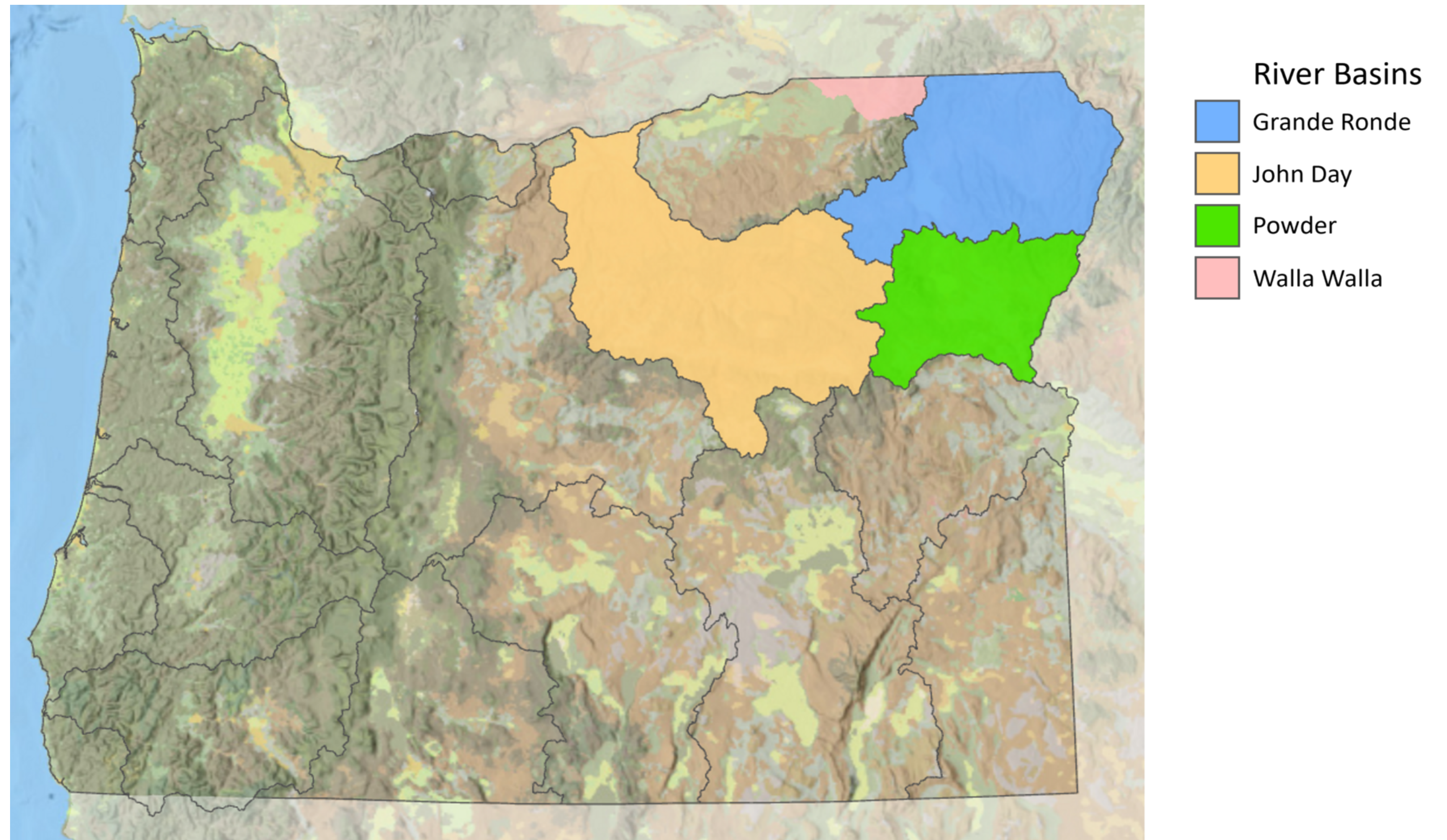




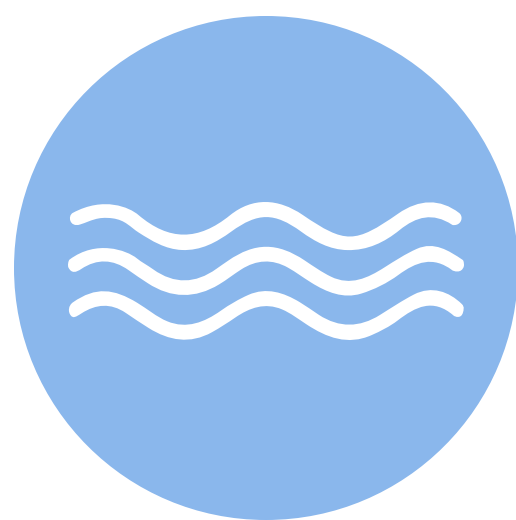
Northeast Basins Toxics Monitoring Summary

This summary combines results from DEQ's Toxics Monitoring Program sampling in the Grande Ronde, John Day, Powder and Walla Walla River basins between 2011 and 2016 in water, sediment and fish tissue samples.

This is the first comprehensive report on DEQ's toxics sampling in the Northeast river basins. The goal was to get a