



Washington  
State Department of  
Agriculture

# Aquatic Risk Assessment

## Organophosphate insecticide mixtures in Washington surface waters

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Chlorpyrifos, diazinon, & malathion:  
2018 – 2020 preliminary analysis

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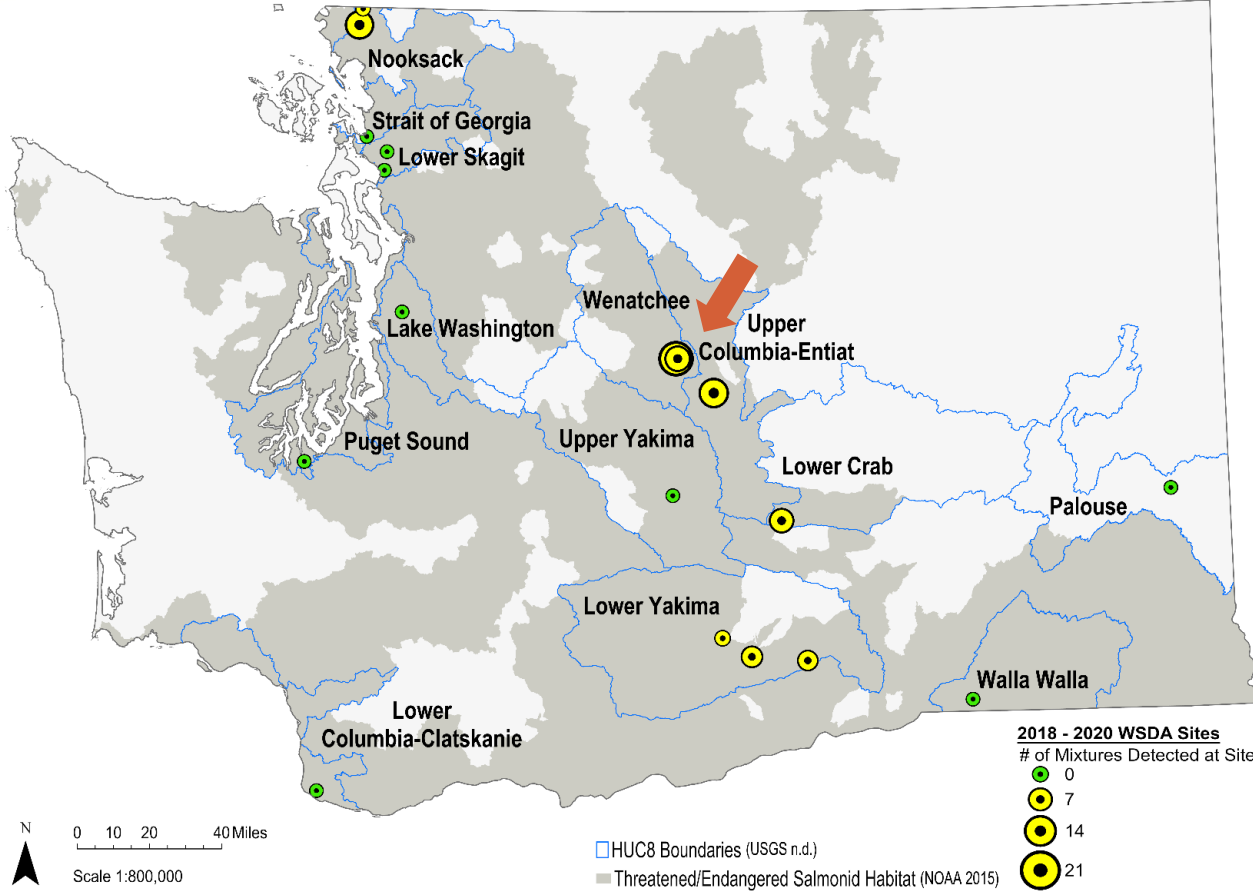
# WSDA Surface Water Monitoring Program



- Natural Resources Assessment Section established in 2003
- Sample agricultural and urban streams Mar – Nov
  - All streams currently or historically provided habitat for ESA listed salmonids



