



# Health Advisory and Guidelines for Eating Fish from Rollins Reservoir (Placer and Nevada Counties)

Updated March 2020



Fish, Ecotoxicology, and Water Section  
Pesticide and Environmental Toxicology Branch  
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment  
California Environmental Protection Agency

# LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS

## ***Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment***

### ***Authors***

Lori Chumney, M.S.  
Huyen Tran Pham, M.P.H.

### ***Primary Reviewers***

Susan A. Klasing, Ph.D., Section Chief  
Wesley Smith, Ph.D.  
Shannon R. Murphy, Ph.D.

### ***Final Reviewers***

David Ting, Ph.D., Branch Chief  
David Siegel, Ph.D., Assistant to the Deputy Director  
Vincent Cogliano, Ph.D., Deputy Director for Scientific Programs  
Allan Hirsch, Chief Deputy Director

### ***Director***

Lauren Zeise, Ph.D.

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### ***For further information, contact:***

Pesticide and Environmental Toxicology Branch  
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment  
California Environmental Protection Agency

1001 I Street, P.O. Box 4010  
Sacramento, CA 95812-4010  
Telephone: (916) 324-7572  
Email address: fish@oehha.ca.gov

1515 Clay Street, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, California 94612  
Telephone: (510) 622-3170

## LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ATL	Advisory Tissue Level
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CVAFS	Cold Vapor Atomic Fluorescence Spectrometry
DDT(s)	dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT) and its metabolites dichlorodiphenyldichloroethane (DDD) and dichlorodiphenyldichloroethylene (DDE)
DHA	docosahexaenoic acid
EPA	eicosapentaenoic acid
FDA	Food and Drug Administration
Hg	mercury
MDL	method detection limit
MLML	Moss Landing Marine Laboratories
mm	millimeters
OEHHA	Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
PBDEs	polybrominated diphenyl ethers
PCBs	polychlorinated biphenyls
ppb	parts per billion
RL	reporting limit
Se	selenium
SWAMP	Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
TSMP	Toxic Substances Monitoring Program
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USDHHS	United States Department of Health and Human Services
US EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency

## PREFACE

The Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), a department in the California Environmental Protection Agency, is responsible for evaluating potential public health risks from chemical contamination of sport fish. This includes issuing fish consumption advisories, when appropriate, for the State of California. OEHHA's authorities to conduct these activities are based on mandates in the:

- California Health and Safety Code
  - Section 59009, to protect public health
  - Section 59011, to advise local health authorities
- California Water Code
  - Section 13177.5, to issue health advisories

The health advisories are published in the California Department of Fish and Wildlife Sport Fishing Regulations in the section on public health advisories.


This report presents updated guidelines for eating fish from Rollins Reservoir in Nevada and Placer counties. The report provides background information and a technical description of how the guidelines were developed. The resulting advice is summarized in the illustrations after the Table of Contents and List of Figures and Tables.

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**Women**  
(18-49 Years)

**Children**  
(1-17 Years)

**1** TOTAL SERVING A WEEK

**0** DO NOT EAT



**Women**  
(50+ Years)

**Men**  
(18+ Years)

**2** TOTAL SERVINGS A WEEK

OR

**1** TOTAL SERVING A WEEK

## A GUIDE TO EATING FISH


*from*

# ROLLINS RESERVOIR

(NEVADA AND PLACER COUNTIES)


**Eat the Good Fish**

Eating fish that are low in chemicals may provide health benefits to children and adults.




**Avoid the Bad Fish**

Eating fish with higher levels of chemicals like mercury or PCBs may cause health problems in children and adults.




**Choose the Right Fish**

Chemicals may be more harmful to unborn babies and children.




**Channel Catfish**

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**Black Bass Species**



**Sacramento Sucker**

**Serving Size**

A serving of fish is about the size and thickness of your hand. Give children smaller servings.


**California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment**

web [www.oehha.ca.gov/fish](http://www.oehha.ca.gov/fish)

email [fish@oehha.ca.gov](mailto:fish@oehha.ca.gov)


phone (916) 324-7572

**Eat only the skinless fillet**



Some chemicals are higher in the skin, fat, and guts.

