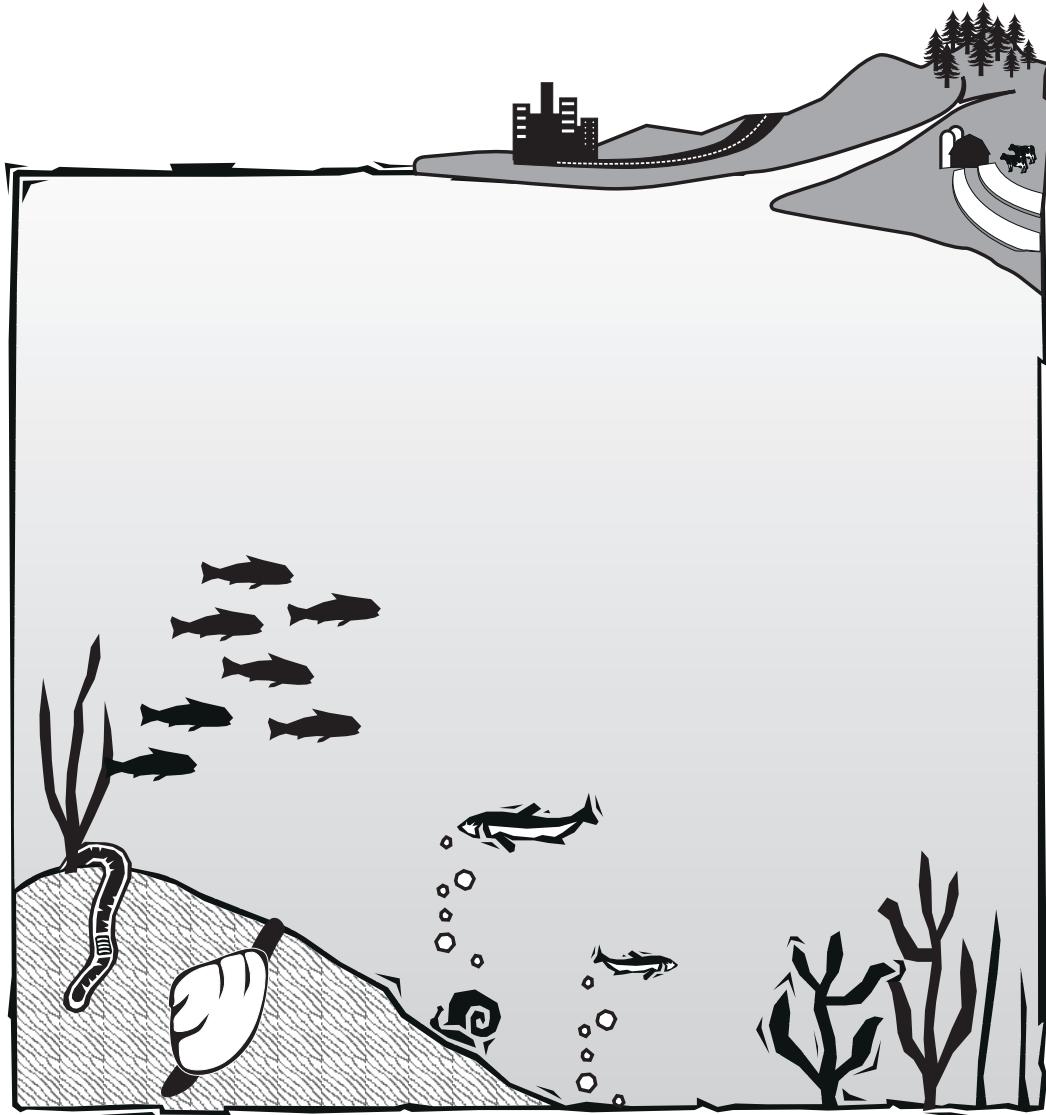




The Incidence And Severity Of Sediment Contamination In Surface Waters Of The United States