# Monitoring Sites



## ESA Status

**Chinook**

Endangered

**Chum**

Protected

**Coho**

Protected

**Sockeye**

Endangered

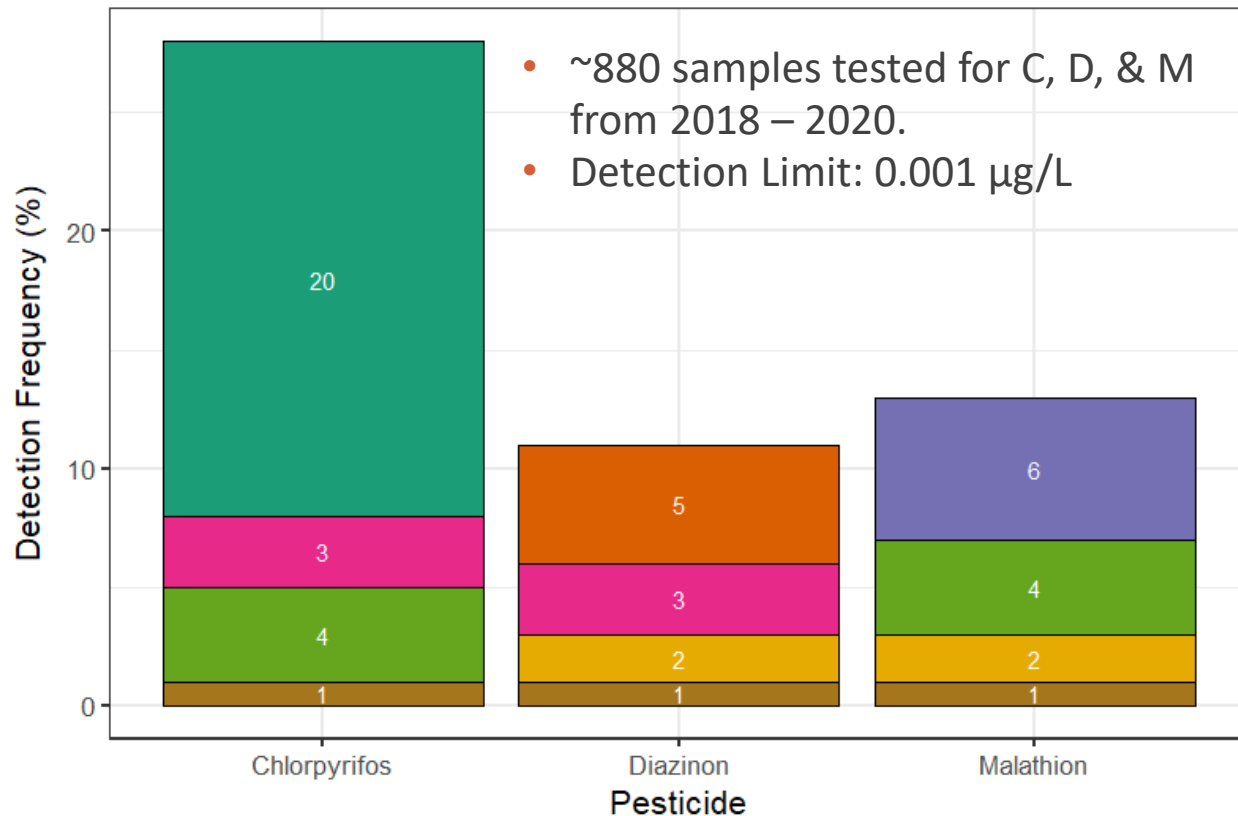
**Steelhead  
Trout**

Threatened



Coho fry

