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Synoptic survey of chlorinated hydrocarbon inputs to the southern California Bight

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ABSTRACT

Uncontaminated intertidal mussels transferred to a tautline buoy system near a major submarine outfall off southern California proved to be useful bio-indicators of water contamination. Mussel survival exceeded 90% and specimens maintained for 13 weeks near the polluted bottom (35 m) and the sea surface accumulated DDT above control concentrations by factors of 200 and 20, respectively. Corresponding factors for PCB were 60 and 6.

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