

Subject: PRESENTATION: Mercury Cycling and Bioaccumulation in Clear Lake

From: Tom Suchanek <tsuchanek@usgs.gov>

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Presentation: Mercury Cycling and Bioaccumulation in Clear Lake

On April 14, 2009, Dr. Tom Suchanek (from U.C. Davis and the U.S. Geological Survey) will present the results of a long-term interdisciplinary study of mercury cycling and bioaccumulation in Clear Lake to the Lake County Board of Supervisors. This presentation will be the culmination of over 15 yrs of study by about 30 scientists from U.C. Davis and other academic institutions as well as from federal, state, and local governments on the sources, transformation, transport, burial, bioaccumulation and effects of mercury on Clear Lake's water, sediments, benthic (bottom) invertebrates, plankton, fish, birds and humans. A primary focus of the Special Issue and the presentation will be the influence of the Sulphur Bank Mercury Mine Superfund Site as a source of mercury in Clear Lake, as compared with other mercury-contaminated sites worldwide.

The results of these studies were published recently (Dec 2008) as a 300 page Special Issue of the highly regarded peer-reviewed scientific journal *Ecological Applications* that is distributed to ecologists and other scientists throughout the United States and the world. This study represents the first holistic ecosystem-level study of mercury cycling and bioaccumulation derived from mining sources, as opposed to atmospheric deposition. The 17 individual publications in this Special Issue may be accessed and downloaded as PDF files for free at the following website: <http://www.esajournals.org/toc/ecap/18/sp8>. Results from an additional follow-on paper published in 2009 by Suchanek and others in the peer-reviewed journal *Water, Air and Soil Pollution*, that provides a mass-balance mercury budget for the lake (quantifying the inputs, outputs and storage components of mercury within the Clear Lake aquatic ecosystem), will also be presented.

PRESENTATION:

The presentation will be held on April 14, 9:00am in the Board of Supervisors Chambers (1st floor) of the Lake County Courthouse, 255 North Forbes Street, Lakeport, CA 95453.

RECEPTION:

A follow-on reception by Drs. Tom Suchanek and Peter Richerson will be held in the Lakeport Museum (2nd floor conference room) from 11:30am-3:00pm. Entrance to the Museum on April 14th will be through the stairs at the rear of the building, which is directly across the street from the Courthouse. Several of the other authors of the papers in the Special Issue are also expected to be present as well.

Questions regarding the presentation and reception may be directed to Dr. Tom Suchanek (tsuchanek@usgs.gov or thsuchanek@ucdavis.edu): 916-919-0859

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