# Detection Frequencies

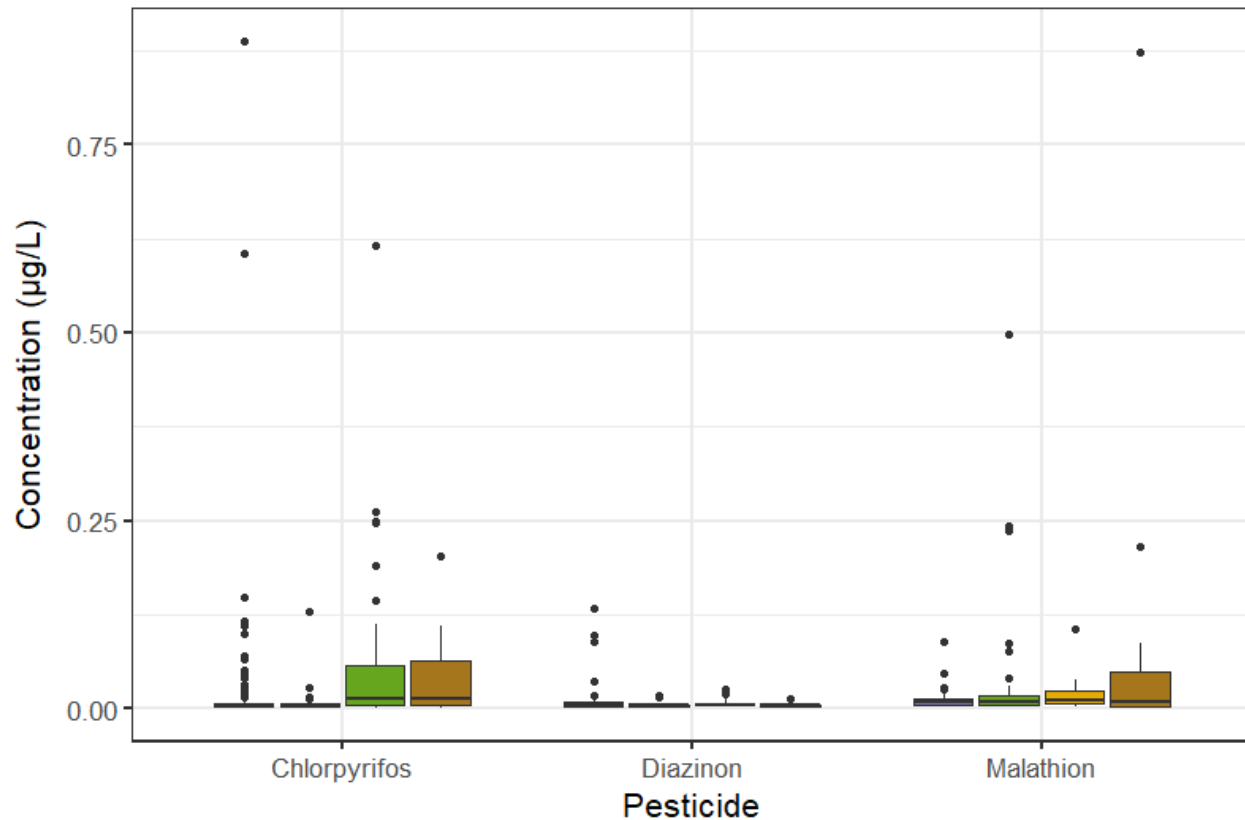


## Mixture (# of Detections)

C	(172)
D	(47)
M	(55)
CD	(28)
CM	(39)
DM	(15)
CDM	(12)

- Detections are not double counted across mixtures.