**Eat only the meat**



Updated 03/2020

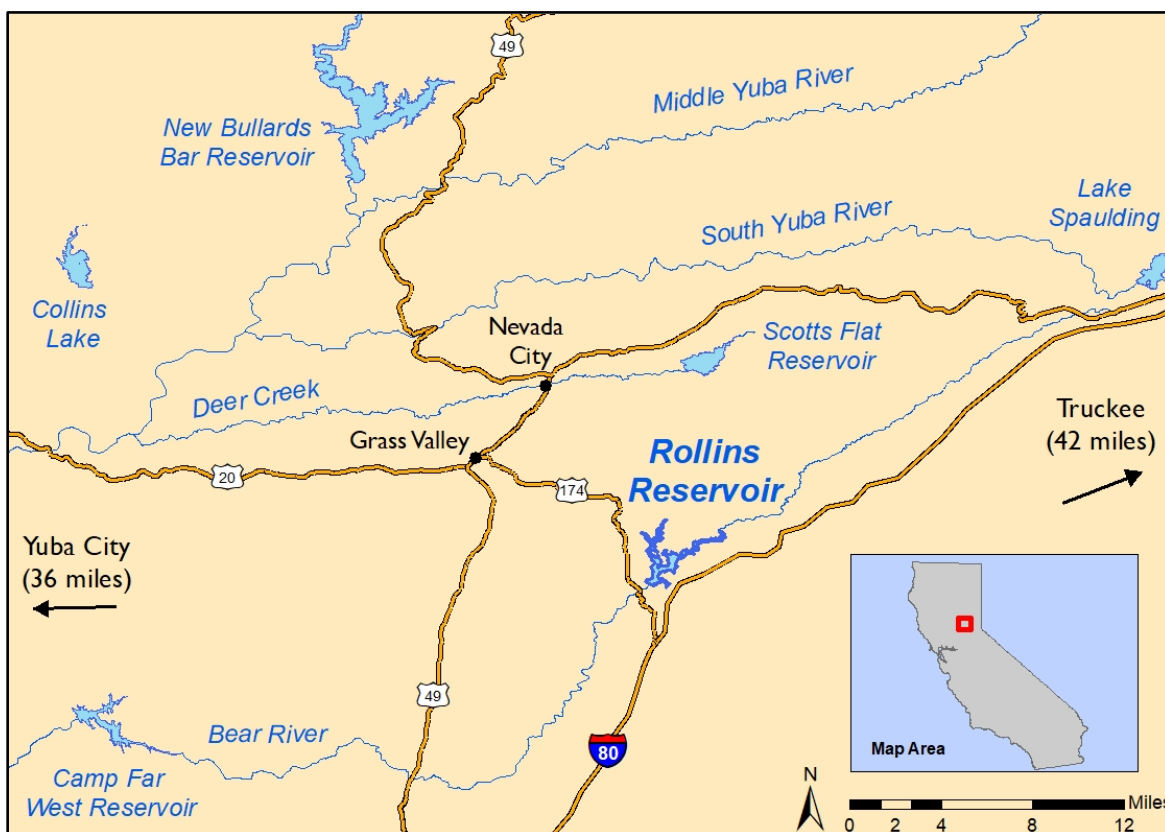
## INTRODUCTION

This report presents an update and supersedes the previous advice for eating fish from Rollins Reservoir (Figure 1). The collection of additional mercury data made it possible to update this advisory with the inclusion of black bass species and Sacramento Sucker.

### LOCATION

Rollins Reservoir is located along the Bear River, approximately 8 miles southeast of Grass Valley, on the Nevada-Placer county line. The reservoir was formed in 1965 by the construction of a 242-foot tall earthen dam, which created 26 miles of shoreline covering 900 acres.<sup>1</sup> Rollins Reservoir is operated by the Nevada Irrigation District.

FIGURE 1. LOCATION OF ROLLINS RESERVOIR



<sup>1</sup> Information regarding Rollins Reservoir was obtained from the Nevada Irrigation District and Nevada County. Online at: <https://nidwater.com/water-service/about-your-water/> and <https://gonevadacounty.com/attraction/rollins-lake/>



### *APPROACH USED*

The Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) used the results from four monitoring studies described in this report to develop the Rollins Reservoir Advisory. OEHHA uses the following general process in developing consumption advice for sport fish:

- 1) Evaluation of all fish contaminant data available from a water body and selection of appropriate data that meet data quality criteria and sampling plan guidelines.
- 2) Determination of fish species for which adequate data are available to issue fish consumption advice.
- 3) Calculation of an appropriate measure of central tendency (often a weighted arithmetic mean<sup>2</sup>) and other descriptive statistics of the contaminant data, as appropriate, for a chemical of potential concern for the selected fish species.
- 4) Comparison of the chemical concentrations with the OEHHA Advisory Tissue Levels (ATLs) for each chemical of potential concern.
- 5) Development of final advice based on a thorough review of the data and best professional judgment relating to the benefits and risks of consuming a particular fish species.