snapshot of pollutants to help DEQ and others understand water quality trends in this area.



Sample Collection



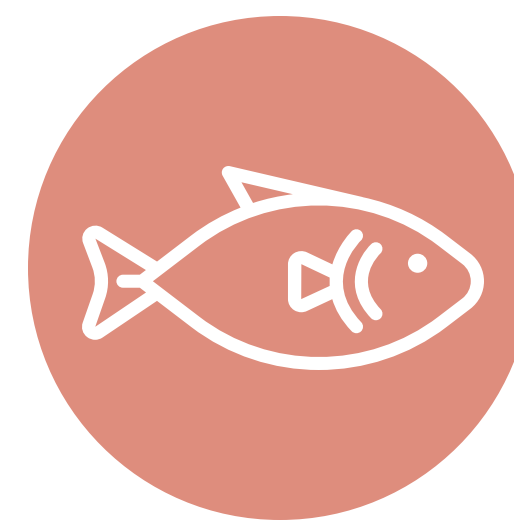
Water

111 samples
29 locations



Sediment

21 samples
21 locations



Tissue

7 samples
6 locations

• Chemical groups included:

- Current-use pesticides, consumer use products, combustion by-products, dioxins and furans, flame-retardants, industrial chemicals, legacy pesticides, PCBs, and metals

