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TURBIDITY

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General Information:

Turbidity is a measure of the concentration of suspended particles in solution. The greater the concentration of suspended particles, the greater the turbidity. Turbidity is measured as the amount of light reflected from particles in solution and quantified as NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units).

Materials:

- A. Turbidimeter, Hach Model 2100P
- B. Sample cells
- C. Standard (reference) cells
- D. Operation Manual
- E. Carrying case
- F. Four AA batteries

Instrument calibration:

The Hach Model 2100P turbidimeter must be calibrated to formazin standards prior to the start of field work each year. At bi-weekly intervals during the field season, the turbidimeter must be checked against Gelex standards. Refer to the users manual for calibration procedures. Maintain a file that includes dates, results, and comments on calibration and checking procedures.

Procedure:

Turbidity will be measured at the midpoint of the fish collection area *following* the fish collection at each macrohabitat. A sample cell is filled with water (collected 25 cm below the water surface) and placed in the turbidimeter. Set the turbidity meter to autorange, and press READ. Turbidity value (NTU) is read directly from the turbidimeter display..

References:

- Hach Model 2100P operation manual.
- Hach 1995 Products for Analysis catalog.

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