

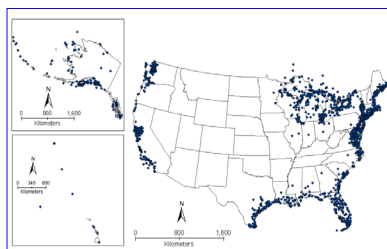
Contaminant Exposure and Effects—Terrestrial Vertebrates Database

Summary Findings for Trust Resources in U.S. Coastal Habitats



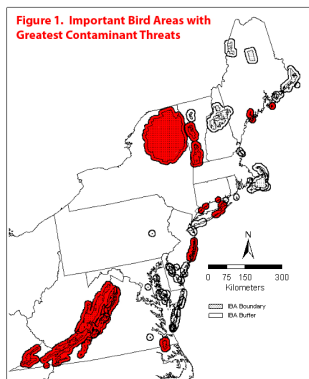
Home Page:
www.pwrc.usgs.gov/contaminants-online/

- The Challenge:** The National Contaminant Biomonitoring Program of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has been the only large-scale effort that has examined contaminant exposure in terrestrial vertebrates in the United States. The program was discontinued in 1990, however halogenated contaminants, metals, and new pollutants continue to pose hazards to wildlife at many geographic scales. To address this hazard, critical data gaps are being identified through retrospective compilation and analysis of ecotoxicological data.



Distribution of data

- The Science:** Retrospective contaminant exposure and effects data for free-ranging terrestrial vertebrates residing in U.S. estuarine and coastal habitat are identified in published and unpublished literature. Data are compiled into a 118-field database, including information on taxonomy, collection date, study location, geographic coordinates, sample matrix, contaminant concentration, biomarker or bioindicator response, and source of information. The CEE-TV database can be searched for temporal and spatial trends in order to identify significant data gaps



Recent Analysis of
Important Bird Area

- The Future:** The CEE-TV database contains nearly 20,000 records describing contaminant exposure or effects in approximately 275,000 individuals representing over 480 species of amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals. Contemporary terrestrial vertebrate ecotoxicological data are lacking in 40% of the coastal watersheds, and about half of the National Wildlife Refuge and National Park units in coastal areas. Ranking schemes have been developed to prioritize Department of the Interior Management units and Important Bird Areas for which sampling and evaluation are most critical.