



November 2-5, 2009
Portland, Oregon

2009 National Forum on Contaminants in Fish

The Governor Hotel • Portland, Oregon

November 2-5, 2009

Section I

Agenda



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Monday, November 2, 2009

8:00 – 8:30

Welcome

*United States Environmental Protection Agency
Evelyn Washington
Associate Director of the Standards and Health Division (SHPD)
Office of Science and Technology*

*Oregon Department of Human Services
Gail R. Shibley, Administrator
Office of Environmental Public Health
Oregon Public Health Division*

Regional Issues: Focus on the Northwest Region

Moderator:

Amy Kyle, University of California, Berkeley

8:30 – 8:40

Introduction

8:40 – 9:05

Reducing Toxics in Fish in the Columbia River Basin

Mary Lou Soscia, U.S. EPA, Region 10

9:05 – 9:30

Fish Consumption Rates in Oregon

Kathleen Feehan, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation DNR

9:30 – 9:55

Toxic Pollutant Reduction Initiatives in Oregon

Jennifer Wigal, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

9:55 – 10:15

Break

Regional Issues: Focus on the Northwest Region (continued)

10:15 – 10:40

Evaluation of Contaminants in Puget Sound and Resulting Fish Advisory

Joan Hardy, Washington State Department of Health

10:40 – 11:05

Overview of Freshwater Fish Tissue Contaminant Monitoring in Washington State

Dale Norton, Washington State Department of Ecology

11:05 – 11:30

Update on Washington State's Fish Advice and Healthy Fish Guide

Liz Carr, Washington State Department of Health

11:30 – 11:55 **n-3 Fatty Acid Intake and Longitudinal Mercury Exposure from Fish Consumption within the Japanese and Korean Communities**
Ami Tsuchiya, University of Washington

11:55 – 1:10 **Lunch (on your own)**

Sampling and Analysis Issues

Moderator:

Robert Duff, Washington State Department of Ecology

1:10 – 1:20 **Introduction**

1:20 – 1:45 **Results of the EPA Pilot Study of Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products in Fish Tissue**
John Wathen, Office of Science and Technology, Office of Water, U.S. EPA

1:45 – 2:10 **Review of the National Lake Fish Tissue Study Final Report**
Leanne Stahl, Office of Science and Technology, Office of Water, U.S. EPA

2:10 – 2:35 **National Survey of Mercury in Fish, Bed Sediment, and Water from Streams**
Barbara Scudder, U.S. Geological Survey

2:35 – 3:00 **Environmental Contaminants: Regional Trends in Alaskan Fishes**
Robert Gerlach, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

3:00 – 3:25 **Hair Mercury Biomonitoring Results from Alaska and Hawaii—Demonstrating the Value of Local Fish Consumption Advice**
Lori Verbrugge, Alaska Division of Public Health
Barbara Brooks, Hawaii Department of Health

3:25 – 3:45 **Break**

Sampling and Analysis Issues (continued)

3:45 – 4:30 **Mercury and PCBs in Asian Market Fish: A Response to Results from Mercury Biomonitoring in New York City**
Wendy McKelvey, New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
Tissue Analysis for Mercury and PCBs from a New York City Commercial Seafood Market
Moses Chang, U.S. EPA, Region 2

4:30 – 4:55 **Mercury Cycling in the North Pacific Ocean: Implications for Fisheries**
Elsie Sunderland, Harvard University

4:55 – 5:20 **A Comparison of Non-Lethal Techniques for the Measurement of Mercury in Fish Tissue**
Kristofer Rolfhus, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse

7:00 – 9:00 **Social and Poster Displays**

Tuesday, November 3, 2009

Risk Assessment and Toxicology

Moderator:

Randall Manning, Georgia Department of Natural Resources

- 8:00 – 8:10 **Introduction**
- 8:10 – 8:35 **Updates to Michigan's Fish Screening Levels Using Reference Doses, Starting with Toxaphene**
Jennifer Gray, Michigan Department of Community Health
- 8:35 – 9:15 **Toxicology of Perfluoroalkyl Acids**
Christopher Lau, Office of Research and Development, U.S. EPA
- 9:15 – 9:40 **U.S. EPA's Provisional Health Advisory Values for PFOA and PFOS**
Joyce Donohue, Health and Ecological Criteria Division, Office of Water, U.S. EPA
- 9:40 – 10:05 **Comparability and Standardization of Methods for PFC Analysis in Fish Fillets**
Michelle Malinsky, 3M Environmental Laboratory
- 10:05 – 10:25 **Break**

Risk Assessment and Toxicology (continued)

- 10:25 – 10:30 **PFCs in Fish— Introduction and Survey Results**
Randall Manning, Georgia Department of Natural Resources
- 10:30 – 11:45 **PFCs in Fish— Data Presentations Followed by Questions and Answers Panel Discussion**
Minnesota and Wisconsin Data, Minnesota Fish Consumption Advisory
Pat McCann, Minnesota Department of Health
Southeast Data
Neil Sass, Alabama Department of Public Health
Washington Data
Chad Furl, Washington State Department of Ecology
Delaware River Basin Commission Data
Thomas Fikslin, Delaware River Basin Commission
- 11:45 – 11:55 **Remembering Kate Mahaffey**
- 11:55 – 1:05 **Lunch (on your own)**

Plenary Presentation

- 1:05 – 1:30 **Update on U.S. EPA Dioxin Reassessment**
Rita Schoeny, Office of Water, U.S. EPA

Risk Communication

Moderator:

