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The fate of plastic in the oceans

Experiment shows: microplastics aggregate with natural particles

29.08.2018/Kiel. Although huge amounts of plastic are present in the oceans and new plastic material is constantly added, the concentrations of microplastics in the surface layer of the oceans are lower than expected. Researchers at the GEOMAR Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel, the Kiel Cluster of Excellence 'The Future Ocean' and the Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht experimentally demonstrated that microplastics interact with natural particles and form so-called aggregates in seawater. This aggregate formation could explain how microplastics sink from the ocean surface i

