

Fish Tissue Contaminants

Report of the Fish Consumption Advisory Workgroup
West Virginia 604(b) Project





Fish Consumption Advisory Workgroup Call Summary

- Call held on April 22nd
 - 5 mainstem states represented (Ohio was absent)
- States provided updates on recent activities
- Discussed 2015 Ohio River data
 - 44 composite samples - all from Ohio River mainstem
 - 2nd highest sample for PCBs since 2008
 - Common carp from mi 29 = 2.4 ppm
 - 2 samples >0.3 for Hg
 - Bigmouth Buffalo – rmi 777 = 0.32 ppm
 - Freshwater Drum – rmi 813.9 = 0.31 ppm (0.35 for MeHg)









FCAW Summary

- Discussed proposed 2016 Ohio River Fish Consumption Advisory updates
 - Background
 - ORSANCO collects samples to be analyzed by lab
 - ORSANCO receives & reviews data, then develops proposed advisories for states to consider based on ORFCAP
 - Upon consensus, ORSANCO updates web page (www.orsanco.org/fca)
 - 1 change for 2016:
 - elevate Sauger >14" to 1 ml/mo in Unit 4

Unit 1 Advisories - 2015
Pittsburgh, PA to Montgomery Locks and Dam
Major Cities: PA (Pittsburgh and Alliquippa)

For all fish not listed below please observe the 1 meal per week advisory due to mercury and other concerns

 Common Carp (Cyprinus carpio) All sizes Do Not Eat - PCBs	 Channel Catfish (Ictalurus punctatus) All sizes Do Not Eat - PCBs	 White Bass (Morone chrysops) All sizes 6 meals per year - PCBs
 Sauger (Sander canadensis) All sizes	 Walleye & Saugeye (Sander vitreus & S. vitreus x candensis) All sizes	 Freshwater Drum (Aplodinotus grunniens) All sizes

Ohio River Fish Consumption Advisories

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What are Fish Consumption Advisories?
Consumption advisories provide guidance to individuals or segments of the population that are at greater risk from exposure to contaminants in fish. Advisories are not regulatory standards, but are recommendations intended to provide additional information of particular interest to high-risk groups. These advisories apply only to recreationally caught sport fish in the Ohio River, not commercial fish. The federal Food and Drug Administration establishes the legal standards for contaminants in food sold commercially, including fish.

Click on the Ohio River map or the listed color-coded units for consumption advice in your area

Unit 1: Pittsburgh, PA to Montgomery Locks and Dam
Unit 2: Montgomery Locks and Dam to Belleville Locks and Dam
Unit 3: Belleville Locks and Dam to J. T. Myers Locks and Dam
Unit 4: J. T. Myers Locks and Dam to the Mississippi River

Where Do You Fish?
Advisories for each section of the Ohio River

Health Benefits
Associated with consuming Ohio River Fish

Preparing Your Meal
How to properly clean your fresh-caught fish

Interested in a particular species?
(see "Species Advisories" in left sidebar)

Fishing elsewhere within the Ohio River Basin?
(see "State Advisories" in left sidebar)



FCAW Summary

- Update on Consistency for Ohio River Advisories
 - KY updated Ohio River advisories in 2015
 - All 6 main-stem states now defer directly to ORFCAP
 - 4 of 6 main stem states signed MOU
 - IL currently making progress
 - PA?
- One challenge
 - IL does not issue advisories for what might be considered commercial species
 - (e.g., suckers)
 - IN & KY share a segment with IL in which data indicate need for 1 ml/mo advisory for suckers
 - IN & KY do not distinguish between sport & commercial fish
 - More discussion to follow