The ATLs (discussed further in a subsequent section of this report) are chemical levels in fish tissue that are considered acceptable, based on chemical toxicity, for a range of consumption rates. Development of the ATLs also included consideration of health benefits associated with including fish in the diet (OEHHA, 2008). The ATLs should not be interpreted as static “bright lines,” but one component of a complex process of data evaluation and interpretation used by OEHHA in the assessment and communication of the benefits and risks of consuming sport fish.

## CHEMICALS OF POTENTIAL CONCERN

Certain chemicals are considered to be of potential concern for people who eat fish because of their toxicity and their ability to accumulate in fish tissue. The majority of fish consumption advisories in California are issued because of mercury (Hg), followed by polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and, in a few cases, selenium (Se) or some legacy pesticides (pesticides that are no longer used but remain in the environment).

Mercury is a natural element found in some rock and soil. Human activities, such as burning coal and the historic use of mercury to mine gold, also add mercury to the environment. If mercury enters waterways, it can be converted to a more toxic form

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<sup>2</sup> Means are an arithmetic average of individual values and/or a weighted average of composites. A weighted average of composites is calculated by multiplying the chemical concentration in each composite by the number of fish in that composite for each species. Products are then summed and divided by the total number of fish in all composites for that species, combined.

known as methylmercury – which can pass into and build up in fish. High levels of methylmercury can harm the brain, especially in fetuses and children.

PCBs are industrial chemicals previously used in electrical transformers, plastics, and lubricating oils, often as flame retardants or electrical insulators. Their use was banned in the 1970s, but they persist in the environment because they do not break down easily and can accumulate in fish. Depending on the exposure level, PCBs may cause cancer or other health effects, including neurotoxicity, in humans.

Selenium is a naturally occurring metalloid and at low doses is an essential nutrient for many important human health processes, including thyroid regulation and vitamin C metabolism. Higher doses cause selenium toxicity, which can include symptoms ranging from hair loss and gastrointestinal distress to dizziness and tremors.

Chlordanes, dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT), dieldrin, and toxaphene are pesticides that were banned from use in 1973 (DDT), the late 1980s (chlordanes and dieldrin) and 1990 (toxaphene), but are still found in some fish in certain California water bodies. Depending on the exposure level, these chemicals may cause cancer or adverse effects on the nervous system.

Polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs) are a class of flame retardants historically used in a variety of consumer products including furniture, textiles, automotive parts, and electronics. The use of PBDEs in new products was largely phased out by 2013 but, due to their wide usage and persistence in the environment, they are still being detected in fish tissues. PBDEs may affect hormone levels or learning and behavior in children.

Detailed discussion of the toxicity of these chemicals and references are presented in “Development of Fish Contaminant Goals and Advisory Tissue Levels for Common Contaminants in California Sport Fish: Chlordane, DDTs, dieldrin, methylmercury, PCBs, selenium, and toxaphene” (OEHHA, 2008) and “Development of Fish Contaminant Goals and Advisory Tissue Levels for Common Contaminants in California Sport Fish: Polybrominated Diphenyl Ethers (PBDEs)” (OEHHA, 2011).

All fish species collected from Rollins Reservoir and used in the advisory update development were analyzed for mercury (as a measure of methylmercury). Sacramento Sucker were also analyzed for PBDEs, PCBs, selenium, and the legacy pesticides chlordanes (cis-chlordane, trans-chlordane, cis-nonachlor, trans-nonachlor, and oxychlordane), dieldrin, and DDTs (DDT and its metabolites dichlorodiphenyldichloroethane [DDD] and dichlorodiphenyldichloroethylene [DDE]). Fish species that do not normally accumulate PCBs or other organic chemicals may not be analyzed for those contaminants in a particular monitoring study. Additionally, some studies do not analyze these chemicals and instead focus only on mercury.

