

Supporting Information

Patterns and Trends in Brominated Flame Retardants in Bald Eagle Nestlings from the Upper Midwestern United States

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The following three tables are provided as supporting information for this study:

Table SI1. Number and percent of samples below the limits of quantification.

Table SI2. Sample size across study areas and years.

Table SI3. Estimates of central tendency, variability, and confidence intervals for five congeners and the ΣPBDEs reported.

Table SI1. Number of samples and percent of 284 total samples that were below the laboratories limits of quantification (LOQ) for nine polybrominated diphenyl ether (PBDE) congeners measured in bald eagle plasma, 1995-2011.

Analyte	# < LOQ	% < LOQ	# < LOQ in U-SACN	% of < LOQs from U-SACN
28	86	30.3	18	20.9
47	0	0.0	0	---
66	100	35.2	19	19.0
85	284	100.0	42	14.8
99	8	2.8	8	100.0
100	9	3.2	3	33.3
138	150	52.8	19	12.7
153	17	6.0	15	88.2
154	20	7.0	18	90.0

PBDE concentrations for analytes 28, 66, 85, and 138 were below the LOQ in 30% or more of the observations. We used results for these congeners for Σ PBDE analyses, but did not analyze them further. There were no observations below the LOQ for analyte 47, and there were fewer than 10% for analytes 99, 100, 153, and 154. Because of the relatively small number of observations below the LOQ for analytes 99, 100, 153, and 154, we analyzed the data with these observations replaced by $\frac{1}{2}$ the value of the LOQ. For analytes 99, 153, and 154, most of the observations below the LOQ were from study area U-SACN, which had the lowest concentrations for all analytes.

Table SI2. Number of bald eagle nestling plasma samples analyzed for PBDEs from frozen archives and contemporary monitoring each year at six study areas in the upper Midwestern U.S.

year ^a	study area ^{c, d}						totals
	APIS	LSSS	U SACN	L SACN	MISS	MP3&4	
historical samples:							
1995	0	3	ns	ns	ns	ns	3
1996	0	4	ns	ns	ns	ns	4
1997	0	1	ns	ns	ns	ns	1
1998	1	1	ns	ns	ns	ns	2
2000 ^b	1	2	ns	ns	ns	ns	3
2001 ^b	1	1	ns	ns	ns	ns	2
2002	2	0	ns	ns	ns	ns	2
subtotals	5	12	ns	ns	ns	ns	17
contemporary samples:							
2006	8	ns	11	3 [*]	10	ns	32
2007	6	6	8	4 [*]	11	ns	35
2008	5	4	ns	7	15	15	46
2009	ns	ns	ns	9	18	12	39
2010	9	ns	11	13	23	4 [*]	60
2011	9	1 [*]	12	12	19	2 [*]	55
subtotals	37	11	42	48	96	33	267
grand total	42	23	42	48	96	33	284

a= Intensive sampling for PBDEs did not begin until 2006. Samples prior to 2006 are from archived samples.

b= All 5 samples collected in 2001 and 2002 were previously analyzed for PBDEs and reported by Dykstra et. al 1995, but are also included in this analysis.

c = * = Study area not fully sampled; sample(s) from frozen archives (1995-2002) or obtained opportunistically while sampling adjacent study areas (2006-2011).

d= ns= Not sampled; no attempt was made to sample the study area due to funding constraints and/or limited program capacity.

Table SI3. Sample size, measures of central tendency, variability, and 95% confidence intervals, estimated in ng/mL for each of five polybrominated diphenyl ether (PBDEs) congeners and the sum of nine congeners (Σ PBDE) measured in bald eagle nestling plasma at six study areas in the upper Midwestern United States, 1995-2011. We caution that where sample size is small (i.e. < 4) some summary statistics are not statistically meaningful. We used mixed effects models as a statistically robust way of examining differences between study areas and to model trends through time.