Volume 2: Data Summaries For Areas Of Probable Concern



The Incidence And Severity Of Sediment Contamination In Surface Waters Of The United States

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September 1997

Office of Science and Technology
United States Environmental Protection Agency
401 M Street, SW
Washington, DC 20460

The *National Sediment Quality Survey* is a screening-level assessment of sediment quality that compiles and evaluates sediment chemistry data and related biological data taken from existing databases. The data and information contained in this document could be used in various EPA regulatory programs for priority setting or other purposes after further evaluation for program-specific criteria. However, this document has no immediate or direct regulatory consequence. It does not in itself establish any legally binding requirements, establish or affect legal rights or obligations, or represent a determination of any party's liability.

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Introduction

The Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1992 directed the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), in consultation with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to conduct a comprehensive national survey of data regarding the quality of sediments in the United States. The Act required EPA to compile all existing information on the quantity, chemical and physical composition, and geographic location of pollutants in sediment, including the probable sources of such pollutants and identification of those sediments which are contaminated. The Act further required EPA to report to the Congress the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of such survey, including recommendations for actions necessary to prevent contamination of aquatic sediments and to control sources of contamination.

To comply with the WRDA mandate, EPA's Office of Science and Technology initiated the National Sediment Inventory (NSI). The goals of the NSI are to compile sediment quality information from available electronic databases, gather information from available electronic databases and published reports on sediment contaminant sources, develop screening-level assessment protocols to identify potentially contaminated sediment, and produce biennial reports to Congress on the incidence and severity of sediment contamination nationwide. *The Incidence And Severity Of Sediment Contamination In Surface Waters Of The United States* is the first of these reports to Congress. EPA produced this report to Congress in four volumes:

- **Volume 1: National Sediment Quality Survey**—Screening analysis to qualitatively assess the probability of associated adverse human health or ecological effects based on a weight- of-evidence evaluation.
- **Volume 2: Data Summaries For Areas Of Probable Concern**—Sampling station location maps and chemical and biological summary data for watersheds containing areas of probable concern for sediment contamination.
- **Volume 3: National Sediment Contaminant Point Source Inventory**—Screening analysis to identify probable point source contributors of sediment pollutants.
- **Volume 4: National Sediment Contaminant Nonpoint Source Inventory**—Screening analysis to identify probable nonpoint source contributors of sediment pollutants (in preparation for subsequent biennial reports).

As part of the NSI data evaluation, EPA evaluated more than 21,000 sampling stations nationwide. Data for each sampling station were collected during the period of 1980 to 1993 by a wide variety of federal, state, regional, local, and other monitoring programs. The approach used to evaluate the NSI data focuses on the risk to benthic organisms exposed directly to contaminated sediments and the risk to human consumers of organisms exposed to sediment contaminants. EPA analyzed three types of data, alone and in combination, for the NSI evaluation—sediment chemistry data, chemical residue levels in edible tissue of aquatic organisms, and sediment toxicity data. Using the evaluation techniques described in detail in Volume 1 of this report to Congress, EPA associated sampling stations with their “probability of adverse effects.” Each sampling station was classified into one of three categories, or tiers, based on this evaluation:

- Tier 1: associated adverse effects are probable.
- Tier 2: associated adverse effects are possible, but expected infrequently.
- Tier 3: no indication of associated adverse effects (any sampling station not categorized as Tier 1 or Tier 2; includes sampling stations for which substantial data were available, as well as sampling stations for which limited data were available).

Introduction

Although sampling stations are an important unit of assessment, the most significant contamination problems exist where multiple contaminated locations are in close proximity or are distributed throughout a discrete hydrologic unit. A single “hot spot” might not affect a benthic community or accumulation of contaminants in resident fish tissue to a great extent. Widespread contamination, however, is more likely to adversely affect benthic communities and lead to a greater extent of contaminant accumulation in resident fish.

