Egg PCB Contamination of Various Avian Feeding Guilds from the Upper Hudson River

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Study Objectives:

- Screening level survey of PCB contamination
- Preliminary measure for basing future investigations

Species of Interest:















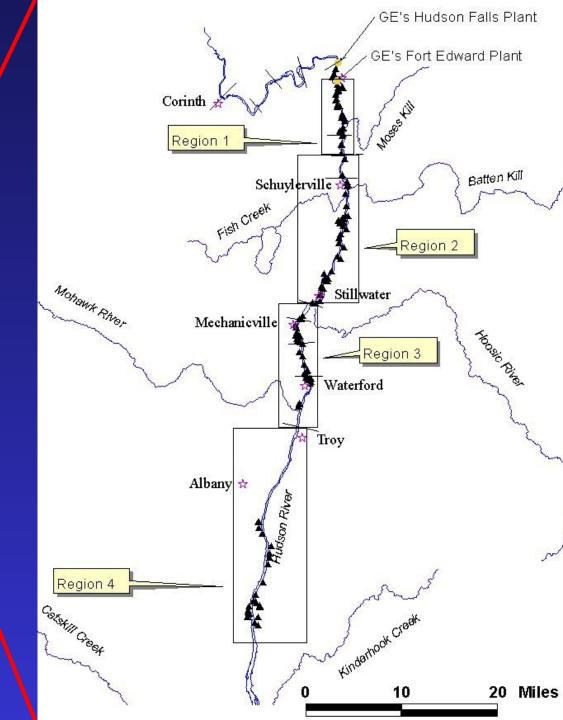


Sample Collection:

- April 16, 2002 to June 20, 2002
- 220 eggs collected; 168 egg samples
- 48 PCB congeners

Sampling Sites:





Feeding Guilds:



Belted Kingfisher
Spotted Sandpiper

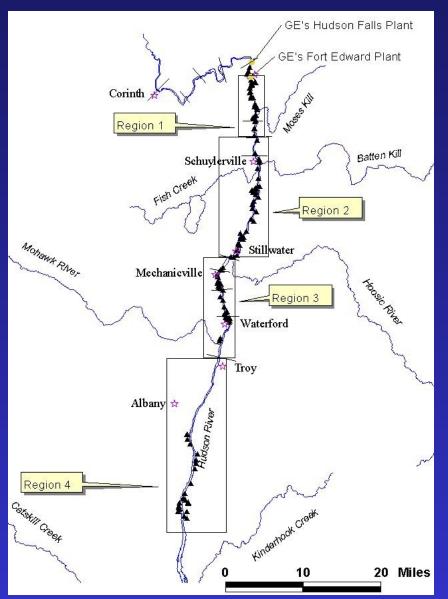
Barn Swallow
Eastern Phoebe
Rough Winged Swallow

