

An aerial photograph showing a river winding through a landscape of agricultural fields. The fields are in various shades of green and brown, indicating different crops and stages of growth. The river is a dark, winding line through the landscape. In the upper right corner, there is a body of water, possibly a lake or a reservoir, with a blueish-green hue.

Understanding Spatial and Temporal Patterns of Contaminants in the Maumee River to Assess Biological Hazards

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Great Lakes Restoration Initiative:

Contaminants of Emerging Concern (2010-Present)



Objectives:

- To protect and restore the largest fresh surface water system in the world
- Identify emerging contaminants and assess impacts on Great Lakes fish and wildlife

Contaminants of Emerging Concern:

- Lacking exposure and/or effects data needed to support risk management
 - Current use pesticides, pharmaceuticals and personal care products, industrial chemicals, endocrine disruptors, other contaminants

Bioeffects Monitoring Approaches

General Approach

Unsupervised

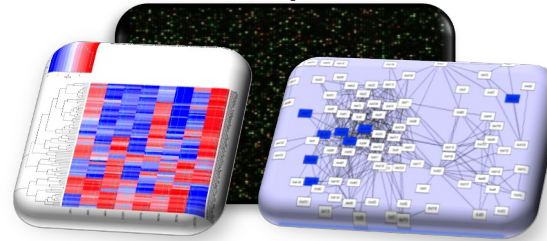
Supervised

In vivo
assessment

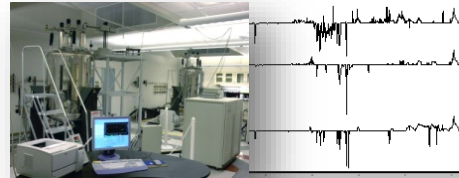
Fish exposed in situ



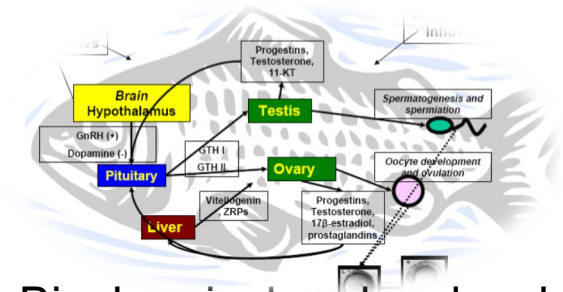
DNA-microarray
Transcriptomics



Metabolomics



- Endpoints associated with established adverse outcome pathways:

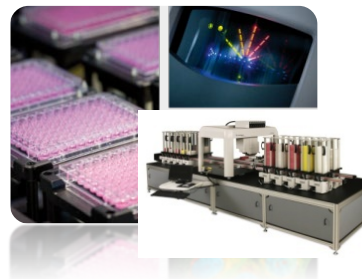


- E.g., Biochemical and molecular markers of endocrine disruption and adverse reproductive outcomes.

Surface water
samples/extracts

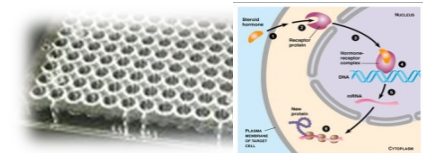


High throughput in
vitro screening



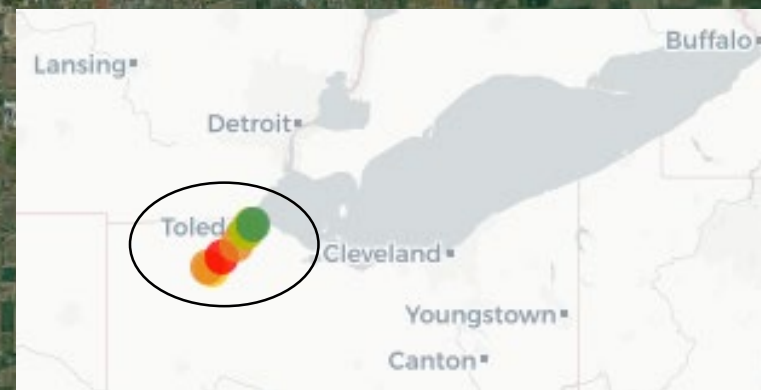
In vitro bioassays

- MDA-kb2: (anti)androgenic activity
- T47D: (anti)estrogenic activity
- H4IIE: dioxin-like contaminants
- H295R: steroidogenesis inhibitors



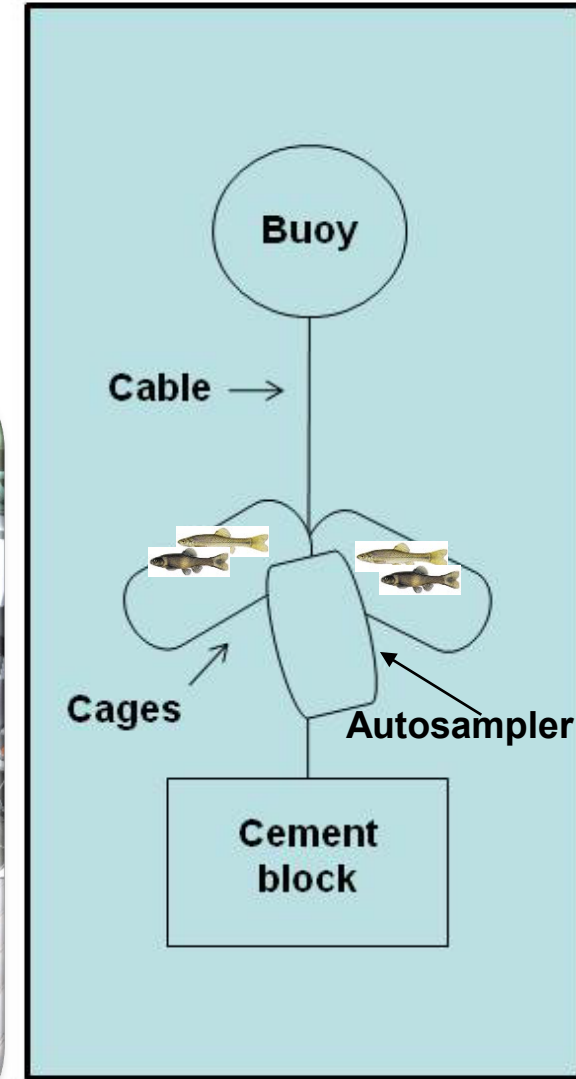
Maumee River AOC

- GLRI CEC project
- Characterize chemistry in a complex landscape
- Identify spatial patterns of chemical mixtures using **Cluster Analysis**
 - Seasonal trends in 2016
- Discuss implications to potential effects: **EAR** calculations using ToxEval: <http://usgs-r.github.io/toxEval/articles/Introduction.html>