## DATA SOURCES

The guidelines for eating fish from Rollins Reservoir are based on the chemicals detected in the fish collected for the four monitoring studies described below. These studies met OEHHA's data quality criteria, including adequate documentation of sample collection, fish preparation methods (e.g., skinning or filleting), chemical analyses, quality assurance, and sufficiently low detection limits. "Sample," as used in this report, refers to an individual fish or a composite of multiple fish for which contaminant data were reported. "Sampling" or "sampled" refers to the act of collecting fish for chemical analysis.

### *THE SIERRA FUND (TSF)*

The Sierra Fund conducted a fish tissue study of the Cosumnes, American, Bear, and Yuba watersheds, including several lakes and reservoirs, from 2014-2018. The purpose of the study was to provide OEHHA with data to develop site-specific fish consumption advisories<sup>3</sup>. Spotted Bass were collected from Rollins Reservoir and analyzed for mercury.

### *TOXIC SUBSTANCES MONITORING PROGRAM (TSMP)*

The TSMP operated from 1976 to 2003 as a state water quality-monitoring program managed by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB, 2007 and 2013). Its objective was to provide statewide information on the occurrence of toxic substances by monitoring water bodies with known or suspected water quality impairment. Staff from California Department of Fish and Wildlife, then known as the California Department of Fish and Game, collected Channel Catfish and Largemouth Bass from Rollins Reservoir in 1984 and 1985, which were analyzed for mercury.

### *CONTAMINANTS IN FISH FROM CALIFORNIA LAKES AND RESERVOIRS (SWAMP)*

The Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP), operated by SWRCB in cooperation with Regional Water Quality Control Board staff, monitors water quality in California's surface waters. As part of a SWAMP statewide sampling effort to survey contaminants in sport fish found in California lakes and reservoirs, the program collected Sacramento Sucker and Smallmouth Bass from Rollins Reservoir in 2007 to analyze for mercury in both species, and chlordanes, DDTs, dieldrin, PBDEs, PCBs, and selenium in Sacramento Sucker (SWRCB, 2010).

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<sup>3</sup> Further information on The Sierra Fund's fish tissue study can be found online at: [https://www.sierrafund.org/wp-content/uploads/Sierra-Fish-Tissue-Fact-Sheet\\_4web.pdf](https://www.sierrafund.org/wp-content/uploads/Sierra-Fish-Tissue-Fact-Sheet_4web.pdf)

*UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY (USGS)*

The USGS conducted a reconnaissance survey of mercury concentrations in edible tissue from fish throughout the northwestern Sierra Nevada. The USGS collected 161 fish samples for analysis in 1999, at 22 designated sites in the region (May et al., 2000), including Rollins Reservoir. Channel Catfish and Largemouth Bass were collected from Rollins Reservoir and analyzed for mercury.

**FISH SAMPLED FROM ROLLINS RESERVOIR**

The fish sampling data used in this advisory were retrieved from the California Environmental Data Exchange Network (CEDEN), the state's repository for environmental data. Samples were excluded when the fish were not legal size to take or did not meet OEHHA's criteria for minimum "edible" size based on species size at maturity, and professional judgment (as described in OEHHA, 2005). A summary of all fish species evaluated for this advisory is shown in Table 1, including the name of the species, number of samples collected, total number of fish, project name, year sampled, and contaminants analyzed.

TABLE 1. FISH SAMPLES EVALUATED FOR THE ROLLINS RESERVOIR ADVISORY

Common Name	Scientific Name	Number of Samples	Total Number of Fish	Project	Year Collected	Contaminants Analyzed
Channel Catfish	<i>Ictalurus punctatus</i>	2	12	TSMP <sup>a</sup>	1984 - 1985	Hg
		3	3	USGS <sup>a</sup>	1999	Hg
Largemouth Bass	<i>Micropterus salmoides</i>	1	5	TSMP <sup>a</sup>	1985	Hg
		1	1	USGS <sup>a</sup>	1999	Hg
Sacramento Sucker	<i>Catostomus occidentalis</i>	1	5	SWAMP	2007	Chlordanes, DDTs, dieldrin, Hg, PBDEs, PCBs, Se
Smallmouth Bass	<i>Micropterus dolomieu</i>	9	9	SWAMP	2007	Hg
Spotted Bass	<i>Micropterus punctulatus</i>	3	3	TSF	2015	Hg

<sup>a</sup>Study report did not specify whether skin was removed from fillets prior to tissue analysis.