The NSI data evaluation identified 96 watersheds throughout the United States that contain areas of probable concern for sediment contamination (APCs). An APC is defined by a watershed that contains 10 or more Tier 1 sampling stations and in which at least 75 percent of all sampling stations have been classified as Tier 1 or Tier 2. These dual criteria are based on empirical observation of the data. Watersheds with 10 or more Tier 1 sampling stations include the upper 10 percent of all watersheds evaluated. In addition, because approximately 75 percent of all sampling stations nationwide were classified as Tier 1 or Tier 2, at least the same percentage of stations in a watershed had to be classified as Tier 1 or Tier 2 before a watershed could be identified as containing an APC. EPA recommends further investigation of the human and ecological risks from sediment contamination in these watersheds. For further discussion of watersheds containing APCs, please refer to Chapter 3 in Volume 1 of this report, under the heading "Watershed Analysis".

This document presents summary data related to each of the 96 watersheds containing APCs in the NSI data evaluation. The first section of this document, Classification of Sampling Stations by Watershed, presents the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) cataloging unit number and name for each watershed identified as containing an APC. It also identifies the state(s) in which the watershed is located and the number of Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3 sampling stations located in the watershed. (State abbreviations presented in parentheses indicate that no NSI sampling stations occur in that state even though at least part of the watershed is located in the state.)

The remainder of this document presents specific information for each watershed containing APCs. The watersheds are presented in the order of their USGS cataloging unit number, which follow a general geographic pattern of northeast to southeast to west. The USGS cataloging unit name and number for each watershed is presented at the top of the first page of each summary. The first page of each watershed summary presents general information concerning the watershed—USGS accounting unit in which it is located; state(s) in which it is located; political boundaries (counties that include at least part of the watershed); major waterways; and number of Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3 sampling stations in the watershed—and a map identifying the location of the watershed relative to the primary state in which it is located. The second page of each summary presents a map identifying the location of major waterways (RF1) in the watershed and the location of Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3 sampling stations in the watershed. The location of sampling stations is plotted using latitude and longitude coordinates provided in the source data. EPA did not attempt to verify these locations. Recent attempts by other users of NSI data to verify sampling station locations have suggested that some coordinates are, in fact, in error. The precise location of measured elevated levels of contaminants in sediment or fish, or sediment toxicity should be included in the initial stage of further investigation. Following the watershed map is a table listing the data sources used in the evaluation of sampling stations in the watershed. In addition to the sources of data, this table presents the agency code for the agency responsible for collecting the data, the name of the monitoring program, the number of stations in the watershed that were sampled as part of the monitoring program, and the sampling period or date. A series of tables follows the list of data sources. Depending on the types of data collected, all of the tables might not be presented for a given watershed; for example, if toxicity data were not collected, a “Biotoxicity Data” table is not included.

The table titled “Chemicals Responsible for Sampling Station Classification as Tier 1 or Tier 2” presents the following information for each chemical:

- Total number of stations in the watershed where the chemical was measured.
- Total number of stations in the watershed classified as either Tier 1 or Tier 2 due to the chemical for either aquatic life effects, human health effects, or both. (Note: A station can be classified as Tier 1 or Tier 2 due to several chemicals.)
- Number of sampling stations in the watershed classified as Tier 1 due to the chemical for either aquatic life effects, human health effects, or both.

- Number of sampling stations in the watershed classified as Tier 2 due to the chemical for either aquatic life effects, human health effects, or both.
- Number of sampling stations in the watershed classified as Tier 1 or Tier 2 for aquatic life effects due to the chemical.
- Number of sampling stations in the watershed classified as Tier 1 or Tier 2 for human health effects due to the chemical.

The table titled “Sediment Chemistry Data: Chemical Summary” presents the following information for each chemical measured in the sediment:

- Total number of observations in the watershed.
- Mean and median concentration of all observations in the watershed (assuming zero for nondetects).
- Number of detected observations in the watershed.
- Maximum and minimum concentration of detected observations in the watershed.