Methods

- Autosampler co-located to collect 96h composite sample
 - Chemistry (WWI, pesticides, pharmaceuticals)
 - Bioassays (Attagene, estrogenic activity, cell-based metabolomics, steroidogenesis, ZF embryo transcriptomics)
- Caged fish deployed at sites; 96h exposure period
 - Mucus (metabolomics)
 - Plasma (steroids, vtg)
 - Liver (gene expression, 'omics)
 - Gonad (gene expression, 'omics)



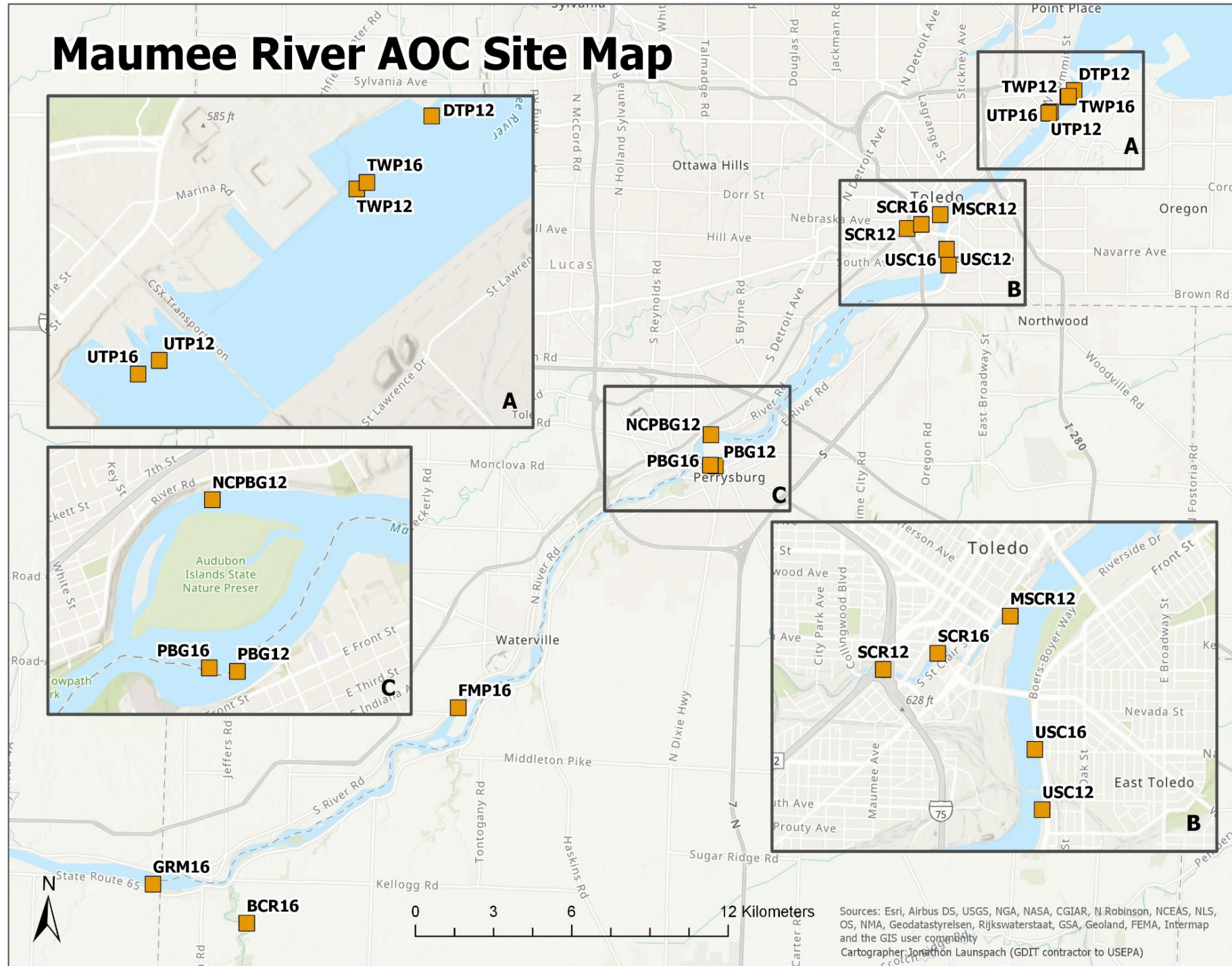
USGS Water Chemistry Schedules

- Prior sampling (2012) revealed agricultural influence in the AOC
- Pre/post runoff pesticide application

