

Columbia River Basin Toxic Contaminants Reference List

At the May 2019 Columbia River Toxics Reduction Working Group meeting, individuals requested a comprehensive list of materials on toxics in the watershed. Intended as a reference resource for Working Group members and other entities working to address toxics, this document contains peer-reviewed science and federal, state, and tribal government reports/publications related to toxic pollutants in the aquatic environment in the Columbia River Basin. The materials are primarily organized by location (Table 1). Where appropriate, publications are further organized by watersheds or TMDL planning areas.

The reference list may be periodically updated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. To correct errors, broken web-links, or to suggest relevant publications that should be added to the document email Mary Lou Soscia, EPA’s Columbia River Coordinator (Soscia.MaryLou@epa.gov), or David Gruen, ORISE Participant (Gruen.David@epa.gov).

Table 1. Location of references within the document by subject.

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Basin-wide/Mainstem Columbia River Resources:

1. Alvarez, D., Perkins, S., Nilsen, E., and Morace, J. (2014). Spatial and temporal trends in occurrence of emerging and legacy contaminants in the Lower Columbia River 2008–2010. *Science of the Total Environment*, 484, 322-330. [Link](#).
2. Columbia River Toxics Reduction Working Group, Contaminant and Media Subgroup. (2007). *Prioritization of Toxics in the Columbia River*. [Link](#).
3. Columbia River Toxics Reduction Working Group. (2011). *Monitoring Prioritization Peer Input Workshop Summary and Potential Action Items*. Not available on the web.
4. Columbia River Toxics Reduction Working Group. (2018). *Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons: Locations in the Columbia River Basin Where the Toxics Could be Affecting Fish and Wildlife*. Retrieved from: <https://app.nwccouncil.org/ext/maps/Contaminants/>.
5. Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission. (1994). *A fish consumption survey of the Umatilla, Nez Perce, Yakama and Warm Springs Tribes of the Columbia River Basin*. CRITFC Technical Report No. 94-3. Portland, OR. [Link](#).

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12. Henny, J.C., Grove, R.A., and Hedstrom, O.R. (1996). A Field Evaluation of Mink and River Otter on the Lower Columbia River and the Influence of Environmental Contaminants. ODEQ: 143-94; WDE: C9500038. The Lower Columbia River Bi-State Water Quality Program. [Link](#).
13. Henny, C. J., Grove, R.A., Kaiser, J.L., and Bentley, V.R. (2004). An Evaluation of Osprey Eggs to Determine Spatial Residue Patterns and Effects of Contaminants along the Lower Columbia River, U.S.A. *Raptors Worldwide, WWGBP/MME, Budapest, Hungary*, 369-88. [Link](#).
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15. Henny, C.J., Kaiser, J.L., Grove, R.A., Johnson, B.L., and Letcher, R.J. (2009). Polybrominated diphenyl ether flame retardants in eggs may reduce reproductive success of ospreys in Oregon and Washington, USA. *Ecotoxicology*, 18(7), 802-813. [Link](#).
16. Herger, L. G., Edmond, L., and Hayslip, G. (2017). Mid-Columbia River Fish Toxics Assessment: EPA Region 10 Report. EPA-910-R-17-002. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10, Seattle, WA. [Link](#).
17. Hinck, J.E., Schmidt, C., Blazer, V., Denslow, N., Bartish, T., Anderson, P., Coyle, J., Dethloff, G., and Tillit, D. (2006). Environmental contaminants and biomarker responses in fish from the Columbia

River and its tributaries: Spatial and temporal trends. *Science of the Total Environment* 36: 549-578. [Link](#).

