The Kalamazoo River discharges into Lake Michigan 31 km north of South Haven. The Allied Paper Inc./Portage Creek/Kalamazoo River Superfund site contains more than 350,000 lbs of PCBs in sediments and millions of tons of PCB-contaminated waste. PCBs continue to migrate into the Kalamazoo River, and eventually Lake Michigan, due to river-induced erosion and surface water runoff (Lake Michigan Forum No date). The highest PCB concentration in contaminated Kalamazoo River sediments is 300 mg/kg (300 ppm) (EPA No date[f]).

The LMMB Project estimated annual PCB loads from Lake Michigan tributaries based on 1994 and 1995 data (see Table 5-8). According to these data, the Fox River contributes the largest load of PCBs to Lake Michigan (186 kg/yr) (EPA No date[j]).

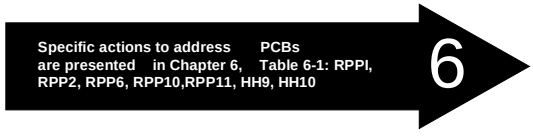
Table 5-8. Estimated PCB Load From Lake Michigan Tributaries (EPA No date[j])

Tributary	Estimated Load (kg/yr)	Estimated Load (lb/yr)
Fox River	186.0	410
Grand Calumet	37.2	82.0
Manistique River	1.3	2.9
Sheboygan River	8.3	18.3
Kalamazoo	36.8	81.1
Grand	11.7	24.5
Menominee River	3.8	8.4
Milwaukee Estuary	7.3	16
Pere Marquette	0.5	1.1
Muskegon River	2.2	4.9
St. Joseph	9.3	20.5

IMPACT ON LAKE MICHIGAN

Trends in the concentrations of PCBs in lake trout and coho salmon in Lake Michigan have declined significantly since the 1970s, but have leveled off, or even increased in recent years in the case of coho salmon. This has occurred despite continued declines in concentrations in the water column, suggesting changes in the dynamics of the Lake Michigan food web. PCBs are still present at concentrations exceeding the Great Lakes' Governors' proposed action levels, resulting in fish consumption advisories for some Lake Michigan fish. These trends in PCB concentrations show significant declines since the 1970s, leveling off, and increasing in the early 1990s have been followed in herring gull eggs, and other wildlife. Appendix C contains detailed information on potential ecological and human health effects.

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT ISSUES



Programs regulating and controlling the management of PCBs are presented in Appendix A.