
Species and ecosystems depend on healthy habitats, but many important habitats are struggling due to climate change, invasive species, and other stressors



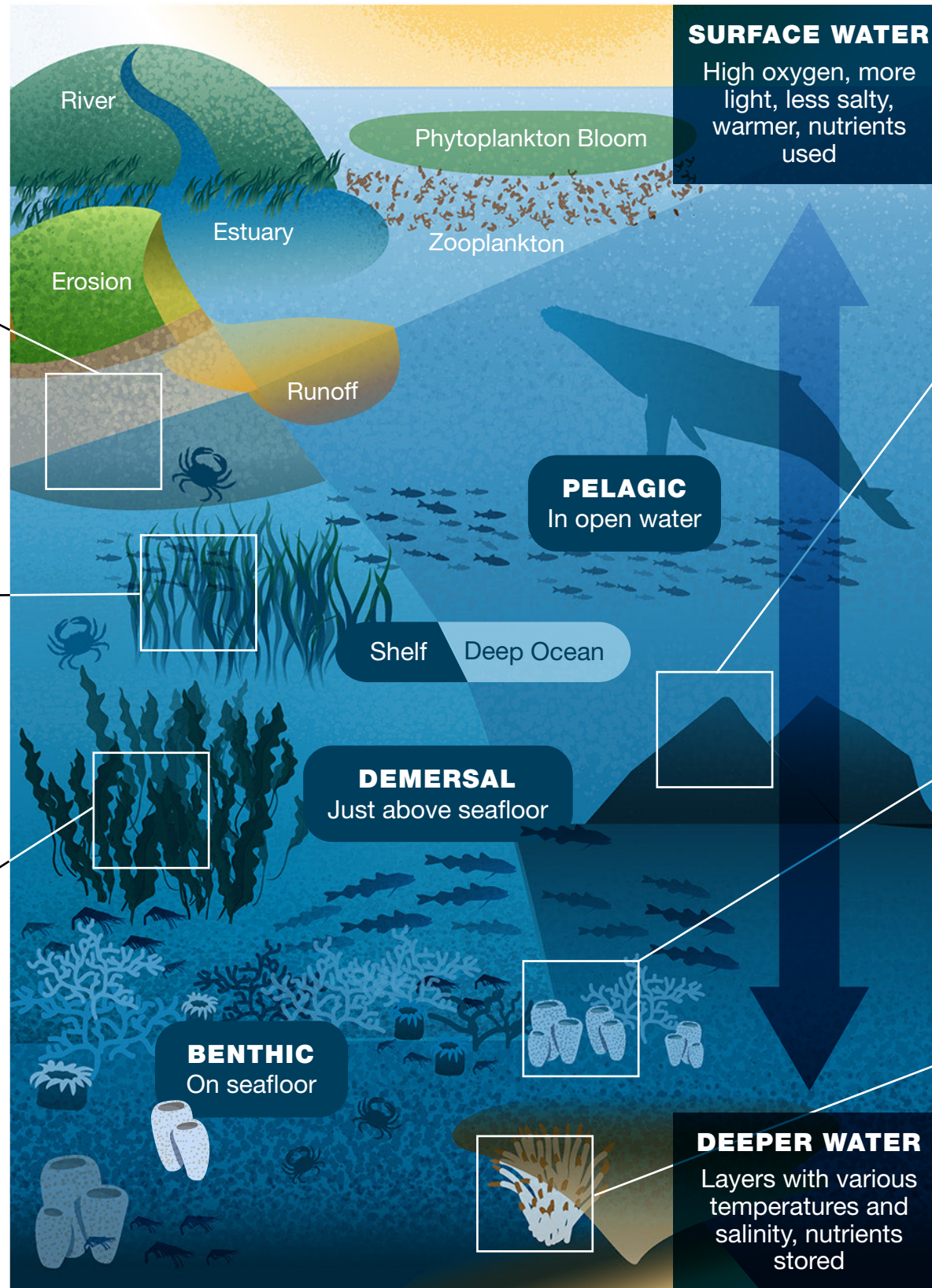
**INTERTIDAL ZONE**  
Intertidal habitat provides food for many species, including humans



**EELGRASS**  
Eelgrass is a nursery habitat for young cod, salmon, and herring



**KELP FOREST**  
Rich in biodiversity, kelp forests play a major role in absorbing carbon dioxide



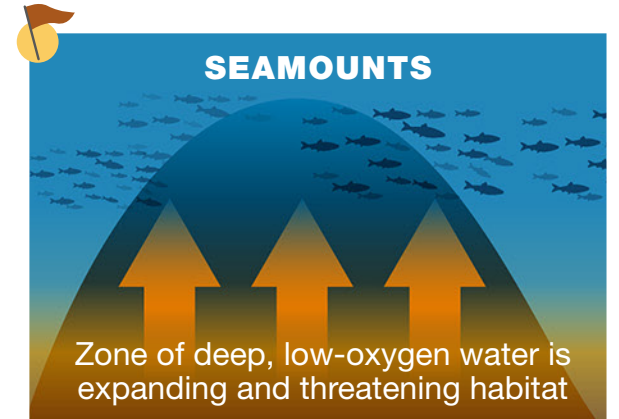
**SURFACE WATER**  
High oxygen, more light, less salty, warmer, nutrients used

**PELAGIC**  
In open water

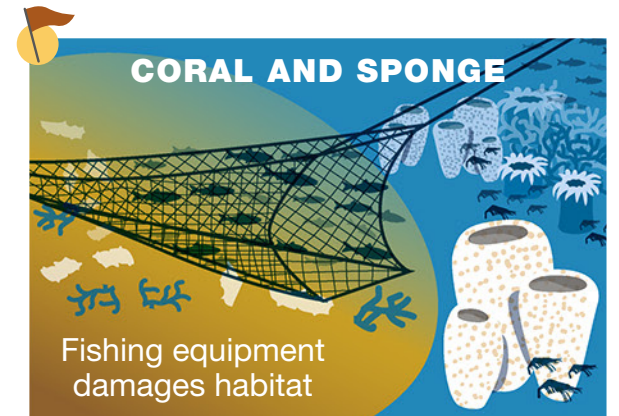
**DEMERSAL**  
Just above seafloor

**BENTHIC**  
On seafloor

**DEEPER WATER**  
Layers with various temperatures and salinity, nutrients stored



**SEAMOUNTS**  
Pacific seamounts provide unique offshore habitat and food sources



**CORAL AND SPONGE**  
Corals and sponges provide important habitat and are slow to recover



**VENTS & SEEPS**  
Hydrothermal vents are dynamic habitats with extremes in temperature and chemistry