

Título: PROPUESTA PARA LA EVALUACIÓN DEL ESTADO FÍSICO-QUÍMICO DE LAS AGUAS COSTERAS Y DE TRANSICIÓN DEL PAÍS VASCO

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Descriptores:

- > OCEANOGRAFIA BIOLOGICA
- > OCEANOGRAFIA QUIMICA
- > ECOLOGIA ANIMAL
- > ZOOLOGIA OCEANOGRAFICA

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Resumen: TITULO:

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RESUMEN:

Proposal for the physico-chemical quality status assessment within the estuarine and coastal waters of the Basque Country (Northern Spain)

The European water Framework Directive requires the development of new and accurate methodologies, addressing the assessment of the physico-chemical status of transitional and coastal waters; these are considered by the Directive as the supporting elements for the final evaluation of the Ecological Quality Status. This contribution develops new approaches in the determination of the physico-chemical status, solving some problems detected in previous contributions, i.e: (a) fitting the classification of water bodies and typologies, by means of the "stretching" of the typologies, according to the natural salinity gradient of types; (b) defining reference conditions, based upon the new approach to typologies, (c) proposing accurate multivariate

methodologies, in determining the physico-chemical status of the transitional and coastal waters, based upon the defined typologies and references; and (d) discussion of the results obtained by reference to methodological aspects and water quality evolution in the Basque Country (as a case-study), during the last decade