

2022 Fish Tissue Trend Assessment Report

Spokane River Regional Toxics Task Force
May 24, 2023



Fish Tissue Trend Background

- Task Force had implemented a long-term monitoring program for PCBs in year-old Redband Trout
 - Single event per monitoring year, repeated every two years
 - Original sampling event conducted in 2020
- Sampling repeated 2022
 - Results have been analyzed
 - Data have not been fully validated



Fish Sampling Locations

1. ~~State Line~~

- Dropped after 2020 due to insufficient numbers of fish observed in this reach

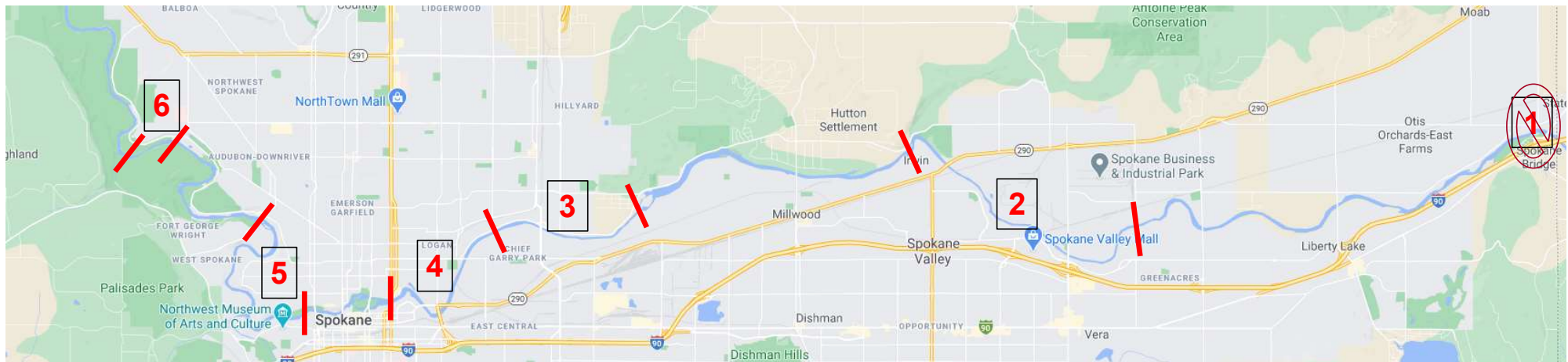
2. Flora Road to Donkey Island (Spokane Valley)

