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Major and trace elements in zooplankton from the Northern Gulf of California during summer

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We report of the distribution of major and trace element concentrations in epipelagic zooplankton collected in the Northern Gulf of California in August 2003. The Bray–Curtis index defined three element assemblages in zooplankton: (1) major metals, which included only two elements, Na (3.6– 17.0%) and Ca (1.0–4.8%). Na had its highest concentrations in the shallow tidally mixed Upper Gulf, where high salinity, temperature, and zooplankton biomass (dominated by copepods) prevailed. Ca showed its highest concentrations south of Ballenas Channel, characterized by tidal mixing and convergence-induced upwelling, indicated by low sea-surface temperature, salinity, and zooplankton biomass; (2) Six biological essential elements, like Fe (80–9,100 mg kg

Palabras clave: Tendencias espaciales, Body growth, Trace and major elements, Iron, Instrumental neutron activation

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