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Toxic Criteria and Assessment

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Guidance Advisory Workgroup Meeting

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Human Health Criteria Recalculation

- Include Child Exposure
- Assume more fish eaten
- 17.5 grams per day





Fish Tissue Criteria

• Methylmercury in fish tissue

- New EPA guideline
- First tissue-based criterion
- TCEQ 0.7 ppm EPA 0.3 ppm
- Also add for DDT, PCBs, dioxin



Revised Toxic Criteria

- 23 new human-health criteria
- 2 new aquatic-life criteria
- Numerous revised criteria





Toxic Substances in Water (Table 1 in TSWQS)

- Acute and chronic toxicity for: (12) metals and (29) organics
- Acute individual measurements of each substance are compared to the criterion
- Chronic the average for each parameter is compared to the criterion
 - If the average exceeds, the data set is evaluated for multiple exceedances

Human Health Criteria (Table 2 TSWQS)

- Column A human health risk from drinking water and fish consumption
- Column B human health risk from fish consumption
- Criteria for water bodies with incidental fisheries are 10X those in Column B
- Concentration average for each parameter is compared to the criterion
 - If the average exceeds, the data set is evaluated for multiple exceedances
 - Applies to entire segment

Human Health Criteria for Public Water Supply Use

- Water bodies designated for public water supply use are evaluated using Column A human health criteria (Table 2 TSWQS).
- Concentration average for each parameter is compared to the criterion
 - If the average exceeds, the data set is evaluated for multiple exceedances
 - Applies to entire segment