## CHEMICAL CONCENTRATIONS

As shown in Table 1, samples were analyzed for one or more of the following: total mercury, selenium, chlordanes, DDTs, dieldrin, PBDEs, and PCBs (54 congeners<sup>4</sup>). Among the chemicals analyzed in fish tissue samples from Rollins Reservoir, only mercury levels were sufficiently high to impact consumption advice.

All fish samples analyzed for the SWAMP and TSF studies were prepared as skinless fillets. The TSMP and USGS studies did not record the fillet preparation method. Samples were analyzed as individual fish or composites.

For this advisory, OEHHA used the weighted (by the number of individual fish) arithmetic mean (average) of the chemical concentrations (in wet weight) for each fish species to estimate average human exposure.

### *MERCURY*

Samples from the SWAMP study were analyzed for total mercury, as either individual fish or composite samples, using a direct mercury analyzer (DMA) at the CDFW Moss Landing Marine Laboratories (MLML). The DMA method utilizes thermal decomposition and atomic absorption. The DMA method detection limit (MDL)<sup>5</sup> and the reporting limit (RL)<sup>6</sup> for total mercury were each reported at 12 parts per billion (ppb) for the SWAMP study. Samples from The Sierra Fund study were analyzed for total mercury as individual samples using Cold Vapor Atomic Fluorescence Spectrometry (CVAFS) at the Brooks Rand Laboratory in Seattle, WA. The CVAFS MDL and RL for total mercury were reported at 1 and 4 ppb, respectively, for the TSF study. Although mercury was detected at commonly found concentrations in the TSMP and USGS studies, the analysis method, MDL, and RL for mercury were not reported.

OEHHA assumed all mercury detected was methylmercury, which is the most common form found in fish and is also the more toxic form (Bloom, 1992). Table 2 shows the averages and ranges for total length<sup>7</sup>, as well as mercury concentrations in each fish species.

### *PCBS, PBDES, AND PESTICIDES*

One Sacramento Sucker composite sample was analyzed for PCBs, PBDEs, and the legacy pesticides (chlordanes, DDTs, and dieldrin). Pesticides, PBDEs, and PCBs were

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<sup>4</sup> Congeners are related compounds with similar chemical forms. Of the 209 possible PCB congeners, 54-55 are generally reported.

<sup>5</sup> The MDL is the lowest quantity of a chemical that can be distinguished (as greater than zero) in a sample.

<sup>6</sup> The RL is the lowest quantity of a chemical that can be accurately quantified in a sample.

<sup>7</sup> Total length is the maximum length of the fish, measured from the tip of the closed mouth to the tip of the pinched tail fin.

analyzed by gas chromatography at the CDFW Water Pollution Control Laboratory. For chlordanes, DDTs, PCBs, and PBDEs, each of the concentrations presented was the sum of the detected parent compound, congeners, or metabolites, where applicable. Since the MDLs or RLs were relatively low ( $\leq 5$  ppb), individual congeners or metabolites with concentrations reported as non-detects were assumed to be zero. This is a standard method of handling non-detect values for PCBs and other chemicals with multiple congeners or metabolites in a given sample when detection levels are adequate (US EPA, 2000a). Table 3 shows the averages and ranges for total length<sup>8</sup>, as well as PCB concentrations for Sacramento Sucker, the only species in which PCBs were analyzed.

### SELENIUM

The CDFW MLML analyzed species collected from Rollins Reservoir for selenium, as composite samples, using inductively coupled plasma-mass spectrometry (ICP-MS). The ICP-MS method utilizes desolvation, atomization and ionization with ion separation based on a mass-to-charge ratio to detect the total selenium concentration in a sample. The ICP-MS method detection limit (MDL) and the reporting limit (RL) for total selenium were reported at 150 and 400 ppb, respectively.

Concentrations of chlordanes, dieldrin, DDTs, PBDEs, and selenium were lower than the corresponding ATL threshold values for daily consumption (OEHHA, 2008 and 2011). These chemicals were therefore not considered further for developing consumption advice and are not shown in this report.

TABLE 2. MERCURY CONCENTRATIONS IN FISH FROM ROLLINS RESERVOIR

Species from Rollins Reservoir	Number of Samples	Total Number of Fish	Mean* Total Length (mm)	Range of Total Lengths** (mm)	Mercury (ppb)	
					Mean*	Range**
Black Bass Species	14	18	373	315 - 402	735	440 - 1050
Largemouth Bass	2	6	389	347 - 397	540	440 - 560
Smallmouth Bass	9	9	378	340 - 402	900	678 - 1050
Spotted Bass	3	3	330	315 - 340	630	597 - 680
Channel Catfish	5	15	563	434--625	317	250--480
Sacramento Sucker	1	5	449	366 - 522	681	n/a

\*Means are an arithmetic average of individual values and/or a weighted average of composites.