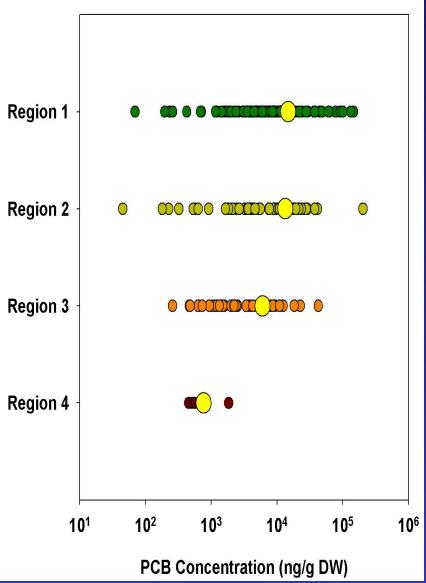


American Robin
Common Grackle
Red Winged Blackbird

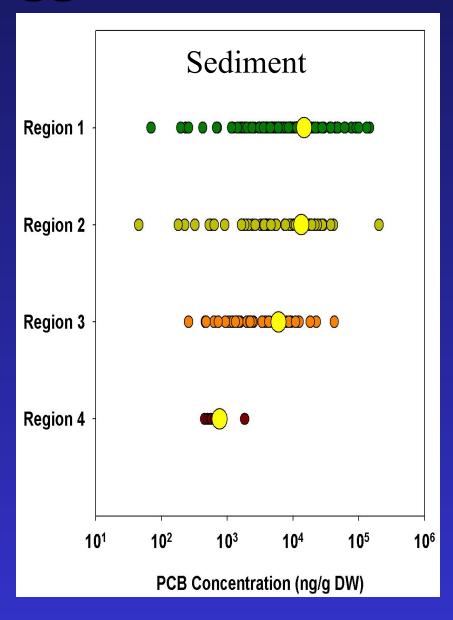
Total PCBs

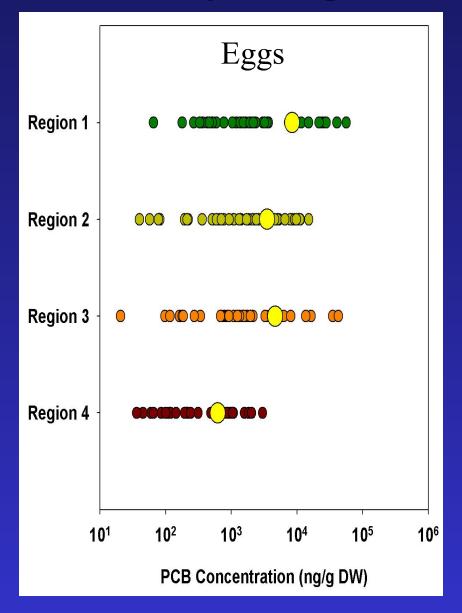
Hudson River Sediment PCBs:



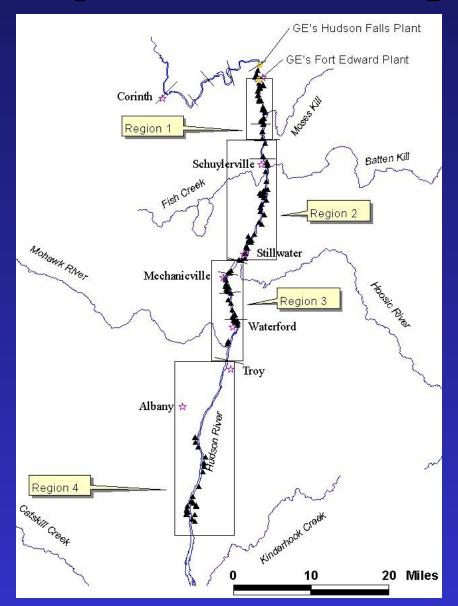


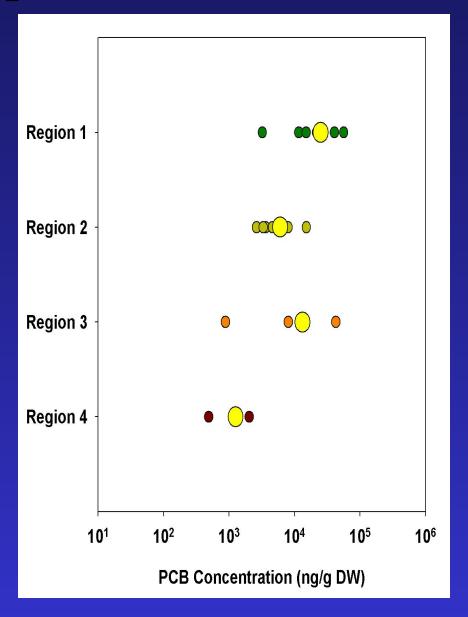
Egg PCB Concentrations by Region:



