

Attachment 7, Ralph Stahl

Focus Area	Uncertainties	Proposed Actions / Studies
<b>Data Compilation, Analyses and Trends.</b>	Whether spatial and temporal trends exist in fish tissue and sediment data, and are statistically significant.	<p>Review QA/QC of fish sampling and analytical methods.</p> <p>Collect available information, extract relevant data.</p> <p>Develop database and normalize fish tissue data to size / age of fish.</p> <p>Conduct statistical analyses of fish and sediment data to determine relationships and trends.</p>
<b>Conceptual Model.</b>	<p>Concentration distribution in sediments and floodplain soils and relation to fish concentrations</p> <p>Sediment movement and deposition in the South River.</p> <p>Production of methylmercury in sediments and floodplain soils.</p> <p>Potential continuing or new sources of mercury to the South River and SF Shenandoah River.</p>	<p>Examine historical aerial photos and topographic maps of the river and present day floodplain maps</p> <p>Conduct sediment sampling program in key areas along the river and floodplain for chemical and physical attributes</p> <p>Begin characterization and delineation of potential sources</p>
<b>Watershed Management.</b>	Changes in management approaches applicable to river systems.	Review existing sediment remedial technologies and their application to the South River and SF Shenandoah River.
<b>Hazard and Exposure Assessment.</b>	<p>Potential exposure of ecological receptors and examination of potentially complete pathways.</p> <p>Potential human population exposure and pathways.</p>	<p>Examine exposure pathways and list those that appear to be complete and significant.</p> <p>Undertake sampling of media and specific tissues to alleviate data gaps or uncertainties (same as in conceptual model development)</p> <p>Identify receptors, and prioritize them with regards to potential exposure pathways.</p>
<b>Peer Review.</b>	Need for additional studies or changes in monitoring program.	Establish panel of experts in various disciplines to review existing data and provide their assessments on a case-by-case basis.
<b>Outreach and Communication.</b>	How local populations, employees and stakeholders view the situation.	Develop communication and outreach mechanisms with local communities, employees and stakeholders.
<b>Fishery Management Upgrading</b>	Whether it is technically and economically feasible to improve the fishery and eliminate advisories or bans through a program of direct intervention.	Consult experts in developing details and costs for primary alternatives: removal, farming, stocking, peripheral ecological effects.