\*\*Range of individuals and/or range of the composites.

n/a = not applicable due to a single sample

<sup>8</sup> Total length is the maximum length of the fish, measured from the tip of the closed mouth to the tip of the pinched tail fin.

TABLE 3. PCB CONCENTRATIONS IN FISH FROM ROLLINS RESERVOIR

Species from Rollins Reservoir	Number of Samples	Total Number of Fish	Mean* Total Length (mm)	Range of Total Lengths** (mm)	PCBs (ppb)	
					Mean*	Range**
Sacramento Sucker	1	5	449	366 - 522	13	n/a

\*Means are an arithmetic average of individual values and/or a weighted average of composites.

\*\*Range of individuals and/or range of the composites.

n/a = not applicable due to a single sample

## DEVELOPMENT OF GUIDELINES FOR EATING FISH FROM ROLLINS RESERVOIR

The OEHHA fish advisory process considers the health benefits of fish consumption as well as the risk from exposure to the chemical contaminants found in fish. Benefits are included in the advisory process because there is considerable evidence and scientific consensus that fish should be part of a healthy, well-balanced diet. Fish contain many nutrients that are important for general health and, in particular, help promote optimal growth and development of babies and young children, and may reduce the incidence of heart disease in adults (FDA/US EPA, 2017; American Heart Association, 2016; OEHHA, 2008; Institute of Medicine, 2007; Kris-Etherton et al., 2002). Fish are a significant source of the specific omega-3 fatty acids, docosahexaenoic acid (DHA) and eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA), thought to be associated with these beneficial health effects (USDA/USDHHS, 2015; Weaver et al., 2008).

The 2015-2020 US Dietary Guidelines recommend that 1) the general population “consume eight or more ounces per week (less for young children)” of a variety of seafood<sup>9</sup> “for the total package of nutrients that seafood provides, including its EPA and DHA content” and 2) “women who are pregnant or breastfeeding should consume at least eight and up to twelve ounces of a variety of seafood per week from choices that are lower in methylmercury” (USDA/USDHHS, 2015). The particular fish that people eat is an important factor in determining the net beneficial effects of fish consumption. For example, studies have shown that children of mothers who ate low-mercury fish during pregnancy scored better on cognitive tests compared to children of mothers who did not eat fish or ate high-mercury fish (Oken et al., 2005 and 2008). Accordingly, because of the high mercury content of certain fish species, the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the US Environmental Protection Agency recommend that women who are pregnant (or might become pregnant) or breastfeeding, and young children avoid consuming shark, swordfish, tilefish (Gulf of Mexico), bigeye tuna, marlin, orange roughy, and king mackerel (FDA/US EPA, 2017).

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<sup>9</sup> “Marine animals that live in the sea and in freshwater lakes and rivers. Seafood includes fish, such as salmon, tuna, trout, and tilapia, and shellfish, such as shrimp, crab, and oysters” (USDHHS/USDA, 2015).

In order to address the potential health concerns associated with exposure to contaminants in sport fish, OEHHA has established ATLS for chemicals that are known to accumulate in the edible tissues of fish. ATLS consider both the toxicity of the chemical and potential benefits of eating fish. OEHHA uses the ATLS to determine the maximum number of servings per week that consumers can eat, for each species and at each location, to limit their exposure to these contaminants. Consumers can use OEHHA's guidance when choosing which fish and how much to eat as part of an overall healthy diet.

There are two sets of ATLS for methylmercury in fish because of the age-related toxicity of this chemical (OEHHA, 2008). The fetus and children are more sensitive to the toxic effects of methylmercury. Thus, the ATLS for the sensitive population, including women who might become pregnant (typically 18 to 49 years of age) and children 1-17 years, are lower than those for women 50 years and older, and men 18 years and older. The lower ATL values for the sensitive population provide additional protection to allow for normal growth and development of the brain and nervous system of unborn babies and children. Detailed discussion about the toxicity of common fish contaminants and health benefits of fish consumption, as well as derivation of the ATLS, are provided in "Development of Fish Contaminant Goals and Advisory Tissue Levels for Common Contaminants in California Sport Fish: Chlordane, DDTs, dieldrin, methylmercury, PCBs, selenium, and toxaphene" (OEHHA, 2008) and "Development of Fish Contaminant Goals and Advisory Tissue Levels for Common Contaminants in California Sport Fish: Polybrominated Diphenyl Ethers (PBDEs)" (OEHHA, 2011). A list of the ATLS used in this report is presented in Appendix I.

