

Termination of Dominant California Input: 1970-77

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ABSTRACT

Through source controlled, total DDT annual emissions from the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts' submarine outfalls decreased by a factor of 30 between 1971 and 1977. Here we report persistent elevated levels of DDT residues measured in three species of marine fishes with distinctly different feeding habits. Over the study interval, median levels of DDT residues have decreased 3-fold (8-fold and 4- fold from peak medians) in flesh of black perch and kelp bass. However, there was no apparent decrease in Dover sole. The sediment reservoir is the likely source of persistent contamination of fishes in the discharge area.

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