# Measured Concentrations

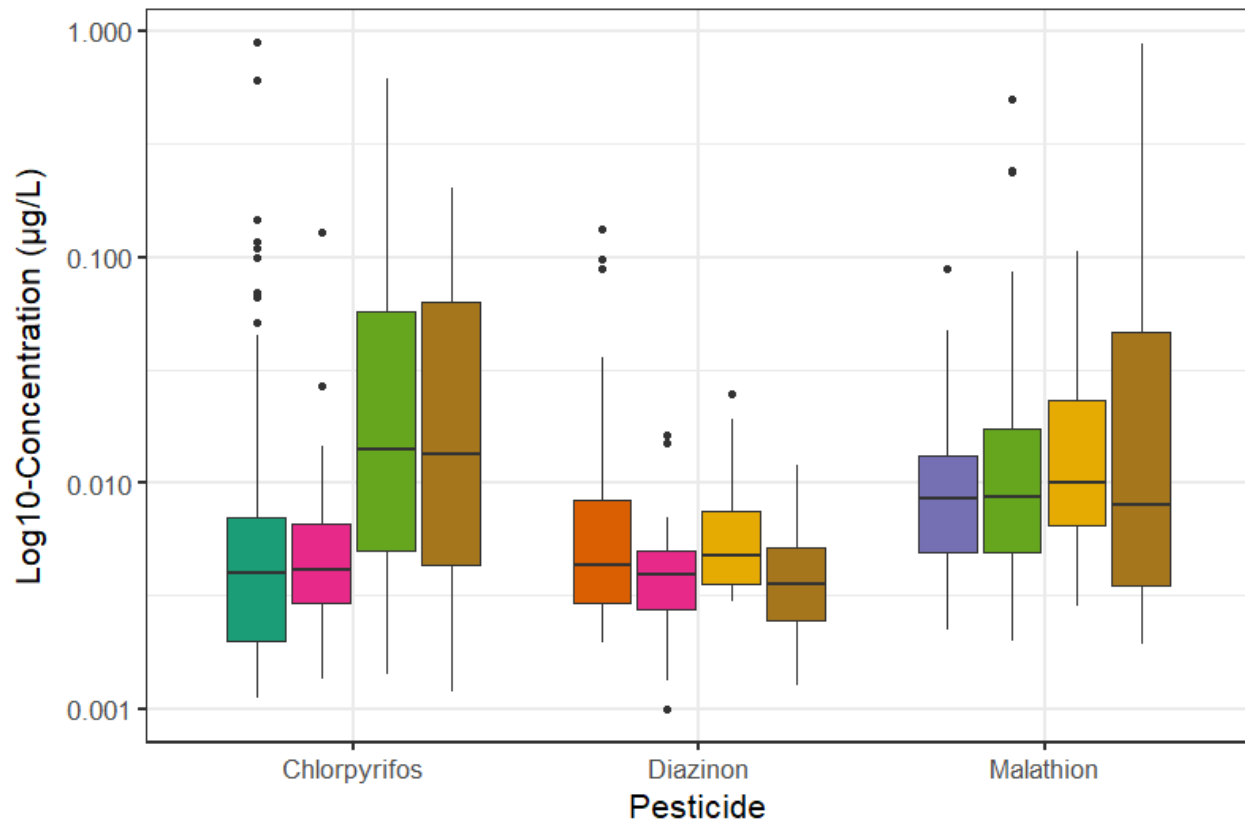


- Concentrations generally higher and more variable in mixtures with C & M

## Mixture

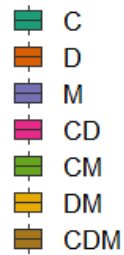


# Measured Concentrations



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## Mixture



# Benchmark Quotient (BQ)



	Invertebrate		Fish	
	Acute (µg/L)	Chronic (µg/L)	Acute (µg/L)	Chronic (µg/L)
Chlorpyrifos	0.05	0.04	0.9	0.57
Diazinon	0.105	0.17	45	0.55
Malathion	0.049	0.06	2.05	8.6