For each fish species in this advisory, OEHHA compared the mean mercury and PCB concentrations detected in the fillet to the corresponding ATLS to establish the maximum number of servings per week that could be consumed (see Appendix I). A serving size is considered to be 8 ounces, prior to cooking, or about the size and thickness of a hand for fish fillets. Children should be given smaller servings. For smaller fish species, several individuals may be required to yield a serving.

The consumption advice for a fish species is initially based on the chemical with the lowest allowable number of servings per week. Because some chemicals, such as mercury and PCBs, are known to have similar adverse effects, additivity of toxicity is assumed in such cases and may be assessed using multiple chemical exposure methodology (US EPA, 1989 and 2000b). If two or more chemicals with similar adverse effects are present in fish tissue at levels above the corresponding ATL values for daily consumption, multiple chemical exposure methodology is employed. This may result in advising the sensitive population to consume fewer meals per week than would be the case for the presence of one chemical alone, in a similar concentration. The potential effect of multiple chemical exposures (the neurodevelopment effects of mercury and PCBs) for the sensitive population was not assessed in Sacramento Sucker, the only species for which both chemicals were analyzed. The concentration of mercury in Sacramento Sucker was sufficient to recommend avoiding consumption of this species



by this population group. Advice for all species in this advisory was based solely on mercury concentrations.

OEHHA recommends that individuals strive to meet the US Dietary Guidelines seafood consumption recommendations, while also adhering to federal and OEHHA recommendations to limit the consumption of fish with higher contaminant levels. The advice discussed in the following section represents the maximum recommended number of servings per week for different fish species. People should eat no more than the recommended number of servings for each fish species or species group. OEHHA's consumption advice for a particular fish species can be extended to other closely related fish species<sup>10</sup> known to accumulate similar levels of contaminants.

Consumption advice should not be combined. That is, if a person chooses to eat a fish from the "one-serving-a-week" category, then they should not eat any other fish from any source (including commercial) until the next week. If a person chooses to eat a fish from the "two-servings-per-week" category, they can combine fish species from that category, or eat one fish from that category and one from a category that recommends more than two-servings-per-week (if available), for a total of two servings in that week. Then they should not eat any other fish from any source (including commercial) until the following week.

## CONSUMPTION ADVICE FOR FISH FROM ROLLINS RESERVOIR

OEHHA's advisory protocol requires that a minimum of nine edible-size fish of a species that may be legally caught are collected and analyzed from small- and medium-sized lakes and reservoirs before an advisory can be developed. Additional samples beyond this number will increase confidence that the sample dataset is representative of the fish species population in the water body (OEHHA, 2005). The majority of fish consumption advisories in California are based on mercury, which is typically analyzed in individual fish, rather than as composites. The minimum sample size criterion was met for black bass species and Channel Catfish. Advice for Sacramento Sucker (n = 5) was provided for Rollins Reservoir because of the high level of mercury detected in this species. Mercury concentrations have been found to be similarly elevated in Sacramento Sucker collected from several other reservoirs in this region.

There were not sufficient data to evaluate other species that may be found in this water body. For fish species found in Rollins Reservoir that are not included in this advisory, OEHHA recommends following the [statewide advisory for lakes and reservoirs without site-specific advice](#).

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<sup>10</sup> Fish species within the same genus are most closely related, and family is the next level of relationship.

*BLACK BASS SPECIES (LARGEMOUTH, SMALLMOUTH, AND SPOTTED BASS)*

The mean mercury concentration in black bass species from Rollins Reservoir was 735 ppb. Mercury concentration for individual species were as follows: Largemouth Bass (540 ppb), Smallmouth Bass (900 ppb), and Spotted Bass (630 ppb). OEHHA recommends no consumption of black bass species for the sensitive population (women 18 to 49 years and children 1 to 17 years), and a maximum of one serving a week for the general population (women 50 years and older, and men 18 years and older).