18. Hulstrom, L.C. (2010). Field Summary Report for Remedial Investigation of Hanford Site Releases to the Columbia River, Hanford Site, Washington: Collection of Surface Water, Pore Water, and Sediment Samples for Characterization of Groundwater Upwelling. WCH-380 Rev. 1. Washington Closure Hanford. [Link](#).
19. Hulstrom, L.C. (2011). Data Summary Report for the Remedial Investigation of Hanford Site Releases to the Columbia River, Hanford Site, Washington. WCH-398 Rev. 0. Washington Closure Hanford. [Link](#).
20. Morace, J.L. 2012. Reconnaissance of contaminants in selected wastewater-treatment-plant effluent and stormwater runoff entering the Columbia River, Columbia River Basin, Washington and Oregon, 2008–10. U.S. Geological Survey: Scientific Investigations Report 2012–5068. [Link](#).
21. Nilsen, E., Zaugg, S., Alvarez, D., Morace, J., Waite, I., Counihan, T., Hardiman, J., Torres, L., Patiño, R., Mesa, M., and Grove, R. 2014. Contaminants of legacy and emerging concern in largescale suckers (*Catostomus macrocheilus*) and the foodweb in the lower Columbia River, Oregon and Washington, USA. *Science of the Total Environment*, 484: 344-352. [Link](#).
22. Nilsen, E.B., and Morace, J. (2014). Foodweb transfer, sediment transport, and biological impacts of emerging and legacy organic contaminants in the lower Columbia River, Oregon and Washington, USA: USGS Contaminants and Habitat (ConHab) Project. [Link](#).
23. Nilsen, E.B., Hapke, W.B., McIlraith, B., and Markovchick, D. (2015). Reconnaissance of Contaminants in Larval Pacific Lamprey (*Entosphenus tridentatus*) Tissues and Habitats in the Columbia River Basin, Oregon and Washington, USA. *Environmental Pollution*, Vol. 201: 121-130. [Link](#).
24. Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. (2012). Regional Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program: 2009 Lower mid-Columbia River Ecological Assessment Final Report. 12/LAB/006. [Link](#).
25. U.S. Department of Energy. (2008). Remedial Investigation Work Plan for Hanford Site Releases to the Columbia River. DOE/RL-2008-11. [Link](#).
26. U.S. Department of Energy. (2012a). Columbia River Component Risk Assessment, Volume I Part 1: Screening-Level Ecological Risk Assessment. DOE/RL-2010-117 Rev. 0. [Link](#).
27. U.S. Department of Energy. (2012b). Columbia River Component Risk Assessment, Volume I, Part 2: Screening-Level Ecological Risk Assessment. DOE/RL-2010-117 Rev. 0. [Link](#).
28. U.S. Department of Energy. (2012c). Columbia River Component Risk Assessment, Volume II Part 1: Baseline Human Health Risk Assessment. DOE/RL-2010-117 Rev. 0. U.S. Department of Energy. [Link](#).
29. U.S. Department of Energy. (2012d). Columbia River Component Risk Assessment, Volume II, Part 2: Baseline Human Health Risk Assessment. DOE/RL-2010-117 Rev. 0. U.S. Department of Energy. [Link](#).

30. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. (1992a). National Study of Chemical Residues in Fish: Volume I. EPA 823-R-92-008a. [Link](#).
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32. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 10. (1991). Total Maximum Daily Loading (TMDL) to Limit Discharges of 2,3,7,8-TCDD (Dioxin) to the Columbia River Basin. Washington Department of Ecology. Publication No. 09-10-058. [Link](#).
33. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 10. (2002). Columbia River Fish Contaminant Survey: 1996-1998. EPA 910-R-02-006. [Link](#).
34. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 10. (2009). Columbia River Basin: State of the River for Toxics. EPA 910-R-08-004. [Link](#).
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36. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 10. (2019). 2019 Status Update: Columbia River Basin Toxics Reduction. [Link](#).
37. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 10 and The Columbia River Toxics Reduction Working Group. (2010). Columbia River Basin Toxics Reduction Action Plan. [Link](#).
38. Washington State Department of Human Health. (2017). Human Health Evaluation of Contaminants in Resident Fish from the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River. [Link](#).
39. Washington State Department of Human Health. (2012). Human Health Evaluation of Contaminants in Upper Columbia River Fish. DOH 334-317. [Link](#).
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Idaho State Specific Resources:

[Coeur d'Alene River Watershed Water Quality Documents](#)

41. Dillon, F.S., and Mebane, C.A. (2002). Development of Site-Specific Water Quality Criteria for the South Fork Coeur d'Alene River, Idaho: Application of Site-Specific Water Quality Criteria Developed in headwater Reaches to Downstream Waters. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality: Boise, ID [Link](#).
42. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. (2001). Subbasin Assessment and Total Maximum Daily Loads of the North Fork Coeur d'Alene River (17010301). Idaho Department of Environmental Quality: Coeur d'Alene, ID. [Link](#).

43. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality and Coeur d'Alene Tribe. (2009). Coeur d'Alene Lake Management Plan. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality: Coeur d'Alene, ID; and Coeur d'Alene Tribe: Plummer, ID. [Link](#).
 44. Mebane, C.A. (2003). Development of Site-Specific Water Quality Criteria for the South Fork Coeur d'Alene River, Idaho: Comparisons of Cadmium Criteria to the Results Toxicity Testing with Species Resident to the South Fork Coeur d'Alene River. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality: Boise, ID. [Link](#).
 45. Windward Environmental. (2002). Development of Site-Specific Water Quality Criteria for the South Fork Coeur d'Alene River, Idaho: Derivation of Acute and Chronic Criteria for Lead and Zinc. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality: Boise, ID. [Link](#).
- [Hells Canyon Complex Water Quality Documents:](#)*
46. Brandt, D. and Bridges, M. (2007). Evaluation for Total Mercury Contamination in Brownlee Reservoir Tributary Streams, Snake River-Hells Canyon TMDL, Idaho and Oregon. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, Boise ID. [Link](#).
 47. Clark, G.M., Naymik, J., Krabbenhoft, D.P., Eagles-Smith, C.A., Aiken, G.R., Marvin-DiPasquale, M.C., Reed, C.H., and Myers, R. (2016). Mercury Cycling in the Hells Canyon Complex of the Snake River, Idaho and Oregon (No. 2016-3051). U.S. Geological Survey. [Link](#).
 48. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality and Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. (2004). Snake River – Hells Canyon Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). [Link](#).
 49. Stone, H. (2006). Brownlee Reservoir Mercury TMDL Fish Tissue Study: Results and Field Summary. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality: Boise, ID. [Link](#).
 50. Stone, H. (2008). Brownlee Reservoir Mercury TMDL Water Column Study: Results and Field Summary. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality: Boise, ID. [Link](#).
- [Miscellaneous Water Quality Documents:](#)*
51. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. (2007a). Lower Clark Fork River Subbasin Assessment and Total Maximum Daily Loads. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality: Boise, ID. [Link](#).
 52. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. (2007b). Orofino Creek Mercury Monitoring Project Final Report. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality: Boise, ID. [Link](#).
 53. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. (2007c). Upper Portneuf River Fish Tissue and Water Column Mercury Sampling Results. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality: Boise, ID. [Link](#).
 54. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. (2017). Lower Salmon River Mercury Fish Tissue Sampling Project Report: Assessment Unit ID17060209SL008_07— Slate Creek to Rice Creek. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality: Boise, ID. [Link](#).
 55. Lay, C.H., and Shumar, M. (2007). Salmon Falls Creek Subbasin Assessment and Total Maximum Daily Loads. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality: Boise, ID. [Link](#).

56. Xin, D., and Ingham, M. (2009). Analysis of Total Mercury Concentrations in Fish Samples from Jordan Creek and Non-Jordan Creek Sites. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality: Boise, ID. [Link](#).

[Selenium Project Southeast Idaho Phosphate Area Water Quality Documents:](#)

57. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. (2005). Selenium Project Southeast Idaho Phosphate Mining Resource Area: Water Quality Sampling for Metals – Blackfoot River and Tributaries (HUC 17040207) and Selected Bear River Tributaries (HUC 16010201) 9 – 13 May 2005. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality: Boise, ID. [Link](#).
58. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. (2006). Selenium Project Southeast Idaho Phosphate Mining Resource Area: Water Quality Sampling for Metals – Blackfoot River and Tributaries (HUC 17040207), Selected Bear River Tributaries (HUC 16010201), and Selected Salt River Tributaries (HUC 1704105) 8 – 19 May 2006. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality: Boise, ID. [Link](#).
59. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. (2007d). Selenium Project Southeast Idaho Phosphate Mining Resource Area: Water Quality Sampling for Metals – Blackfoot River and Tributaries (HUC 17040207), Selected Bear River Tributaries (HUC 16010201), and Selected Salt River Tributaries (HUC 1704105) May 11 – 24, 2007. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality: Boise, ID. [Link](#).

