

**REVIEWING THE REVIEW: THE OCEANOGRAPHIC
LITERATURE REVIEW AGED 15 YEARS**

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ABSTRACT: The *Oceanographic Literature Review* evolved from a current awareness bibliography featured in *Deep-Sea Research* and became a separate part of *Deep Sea Research* as a fully indexed bibliography of marine science literature, with abstracts, in 1979. Beginning in 1993, the *Oceanographic Literature Review* parted from *Deep-Sea Research* and its roots in Woods Hole to become one of the Elsevier/Geo Science series of earth science literature indexes.

This is an appropriate moment to examine the coverage, organization, and reporting time of the *Review* to establish a baseline for comparison with ongoing processing of new records. Comparisons with *ASFA* and *Oceanic Abstracts* provide a context for evaluation.