



Freshwater Sediment Screening Levels

SMARM 2015

Presented by Laura Inouye for the DMMP and RSET agencies

Co-Authors Jeremy Buck (USFWS), June Bergquist (IDEQ), Jonathan Freedman (EPA Region 10), and James McMillan (USACE-Portland)

A Little History

2007: RSET and Ecology began a process for gathering more data to re-run the FPM method to develop freshwater screening levels

2010: Ecology decided to move forward with adopting the resulting values into rule

2013: In February, Ecology promulgated the values as freshwater benthic standards, which was one part of a framework for addressing contaminants

A Little History

2013: In November at the 2013 RSET annual meeting, an approach was informally outlined that included :

1. Washington State's freshwater benthic sediment standards
2. WQ-based sediment SLs, and
3. A background over-ride for metals.

2014: In May at the 2014 SMARM meeting the three approaches were formally proposed in a single paper. Public comments were received, and resulted in changes.

2014: In November, at the 2014 RSET meeting the paper was broken into three parts, and modified based on public comments. Further public comments were received on only one part of the paper, the WQ-based SLs.

Status

1. Comments and responses to comments will be available soon(both rounds of review comments included).
2. Proposing adoption of Parts 1 and 3, which had no public comments (freshwater benthic screening levels, background approach for metals).
3. The new benthic SLs will replace the interim values completely.
 - Same method used, new values used larger dataset
 - Please do NOT compare “old and new” SLs in sediment data reviews!

Status

4. Part 2, the WQ-based SLs, will continue to be worked on
 - a. Defining elutriate testing methods
 - b. Role of modeling
 - c. Role in new surface material evaluation
 - Applicability
 - Porewater vs elutriate testing
 - Potential bioassay test outs

Other Moving Parts

1. Bioaccumulatives: Path forward available in Washington due to rule revision (but not sure how it applies to other states)
2. Other Ecological receptors: Fish Screening Levels (Lyndal Johnson, NOAA)