Contents

FOREWORD ix

CHAPTER 1. CONTINENT–SEA INTERFACE: A HYDROGEOLOGICAL CONTINUUM 1
Nathalie DÖRFLIGER, Bertrand AUNAY and Perrine FLEURY

1.1. Introduction 2
1.2. Land–sea interface: from geology to the hydrogeological continuum. 3
1.2.1. The continent–ocean continuum. 4
1.2.2. The land–sea continuum: islands 16
1.3. Problems with the management of water resources of coastal aquifers 18
1.3.1. Coastal aquifers of sedimentary basins. 22
1.3.2. Karstic coastal aquifers 26
1.3.3. Coastal insular volcanic aquifers 30
1.4. Conclusion and perspectives 30
1.5. Bibliography. 31

CHAPTER 2. CHEMICAL ELEMENTS AND ISOTOPES, TRACERS OF LAND–SEA EXCHANGES 39
Catherine JEANDEL, Pieter VAN BEEK and François LACAN

2.1. Introduction 39
2.1.1. Marine geochemistry and the concept of a tracer. 40
2.2. Groundwater discharge into the sea and estimate of "the age of coastal waters": Ra isotopes 42
2.2.1. Ra isotopes, how do they work?. 42

2.2.2. Submarine groundwater discharge 44
2.2.3. Age of water bodies and horizontal transport 47
2.3. Boundary exchange: what do isotopes of neodymium and thorium bring? 48
2.3.1. Isotopes of neodymium, how does this work? 48
2.3.2. Input of Nd isotopes 50
2.3.3. Isotopes of Th: how does this work? 56
2.3.4. Thorium: indicator for wide coastal exchanges, e.g. the Mediterranean 57
2.3.5. Contribution of experimental methods: initial particle/ dissolute reaction kinetics 58
2.4. Which processes release Fe from ocean margins: the Fe isotope approach? 59
2.4.1. Besides being a tracer, what is the role of iron in the ocean?. 59
2.4.2. Isotopes of iron 60
2.4.3. Clues about the processes that release iron 63
2.5. Conclusion 65
2.6. Bibliography 66

CHAPTER 3. EUTROPHICATION OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT 71
Alain MÉNESGUEN

3.1. Manifestations of marine eutrophication 71
3.1.1. Macroalgal proliferations and anoxic “malaigue”. 72
3.1.2. Phytoplanktonic proliferations and hypoxia. 86
3.1.3. Toxic phytoplanktonic proliferations 94
3.1.4. Definition of marine eutrophication. 109
3.2. Mechanisms of marine eutrophication 113
3.2.1. Hydrodynamic confinement 113
3.2.2. Nutrient enrichment 118
3.3. Regulatory monitoring of marine eutrophication and restoration efforts in eutrophicated zones 133
3.3.1. International assessment charts 133
3.3.2. Eutrophication indicators and their threshold values 142

3.3.3. Modeling: a tool for the understanding and remediation of eutrophication 150
3.4. Bibliography 163

CHAPTER 4. POLLUTION BY MARINE DEBRIS 193
François GALGANI

4.1. Introduction 193
4.2. Cycle of ocean litter 195
4.2.1. Methods for evaluating debris at sea 195
4.2.2. Nature and quantity of debris flowing into the sea 198
4.2.3. Importance of plastic waste 200
4.2.4. Sources 202
4.2.5. Lifecycle and distribution 205
4.3. Degradation of litter at sea 210
4.4. Effects of marine litter on the environment 213
4.4.1. Ecological effects 213
4.5. Socioeconomic aspects 222
4.5.1. Legislative aspects (laws, conventions and directives) . . . 222
4.5.2. Initiatives 226
4.5.3. Understanding and educating 230
4.6. Conclusion 232
4.7. Acknowledgments 234
4.8. Bibliography 234
4.8.1. Websites 236

CHAPTER 5. RADIOACTIVITY OF ANTHROPIC ORIGIN IN THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT 237
Sabine CHARMASSON, Pascal BAILLY DU BOIS, Hervé THÉBAULT, Dominique BOUST and Bruno FIÉVET

5.1. Introduction 237
5.2. Sources of radionuclides in the marine environment 238
5.2.1. Atmospheric weapons testing 238
5.2.2. Major accidents 240
5.2.3. Liquid releases from nuclear facilities operating normally 243
5.2.4. Waste 244
5.3. Worldwide oceanic distribution 245
5.3.1. In surface waters 245
5.3.2. In the water column 247

5.4. Behavior and fate in ecosystems 249
5.4.1. Water compartment 251
5.4.2. Behavior of radionuclides related to sediments and material in suspension 258
5.4.3. Transfers of radionuclides to marine species 267
5.5. Vulnerability of coastal areas 274
5.5.1. Dispersal in the sea of contaminants – hydrosedimentary modeling 275
5.5.2. Sensitivity of coastal areas 276
5.6. Conclusion 279
5.7. Bibliography 280

LIST OF AUTHORS 283

INDEX 285