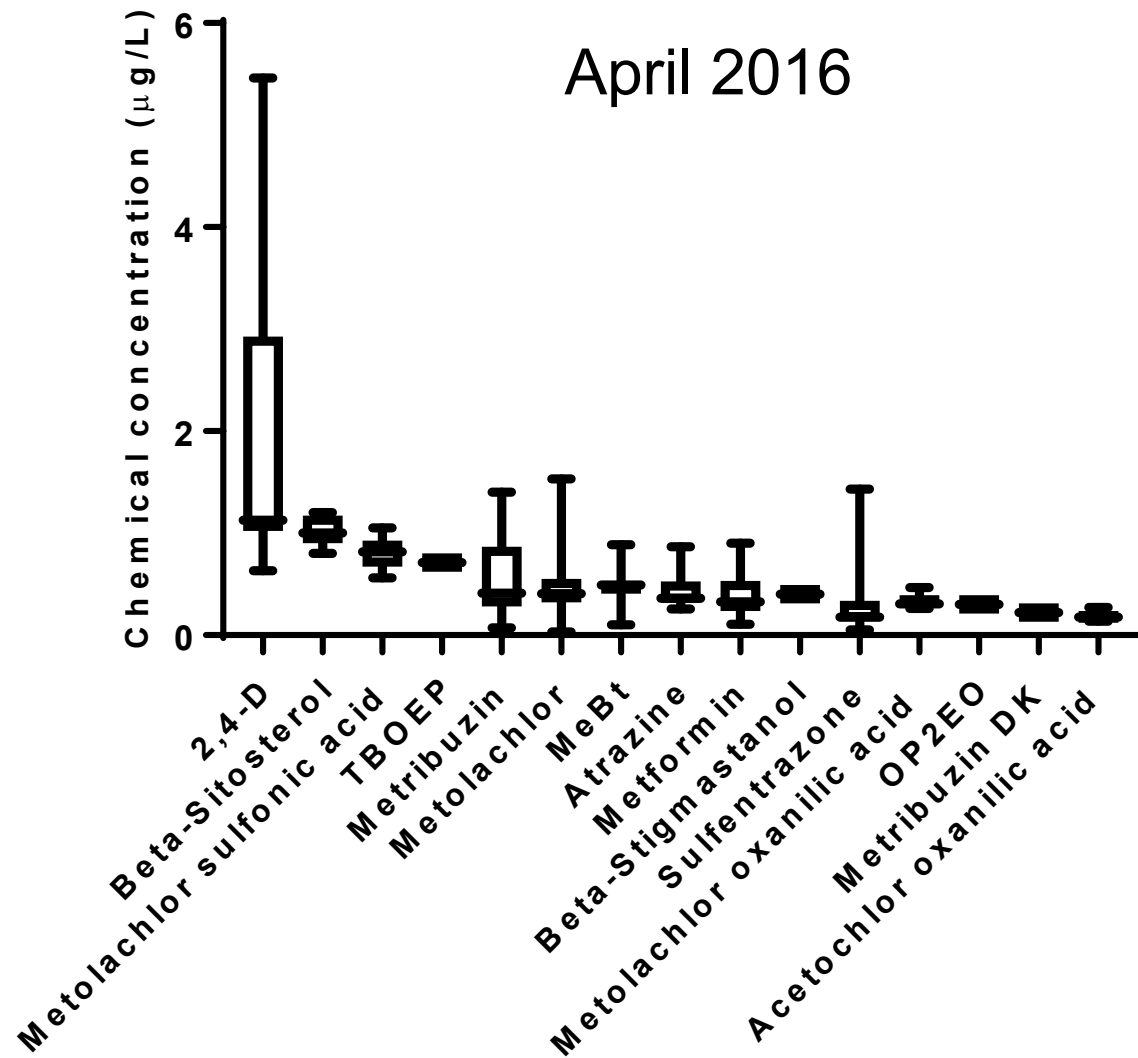
April and June 2016

- Pesticides
- Pharmaceuticals
- Wastewater indicators

