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The Non-toxicity of Metals to Animals in the Sea

Willard Bascom

¹*Southern California Coastal Water Research Project, Long Beach, CA*

ABSTRACT

Much has been said and written about “toxic” metals in the sea. On various occasions the discharge of wastes into the sea has been viewed with alarm and needed dredging has been delayed by concern over the effects of metals on animals in the sea. The thesis of this presentation is that metals (including cadmium, copper, chromium, nickel, zinc, lead, silver, and mercury) and *not* toxic to sea life at the levels and in the forms that exist in open coastal waters, even where man has added greatly to the natural levels.

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