The table titled “Tissue Residue Data: Chemical Summary” presents the following information for each chemical measured in fish tissue (if any):

- Total number of observations in the watershed.
- Mean and median concentration of all observations in the watershed (assuming zero for nondetects).
- Number of detected observations in the watershed.
- Maximum and minimum concentration of detected observations in the watershed.

The tissue residue table presents data evaluation results only for those species which are considered demersal, resident, and edible. These are the only species evaluated for this report to Congress, although the NSI also includes data for species that are considered pelagic, migratory, and/or nonedible.

The table titled “Biotoxicity Data” presents information about toxicity tests (if any). The toxicity test results presented in the table are grouped under the monitoring programs responsible for collecting the data, and include:

- Sampling station latitude and longitude
- Sampling date (year-month-day)
- Test species name
- Type (i.e., sediment phase) of test
 - Liquid-phase (L)
 - Elutriate-phase (E)
 - Suspended particulate-phase (P)
 - Solid-phase (S)
- Percent mortality in test and control
- Whether the toxicity results indicate significant toxicity.

Classification of Sampling Stations by Watershed

CU- 01090001 CU Name- **Charles**

State(s): MA

#Tier1- **195** #Tier2- **402** #Tier3- **111**

CU- 01090002 CU Name- **Cape Cod**

State(s): MA (RI)

#Tier1- **15** #Tier2- **73** #Tier3- **20**

CU- 01090004 CU Name- **Narragansett**

State(s): RI MA

#Tier1- **28** #Tier2- **20** #Tier3- **.**

CU- 02030103 CU Name- **Hackensack-Passaic**

State(s): NJ NY

#Tier1- **43** #Tier2- **58** #Tier3- **2**

CU- 02030104 CU Name- **Sandy Hook-Staten Island**

State(s): NJ NY

#Tier1- **60** #Tier2- **21** #Tier3- **19**

CU- 02030105 CU Name- **Raritan**

State(s): NJ

#Tier1- **13** #Tier2- **37** #Tier3- **15**

CU- 02030202 CU Name- **Southern Long Island**

State(s): NY

#Tier1- **11** #Tier2- **24** #Tier3- **8**

CU- 02040105 CU Name- **Middle Delaware-Musconetcong**

State(s): NJ PA

#Tier1- **11** #Tier2- **26** #Tier3- **11**

CU- 02040202 CU Name- **Lower Delaware**

State(s): NJ PA

#Tier1- **18** #Tier2- **29** #Tier3- **10**

CU- 02040203 CU Name- **Schuylkill**

State(s): PA

#Tier1- **12** #Tier2- **23** #Tier3- **9**

CU- 02040301 CU Name- **Mullica-Toms**

State(s): NJ

#Tier1- **10** #Tier2- **22** #Tier3- **10**

CU- 02060003 CU Name- **Gunpowder-Patapsco**

State(s): MD (PA)

#Tier1- **17** #Tier2- **7** #Tier3- **5**

CU- 02070004 CU Name- **Conococheague-Opequon**

State(s): MD VA WV (PA)

#Tier1- **11** #Tier2- **12** #Tier3- **6**

CU- 03040201 CU Name- **Lower Pee Dee**

State(s): SC NC

#Tier1- **11** #Tier2- **20** #Tier3- **3**

CU- 03060101 CU Name- **Seneca**

State(s): SC NC

#Tier1- **10** #Tier2- **3** #Tier3- **3**

CU- 03060106 CU Name- **Middle Savannah**

State(s): SC GA

#Tier1- **20** #Tier2- **11** #Tier3- **5**

CU- 03080103 CU Name- **Lower St. Johns**

State(s): FL

#Tier1- **32** #Tier2- **111** #Tier3- **45**

CU- 03130002 CU Name- **Middle Chattahoochee-Lake Harding**
State(s): GA (AL) #Tier1- **21** #Tier2- **4** #Tier3- **2**

