

Summary of Jurisdictional Efforts to Monitor and Manage Mercury in the Chesapeake Watershed

Introduction

CBP plans to address mercury: take from the TCW research strategy P 18

Mercury: For the revised Management Strategy, efforts will be made to improve the understanding of baseline conditions by compiling information on the extent of mercury impairments across the watershed. The jurisdictions will work through the TCW to display the information on story maps similar to those prepared for PCBs. The TCW will also work with jurisdictions to inventory mercury data and assess if information exists to document changes in mercury in response to air controls. The results will be used to help jurisdictions consider if additional efforts are needed to reduce the impacts of mercury.

Purpose of paper: summary discussions from TCW calls during April-May, 2019, which included:

- Status of impairments due to mercury in the Chesapeake watershed
- Status of TMDLs and management addressed to address mercury
- Summary of jurisdictional monitoring efforts for mercury
- Overview of current understanding of mercury baseline conditions
- Implications for management approaches

Status of impairments due to mercury in the Chesapeake watershed

- Present and describe the map of impairments that has been compiled based on information provided by jurisdictions

Status of TMDLs and management addressed to address mercury

- Present and describe the map of TMDLs that has been compiled based on information provided by jurisdictions
- Summarize that primary management approach is to reduce air emissions of mercury, which is assumed to reduce amounts in environment and fish

Summary of jurisdictional monitoring efforts for mercury

- This section would provide the data inventory described in our management approach.
- Should also say if trend or change analysis is possible based on types and frequency of data
- Have summary table of types of samples collected, and dates, for addressing mercury

Overview of current understanding of mercury baseline conditions

- This section would summarize the findings that were provided by the jurisdictions during the April-May 2019 TCW calls.

Implications for management approaches

- Summarize what jurisdictions said they intent to do:
- Assume mercury will be reduced based on air emissions controls
- Other approaches