[Statewide Water Quality Documents:](#)

60. Adams, M. (2008). 2006 River Monitoring Mercury Report. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality: Boise, ID. [Link](#).
61. Essig, D.A. (2010). Arsenic, mercury, and selenium in fish tissue and water from Idaho's major rivers: a statewide assessment. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality: Boise, ID. [Link](#).
62. Essig, D.A., and Kosterman, M.A. (2008). Arsenic, Mercury, and Selenium in Fish Tissue from Idaho Lakes and Reservoirs: A Statewide Assessment. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality: Boise, ID. [Link](#).
63. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. (2008a). Mercury in Fish Fact Sheet. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality: Boise, ID. [Link](#).
64. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. (2008b). Focus on Mercury Monitoring. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality: Boise, ID. [Link](#).
65. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. (2013). Wet Deposition of Mercury in Idaho: Analysis of Results from the Mercury Deposition Mercury Network and Comparison to the REMSAD Model. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality: Boise, ID. [Link](#).
66. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, Negotiated Rulemaking Committee. (2005). Implementation Guidance for the Idaho Mercury Water Quality Criteria. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality: Boise, ID. [Link](#).
67. Idaho Department of Health and Welfare. (Date Unknown). Eat Fish, Be Smart, Choose Wisely: A guide to safe fish consumption for fish caught in Idaho waters. [Link](#).

Montana State Specific Resources:

[Abandoned-Inactive Mine Reports:](#)

68. Hargrave, P.A., Bowler, T.B., Lonn, J.D., Madison, J.P., Metesh, J.J., and Wintergerst, R. (1998). Abandoned-inactive mines of the Blackfoot-Little Blackfoot River Drainages, Helena National Forest. Open-File Report 368. Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology. [Link](#).
69. Hargrave, P.A., English, A.R., Kerschen, M.D., Liva, G.W., Lonn, J.D., Madison, J.P., Metesh, J.J., and Wintergerst, R. (1999). Abandoned-inactive mines of the Kootenai National Forest-Administered Land. Open-File Report 395. Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology. [Link](#).
70. Hargrave, P.A., Kerschen, M.D., McDonald, C., Metesh, J.J., and Wintergerst, R. (2003). Abandoned-inactive mines on Lolo National Forest administered lands. Open-File Report 476. Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology. [Link](#).
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[Blackfoot Headwaters TMDL Planning Area Water Quality Documents:](#)

75. Montana Department of Environmental Quality. (2003). Water Quality Restoration Plan for Metals in the Blackfoot Headwaters TMDL Planning Area. Montana Department of Environmental Quality: Helena, MT. [Link](#).
76. Montana Department of Environmental Quality. (2008). Middle Blackfoot-Nevada Creek Total Maximum Daily Loads and Water Quality Improvement Plan. Montana Department of Environmental Quality: Helena, MT. [Link](#).
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80. Montana Department of Environmental Quality. (2013). Bonita-Superior Metals TMDLs. Montana Department of Environmental Quality: Helena, MT. [Link](#).
81. Montana Department of Environmental Quality. (2014a). Final - Silver Bow Creek and Clark Fork River Metals TMDLs. Montana Department of Environmental Quality: Helena, MT. [Link](#).
82. Montana Department of Environmental Quality. (2014b). Addendum to Upper Clark Fork River Tributaries Sediment, Metals, and Temperature TMDLs and Framework for Water Quality Restoration Montana Department of Environmental Quality: Helena, MT. [Link](#).
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84. Montana Department of Environmental Quality. (2005). Water Quality Restoration Plan and Total Maximum Daily Loads for the Ninemile Planning Area. Montana Department of Environmental Quality: Helena, MT. [Link](#).

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88. Barth, M., Larissa, L., Roberts, R., and Hackathorn, C. (2016). Little Blackfoot River Watershed Restoration Plan. Trout Unlimited, Missoula, MT. [Link](#).
89. Montana Department of Environmental Quality and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 8. (2011). Little Blackfoot Watershed TMDLs and Framework Water Quality Improvement Plan. Helena, MT: Montana Dept. of Environmental Quality; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8. [Link](#).
90. Montana Department of Environmental Quality and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 8. (2014a). Little Blackfoot River Watershed TMDLs and Framework Water Quality Improvement Plan – Metals Addendum. Helena, MT: Montana Dept. of Environmental Quality; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8. [Link](#).

