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## Effects of Pollutants on Benthos

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### ABSTRACT

Intensive quantitative ecological studies of the benthos of the New York Bight were not begun until the early 1960's, by which time significant alteration of benthic communities had already occurred. This paper summarizes investigations on the effects of organic loading, petroleum hydrocarbons, synthetic organics (*e.g.*, pesticides and industrial compounds), and toxic metals on the structure and function of benthic communities of the New York Bight.

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