

Discussion notes on “Environmental Contamination of Aquatic Resources: Implications on Health”

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Overview

- The lecture provided a thorough overview of the exposure pathway, from the source of the toxin to the exposed population and local examples (e.g. Laguna de Bay, Bulacan River system)
- Environmental Issues
 - Contamination
 - Bioaccumulation & Biomagnification
 - POPs
- Detrimental effects on the population
- Preventive Strategies

Preventive Strategies

Strengthening of agreements and national environmental laws

- Philippine environmental laws are some of the most well-crafted in the world
- Implementation problems hound us, and thus allow the unabated contamination of our aquatic ecosystems
- Strengthen the already existing environmental monitoring being conducted to keep us in the know on past and current water quality conditions

Implement environmental and biological monitoring

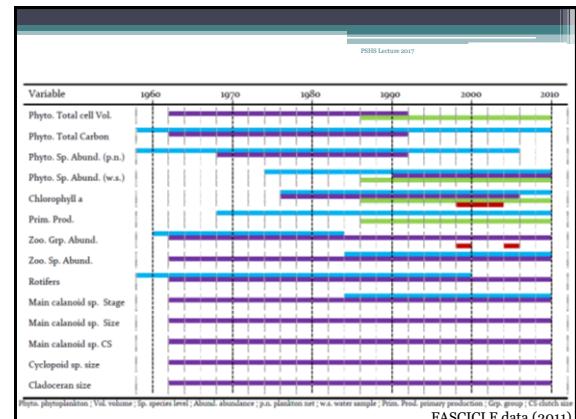
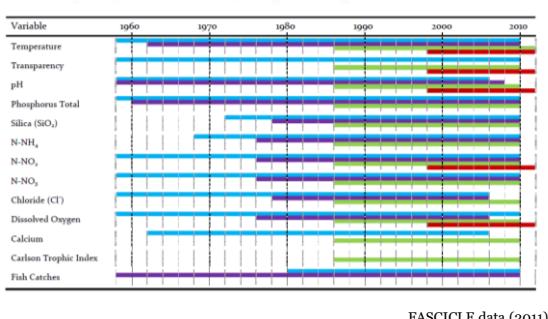
Challenges to Philippine Lakes

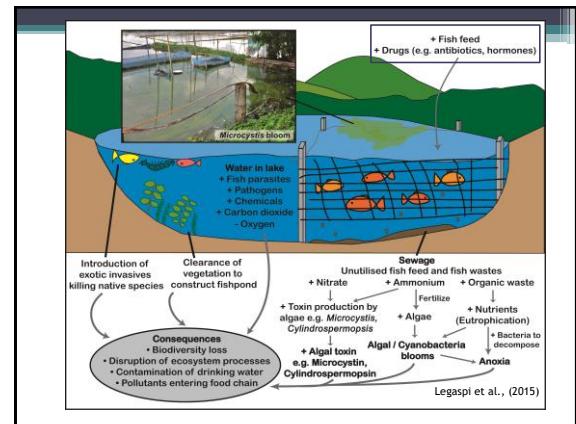
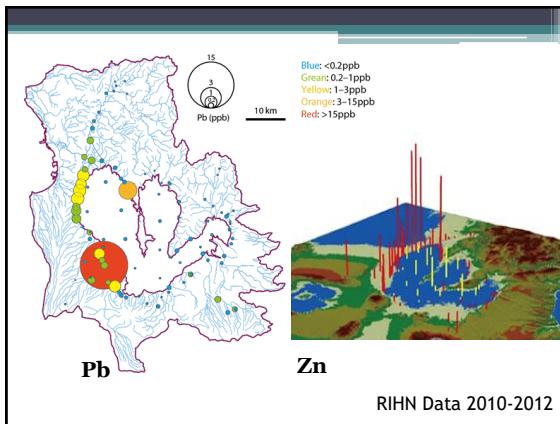
- Lack of scientific knowledge
- Over-development of littoral zones
- Irresponsible, intensive aquaculture
- Excessive nutrient and pollution levels
 - Fish kills
- Invasive species
 - Biodiversity loss



Legaspi et al., 2015

Table D1: Available data recorded monthly for each of the studied freshwater bodies: Lake Geneva (blue), Lake Biwa (purple), Feitsui Reservoir (green), Lake Taal (red). Data from Lake Biwa include only SPFRS data (except fish catch).





Making the most of what we have: An Example of successful utilization of monitoring data



Linking Aquatic Biodiversity and Social Systems

A healthy Aquatic Environment translates to a Health Community