OEHHA has evaluated mercury concentrations in black bass species in many water bodies in California and has found a similar range of mercury concentrations when two or more of these species were caught from the same water body. Therefore, OEHHA extends the consumption advice for Largemouth, Smallmouth, and Spotted Bass to other black bass species, including Redeye.

*CHANNEL CATFISH*

The mean mercury concentration in Channel Catfish from Rollins Reservoir was 317 ppb. OEHHA recommends a maximum of one serving a week of Channel Catfish for the sensitive population (women 18 to 49 years and children 1 to 17 years), and a maximum of two servings a week for the general population (women 50 years and older, and men 18 years and older).

*SACRAMENTO SUCKER*

The mean mercury and PCB concentrations in Sacramento Sucker from Rollins Reservoir were 681 and 13 ppb, respectively. Based on mercury, OEHHA recommends no consumption of Sacramento Sucker for the sensitive population (women 18 to 49 years and children 1 to 17 years), and a maximum of one serving a week for the general population (women 50 years and older, and men 18 years and older). PCBs did not impact advice.

**RECOMMENDED MAXIMUM NUMBER OF SERVINGS**

The recommended maximum numbers of servings per week for fish from Rollins Reservoir are shown in Table 4.

**TABLE 4. RECOMMENDED MAXIMUM NUMBER OF SERVINGS PER WEEK FOR FISH FROM ROLLINS RESERVOIR**

Fish Species from Rollins Reservoir	Women 18–49 years and Children 1-17 years	Women 50 years and older and Men 18 years and older
Black Bass Species	0	1
Channel Catfish	1	2
Sacramento Sucker	0	1

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## APPENDIX I. ADVISORY TISSUE LEVELS

Advisory Tissue Levels (ATLs) guide the development of advice for people eating sport fish. ATLs are levels of contaminants found in fish that correspond to the maximum numbers of recommended fish servings. OEHHA uses ATLs to provide advice to prevent consumers from being exposed to:

- More than the average daily reference dose<sup>11</sup> for chemicals not known to cause cancer, such as methylmercury, or
- For cancer-causing chemicals, a risk level greater than one additional cancer case in a population of 10,000 people consuming fish at the given consumption rate over a lifetime. This cancer endpoint is the maximum acceptable risk level recommended by the US EPA (2000b) for fish advisories.

For each chemical, ATLs were determined for both cancer and non-cancer risk, if appropriate, for one to seven eight-ounce servings per week. The most health-protective ATLs for each chemical, selected from either cancer or non-cancer based risk, are shown in the table below for zero to seven servings per week. When the guidelines for eating fish from Rollins Reservoir are followed, exposure to chemicals in fish from Rollins Reservoir would be at or below the average daily reference dose or the cancer risk probability of one in 10,000.

## ADVISORY TISSUE LEVELS FOR SELECTED ANALYTES

Contaminant	Consumption Frequency Categories (8-ounce servings/week) <sup>a</sup> and ATLs (in ppb)							
	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Chlordanes	≤ 80	>80-90	>90-110	>110-140	>140-190	>190-280	>280-560	>560
DDTs	≤ 220	>220-260	>260-310	>310-390	>390-520	>520-1,000	>1,000-2,100	>2,100
Dieldrin	≤ 7	>7-8	>8-9	>9-11	>11-15	>15-23	>23-46	>46
MeHg (Women 18-49 and children 1-17)	≤ 31	>31-36	>36-44	>44-55	>55-70	>70-150	>150-440	>440
MeHg (Women > 49 and men)	≤ 94	>94-109	>109-130	>130-160	>160-220	>220-440	>440-1,310	>1,310
PBDEs	≤ 45	>45-52	>52-63	>63-78	>78-100	>100-210	>210-630	>630
PCBs	≤ 9	>9-10	>10-13	>13-16	>16-21	>21-42	>42-120	>120
Selenium	≤ 1000	>1,000-1200	>1,200-1,400	>1,400-1,800	>1,800-2,500	>2,500-4,900	>4,900-15,000	>15,000
Toxaphene	≤ 87	>87-100	>100-120	>120-150	>150-200	>200-300	>300-610	>610

<sup>a</sup> Serving sizes (prior to cooking, wet weight) are based on an average 160-pound person. Individuals weighing less than 160 pounds should eat proportionately smaller amounts.

<sup>11</sup> The reference dose is an estimate of the maximum daily exposure to a chemical likely to be without significant risk of harmful health effects over a lifetime.