



Common Subsistence and Sport Fish of Southern California



Pacific barracuda



Jacksmelt



Yellowtail



Pacific (Chub) mackerel



Pacific sardine



Pacific bonito



Topsmelt



Copper rockfish



Opaleye



Kelp bass



Black perch



Barred sandbass



Barred surfperch



California scorpionfish, sculpin



Yellowfin croaker



Spotfin croaker



Black croaker



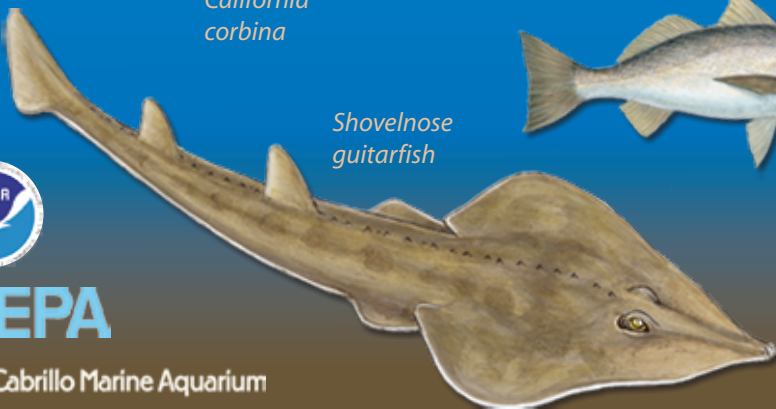
California corbina



Queenfish



White seabass



Shovelnose guitarfish



White croaker, kingfish, tomcod



California halibut





Montrose Settlements Restoration Program

Restoring natural resources injured by DDTs and PCBs

1 What are DDTs and PCBs?

DDTs and PCBs are toxic mixtures of chemicals that break down very slowly in the environment.

DDT was once a widely used pesticide. One of the largest DDT factories in the United States, Montrose Chemical Corporation, was located in Torrance, CA.

PCBs are a group of chemicals that are resistant to heat and pressure. They were used by many companies for things like making paints and cooling electrical parts.

2 Where did they come from?

Most of the DDTs and PCBs contaminating the marine environment near Los Angeles came from companies that dumped their waste products into the local sewer system many years ago.

Wastewater from these factories was discharged into the ocean through outfall pipes offshore of White Point, between San Pedro and Palos Verdes.

Although releases of DDTs and PCBs ended in the 1970s, over 100 tons of these chemicals still contaminate the sediments, water, and living organisms of Southern California.

3 What is being done?

Cleaning up the environment

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is studying ways to cap, clean or remove the contaminated sediments. For more information, visit www.epa.gov/region9/features/pvshelf/, or call (800) 231-3075.

Survey of contaminated fish

The Montrose Settlements Restoration Program (MSRP) and EPA conducted an extensive survey of contaminated fish along southern California. Results will be provided to the public and will be used to update local fishing advisories and the white croaker commercial catch ban area. The data will also be used to plan restoration projects, and will serve as a basis for EPA cleanup decisions.

Public outreach and education

MSRP has joined with EPA, government health agencies, and local community groups to give the public accurate information about the contaminated fish in the Los Angeles- Orange County area. Find out more at www.pvsfish.org or by calling (800) 231-3075.

Restoring healthier fishing

MSRP has developed several projects to provide anglers with more opportunities to fish for clean fish. Find out more at www.montrosere restoration.gov or by calling (562) 980-3236.



What can I do?

Reduce your exposure to DDTs and PCBs!

Fish Smart!

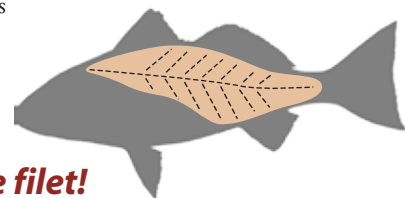
Some of the common fish along the Los Angeles and Orange county coasts are contaminated with the toxic chemicals DDTs and PCBs. The State of California has issued advisories to limit consumption of certain species in parts of the coast.

- Use this card to know the fish you catch.
- Look for signs posted at local piers.
- Talk to the members of community groups distributing information about contaminated fish at fishing areas, health clinics, and community events.
- Visit www.oehha.ca.gov/fish.html. The Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment offers information in English and in many other languages.

Cook Smart!

DDTs and PCBs build up in the fatty parts of fish. Try to cook in ways that reduce your exposure to these chemicals.

- Before cooking, remove and throw away the head, guts, kidneys, liver, skin, fat and belly area.
- Eat only the filet, especially when making soups, stews or chowder.
- Bake, broil, steam or grill fish, instead of frying.
- Throw away the cooking juices, which can contain higher concentrations of these chemicals.



Eat only the filet!