SOP for In Vitro Determination of Chlorophyll *a* Concentrations by Fluorescence

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1 Scope and Application

1.1 This method provides a procedure for the fluorometric determination of chlorophyll *a* and its magnesium-free derivative, pheophytin *a* in marine and freshwater phytoplankton.

1.2 This method is modified from the US EPA Method 445.0 and APHA Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater, 22nd Edition.

2 Summary of Method

2.1 Chlorophyll-containing phytoplankton in a measured volume of sample water are concentrated by filtering at low vacuum (13 cm Hg) through a glass fiber filter (Whatman GF/F). The pigments are extracted from the phytoplankton in 90% acetone and to ensure thorough extraction of chlorophyll *a*, are allowed to steep for at least 2hrs. The fluorescence of the sample is measured at the excitation wavelength of 485 nm and emission wavelenghts 685 / 50 nm. Sample fluorescence is measured before and after acidification with 0.1M HCl to obtain a corrected chlorophyll *a* concentration.

3 Definitions

3.1 Stock Standard Solution (SSS) –

3.2 Laboratory Reagent Blank (LRB) –

3.3 Field duplicates –

3.4 Quality Control Sample (QCs) –