Contents

Preface  xv

1 Fundamental Concepts  1
    Simple Food Chain Theory  1
    Ecological Pyramids  3
    Recycling and the Microbial Loop  6
    Food Chain Magnification  9
    Food Webs  10
    Food Webs and Ecosystem Stability  12
    Questions  13
    References  15

2 Photosynthesis  17
    Light Limitation of Photosynthesis  18
    Nutrient Limitation of Photosynthesis  22
    Nutrient Enrichment Experiments  26
        Long Island Bays  30
        Canadian Experimental Lakes  31
    Nitrogen versus Phosphorus Limitation  33
    Questions  37
    References  38

3 Physical Factors Affecting Production  43
    Physical Properties of Water  43
    Water Column Stability and Overturning  45
        The Importance of Overturning  48
    Seasonal Production Cycles  49
    Trophic Status  50
    Susceptibility of Systems to Oxygen Depletion  51
    Estuaries: A Special Case  52
    Chesapeake Bay  55
    The Gulf of Mexico Hypoxic Zone  64
    Questions  67
    References  68
## Cultural Eutrophication Case Studies

1. **Case Study 1: Lake Washington**
   - History of Eutrophication
   - Effects of Sewage Diversion
   - Nutrient Limitation
   - Oxygen Depletion
   - Water Clarity
   - Cyanobacteria
   - Theoretical Predictions

2. **Case Study 2: Lake Erie**
   - The Destruction of Fish Spawning and Nursery Grounds as a Result of Land-Use Modifications
   - The Depletion of Fish Stocks Due to Overfishing
   - The Creation of Anoxic Bottom Water Conditions Due to Cultural Eutrophication
   - The Disposal of Toxic Wastes
   - Sediment in Land Runoff
   - Contamination of Nearshore Areas with Sewage Wastes
   - Remedial Efforts
   - Toxic Substances
   - Eutrophication
   - Prospects for Lake Erie

3. **Case Study 3: Kaneohe Bay**
   - Physical Setting
   - The Coral Reefs
   - Urbanization of the Watershed
   - Changes in Land Runoff
   - Sewage Disposal
     - Effects of Sewage Disposal
     - Response to Sewage Diversion
   - Current Status and Prospects for Kaneohe Bay

## Nonpoint Source Pollution

1. **Definitions**
2. **Composition of Land Runoff**
3. **Types of Sewer Systems**
4. **Corrective Measures**
   - Use of Settling Basins
   - Ground Recharge Basins
   - Storage in Underflow Tunnels or Tanks
   - Minimizing Runoff
5. **Summary**
6. **A Case Study: Lake Jackson, Florida**
   - Correctives
7. **Questions**
8. **References**
6 Sewage Treatment 159  
Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary Treatment 159  
Secondary Treatment for BOD Removal 161  
Trickling Filters 161  
Activated Sludge 162  
Pros and Cons of Trickling Filter and Activated Sludge Treatment 163  
The Anaerobic Digester 164  
Tertiary Treatment 165  
Phosphorus Removal 166  
Nitrogen Removal 167  
Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products 168  
Cost of Conventional Sewage Treatment 169  
Land Application of Sewage 170  
Results of Spray Irrigation Studies 172  
Limiting Factors 179  
Use of Sewage Sludge 180  
Unconventional Sewage Treatment 183  
Detergent Phosphates 185  
Questions 188  
References 190  

7 Pathogens in Natural Waters 195  
Sources of Pathogens 197  
Types of Pathogens and Their Detection 198  
Bacterial Pathogens 199  
Protozoan Pathogens 206  
Viral Pathogens 208  
Helminths 212  
Tests for Pathogens 213  
Treatment of Public Water Supplies 219  
Removal of Suspended Solids 219  
Filtration 219  
Chlorination 220  
Alternatives to Chlorination 221  
Impact of Treatment 222  
Questions 222  
References 224  

8 Toxicology 229  
The Role of Toxicology in Water Quality Management 229  
Kinds of Toxicity 231  
Sublethal Effects 231  
Reproduction 232  
Development and Growth 234  
Behavior 237  
Determinations of Toxicity 237  
Acute Toxicity Determination 238  
Chronic Toxicity Determination 239
Contents

