



Ocean Sciences Databases - Quick Overview - UC access only

These databases let you search for articles within hundreds of journals. Some articles may be full text; others will be in print. Use  [UC-eLinks](#) to see if we own the article online or in print, or to request the article from another UC. Go to <http://library.ucsc.edu/science/> and then to the **Science Article Databases** link to access these databases.

Connect from Off-Campus: <http://oca.ucsc.edu/>

DATABASE	WHY USE IT? (scope)	SEARCH LIKE GOOGLE? *	SEARCH TIPS	STRENGTHS & WEAKNESSES
<i>Web of Science</i> 1975-current	All subjects. Citation counts. Able to see who cited an article and sort by citation count.	 But truncation is not automatic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Truncation is * • Can search simultaneously with BIOSIS. • Use " " for phrase searching 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No conference papers. • Use CrossSearch to include BIOSIS results.
<i>BIOSIS Previews</i> 1969-current Backfile coming soon	The primary biology database.	 But truncation is not automatic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Truncation is * • Use scientific & common names. • Can search simultaneously with Web of Science. • Use " " for phrase searching 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interdisciplinary within biology. • Good for topic exploration. • Includes conference papers. • Use CrossSearch to include WOS results.
<i>Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts (ASFA)</i> 1971-current	Focus: aquatic sciences. All things aquatic: living and non-living.	X Multiple words = exact phrase. For keyword use AND. Truncation not automatic.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Truncation is * • Can search simultaneously with GeoRef, Oceanic Abstracts • Words typed next to each other searched as phrases 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes socio-economic and legal aspects. • Covers many sources not in BIOSIS. • Save/Print/Email formats bibliographies.
<i>GeoRef</i> 1693-current	The primary geosciences database. Includes marine geology, oceanography and geochemistry.	X Multiple words = exact phrase. For keyword use AND. Truncation not automatic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Truncation is * • Can search simultaneously with ASFA, Oceanic Abstracts. • Words typed next to each other searched as phrases 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes books, maps, conference papers, reports and theses. • Save/Print/Email formats bibliographies.
<i>Oceanic Abstracts</i> 1981-current	Focus: Oceanography, marine & brackish-water environment.	X Multiple words = exact phrase. For keyword use AND. Truncation not automatic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Truncation is * • Can search simultaneously with ASFA, GeoRef. • Words typed next to each other searched as phrases 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes physical and chemical oceanography, marine geology. • Save/Print/Email formats bibliographies.
<i>Zoological Record Plus</i> 1978 - current	Focus: World Zoological and animal science literature	X Multiple words = exact phrase. For keyword use AND. • Truncation not automatic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Truncation is * • Can search simultaneously with ASFA, GeoRef. • Words typed next to each other searched as phrases 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine & Freshwater biology • Save/Print/Email formats bibliographies.

Google search syntax assumes an "AND" between words (all your words will be included, in any order). If you want a phrase to be searched intact (word order preserved) you must enclose it in quotes. Google also automatically stems or truncates search terms, when appropriate.