CU- 03140102 CU Name- **Choctawhatchee Bay**
State(s): FL #Tier1- **19** #Tier2- **23** #Tier3- **9**

CU- 03140107 CU Name- **Perdido Bay**
State(s): AL FL #Tier1- **10** #Tier2- **24** #Tier3- **4**

CU- 03160205 CU Name- **Mobile Bay**
State(s): AL #Tier1- **31** #Tier2- **43** #Tier3- **7**

CU- 04030102 CU Name- **Door-Kewaunee**
State(s): WI #Tier1- **12** #Tier2- **5** #Tier3- **3**

CU- 04030108 CU Name- **Menominee**
State(s): WI MI #Tier1- **12** #Tier2- **6** #Tier3- **3**

CU- 04030204 CU Name- **Lower Fox**
State(s): WI #Tier1- **49** #Tier2- **2** #Tier3- **.**

CU- 04040001 CU Name- **Little Calumet-Galien**
State(s): IN IL (MI) #Tier1- **45** #Tier2- **26** #Tier3- **18**

CU- 04040002 CU Name- **Pike-Root**
State(s): IL WI #Tier1- **34** #Tier2- **30** #Tier3- **8**

CU- 04040003 CU Name- **Milwaukee**
State(s): WI #Tier1- **60** #Tier2- **16** #Tier3- **14**

CU- 04050001 CU Name- **St. Joseph**
State(s): MI IN #Tier1- **17** #Tier2- **9** #Tier3- **6**

CU- 04060103 CU Name- **Manistee**
State(s): MI #Tier1- **11** #Tier2- **3** #Tier3- **.**

CU- 04090002 CU Name- **Lake St. Clair**
State(s): MI #Tier1- **13** #Tier2- **5** #Tier3- **1**

CU- 04090004 CU Name- **Detroit**
State(s): MI #Tier1- **85** #Tier2- **29** #Tier3- **1**

CU- 04100001 CU Name- **Ottawa-Stony**
State(s): MI OH #Tier1- **13** #Tier2- **15** #Tier3- **1**

CU- 04100002 CU Name- **Raisin**
State(s): MI (OH) #Tier1- **18** #Tier2- **19** #Tier3- **1**

CU- 04100010 CU Name- **Cedar-Portage**
State(s): OH MI #Tier1- **13** #Tier2- **39** #Tier3- **4**

CU- 04100012 CU Name- **Huron-Vermilion**
State(s): OH #Tier1- **10** #Tier2- **35** #Tier3- **.**