Median Survival Times 240
Incipient Lethal Levels 241
Sublethal Effects 242
Water Quality Standards 243
Acute Effects 243
Chronic Toxicity 244
Acute/Chronic Ratios 245
Toxicity to Plants 247
The Two-Number Criterion 247
Complicating Factors 248
Interactions with Harmless Substances or Conditions 248
Incorporation into Water Quality Guidelines 250
Conditioning and Acclimation 252
Interactions between Toxic Substances 253
Public Health 257
Noncarcinogenic Effects 257
Application to Cadmium 260
Carcinogenic Effects 262
Protection of Wildlife 264
Commentary 264
Questions 265
References 268

9 Industrial Pollution 273
The Oxygen Sag 273
Innovative Strategies for Reducing Industrial Pollution 276
The Hawaiian Sugar Cane Industry 279
Sugar Cane Production: Field Operations 282
Sugar Cane Production: Harvesting 282
Sugar Cane Production: Factory Operations 283
Survey of Water Pollution Problems 285
Response to the EPA Survey 286
Present Status of the Industry 288
The Pulp and Paper Industry 290
Steps in the Production of Paper 292
Objectionable Characteristics of Pulp and Paper Mill Effluent 295
Suspended Solids 296
Dissolved Organics 298
Toxic Substances 299
Wastewater Treatment 300
A Case Study: The Buckeye Cellulose Corporation Pulp and Paper Mill at Perry, Florida 301
Commentary 304
Questions 306
References 307

10 Pesticides and Persistent Organic Pollutants 311
Classification of Pesticides 313
Mode of Action 315
Contents

Pesticide Use 316
   Public Health 316
      Use of DDT to Control Malaria 316
   Agriculture 319
   Forestry 321
Pesticide Effects on Nontarget Species 322
   Forest Spraying with DDT to Control Spruce Budworms in New Brunswick, Canada 322
   DDD Treatment to Control Gnat Populations on Clear Lake, California 323
Exaggerated and/or Erroneous Charges against Pesticide Use 324
   The Destruction of Speckled Sea Trout in the Laguna Madre, Texas 325
   DDT Reduces Photosynthesis by Marine Phytoplankton 326
   DDT Residues of 5 ppm (Wet Weight) in the Eggs of Freshwater Trout Result in 100% Mortality of Fry 328
   DDT Causes Cancer 330
   Implications 331
Pesticide Persistence in the Biosphere and Food Chain Magnification 332
Pesticide Effects on Birds 336
   Field Observations 337
   Laboratory Studies 339
   Summary of Pesticide Effects on Birds 342
Pest Resistance 343
   Mechanisms of Resistance 344
   The Cost of Pest Resistance 344
Alternatives to Synthetic Pesticide Use 345
   Biological Control 345
      Natural Predators and Parasites 345
      Pathogens and Natural Toxins 346
   Genetic Control 347
      Resistant Plants 347
      Sterile Males 348
   Chemical Control 350
      Integrated Pest Management 351
Commentary 353
   EPA Hearings, 13 January, 1972. Afternoon Session 355
Persistent Organic Pollutants 359
   Polychlorinated Biphenyls 359
      Problems with PCBs 361
      Persistence of PCBs 363
Questions 365
References 367

11 Thermal Pollution and Power Plants 375
   Power Plant Design 376
      Water Quality Criteria 377
      Cooling Water System Characteristics 378
   Toxic Effects of Effluent Waters on Biota 379
      Sublethal Effects 381
      Commentary 383
A Case Study – The Florida Power and Light Power Plant
at Turkey Point 383
  The Study Area 383
  The Power Plant 385
  Effects on Biota 386
  Modifications 388
  Commentary 389
Correctives 389
  Cooling Canals 390
  Cooling Towers 390
  Problems 390
Internal Plant Kills 392
  Screen Impingements 392
  Inner Plant Kills 395
  Commentary 397
  Correctives 398
Possible Beneficial Uses of Thermal Discharges 400
  Cogeneration Power Plants 400
  Agriculture 402
  Aquaculture 403
  Other Uses 406
Questions 407
References 408