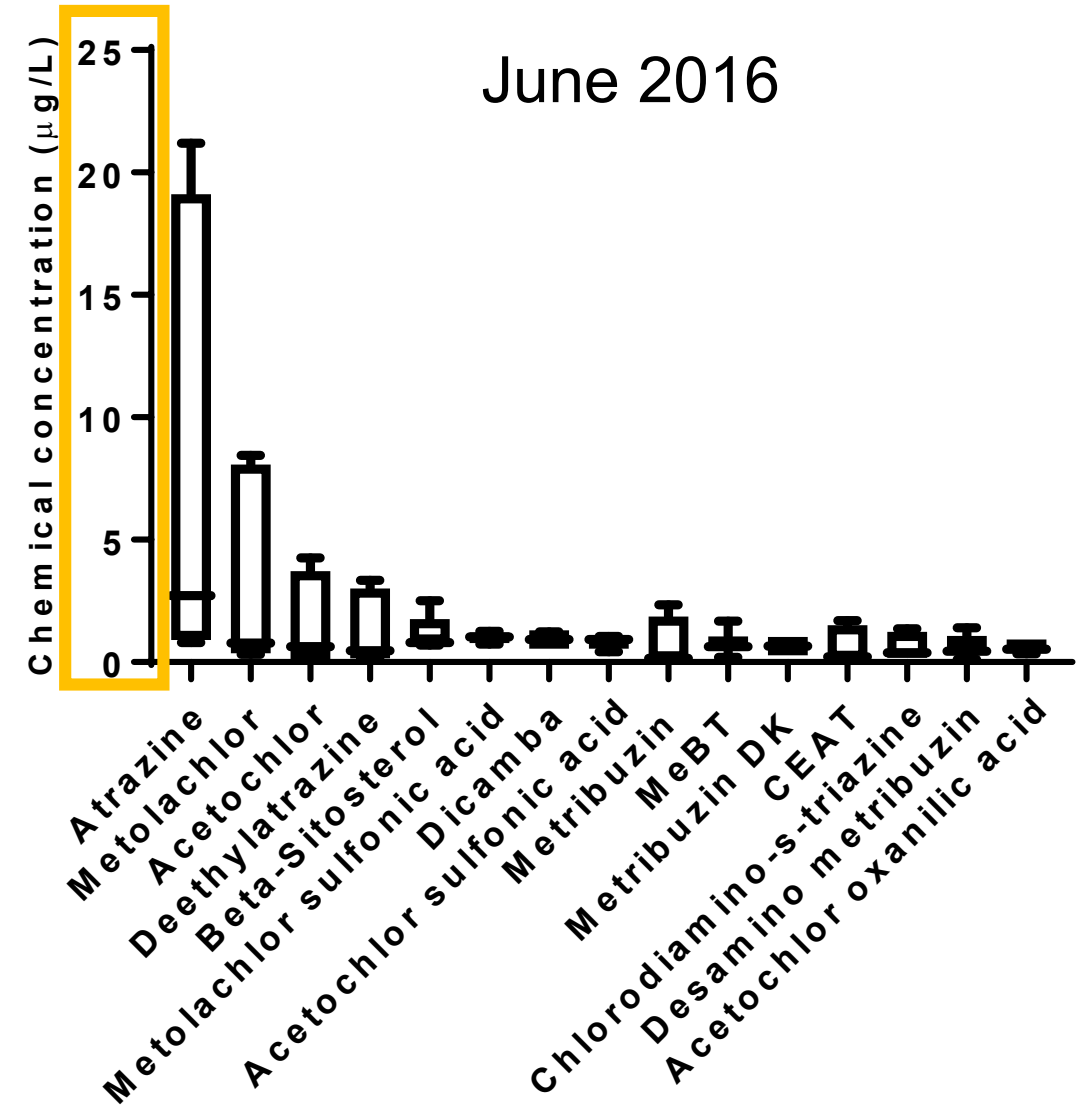
Maumee River AOC Site Map



April 2016



June 2016



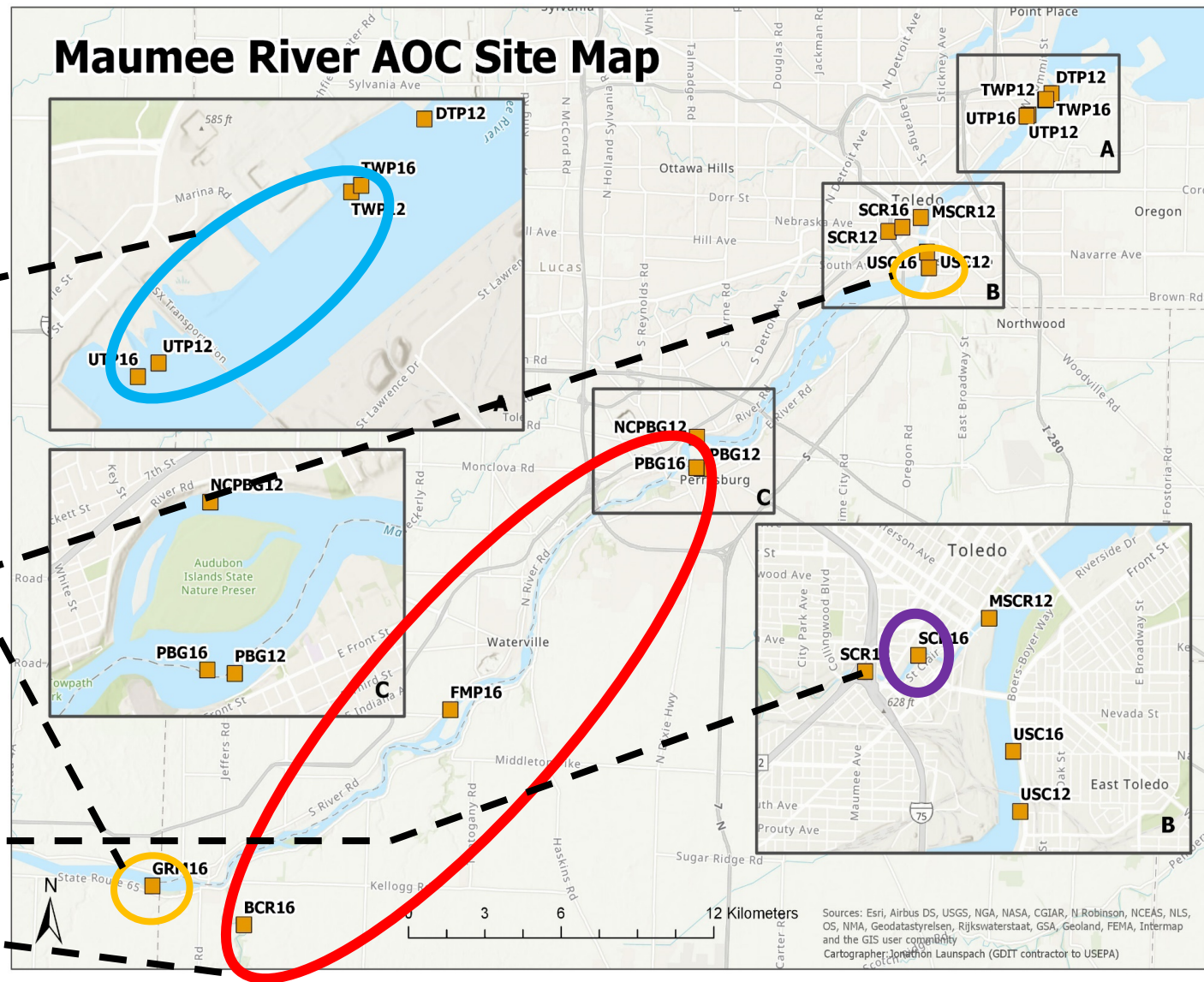