CU- 04110001 CU Name- **Black-Rocky**

State(s): OH #Tier1- **24** #Tier2- **31** #Tier3- **4**

CU- 04110003 CU Name- **Ashtabula-Chagrin**

State(s): OH #Tier1- **10** #Tier2- **18** #Tier3- **3**

CU- 04120101 CU Name- **Chautauqua-Conneaut**

State(s): OH PA NY #Tier1- **21** #Tier2- **86** #Tier3- **3**

CU- 04120103 CU Name- **Buffalo-Eighteenmile**

State(s): NY #Tier1- **59** #Tier2- **33** #Tier3- **9**

CU- 04120104 CU Name- **Niagara**

State(s): NY #Tier1- **24** #Tier2- **16** #Tier3- **1**

CU- 04130001 CU Name- **Oak Orchard-Twelvemile**

State(s): NY #Tier1- **39** #Tier2- **46** #Tier3- **1**

CU- 04150301 CU Name- **Upper St. Lawrence**

State(s): NY #Tier1- **21** #Tier2- **5** #Tier3- **5**

CU- 05030101 CU Name- **Upper Ohio**

State(s): OH PA WV #Tier1- **12** #Tier2- **29** #Tier3- **12**

CU- 05030102 CU Name- **Shenango**

State(s): PA OH #Tier1- **11** #Tier2- **1** #Tier3- **3**

CU- 05040001 CU Name- **Tuscarawas**

State(s): OH #Tier1- **10** #Tier2- **53** #Tier3- **15**

CU- 05120109 CU Name- **Vermilion**

State(s): IL (IN) #Tier1- **12** #Tier2- **16** #Tier3- **.**

CU- 05120111 CU Name- **Middle Wabash-Busseron**

State(s): IL IN #Tier1- **15** #Tier2- **17** #Tier3- **1**

CU- 06010104 CU Name- **Holston**

State(s): TN #Tier1- **12** #Tier2- **2** #Tier3- **1**

CU- 06010201 CU Name- **Watts Bar Lake**

State(s): TN #Tier1- **63** #Tier2- **7** #Tier3- **19**

CU- 06010207 CU Name- **Lower Clinch**

State(s): TN #Tier1- **61** #Tier2- **14** #Tier3- **4**

CU- 06020001 CU Name- **Middle Tennessee-Chickamauga**

State(s): TN GA (AL) #Tier1- **47** #Tier2- **29** #Tier3- **18**

CU- 06020002 CU Name- **Hiwassee**

State(s): TN NC GA #Tier1- **13** #Tier2- **17** #Tier3- **3**

CU- 06030001 CU Name- **Guntersville Lake**

State(s): AL TN (GA) #Tier1- **25** #Tier2- **46** #Tier3- **21**

CU- 06030005 CU Name- **Pickwick Lake**

State(s): AL TN (MS) #Tier1- **49** #Tier2- **9** #Tier3- **11**

CU- **06040001** CU Name- **Lower Tennessee-Beech**
State(s): TN (MS) #Tier1- **15** #Tier2- **6** #Tier3- **4**

CU- **06040005** CU Name- **Kentucky Lake**
State(s): TN KY #Tier1- **15** #Tier2- **14** #Tier3- **1**

CU- **07010206** CU Name- **Twin Cities**
State(s): MN WI #Tier1- **26** #Tier2- **2** #Tier3- **7**

CU- **07040001** CU Name- **Rush-Vermillion**
State(s): MN WI #Tier1- **13** #Tier2- **1** #Tier3- **.**

CU- **07040003** CU Name- **Buffalo-Whitewater**
State(s): MN WI #Tier1- **17** #Tier2- **3** #Tier3- **6**

CU- **07070003** CU Name- **Castle Rock**
State(s): WI #Tier1- **20** #Tier2- **.** #Tier3- **2**

CU- **07080101** CU Name- **Copperas-Duck**
State(s): IA IL #Tier1- **17** #Tier2- **5** #Tier3- **5**

CU- **07090006** CU Name- **Kishwaukee**
State(s): IL (WI) #Tier1- **10** #Tier2- **24** #Tier3- **.**

CU- **07120003** CU Name- **Chicago**
State(s): IL IN #Tier1- **64** #Tier2- **36** #Tier3- **3**

CU- **07120004** CU Name- **Des Plaines**
State(s): IL WI #Tier1- **61** #Tier2- **43** #Tier3- **6**

CU- **07120006** CU Name- **Upper Fox**
State(s): IL WI #Tier1- **15** #Tier2- **40** #Tier3- **5**

CU- **07130001** CU Name- **Lower Illinois-Senachwine Lake**
State(s): IL #Tier1- **11** #Tier2- **10** #Tier3- **.**

CU- **07140101** CU Name- **Cahokia-Joachim**
State(s): IL MO #Tier1- **18** #Tier2- **34** #Tier3- **4**

CU- **07140106** CU Name- **Big Muddy**
State(s): IL #Tier1- **23** #Tier2- **65** #Tier3- **6**

CU- **07140201** CU Name- **Upper Kaskaskia**
State(s): IL #Tier1- **31** #Tier2- **24** #Tier3- **.**

CU- **07140202** CU Name- **Middle Kaskaskia**
State(s): IL #Tier1- **13** #Tier2- **22** #Tier3- **3**

CU- **08010100** CU Name- **Lower Mississippi-Memphis**
State(s): TN KY MO AR MS #Tier1- **14** #Tier2- **3** #Tier3- **3**

CU- **08030209** CU Name- **Deer-Steele**
State(s): MS (LA) #Tier1- **11** #Tier2- **10** #Tier3- **.**

CU- 08040207 CU Name- **Lower Ouachita**
 State(s): LA #Tier1- **12** #Tier2- . #Tier3- .

