

## Archived Benthic Infauna Samples

In partial fulfillment of District's NPDES permit, the Ocean Monitoring Program conducts studies of benthic infaunal communities. Bottom (sediment) samples are collected quarterly (summer, fall, winter, spring) at 10 stations located along the 60 meter bottom depth contour (isobath). An additional 39 stations ranging in depth from about 20 meters to over 300 meters are sampled on an annual basis during the summer ([..\Maps\Annual Benthic Map.jpg](#) [..\Maps\Quarterly Benthic Map.jpg](#)) These samples are gently washed through a screen to obtain the infaunal organisms for taxonomic identification. The District has archived each sample collected since 1985 for verification, and future reference. Each station sample is sorted into five major groups: Polychaeta, Mollusca, Crustacea, Echinodermata and miscellaneous phyla. These various station jars containing the phyla vials are grouped according to survey number, which denotes the year and quarter that the samples were collected.

The database is not yet available on the web; however, interested parties may view the species list ([Benthic Infauna Species List.xls](#)) and contact us for further information regarding our database or to set up an appointment to view our archived samples ([link to us](#)).

For additional benthic infauna data associated with deep ocean outfalls, try browsing the links below:

- Southern California Coastal Water Research at <http://www.sccwrp.org>
- Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County at <http://www.lacsd.org>
- City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation at <http://www.cityofla.org/san/index.htm>
- City of San Diego Metro Wastewater Dept. at <http://www.sannet.gov/mwwd>