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Environmental Restoration Efficiency of a Density Current Generator at Gokasho Bay

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Summary: Gokasho Bay in Mie Prefecture is a typical enclosed sea, and has some problems with water pollution, such as red tide, blue tide and hypoxic water at the bottom layer. The Marino-Forum 21 installed a density current generator in 1997, to restore the water quality by the improvement of vertical water exchange. The purpose of this study is to clarify a long-term environmental restoration effect of the apparatus by surveying sea bottom quality and seaweed bed distribution. The results of the field surveys showed that the conditions of both bottom quality and seaweed habitat in the test area installed with the apparatus are much better than those in the neighboring area surveyed for reference. This suggests that the apparatus works effectively for the long-term restoration of marine environments.

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