

## **Elevated Mercury Concentration in Cobia (*Rachycentron canadus*) of the Gulf of Thailand**

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Mercury concentration in fishes that inhabited in the vicinity of the natural gas platforms of the Gulf of Thailand had been monitored since 1991. However, it was difficult to make a conclusion on mercury contamination in fishes since several species of fishes were monitored. Different growth patterns and life spans could cause large variation in mercury uptake and mercury concentration in fish tissues. The samplings were conducted in four different areas, i.e. around the natural gas platforms in the middle of the gulf, Choburi province coastal area. Samplings were conducted during 1998 – 2000. The results showed that total mercury concentration in muscle tissues of the fish caught around the natural gas platforms were significantly higher than those of the three areas. The possible cause of this concentration was discussed.