



Fish control seawater harmful acid levels

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A new study has revealed the fact that fish poop plays a significant role in balancing harmful acid levels in the marine environment.

According to researchers, when fish drink seawater they excrete calcium as calcium carbonate, which can diminish the carbon dioxide in the water.

"It's going to be critical that we understand how much carbon dioxide the oceans can absorb," said Pat Walsh, a University of Ottawa marine biologist who co-wrote the study that appears in the journal *Science* on Friday.

"What we've done is taken another step forward in understanding another piece of that oceanographic puzzle and how the oceans can absorb CO₂," he added.

The team of research found out that the carbonate produced by fish is soluble and dissolves in the upper sea water, while that from the plankton sinks to the bottom.

The team also said that marine fish contribute between 3 percent and 15 percent of total carbonate.

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