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Contents in Context
Environmental Chemistry, Vol. 1, no. 3, 2004

Laser Ablation ICP-MS Analysis of *Faviidae* Corals for Environmental Monitoring of a Tropical Estuary
Niels C. Munksgaard, Yasmin Antwertinger, David L. Parry *Environ. Chem.* **2004**, *1*, 188

The composition of calcium carbonate in annual skeletal growth bands reflects the environmental conditions in which coral grows, enabling their use as long-term bio-monitors and archives of environmental conditions. Such archives will provide a baseline against which recent and future pollutant levels can be compared.

Facilitated Heterogeneous Photodegradation of Dissolved Organic Matter by Particulate Iron
Julia A. Howitt, Darren S. Baldwin, Gavin N. Rees, Barry T. Hart *Environ. Chem.* **2004**, *1*, 197

Iron oxides, as suspended minerals or as a colloidal phase, are common in Australian freshwater systems. Freshwater systems are also loaded with carbon-based substances, 'dissolved organic matter', but not all is biologically available as food to freshwater organisms. However, photochemical interactions between these iron oxides and dissolved organic matter provide a mechanism for biologically resistant carbon to re-enter the food web. Suspended iron oxides thus need to be considered in carbon cycles in aquatic ecosystems.