CU- 08080206 CU Name- **Lower Calcasieu**
 State(s): LA #Tier1- **26** #Tier2- **52** #Tier3- **22**

CU- 08090100 CU Name- **Lower Mississippi-New Orleans**
 State(s): LA #Tier1- **16** #Tier2- **34** #Tier3- **1**

CU- 10270104 CU Name- **Lower Kansas**
 State(s): KS MO #Tier1- **12** #Tier2- **15** #Tier3- **2**

CU- 11070207 CU Name- **Spring**
 State(s): KS MO OK #Tier1- **10** #Tier2- **25** #Tier3- **6**

CU- 11070209 CU Name- **Lower Neosho**
 State(s): OK (AR) #Tier1- **13** #Tier2- **3** #Tier3- **4**

CU- 12040104 CU Name- **Buffalo-San Jacinto**
 State(s): TX #Tier1- **10** #Tier2- **23** #Tier3- **3**

CU- 17010303 CU Name- **Coeur D'Alene Lake**
 State(s): ID (WA) #Tier1- **10** #Tier2- **13** #Tier3- .

CU- 17030003 CU Name- **Lower Yakima**
 State(s): WA #Tier1- **23** #Tier2- **19** #Tier3- **5**

CU- 17090012 CU Name- **Lower Willamette**
 State(s): OR #Tier1- **21** #Tier2- **51** #Tier3- **4**

CU- 17110002 CU Name- **Strait Of Georgia**
 State(s): WA #Tier1- **32** #Tier2- **168** #Tier3- **63**

CU- 17110013 CU Name- **Duwamish**
 State(s): WA #Tier1- **48** #Tier2- **69** #Tier3- **10**

CU- 17110014 CU Name- **Puyallup**
 State(s): WA #Tier1- **12** #Tier2- **6** #Tier3- **1**

CU- 17110019 CU Name- **Puget Sound**
 State(s): WA #Tier1- **418** #Tier2- **851** #Tier3- **114**

CU- 18030012 CU Name- **Tulare-Buena Vista Lakes**
 State(s): CA #Tier1- **10** #Tier2- **5** #Tier3- **5**

CU- 18050003 CU Name- **Coyote**
 State(s): CA #Tier1- **18** #Tier2- **6** #Tier3- .

CU- 18050004 CU Name- **San Francisco Bay**
 State(s): CA #Tier1- **19** #Tier2- **37** #Tier3- **8**

CU- 18070104 CU Name- **Santa Monica Bay**
 State(s): CA #Tier1- **79** #Tier2- **31** #Tier3- **22**

CU- 18070105 CU Name- **Los Angeles**

State(s): CA #Tier1- **14** #Tier2- **19** #Tier3- **4**

CU- 18070107 CU Name- San Pedro Channel Islands

State(s): CA #Tier1- **14** #Tier2- **10** #Tier3- **1**

CU- 18070201 CU Name- Seal Beach

State(s): CA #Tier1- **63** #Tier2- **339** #Tier3- **40**

CU- 18070204 CU Name- Newport Bay

State(s): CA #Tier1- **24** #Tier2- **68** #Tier3- **16**

CU- 18070301 CU Name- Aliso-San Onofre

State(s): CA #Tier1- **10** #Tier2- **22** #Tier3- **.**

CU- 18070304 CU Name- San Diego

State(s): CA #Tier1- **53** #Tier2- **51** #Tier3- **3**