

B. China Lake - China

Area: All of China Lake.

Advisory: Consume no more than one meal per month of any fish species.

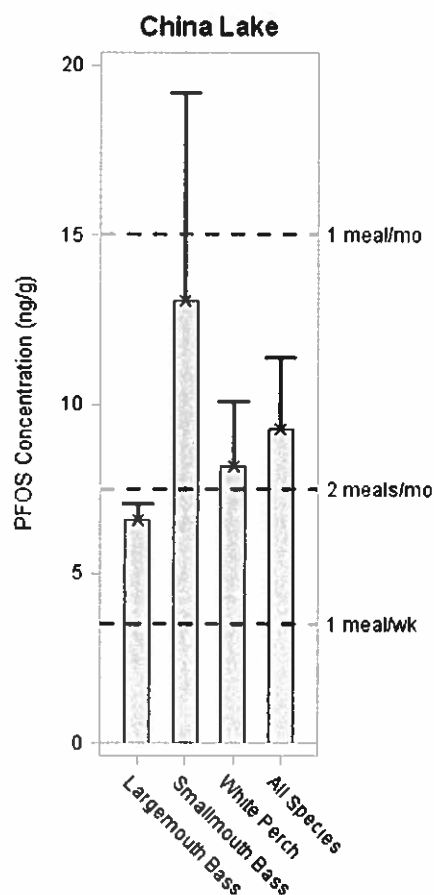


Figure 2. Fish tissue PFOS concentrations in China Lake in China. Each bar corresponds to the mean PFOS tissue concentration for a fish species (or all species combined). The cap of the error bar corresponds to the upper confidence limit on the mean.

Justification: Between 2020 and 2022 five five-fish composite largemouth bass, five five-fish composite smallmouth bass, and five five-fish composite white perch samples were collected from China Lake. China Lake is made up of an Eastern and Western basin (Appendix Figure A2). Most of the fish samples were caught in the Western basin. However, the few samples caught from the Eastern basin do not look appreciably different than those caught in the Western basin.

The largemouth bass samples had PFOS concentrations ranging from 5.7 to 7.0 ng/g with a mean concentration of 6.6 ng/g. The smallmouth bass samples had PFOS concentrations ranging from 6.6 to 20.72 ng/g with a mean concentration of 13.1 ng/g. The white perch samples had PFOS concentrations ranging from 5.8 to 10.7 ng/g with a mean concentration of 8.2 ng/g. Given the overlapping concentration ranges between species, all samples were combined for statistical analysis, resulting in a mean PFOS concentration of 9.3 ng/g and an upper confidence limit on the mean of 11.4 ng/g (Figure 2). The 11.4 ng/g upper confidence limit PFOS concentration corresponds to a consumption rate of no more than one meal per month.

Given the similarities in PFOS tissue levels in largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, and white perch, the above advisory applies to all fish caught in China Lake.