110-111 target chemicals detected

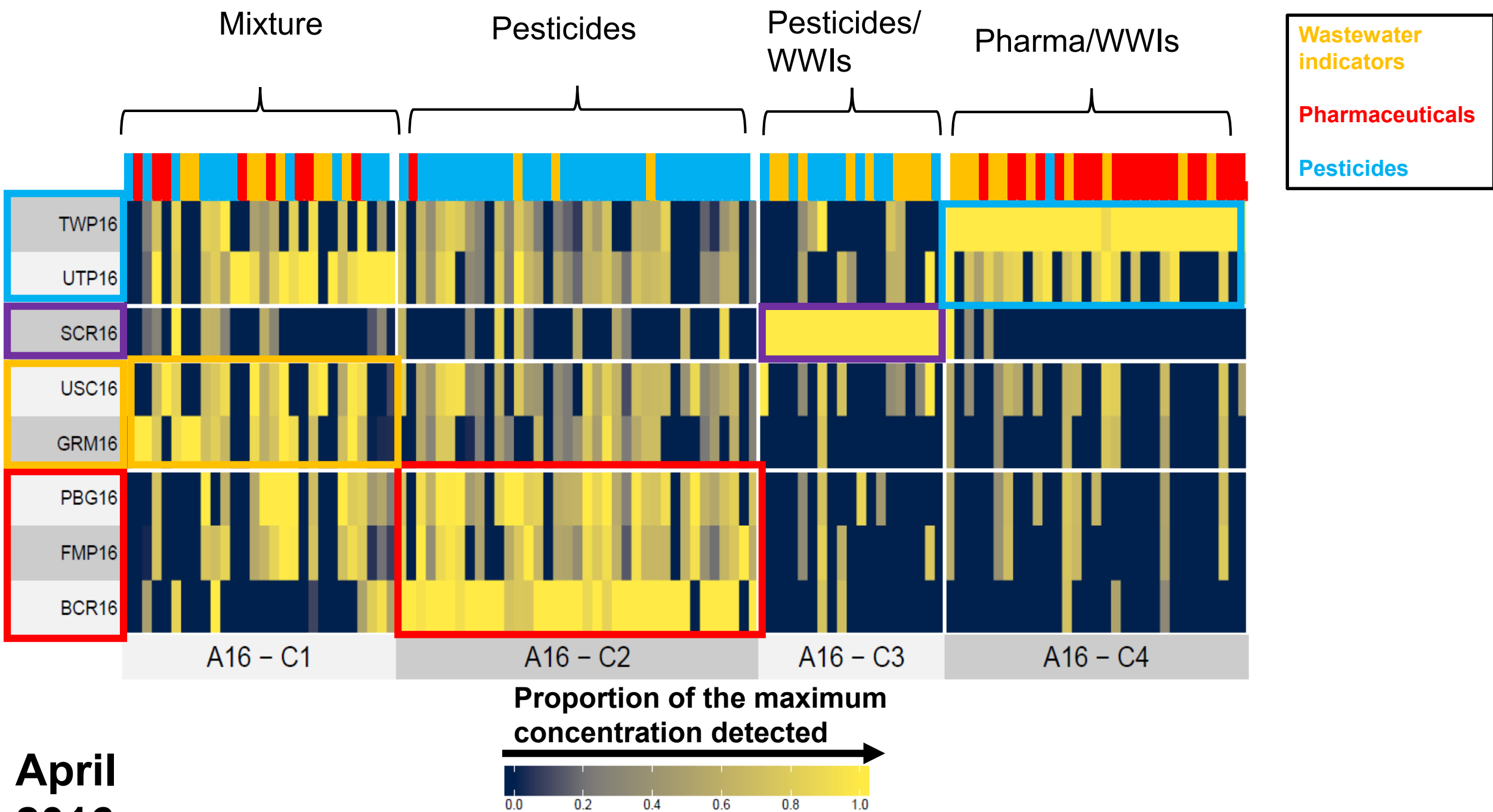
- Pesticides: 58-63
- Pharmaceuticals: 25-28
- Wastewater indicators: 22-25

