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Effect of nutrient load from land to the Beppu-bay

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Nutrient load by the river and groundwater were estimated, and distribution of nutrient concentration in the seawater was confirmed in the Beppy-bay located on western Seto Inland Sea. The nutrient load from the two of first-class river (Oita and Ohta-river) was estimated to be more than 80% of the total nutrient load from land to the sea. The seawater in the Beppu-bay was characterized by higher molar ratios of phosphorus and silicon compared with the redfield ratio (N:P:Si =16:1:16). This result means that the seawater of the Beppu-bay is in the nitogen-limited condition. It suggests the effect of the nutrient load from land to the Beppu-bay.