Miscellaneous Watersheds Water Quality Documents:

91. Montana Department of Environmental Quality. (2014c). Thompson Project Area Metals, Nutrients, Sediment, and Temperature TMDLs and Water Quality Improvement Plan - Final. Montana Department of Environmental Quality: Helena, MT. [Link](#).
92. Montana Department of Environmental Quality and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 8. (2014b). Kootenai-Fisher Project Area Metals, Nutrients, Sediment, and Temperature TMDLs and Water Quality Improvement Plan. Montana Department of Environmental Quality: Helena, MT. [Link](#).
93. Montana Department of Environmental Quality and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 8. (2014c). Final – Bitterroot Watershed Total Maximum Daily Loads and Water Quality Improvement Plan. Montana Department of Environmental Quality: Helena, MT. [Link](#).
94. Montana Department of Environmental Quality. (2006). Total Maximum Daily Loads for Metals in Prospect Creek Watershed, Sanders County, Montana. Montana Department of Environmental Quality: Helena, MT. [Link](#).
95. Montana Department of Environmental Quality. (2013). Rock Creek Watershed Total Maximum Daily Loads and Water Quality Improvement Plan. Montana Department of Environmental Quality: Helena, MT. [Link](#).

Oregon State Specific Resources:

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97. Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. (2015a). Statewide Water Quality Toxics Assessment Report. Oregon Department of Environmental Quality: Portland, OR. [Link](#).
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100. Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. (2018). DEQ Integrated Toxics Reduction Strategy: 2018 Update. Oregon Department of Environmental Quality: Portland, OR. [Link](#).
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103. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 10. (2019). Willamette Basin Mercury Total Maximum Daily Load. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 10: Seattle, WA. [Link](#).

Tribal Government Specific Resources:

104. Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission. (1994). A fish consumption survey of the Umatilla, Nez Perce, Yakama and Warm Springs Tribes of the Columbia River Basin. CRITFC Technical Report No. 94-3. Portland, OR. [Link](#).
105. Harper, B.L., and Walker, D.E. (2015). Columbia basin heritage fish consumption rates. *Human Ecology*, 43(2), 237-245. [Link](#).
106. Polissar, N.L., Salisbury, A., Ridolfi, C., Callahan, K., Neradilek, M., Hippe, D.S., and Beckley, W.H. (2016a). A Fish Consumption Survey of the Nez Perce Tribe. Nez Perce Tribe and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. [Link](#).
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110. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 10. (2016). Idaho Tribal Fish Consumption Survey Fact Sheet. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 10: Seattle, WA. [Link](#).

Miscellaneous Resources:

111. Hu, X.C., Andrews, D.Q., Lindstrom, A.B., Bruton, T.A., Schaidler, L.A., Grandjean, P., Lohmann, R., Carignan, C.C., Blum, A., Balan, S.A., Higgins, C.P., and Sunderland, E. M. (2016). Detection of poly- and perfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs) in US drinking water linked to industrial sites, military fire training areas, and wastewater treatment plants. *Environmental science and technology letters*, 3(10), 344-350. [Link](#).
112. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. (2015a). EPA's Safer Choice Standard. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. [Link](#).
113. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. (2015b). Tools Strategies and Lessons Learned from EPA Green Infrastructure Technical Assistance Projects. EPA-832-R-15-016. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. [Link](#).

Washington State Specific Resources:

[Lake Chelan Watershed Water Quality Documents:](#)

114. Anderson, R. and Peterschmidt, M. (2008). Lake Chelan DDT and PCB TMDL: Water Quality Implementation Plan. Publication No. 08-10-048. Washington State Department of Ecology: Olympia, WA. [Link](#).
115. Coots, R. and Era-Miller, B. (2006) Lake Chelan DDT and PCBs in Fish Total Maximum Daily Load Study. Publication No. 05-03-014. Washington State Department of Ecology: Olympia, WA. [Link](#).
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[Lower Okanogan River Watershed Water Quality Documents:](#)

117. Newell, E. (2011). Lower Okanogan River Basin DDT and PCB Total Maximum Daily Load: Water Quality Effectiveness Monitoring Report. Publication No. 11-03-009. Washington State Department of Ecology: Olympia, WA. [Link](#).
118. Peterschmidt, M. (2004). Lower Okanogan River Basin DDT and PCBs Total Maximum Daily Load: Submittal Report. Publication No. 04-10-043. Washington State Department of Ecology: Olympia, WA. [Link](#).
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[Lower Similkameen River Watershed Water Quality Documents:](#)

120. Era-Miller, B. (2007). Similkameen River and Palmer Lake Investigation of Arsenic in Fish Tissue. Publication No. 07-03-034. Washington State Department of Ecology: Olympia, WA. [Link](#).
121. Peterschmidt, M. (2004). Lower Similkameen River Arsenic Total Maximum Daily Load: Submittal Report for Joint Issuance. Publication No. 03-10-074. Washington State Department of Ecology: Olympia, WA. [Link](#).
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