Maumee River AOC

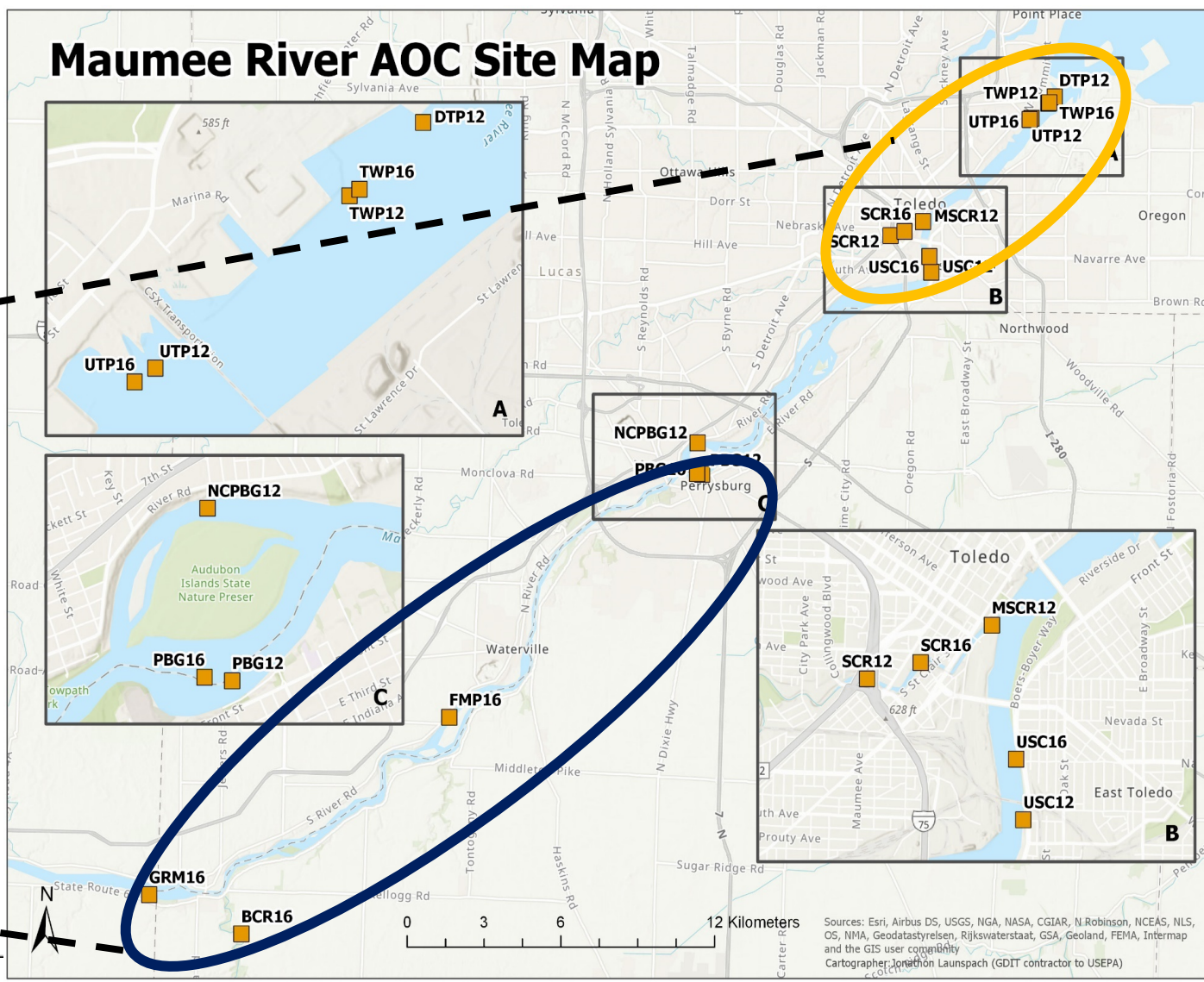
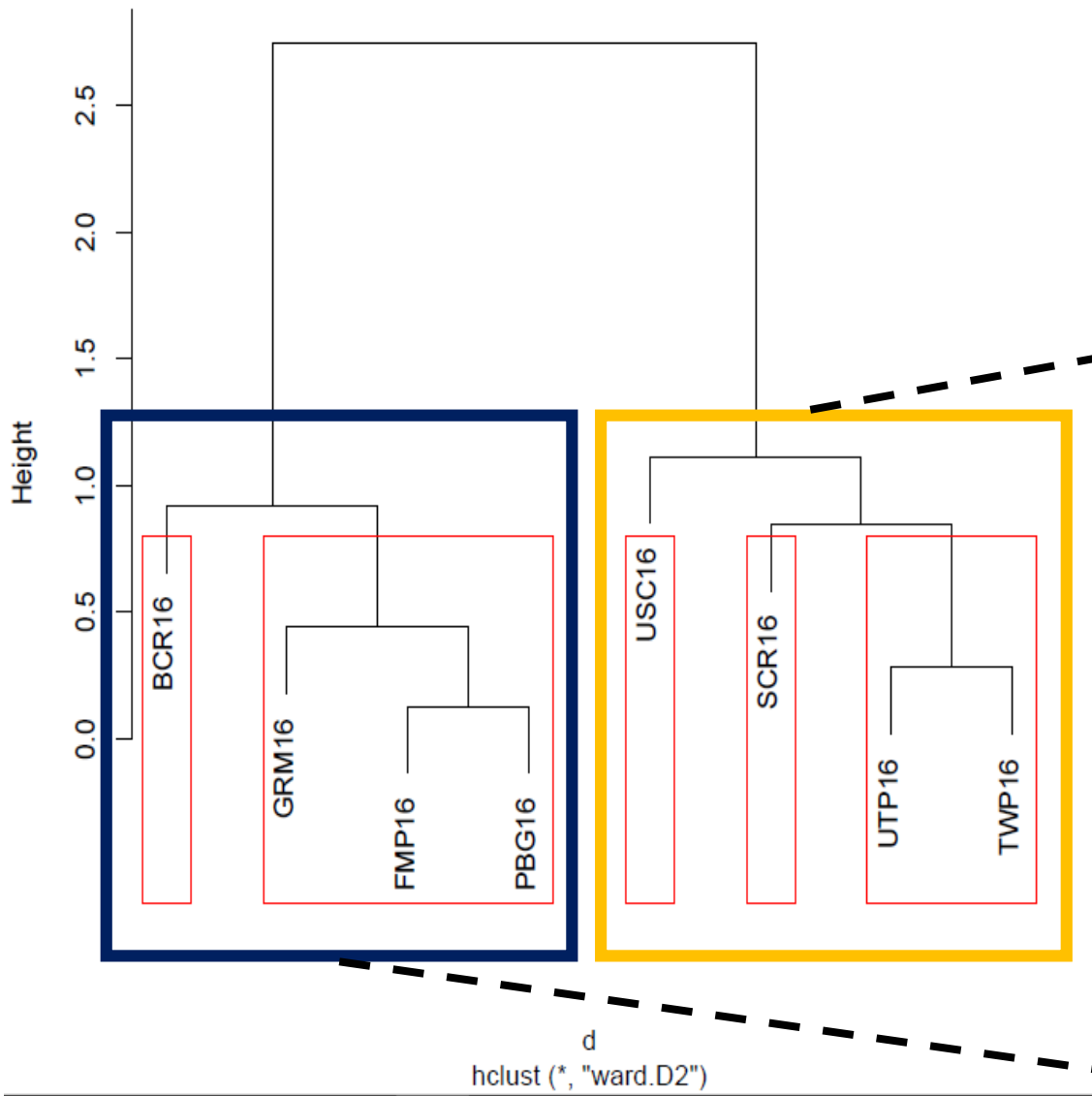
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Maumee River AOC Site Map





