



# DO MICROPLASTICS AFFECT TRIPLEFIN REPRODUCTION AND GROWTH?

Teresa Morrell MSc student

Department of Marine Science, University of Otago

The ocean is now full of macro and micro plastic. This causes problems for marine animals from blue whales to small fish like the Triplefin.



Do the chemicals used in plastics to make them flexible affect the reproductive output of the adults? How does this affect their offspring?

Triplefins will be exposed to microplastics during the reproductive period to quantify how microplastic exposure affects reproductive output



This is important because determining the effect of microplastics on a common prey species means that we may be able to understand potential affects on the ecosystem.