LOCALLY DEVELOPED MARINE SCIENCE DATABASES:
A PRELIMINARY SURVEY

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ABSTRACT

The proliferation of local bibliographic databases is of increasing concern to librarians. Many of us have been faced with requests from members of the scientific community to perform online searches for reference which will then be included in a local electronic database, such as the Southern California Bight or Bibliography of the Pacific Halibut. Many of these databases also include references to gray literature unknown and unavailable outside that institution.

We are concerned with the lack of public awareness of the existence of such databases, standards for both hardware and software, and the implications of non-librarians in addressing these issues.

Our first step was to survey members of the marine science community, using the International Association of Marine Science Libraries and Information Centers (IAMSLIC) mailing list. The ultimate result will be a directory of locally developed databases which are accessible to the public, including information on scope, hardware/software requirements, database developer or local contact, and funding agency.

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For further information contact the authors.