Robert Brodberg, California Environmental Protection Agency

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| 1:30 – 1:40 | Introduction |
| 1:40 – 2:05 | A Qualitative Study of How Women Make Meaning of Contradictory Media Messages about the Risks of Eating Fish
<i>Jennifer Vardeman-Winter, University of Houston</i> |
| 2:05 – 2:30 | Fishers Weigh In: Benefits and Risks of Eating Great Lakes Fish from the Consumer's Perspective
<i>Judy Sheeshka, University of Guelph</i> |
| 2:30 – 2:55 | Communicating Advisories on the Risk of Mercury in Fish to the Chinese-Canadian Community
<i>Maxine Fung, University of Guelph</i> |
| 2:55 – 3:15 | Break |
| Risk Communication (continued) | |
| 3:15 – 3:40 | Qualitative Evaluation of Sport Fish Consumption Advisories in California and Strategies for Effective Communication
<i>Alyce Ujihara, California Department of Public Health</i> |
| 3:40 – 4:05 | Exploring the Potential of a Point System for Communicating Fish Consumption Guidance
<i>Chung Nim Ha, Alaska Division of Public Health</i> |
| 4:05 – 4:30 | Development, Implementation, and Evaluation of Risk-Based Fish Consumption Advice for Anishinaabe in Northern Wisconsin, Michigan, and Minnesota
<i>Jeffery Foran, EHSI, LLC; University of Illinois-Chicago</i> |
| 4:30 – 4:55 | Development, Validation, and Dissemination of a Seafood Safety Wallet Card
<i>Charles Santerre, Purdue University</i> |
| 4:55 – 5:20 | Social Media Tools for Government: From Brochures to Blogs
<i>Lars Ullberg, Director, Applied Creative Training</i> |

Wednesday, November 4, 2009

Plenary Presentation

- 8:00 – 8:30 **Can We Maximize Nutritional Intake While Minimizing Toxic Risk from Fish Consumption? An Update of Our Knowledge on Mercury and Omega-3 Fatty Acids from Marine and Freshwater Fish Consumption**
Donna Mergler, University of Quebec

Risks and Benefits

Moderator:

Henry Anderson, Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services

- 8:30 – 8:40 **Introduction**
- 8:40 – 9:05 **Approach for Assessing Mercury Risks and Omega-3 Fatty Acid Benefits in Developing Fish Consumption Advice**
Gary Ginsberg, Connecticut Department of Public Health
- 9:05 – 9:30 **Quantitative Approach to Methylmercury-Omega-3 Fatty Acids Risk Benefit Analysis Based on Joint Regression in Population-Based Studies**
Alan Stern, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
- 9:30 – 9:55 **Composite Benefit-Risk and Dose Curve for Fish Consumption: Mercury vs. Beneficial Nutrients**
Michael Gochfeld, CRESPE-Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Institute, New Jersey
- 9:55 – 10:20 **Recent Advances in Our Knowledge of Mercury and Selenium on Human Health**
Melanie Lemire, University of Quebec
- 10:20 – 10:45 **Omega-3 Fatty Acid Levels in Fish: Data Quality, Quantity, and Future Needs**
Bruce Holub, University of Guelph
- 10:45 – 11:05 **Break**

Risks and Benefits (continued)

- 11:05 – 12:05 **Quantitative Approaches to Methylmercury-Omega-3 Risk Benefit Approaches to Fish Consumption Advisories**
Questions and Answers Panel Discussion
Gary Ginsberg, Alan Stern, Michael Gochfeld, Melanie Le Mire, Bruce Holub, Henry Anderson
- 12:05 – 1:10 **Lunch (on your own)**
- 1:10 – 1:15 **Debate – Are fish advisory programs effective? Introduction**
Ibrahim Goodwin, Office of Science and Technology, U.S. EPA

1:15 – 2:25 **Debate – Are federal/state fish advisory programs effective in protecting public health as an interim measure until the nation’s waters are restored to fishable status?**

Moderator: John W. Davis, II, JD, Debate Solutions

West team:

*Gordon Stables, Coach, and Marilyn Katzman, Debator, University of Southern California
Anjali Vats, Coach, and Zach Tschida, Debator, University of Puget Sound*

East team:

*Paul Harold, Coach, and Tripp Rebrovick, Debator, Harvard University
Tim O'Donnell, Coach, and Ben Saunders, Debator, University of Mary Washington*

2:25 – 2:40 **Break**

Risk Management

Moderator:

Brian Toal, Connecticut Department of Public Health

2:40 – 2:50 **Introduction**

2:50 – 3:15 **Consistent Interstate Advisories: A Risk Management Exercise**

Eric Frohmborg, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention/Department of Health and Human Services

3:15 – 3:40 **The Risk of Cancer Risk Assessments for Fish Consumption Advisories**

Dave Stone, Oregon State University

3:40 – 4:05 **Are Lake Trout, *Salvelinus namaycush*, from Flathead Lake, MT, “Safe” to Eat?**

Katie McDonald, Salish Kootenai College

4:05 – 4:30 **Risk Management: When Benefits Are at Risk**

Bruce Hope, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

4:30 – 4:55 **Comparative Analysis of State Fish Consumption Advisories Targeting Sensitive Populations**

Elaine Faustman, University of Washington

4:55 – 5:15 **Closing Remarks**

General Forum Moderators:

*Denise Hawkins, Office of Science and Technology, Office of Water, U.S. EPA
Deanna Conners, Oregon Department of Human Services*

Thursday, November 5, 2009

State and Tribal Regional Work Groups

Topics of Interest to Group Members

8:30 – 11:30 **State and Tribal Regional Work Groups**