**April
2016**



Pesticides

Pharma/WWIs

Wastewater
indicators

Pharmaceuticals

Pesticides

TWP16

UTP16

SCR16

USC16

PBG16

FMP16

GRM16

BCR16

J16 - C1

J16 - C2



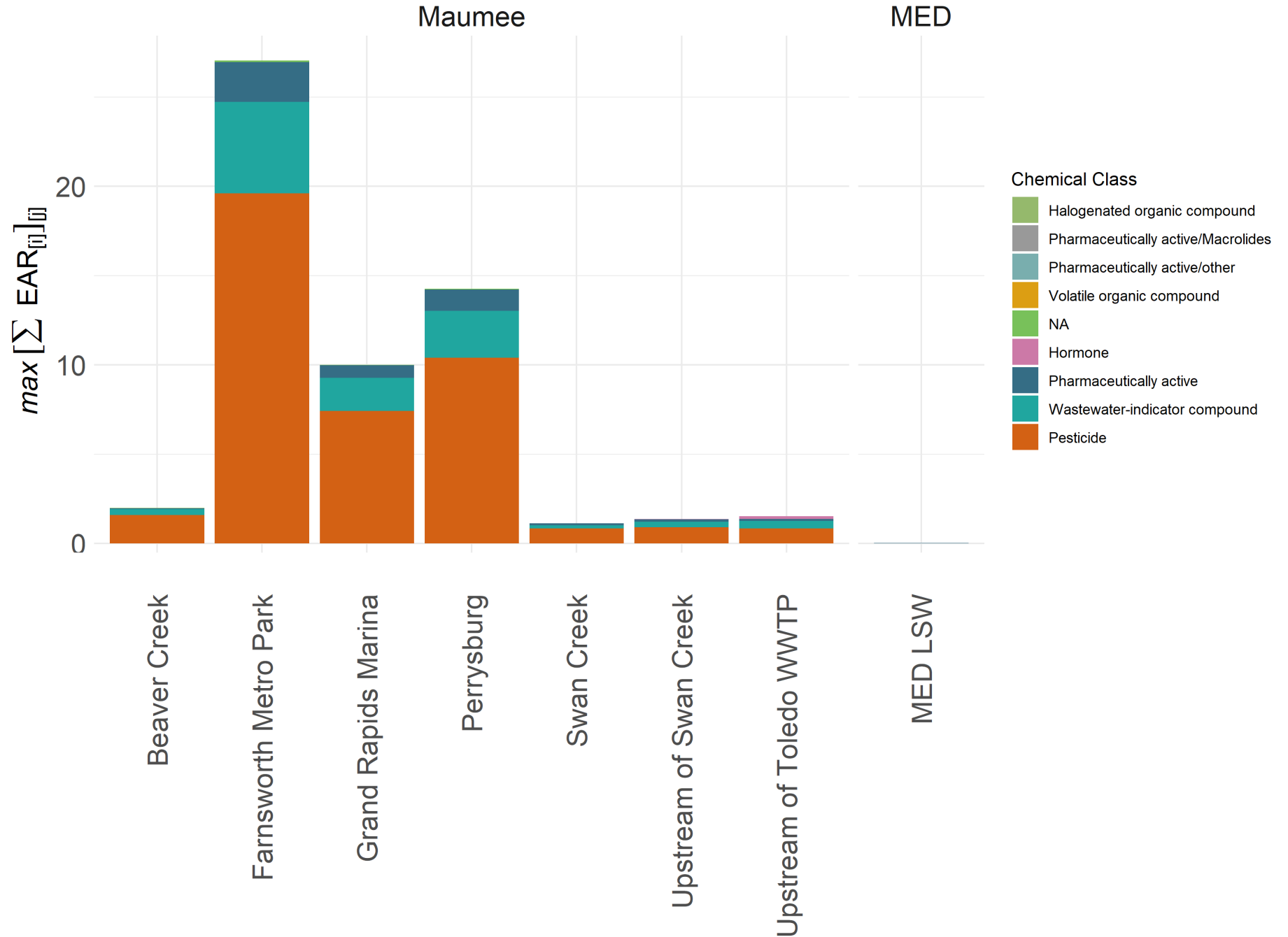
June
2016

High-throughput Screening (HTS) based predictions using Exposure-Activity Ratios

- R-based tool to compare chemical occurrence data with ToxCast database
 - ToxCast database contains biological activities for 1000s of chemicals
 - HTS includes cell-based and biochemical *in vitro* assays to investigate chemical-biological interactions
 - Exposure activity ratios provide hazard predictions using chemical potency to determine adverse effects on biological activity
 - Allows for prioritization of sites, chemicals, and biological pathways
- We present maximum concentrations detected in 2016 for both seasons tested

$$\text{EAR mixture} = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\text{Exposure}_i(\text{dose uM})}{\text{Activity}_i(\text{ACC uM})}$$

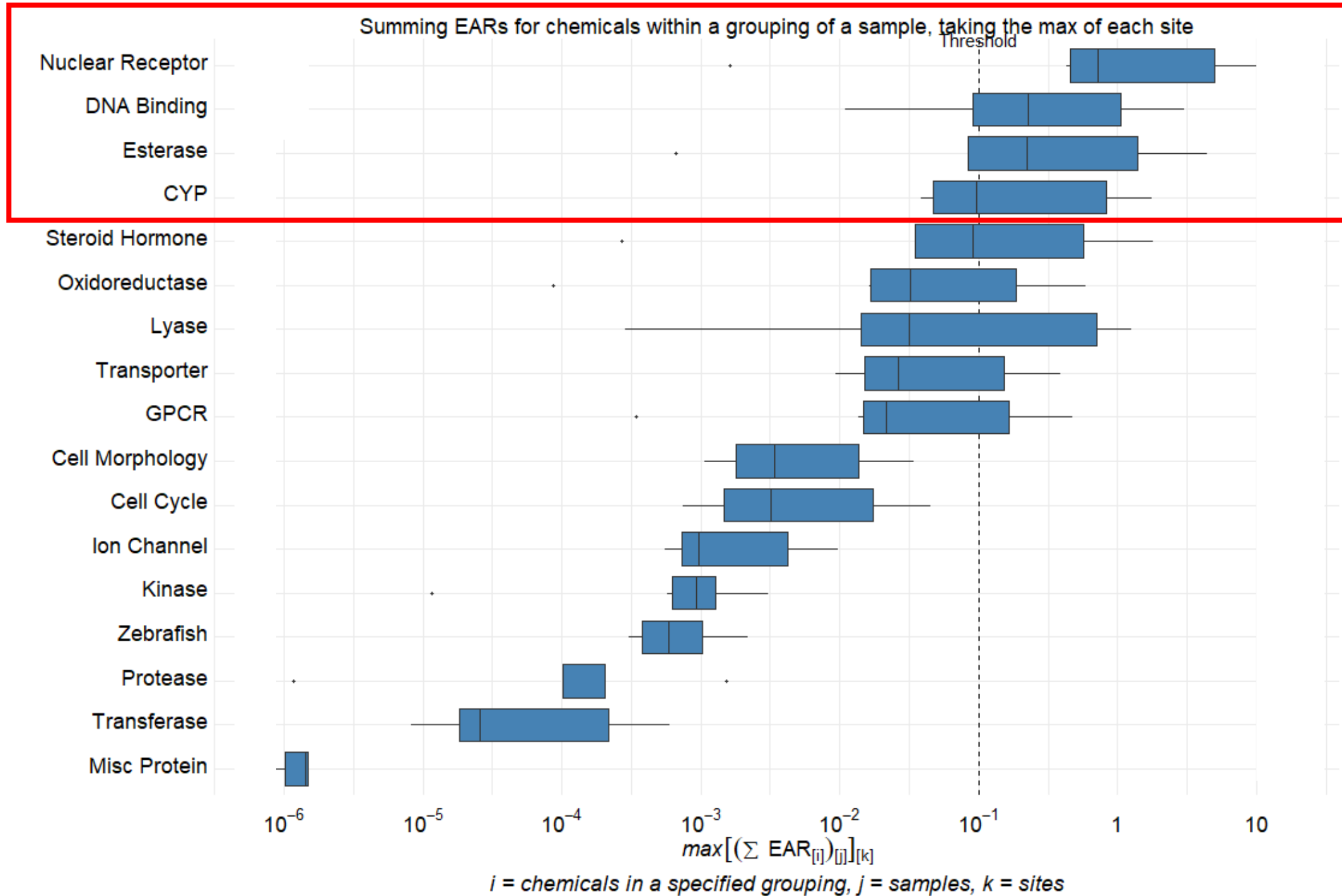
Summing EARs for chemicals within a class of a sample, taking the max of each site



