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Within 7 days of collecting foraging Surf Scoters, technicians took three samples with the Ekman grab (6 x 6 x 6 inches) at each collection site. Benthic samples were rinsed through a 0.5-mm sieve in the field, and stored in 70% ethanol and Rose Bengal solution until sorted and identified. For each organism, lengths (and widths of all mollusks) were measured to the nearest 0.1 mm. If there were more than 50 mollusks, then a random sample of 50 were measured. If there were more than 10 whole organisms of any other species (or taxa), a random sample of 10 were measured. After taking a wet weight of blotted specimens, technicians dried the samples in a drying oven (60°C) for four hours to determine the dry weights of samples.