12 Metals 413
  The Question of Biological Magnification 416
Case Studies 417
  Mercury 418
    Production and Uses 418
    Fluxes to the Environment 422
    Speciation of Mercury and Toxicology 426
  Minamata Bay: A Case Study 432
  Seafood Consumption 438
  Cadmium 439
    Distribution, Production, and Uses 439
    Emissions to the Environment 442
    Natural Fluxes to Aquatic Systems 445
  Anthropogenic Fluxes to Aquatic Systems 445
    Toxicity 445
    Itai-Itai Disease: A Case Study 447
    Correctives and Prospects for the Future 451
  Lead 453
    Production and Use 453
    Emissions 457
    Toxicology 462
    Commentary 465
Questions 469
References 471
13 Oil Pollution  479

Oil Discharges to the Marine Environment  480
  Natural Sources  480
    Marine Seeps  480
  Anthropogenic Sources  481
    Platforms  481
    Atmospheric Deposition  482
    Produced Waters  482
    Pipeline Spills  482
    Tanker Spills  482
    Operational Discharges (Cargo Washings)  483
    Coastal Facility Spills (Refined Products)  485
    Atmospheric Deposition (From Tankers)  485
    Land-Based Runoff  485
    Recreational Marine Vessels  485
    Spills (Non-tankers)  485
    Operational Discharges (Vessels >100 GT)  486
    Operational Discharges (Vessels <100 GT)  486
    Atmospheric Deposition  486
    Aircraft Dumping  486
  Commentary  486

The Genesis of Oil  488
  Sedimentation  488
  Metamorphosis  489
  Migration  489

What Is Oil?  490
  Alkanes: Paraffins or Aliphatic Compounds  490
  Cycloalkanes or Naphthenes  491
  Aromatics  491

Toxicology  493
  Oiling and Ingestion  493
  Weathering  496
  Lethal and Sublethal Effects  498
  Human Health  500

Case Studies  501
  Exxon Valdez  501
    The Accident and Initial Containment Efforts  501
    Cleanup  502
    Fate of Spilled Oil  503
    Effects on Organisms  503
    Summary  507
    Deepwater Horizon  508
    Buzzards Bay  510
  Summary  513

Correctives  514
  Prevention  514
  Cleanup  515
  Offloading  515
Contents

Burning 516
Chemical Dispersal 516
Mechanical Containment and Cleanup 517
Sinking 517
Bioremediation 518
Summary 519
Oil Fingerprinting 520

Commentary 522
Questions 523
References 524

14 Radioactivity 529
Physical Background 529
Radiation Toxicology 532
The No Threshold and Linear Dose–Response Hypotheses 534
Health Effect Estimates 536
Current Levels of Exposure 538
Importance of Certain Radionuclides 541
Effects on Aquatic Systems 542
Nuclear Fission and Fission Reactors 544
Nuclear Fusion 550
Radiation Releases by Power Plants 552
Routine Radionuclide Releases 553
Accidents 556
The NRX Accident 556
Windscale 557
The SL-1 Incident 559
The Fermi Reactor Accident 560
The Three Mile Island Incident 562
Chernobyl 563
Fukushima Daiichi 565
Summary 565
Waste Disposal 569
Types of Radioactive Waste 569
History of Disposal 569
The Search for Long-Term Disposal Sites 573
Transmutation 576
Uranium Mine Wastes 576
Decommissioning Nuclear Reactors 579

Commentary 581
Questions 582
References 584

15 Acid Deposition and Ocean Acidification 589
Acid Deposition 589
Acid Rain 590
History of the Acid Deposition Problem 591
Susceptibility of Lakes to Acid Deposition Effects 594
Acid Deposition Toxicology 595
Enforcement 647
Correctives 648
  Cleanup 648
  Prevention 650
  The EPA Groundwater Protection Strategy 653
Questions 654
References 655

17 Plastics in the Sea 659
  The Nature of the Problem 659
  Effects 661
    Aesthetics 661
    Ingestion 662
    Entanglement 664
      Ghost Fishing 665
      Other Causes of Entanglement 667
    Damage to Vessels 668
  Correctives 668
    MARPOL Annex V 668
    Other Legislation 671
    Degradable Plastic 673
    Solutions Through Technology 673
    Education 674
Questions 675
References 676

Units of Measurement and Abbreviations 681
References 683

Aquatic Pollution 685
Answers to Questions 685
References 705

Glossary 707
Index 733