Key Findings

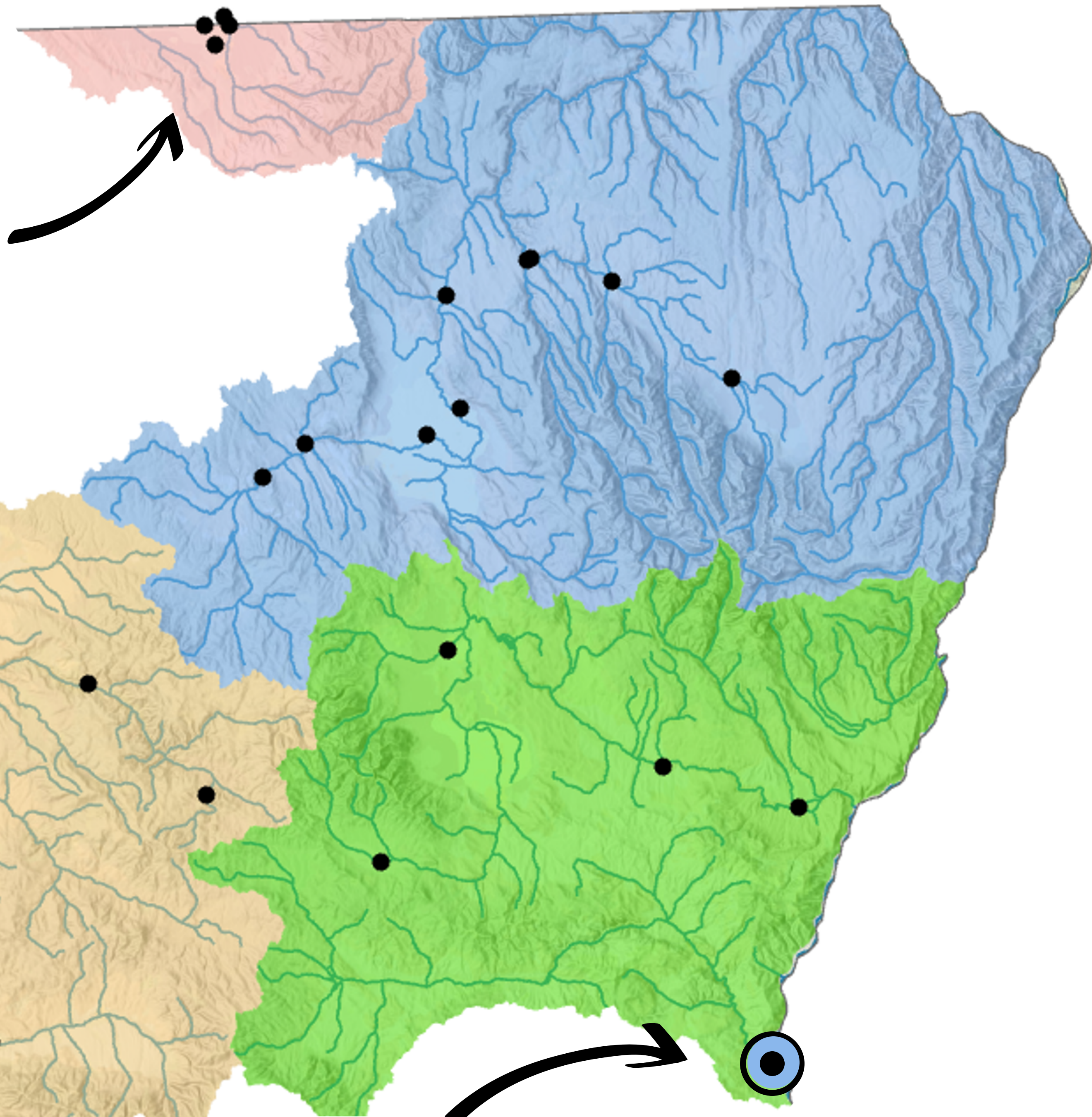
- 96% of the chemicals analyzed in the 2016 samples were undetected or detected at concentrations safe for human and aquatic life
- It is safe to fish, boat, and otherwise recreate in these river basins, despite the few exceedances of criteria identified in the report
- DEQ staff selected eleven monitoring locations to become part of the Water Toxics Monitoring Program's trend network

Findings by Matrix



Walla Walla River Basin

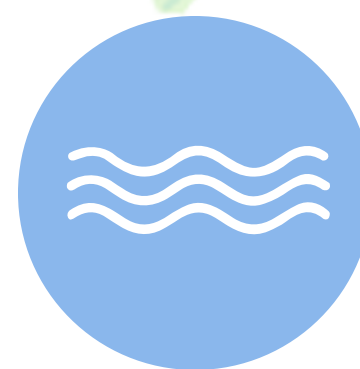
Concentrations of Total DDT were higher in sediment samples from the Walla Walla River Basin, than those detected in the other three basins. While these concentrations are high, the waterways remain safe for recreation and fish consumption.



Across the basins

Mercury and arsenic were detected at concentrations that could pose a potential risk to human health based on consumption level. OHA has a statewide consumption advisory in place based for mercury.

* DEQ's human health criteria for mercury and arsenic assume a tissue consumption rate of 17.5 grams per day or 23 eight ounce meals per month.



Burnt River near Huntington

Concentrations of five metals and three legacy pesticides found over applicable criteria. These concentrations do not appear to be associated with the wastewater treatment plant.

Next Steps

Results from this study will be used to inform the programs and projects below, which may include additional sampling

Toxics Monitoring Network

A continuation of this sampling on a yearly, statewide basis that aims to identify trends in chemical concentrations

Permitting and Regulatory Programs

Data from this report will help inform and direct projects in the TMDL, NPDES, and stormwater programs

Toxics Reduction Strategy

The strategy complements and supports ongoing efforts in DEQ's air, land and water quality programs by improving integration, sharing best practices and filling any identified gaps

Integrated Report 303(d) list

A reporting of the status of Oregon's waters and a list of water bodies that do not meet water quality standards

