

Influence of the Zebra Mussel (*Dreissena polymorpha*) on the Accumulation of Organic Contaminants in the Saginaw Bay Food-Web

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This project ended in 1999

Overview

The goal of this project is to assess the impact of the zebra mussel on the distribution of contaminants in ecosystems dominated by this organism. The feeding activities of Zebra mussels may result in faster deposition of sediments and may also change the composition and mobility of materials on the bottom. The selected chemicals, primarily PCBs and PAHs, are representative of both their class and the physical and chemical characteristics embodied in these chemicals as model compounds. Compounds from other chemical classes will be used where specific characteristics will be helpful to determine specific processes or mechanisms of action.

1998 Accomplishments

The sample analysis and data collection was completed. The data is being analyzed and modeled.