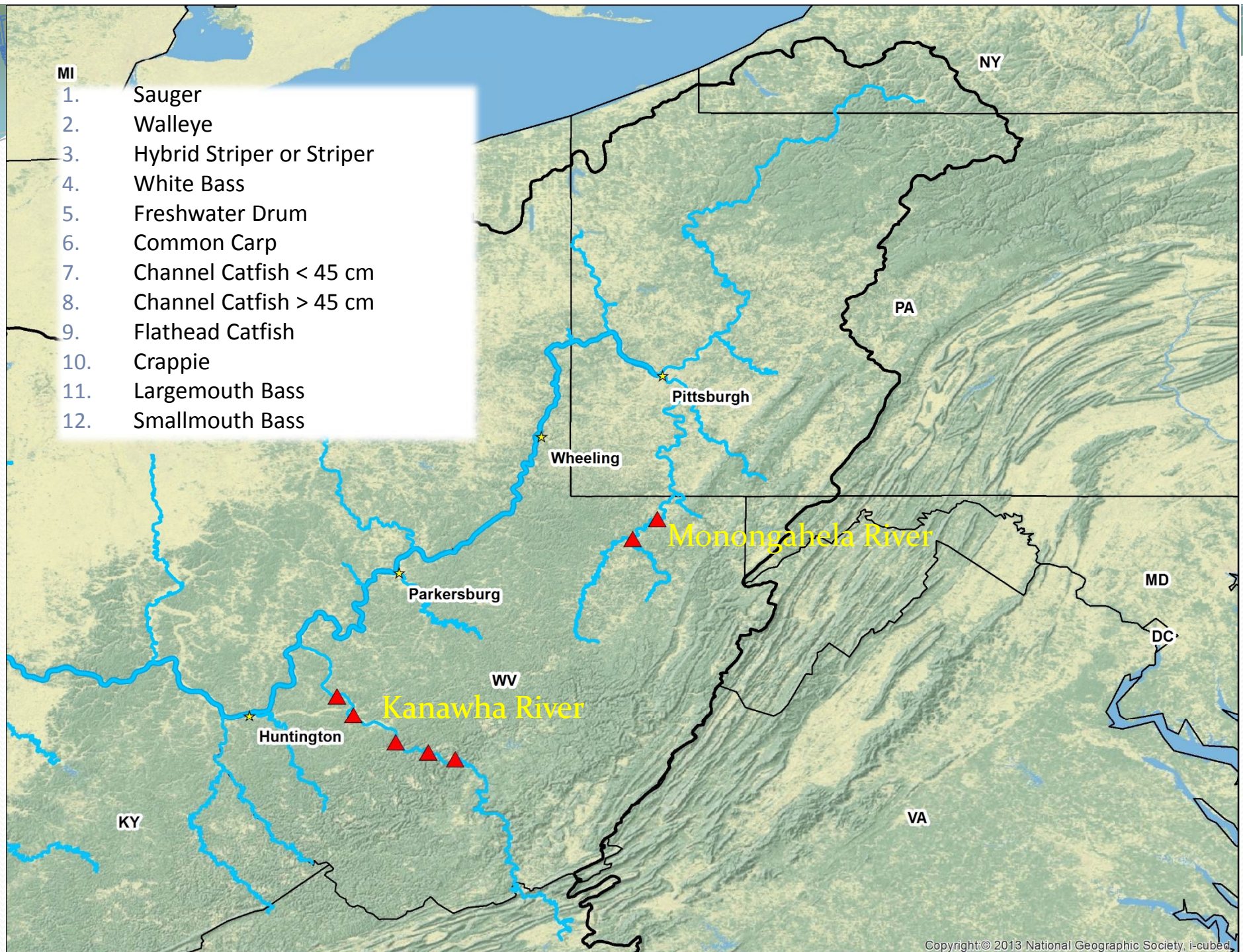


WV 604(b) Fish Tissue Project

- Proposal submitted to WVDEP to conduct survey of fish tissue contaminants in Kanawha & Monongahela rivers
 - Project funded through 604(b) pass-through funding
- Kanawha River historically contaminated with PCBs & Dioxins
- Will analyze 12 samples from 7 locations
 - Analytes – PCBs (Aroclors), Dioxins, Total Hg, Methyl Hg
 - Whole fish & Fillets
 - Using same 3-5 fish composites

MI

1. Sauger
2. Walleye
3. Hybrid Striper or Striper
4. White Bass
5. Freshwater Drum
6. Common Carp
7. Channel Catfish < 45 cm
8. Channel Catfish > 45 cm
9. Flathead Catfish
10. Crappie
11. Largemouth Bass
12. Smallmouth Bass





Timeframe/Progress

- Spring 2016
 - 2 rounds of sampling on each river
 - Composite individuals across rounds
 - 2nd trip to Kanawha being completed this week
 - 1st trip to Mon completed
- Fall 2016
 - 2 rounds of sampling on each river
 - Fall/Spring individuals will not be composited
- Spring 2017 – data analysis/report writing
- Summer 2017 – draft report to WVDEP



Summary

- Benefits to ORSANCO
 - Offsets 12 weeks of staff time
 - Gives us 1st hand picture of major tributaries
 - Better understanding of how they affect main stem
- Benefits to State
 - Data collected and analyzed by trusted (we hope) entity
 - Can contribute insight into project possibly not available by consulting firm