3. Upriver Dam to Crestline Street

4. Crestline Street to Division Street (Mission Reach)

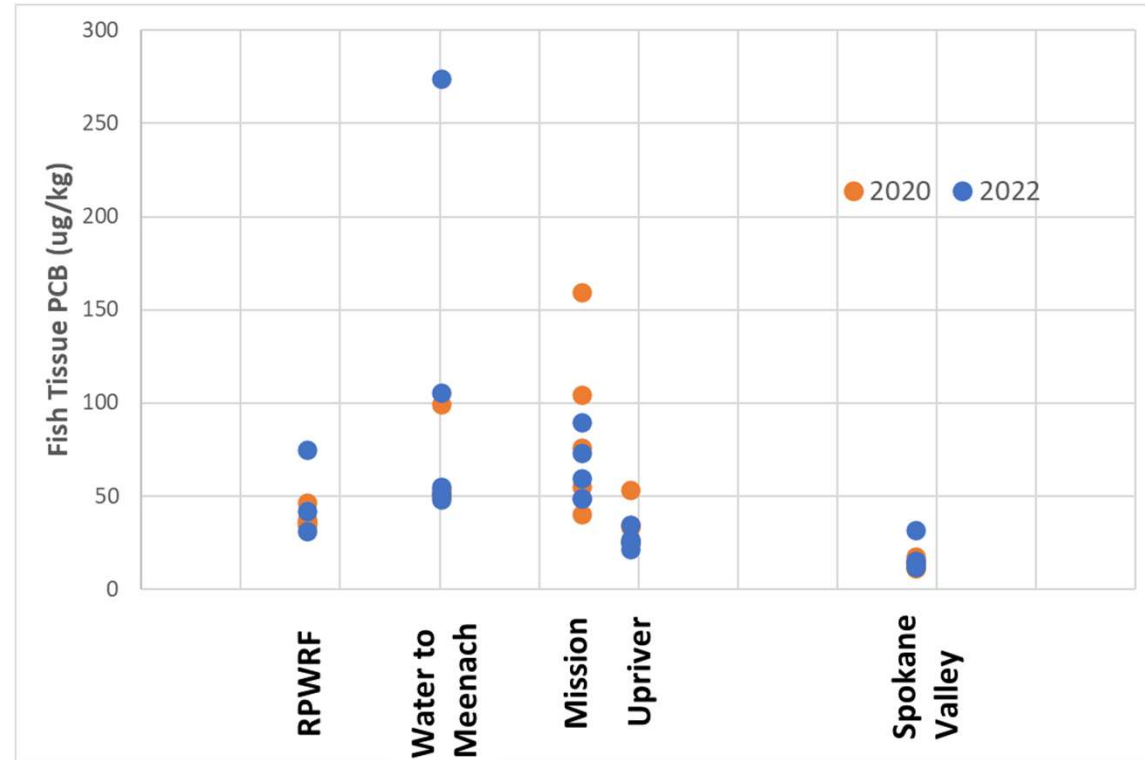
5. Water St. to TJ Meenach

6. RPWRF to the kayak takeout site

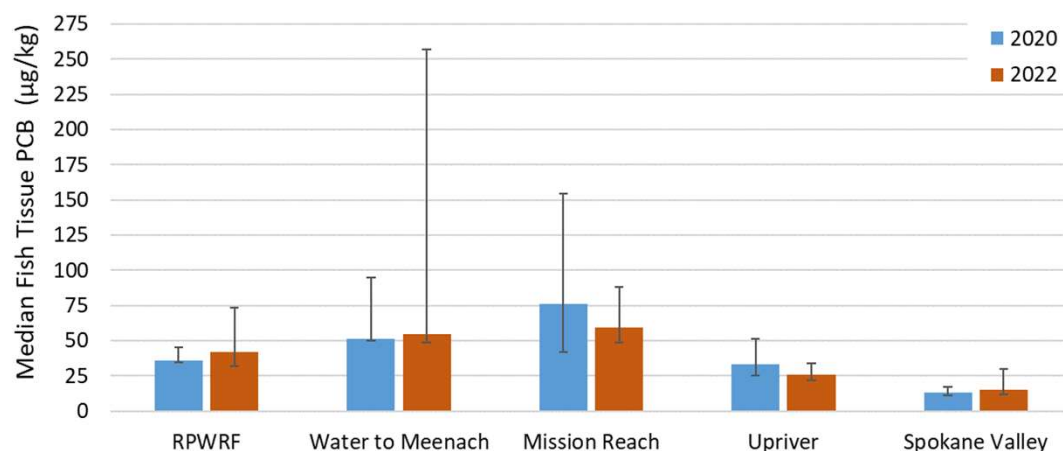


2022 Results - Compared to 2020

- Concentrations largely overlap across years
 - One higher concentration in Mission Reach in 2020
 - One higher concentration in Water to Meenach Reach in 2022

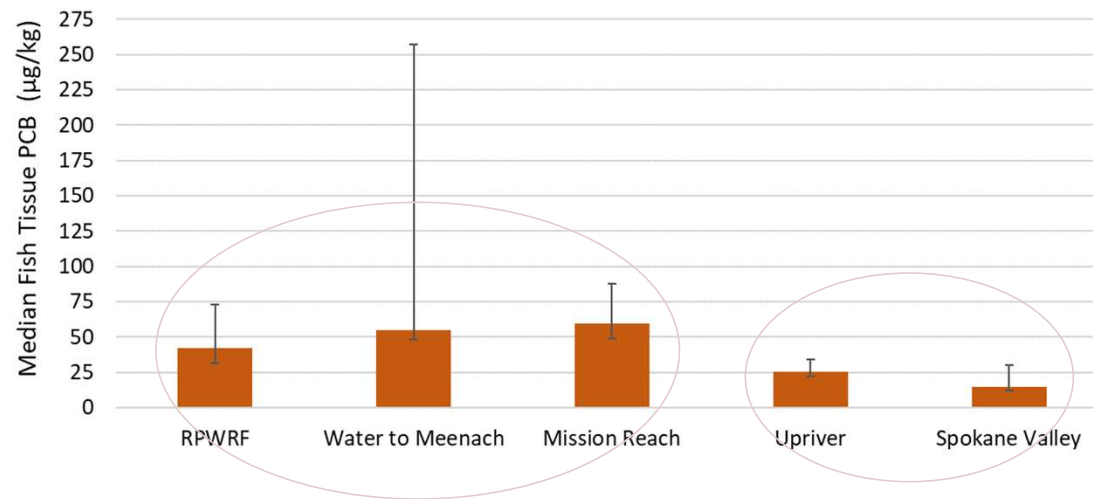


Trend Assessment




- No statistically significant difference in concentration observed at any station between 2020 and 2022
 - Not surprising, given the variability among samples at a given station
 - More than two years of data required to detect all but extremely large trends
- Fish tissue concentrations appear to be lower than in 2005 and 2012
 - Noting that the age of fish sampled and portion of fish analyzed differed between the 2005/2012 and 2020/2022 monitoring efforts

How Do Stations Compare to Each Other?



- Upstream two reaches are similar to each other
- Upstream reaches have lower concentrations than downstream reaches
- Downstream three reaches are similar to each other

Review/Approval Status

- TTWG review
 - Results first presented at May 5 meeting
 - Draft report provided for review May 8
 - Comments discussed May 16, recommended for provisional approval
 - “Provisional” = assumes that data validation doesn’t change any results
 - Task Force review
 - Draft report posted for review May 17
 - Opportunity to comment through today
 - Barring significant comments, seeking provisional Task Force approval today
- 

Questions?

