

Avians

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Spatial trends of Mercury in Songbirds

- Proposed:
 - Determine geographic extent of mercury contamination downstream in South Fork Shenandoah River (in Songbirds)



Progress

- ❖ Sampling was conducted on the South River(SR) and South Fork of the Shenandoah River(SFSR) from May 18-August 20.
- ❖ Another site was added further down stream at the Shenandoah River State Park approximately 10 miles upstream of Front Royal after preliminary Hg results showed elevated Hg levels far-downstream. Thirty more birds were sampled at this location.
- ❖ A total of 575 birds were sampled on the SR and SFSR combined. This included: 219 tier one birds; 106 tier two birds; 95 tier three birds; and 155 non-target birds (See table on following slide).
- ❖ Mercury results are pending at the College of William and Mary (Dan Cristol). However, we should see results in the next few weeks.

Sampling Results

Location- River Mile (RM)	Tier				Total
	1	2	3	Other	
<i>South Fork Shenandoah River(SFSR)</i>					
Power Dam, PODA - RM7	37	15	6	26	84
Shuller Island, SHIS- RM20	30	10	10	11	61
Longs Bend Farm, LBFA- RM30	31	18	17	40	106
Bealers Ferry, BEFE- RM63	32	12	6	16	66
Shenandoah River State Park,SRSP - RM72	17	3	0	10	30
SFSR Total	147	58	39	103	347
<i>South River(SR)</i>					
Waynesboro Nursery, WNUS	29	13	46	23	111
Ridgeview Park	11	6	6	4	27
Grottoes City Park, GRCP	32	29	4	25	90
SR Total	72	48	56	52	228
*Grand Total	219	106	95	155	575

and the South Fork of the Shenandoah River (SFSR)

COMMON SPECIES SAMPLED:

- Carolina Wren (90)
- Song Sparrow (72)
- Gray Catbird (59)
- Indigo Bunting (55)
- Northern Cardinal (53)
- Red-eyed Vireo (58)
- Carolina Chickadee (26)
- American Goldfinch (24)
- Eastern Tufted Titmouse (20)



Mercury Results Pending

College of William and Mary

Dan Cristol