

## **Wildlife transfer database – questions and answers**

### **Question**

The fish groups do not reflect feeding strategies and is not a logical categorisation.

### **Answer**

We accept this comment and have revised the fish groups to be:

Broad group – Fish

with subcategories of:

Fish – benthic feeding

Fish – piscivorous

Fish – forage

### **Question**

Most of our fish data will be for BOTH flesh and bone, with only small fish having a single whole body value. How do we convert bone and muscle values for Pb, Ra, Po, U and Th into whole body values?

### **Answer**

**U** – Assume flesh is representative of the remaining tissues and weight values for bone and flesh/rest accordingly.

i.e. Wholebody (WB) = [bone activity conc. \* proportion of WB which is bone] + [flesh activity conc \* proportion of WB which is total soft tissues]

**Pb** – Spleen & kidney may have concs in excess of bone – that said won't contribute a great deal to WB mass but to be conservative assume bone is representative of remaining tissues other than flesh and amend eq. above to:

Wholebody (WB) = [bone activity conc. \* proportion of WB which is not flesh] + [flesh activity conc \* proportion of WB which is flesh]

**Ra** – Assume as for Pb:

Wholebody (WB) = [bone activity conc. \* proportion of WB which is not flesh] + [flesh activity conc \* proportion of WB which is flesh]

**Po** – Assume as for Pb:

Wholebody (WB) = [bone activity conc. \* proportion of WB which is not flesh] + [flesh activity conc \* proportion of WB which is flesh]

**Th** – Assume as for U:

Wholebody (WB) = [bone activity conc. \* proportion of WB which is bone] + [flesh activity conc \* proportion of WB which is total soft tissues]

Answer predominantly based on Yankovich & Beaton (2000) for freshwater fish

### **Question**

If tissue is not specified, should it be assumed to be whole body?

**Answer**

Where possible use some judgement in this, e.g.:

- i) if the data are for (e.g.) Cs which is fairly homogenously distributed it probably does not matter that you do not know the tissue;
- ii) if data are from a report/paper on human foodstuffs then it is probably wise to assume the results are for edible tissues.

If you are unsure what the data represents and cannot make such judgement – DO NOT ENTER IT

Please record any judgements made within the Notes box.

**Question**

What if there is more than one reference cited for a given number? How should this be recorded?

**Answer**

Record in 'Notes' box