Wastewater Inputs and Marine Bioaccumulation of Priority Pollutant Organics Off Southern California

David R. Young¹, Richard W. Gossett², Roger B. Baird³, David A. Brown², Paul A. Taylor⁴, Michael J. Millie⁴

¹Dames & Moore Marine Services, Los Angeles, CA
²Southern California Coastal Water Research Project, Long Beach, CA
³Los Angeles County Sanitation District, Whittier, CA
⁴California Analytical Laboratories, Sacramento, CA

INTRODUCTION

Halogenated hydrocarbons continue to be environmental contaminants of concern. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) list of 113 organic priority pollutants contains about 80 of these compounds. Many of the trace organics are of interest in water chlorination studies. The purpose of the investigations reported here was to determine (1) the importance of municipal wastewaters (primary, secondary, and sludge effluents) as a source of such contaminants to the marine ecosystem off southern California, and (2) the degree to which one major class—the volatile organics—accumulate in bottom sediments and organisms near the largest of these sources.

Due to distribution restrictions, the full-text version of this article is available by request only. Please contact pubrequest@sccwrp.org to request a copy.