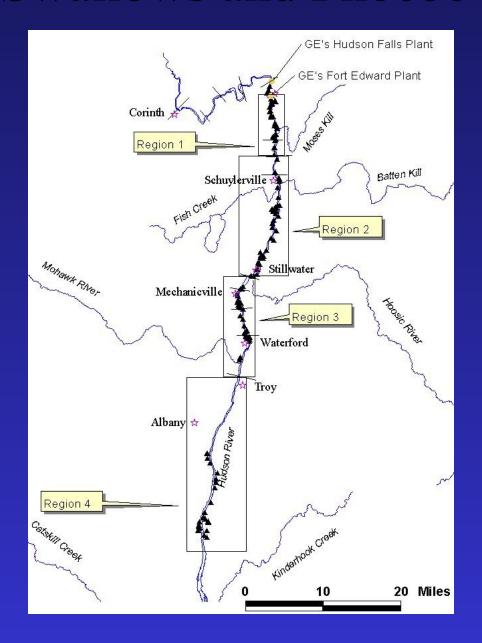


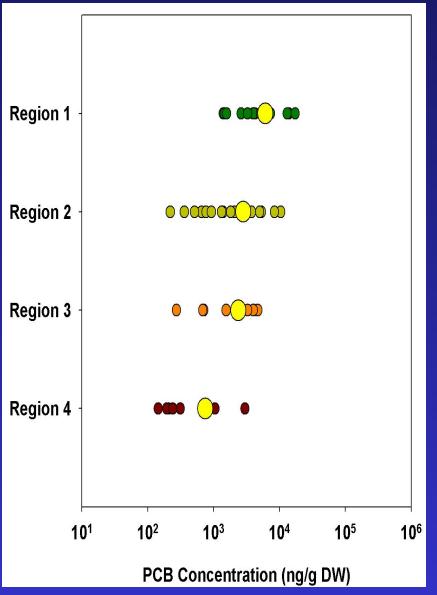
Kingfisher and Sandpiper



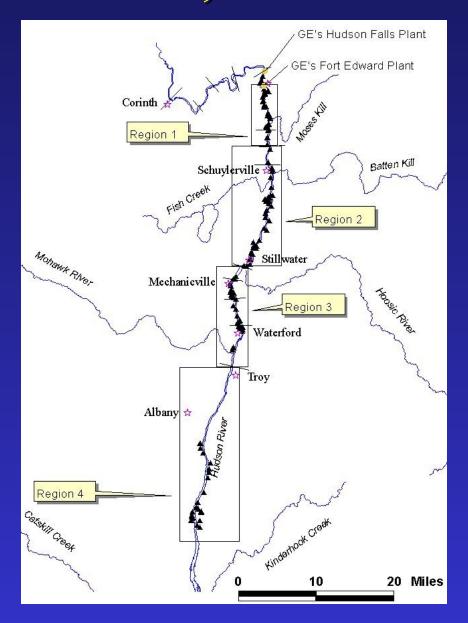


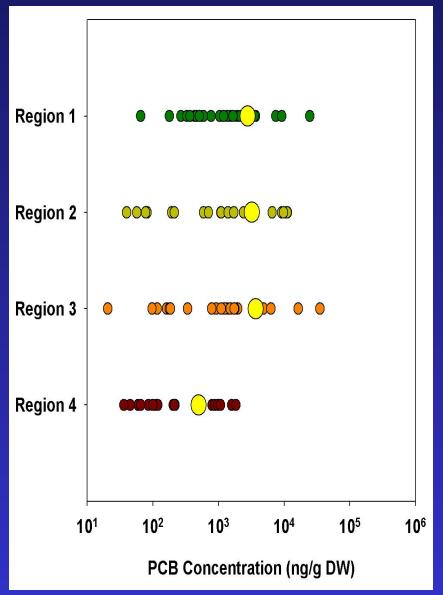
Swallows and Phoebe



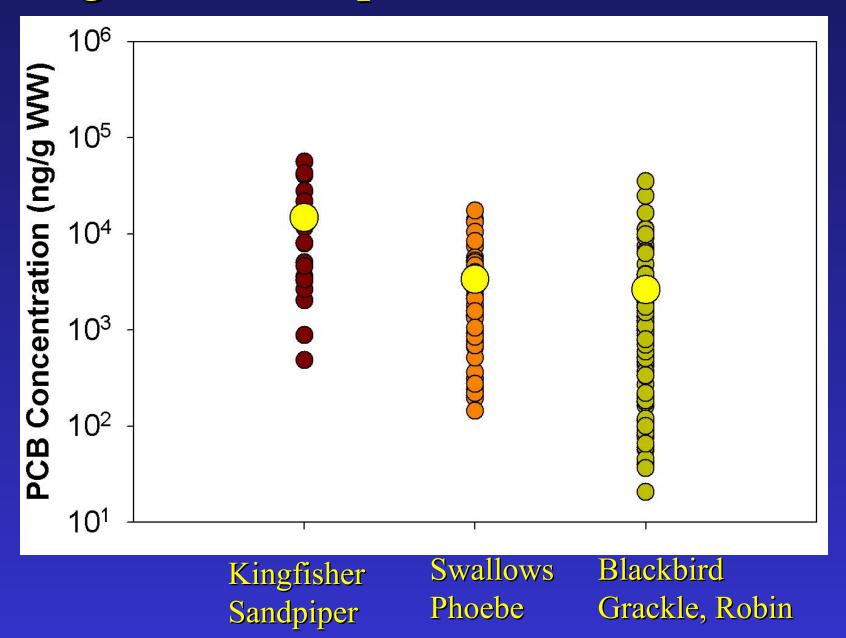


Blackbird, Grackle and Robin





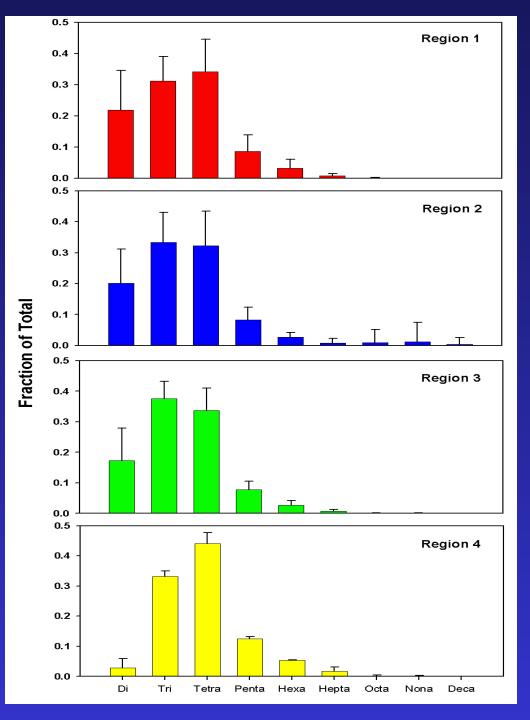
Feeding Guild Comparison



PCB Homologs

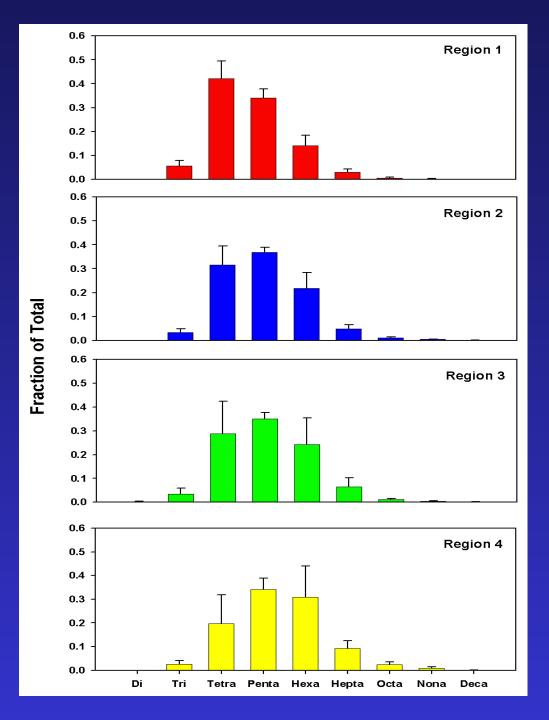
Hudson River Sediment PCB Homolog Composition





