

Quantifying microplastics in Southampton Water estuary and investigating microplastic ingestion in the local cnidarian polyp, *Aurelia aurita*.

Study Aim: Quantify MPs in in-shore and off-shore in SW estuary. Investigate whether *A. aurita* polyps show evidence of ingesting MPs found in the estuary.

Methods (fieldwork): Off-shore MP collection = plankton net trawl, CTD bottle capture.

In-shore = plankton net tow, glass-plate method (Anderson et al., 2018)

Methods (lab): 60 polyps. 24hr exposure experiments.
Fibres and fragments.
Acid digest.

Conclusion: MPs abundant CTD most efficient sampling method. Polyps ingested more fibres than fragments. Polyp sample size too small.

Results:

