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TITLE: Benthic Filter Feeding: A Natural Eutrophication Control

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ABSTRACT:

The importance of the benthic filter feeding community as a natural control on eutrophication is considered. The important environmental factors favorable for such a control are relatively shallow water depths and a dense benthic filter feeding community of small animals. The criteria are summarized in the equivalence of the water recycling time,  $t_r$ , for the benthic community and the time constant,  $t_p$ , for phytoplankton growth. The criteria are applied specifically to the conditions that exist in South San Francisco bay.

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