Pesticides are
major contributor

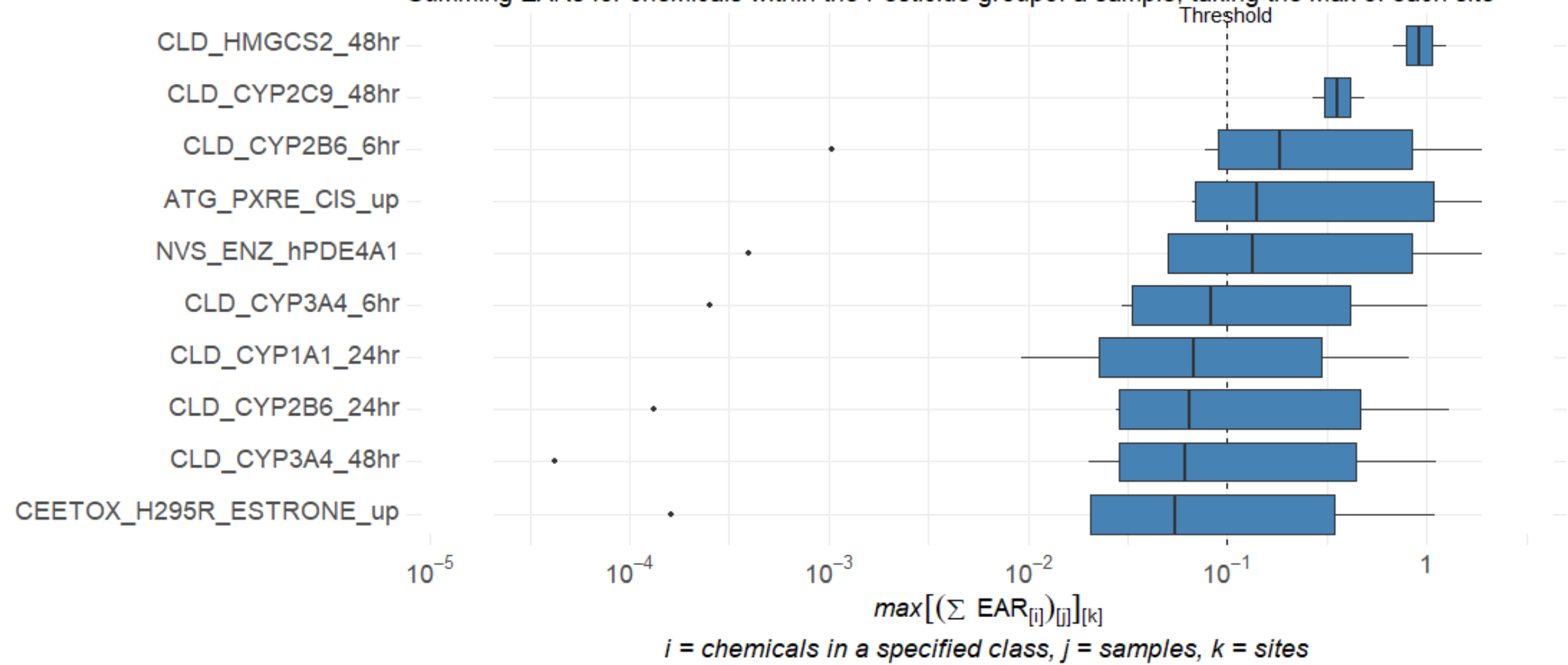
GRM, FMP, PBG
all western main
channel sites

Assays
grouped by
biological
functionality



Pesticide class only activities affected

Summing EARs for chemicals within the Pesticide group of a sample, taking the max of each site



Xenobiotic metabolism highest EARs

An aerial photograph showing a river winding through a landscape. The river is dark and occupies the right side of the image. To the left of the river, there are large, rectangular agricultural fields in various shades of green and brown. A city or town is visible in the center, with a grid of streets and buildings. The overall scene is a mix of natural and human-made environments.

Summary

- Maumee River AOC has a large agricultural influence
 - Site-specific urban and agricultural mixtures were identified
- Seasonal differences in flow and chemical use led to higher pesticides in June
- EARs revealed pesticides largely influenced biological activities associated with xenobiotic metabolism in the AOC
- Cluster Analysis and similar techniques may be an effective tool to characterize site and seasonal differences using chemical occurrence data
- Exposure-activity ratios can help prioritize contaminants and sites based on chemical potency and bioactivities affected

Questions?

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- Funding: Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI)
- - Grant to US EPA, US FWS, USGS

GENERAL DYNAMICS
Information Technology

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