

Press Release



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Baltic Sea: Climate Change counteracts decline in eutrophication GEOMAR scientists publish the first comprehensive analysis of the time series station Boknis Eck

01 December 2014/Kiel. **Despite extensive measures to protect the Baltic Sea from anthropogenic activities since the late 1980s, oxygen concentrations continue to decrease. Rising temperatures in the bottom water layers could be the reason for the oxygen decline. This paper reports on the first comprehensive analysis of measurement data from the Boknis Eck time series station, and it was recently published in the international journal Biogeosciences .**

Off the coast of Schleswig-Holstein at the exit of Eckernförde Bay is a hidden treasure, but it is not one of chests full of silver and gold. It is a unique scientific record. Since 1957, environmental parameters such as oxygen concentrations, temperature, salinity and nutrients have been measured monthly at the Boknis Eck time series station. "It is one of the oldest active time series stations for this kind of data worldwide," explains the scientific coordinator Prof. Dr. Hermann Bange from GEOMAR Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel. To date, however, the long time-series has only been partially evaluated. Bange and his team have now, for the first time, analyzed chemical, biological and physical data for the entire period since 1957. The results have shown that measures to protect the Baltic Sea have been somewhat

the data suggests that rising seawater temperature caused by climate change has buffered against measures for the protection of the Baltic Sea. "Nevertheless, the bordering countries should not subside in their efforts to protect the environment