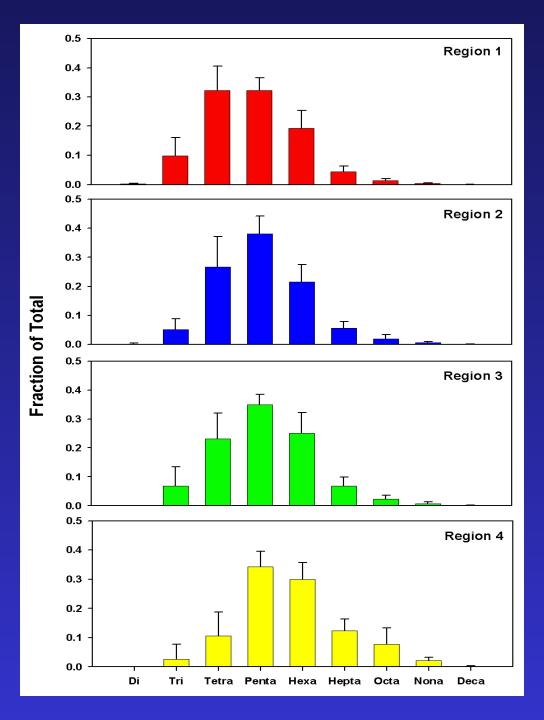
Kingfisher and Sandpiper PCB Homolog Composition





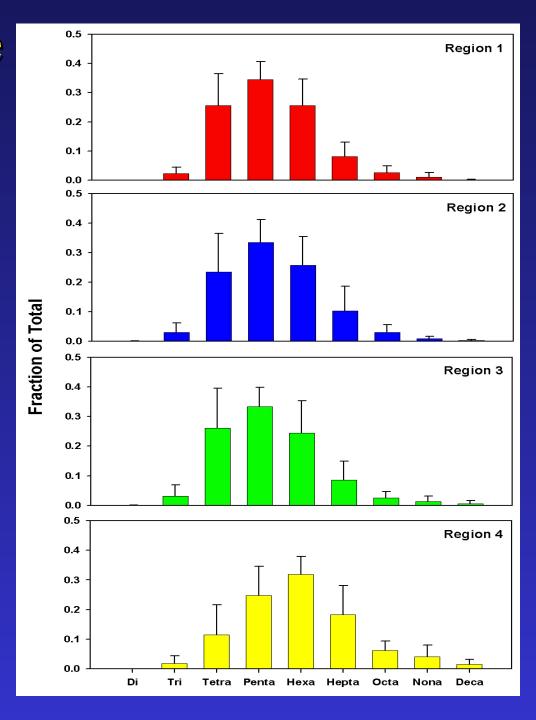
Swallow and Phoebe PCB Homolog Composition





Robin, Grackle And Blackbird PCB Homolog Composition





Conclusions

- Avian eggs are contaminated with PCBs (20 to 56,000 ppb; 12% > 10,000 ppb)
- Regional egg t-PCB concentration trends are reflective of regional sediment trends
- Regional egg homolog compositions show similar pattern shift as sediments