

Breeding Bird Survey

Results of Web-based search on the
South River and South Fork
Shenandoah River Watersheds.

September 9, 2003

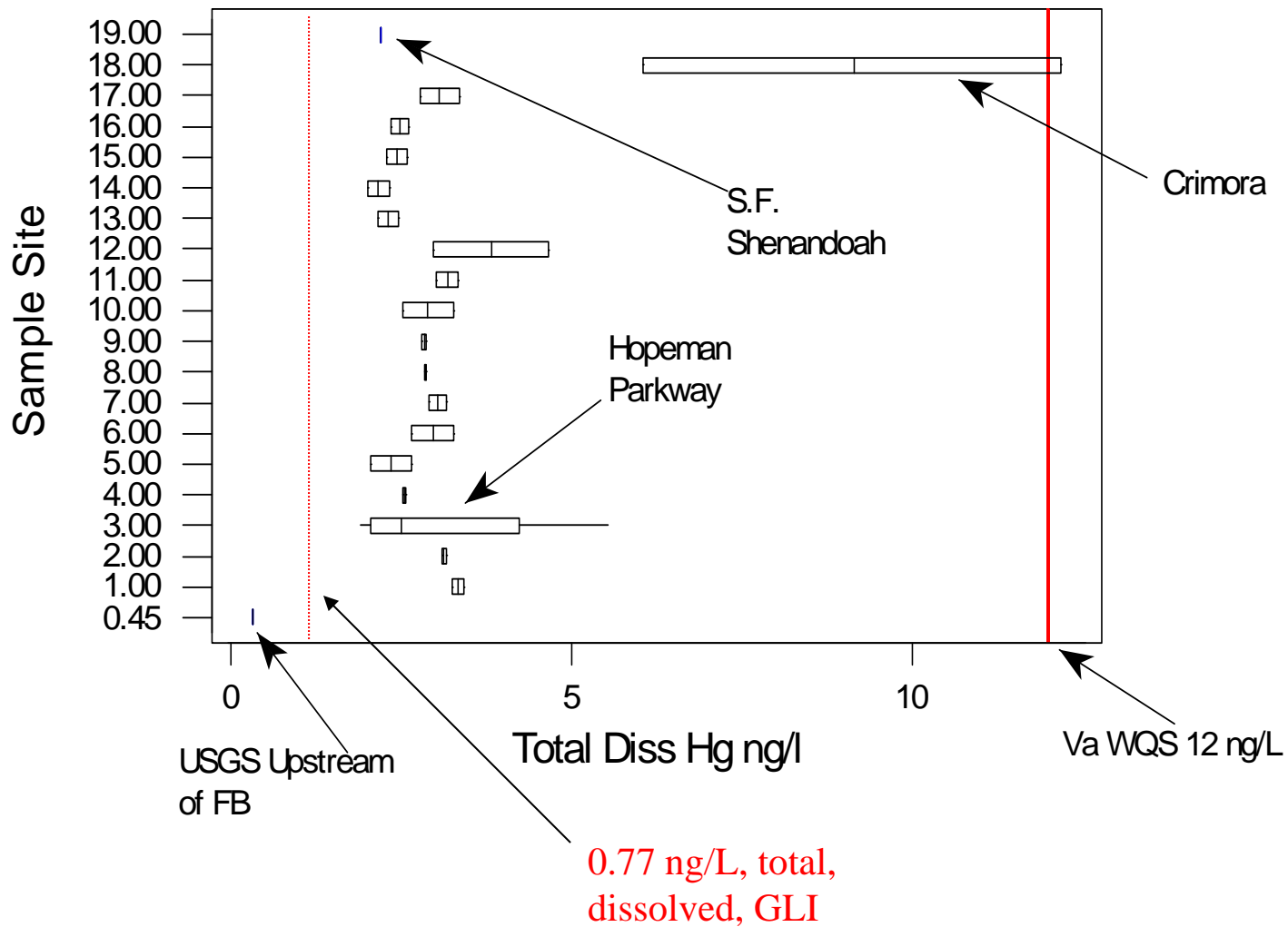
Purpose

- Determine whether there are sufficient data to understand the potential risk of avian receptors from exposure to mercury in the South River.

Hg “Water Criteria”

- 0.91 ng/L total, unfiltered (for the GLI)
- 0.77 ng/L total, dissolved (for the GLI)
- 0.53 ng/L total, dissolved (2003 proposed in NJ)
- 1400 – 2400 ng/L, total, dissolved, acute value (NOAA)
- 12 – 770 ng/L, total, dissolved, chronic value (NOAA)

Total Dissolved Hg in South River and S.F.
Shenandoah River Compared to Virginia
WQS of 12 ng/L.



Upper South River

- DCNR hydrologic unit B30
- More than 100 species observed
- Piscivorous species noted
 - Herons
 - Kingfisher

Middle South River

- DCNR hydrologic unit B31
- More than 150 species observed
- Piscivorous species noted
 - Herons
 - Kingfisher

Lower South River

- DCNR hydrologic unit B32 (Crimora, Grottoes)
- Over 150 species observed
- Piscivorous species noted
 - Herons
 - Kingfisher
 - Osprey

Upper South Fork Shenandoah

- DCNR hydrologic unit B33
- More than 100 species observed
- Piscivorous species noted
 - Herons
 - Kingfisher

South Fork Shenandoah

- DCNR hydrologic unit B37
- More than 100 species observed
- Piscivorous species noted
 - Bald eagle
 - Herons
 - Kingfisher
 - Osprey

Summary

- Surveys conducted 1984-1989, not clear if more recent data are available.
- No information on population dynamics, trends in numbers.
- Surveys indicate good numbers of species present throughout watershed - South River and South Fork Shenandoah River.