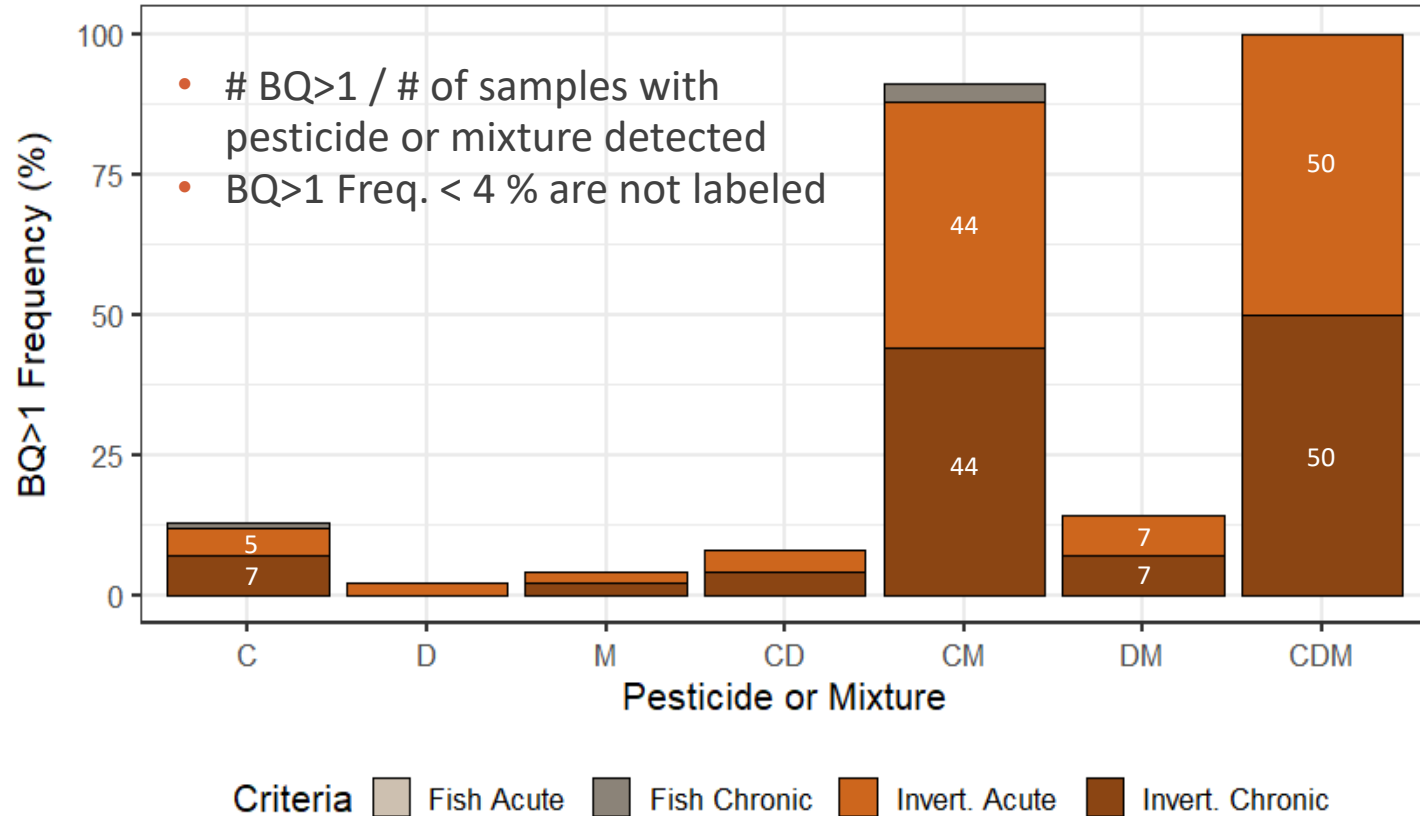
Aquatic Life Benchmarks (EPA 2021)

$$\text{Individual BQ} = \frac{\text{Measured Concentration}}{\text{Benchmark}}$$

$$\text{Mixture BQ} = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\text{Measured Concentration}_i}{\text{Benchmark}_i}$$



# BQ>1 Frequencies





# Conclusions

- C & M most frequently detected  
AND most frequently BQ>1
  - Likely primary contributors  
to overall toxicity of each  
mixture



- Mixtures after C tolerance  
revocation?

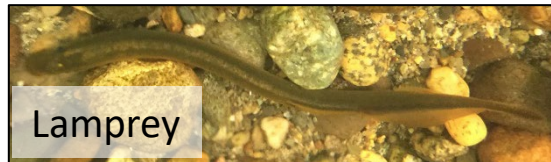
# Conservatism and Uncertainty

- EPA ALBs apply safety factor (LOC) of 0.5 or 1 to lowest toxicity value ( $EC_{50}$ ,  $LC_{50}$ , or NOAEC)
- BQ analysis did not consider:
  - Water quality parameters
  - Pesticide properties
  - Spatial or temporal patterns
- Only assessed OP mixtures
  - In 2018, up to 44 different analytes were detected in a single sample



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## Future Work

- Refine RA based on more specific scenarios

- Only assessed OP mixtures
  - In 2018, up to 44 different analytes were detected in a single sample

- Assess more pesticide groups with same mode of action



# Acknowledgements



- WSDA NRAS
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University
- Dept. of Ecology  
Manchester  
Environmental Lab



# Thank you!



**Web**

[agr.wa.gov/AgScience](http://agr.wa.gov/AgScience)



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