study area	year	n	arithmetic				geometric		
			mean	median	SD	SE	mean	upper CI	lower CI
PBDE-47:									
APIS	1998	1	1.70	1.70			1.70		
	2000	1	2.40	2.40			2.40		
	2001	1	2.80	2.80			2.80		
	2002	2	4.95	4.95	2.33	1.65	4.67	9.21	2.37
	2006	8	5.41	5.00	2.27	0.80	4.95	6.88	3.56
	2007	6	3.20	2.80	1.16	0.48	3.05	3.98	2.33
	2008	5	2.62	2.50	0.64	0.29	2.56	3.15	2.08
	2010	9	2.84	2.70	1.17	0.39	2.67	3.39	2.10
	2011	9	2.16	1.70	1.02	0.34	1.97	2.63	1.47
LSSS	1995	3	3.73	3.20	2.25	1.30	3.29	6.63	1.63
	1996	5	4.46	5.00	2.03	0.91	4.01	6.51	2.46
	1997	1	2.30	2.30			2.30		
	1998	1	2.10	2.10			2.10		
	2000	2	2.90	2.90	0.57	0.40	2.87	3.77	2.19
	2001	1	2.80	2.80			2.80		
	2007	6	5.65	5.45	2.46	1.00	5.24	7.38	3.72
	2008	4	3.15	2.70	1.37	0.68	2.96	4.37	2.00
	2011	1	2.10	2.10			2.10		
U-SACN	2006	11	0.63	0.51	0.27	0.08	0.56	0.76	0.42
	2007	8	0.70	0.51	0.63	0.22	0.56	0.89	0.35
	2010	11	0.81	0.55	0.59	0.18	0.65	0.97	0.44
	2011	12	0.46	0.47	0.12	0.04	0.44	0.52	0.38
L-SACN	2006	3	8.57	7.30	4.92	2.84	7.66	14.8	3.97
	2007	4	3.08	3.30	0.95	0.48	2.95	4.16	2.08
	2008	7	3.76	3.80	1.42	0.54	3.49	4.83	2.52
	2009	9	6.79	4.90	3.24	1.08	6.17	8.31	4.59
	2010	13	3.52	3.70	0.94	0.26	3.39	3.98	2.89
	2011	12	3.74	3.50	1.89	0.55	3.39	4.38	2.62
MISS	2006	10	9.61	8.05	4.65	1.47	8.63	11.7	6.35
	2007	11	10.2	7.30	5.86	1.77	8.93	12.2	6.53
	2008	15	8.69	9.00	2.73	0.70	8.26	9.82	6.94
	2009	18	7.76	6.75	3.98	0.94	6.95	8.65	5.58

	2010	23	7.71	7.10	3.48	0.72	6.97	8.48	5.73
	2011	19	4.68	4.40	2.24	0.51	4.19	5.22	3.36
Pools 3+4	2008	15	5.89	5.90	1.61	0.42	5.69	6.52	4.97
	2009	12	5.20	5.10	1.40	0.40	5.04	5.83	4.36
	2010	4	7.33	6.35	2.53	1.27	7.04	9.58	5.18
	2011	2	4.00	4.00	0.42	0.30	3.99	4.62	3.44

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Table SI3 Continued.

PBDE-99:

APIS	1998	1	0.76	0.76			0.76		
	2000	1	1.40	1.40			1.40		
	2001	1	2.20	2.20			2.20		
	2002	2	3.20	3.20	2.12	1.50	2.83	7.66	1.04
	2006	8	4.18	2.95	2.96	1.05	3.22	5.76	1.81
	2007	6	1.88	1.85	0.76	0.31	1.76	2.42	1.29
	2008	5	1.62	1.50	0.42	0.19	1.58	1.97	1.26
	2010	9	1.58	1.40	0.58	0.19	1.50	1.88	1.19
	2011	9	1.26	1.10	0.60	0.20	1.15	1.55	0.85
LSSS	1995	3	0.89	0.79	0.37	0.21	0.85	1.33	0.54
	1996	5	1.18	0.70	0.82	0.37	0.97	1.78	0.53
	1997	1	1.30	1.30			1.30		
	1998	1	1.10	1.10			1.10		
	2000	2	1.50	1.50	0.14	0.10	1.50	1.71	1.31
	2001	1	2.60	2.60			2.60		
	2007	6	4.48	2.60	5.22	2.13	3.07	6.08	1.55
	2008	4	1.24	1.35	0.51	0.25	1.13	1.88	0.68
	2011	1	1.10	1.10			1.10		
U-SACN	2006	11	0.12	0.12	0.06	0.02	0.10	0.14	0.08
	2007	8	0.23	0.15	0.23	0.08	0.16	0.30	0.08
	2010	11	0.32	0.27	0.09	0.03	0.30	0.36	0.26
	2011	12	0.27	0.26	0.07	0.02	0.26	0.30	0.23
L-SACN	2006	3	1.85	2.20	0.98	0.57	1.62	3.50	0.75
	2007	4	0.57	0.37	0.49	0.24	0.46	0.92	0.23
	2008	7	0.83	0.91	0.34	0.13	0.76	1.07	0.54
	2009	9	1.23	1.10	0.63	0.21	1.08	1.56	0.75
	2010	13	0.71	0.85	0.30	0.08	0.65	0.84	0.50
	2011	12	0.99	0.97	0.30	0.08	0.94	1.13	0.79
MISS	2006	10	2.33	2.15	0.71	0.22	2.24	2.68	1.87
	2007	11	2.75	2.10	1.78	0.54	2.38	3.26	1.74
	2008	15	2.29	2.30	0.82	0.21	2.14	2.60	1.77
	2009	18	1.61	1.45	0.65	0.15	1.51	1.78	1.29
	2010	23	1.41	1.40	0.65	0.14	1.27	1.55	1.05
	2011	19	1.42	1.30	0.57	0.13	1.33	1.57	1.13
Pools 3+4	2008	15	1.48	1.40	0.79	0.20	1.28	1.71	0.96
	2009	12	1.20	1.05	0.51	0.15	1.11	1.39	0.89
	2010	4	1.98	1.85	0.93	0.47	1.81	2.92	1.12
	2011	2	0.92	0.92	0.04	0.03	0.92	0.97	0.87

Table SI3 Continued.

PBDE-100:

APIS	1998	1	0.55	0.55			0.55		
	2000	1	0.76	0.76			0.76		
	2001	1	1.50	1.50			1.50		
	2002	2	1.95	1.95	1.06	0.75	1.80	3.98	0.81
	2006	8	3.19	2.55	1.89	0.67	2.67	4.28	1.67
	2007	6	1.71	1.70	0.8	0.33	1.54	2.31	1.03
	2008	5	1.37	1.40	0.44	0.20	1.31	1.76	0.98
	2010	9	1.22	1.10	0.57	0.19	1.12	1.48	0.84
	2011	9	1.00	0.78	0.51	0.17	0.90	1.23	0.65
LSSS	1995	3	0.94	0.86	0.43	0.25	0.88	1.47	0.52
	1996	5	1.20	1.50	0.50	0.23	1.10	1.70	0.72
	1997	1	0.75	0.75			0.75		
	1998	1	0.67	0.67			0.67		
	2000	2	1.15	1.15	0.07	0.05	1.15	1.25	1.06
	2001	1	1.30	1.30			1.30		
	2007	6	3.43	3.20	1.80	0.73	3.10	4.57	2.11
	2008	4	1.08	1.05	0.33	0.17	1.04	1.41	0.76
	2011	1	0.88	0.88			0.88		
U-SACN	2006	11	0.18	0.17	0.05	0.02	0.17	0.20	0.14
	2007	8	0.20	0.17	0.19	0.07	0.14	0.26	0.08
	2010	11	0.33	0.25	0.14	0.04	0.31	0.39	0.24
	2011	12	0.24	0.24	0.06	0.02	0.23	0.27	0.19
L-SACN	2006	3	2.10	1.70	1.25	0.72	1.87	3.62	0.97
	2007	4	1.12	1.04	0.58	0.29	1.01	1.72	0.60
	2008	7	0.62	0.48	0.59	0.22	0.28	0.91	0.09
	2009	9	1.81	1.30	0.87	0.29	1.65	2.21	1.24
	2010	13	0.87	0.97	0.21	0.06	0.84	0.97	0.73
	2011	12	0.97	0.90	0.39	0.11	0.91	1.12	0.74
MISS	2006	10	2.17	1.85	1.05	0.33	1.96	2.63	1.45
	2007	11	2.36	1.90	1.36	0.41	2.09	2.80	1.55
	2008	15	1.98	2.00	0.60	0.15	1.89	2.24	1.59
	2009	18	1.71	1.50	0.74	0.17	1.59	1.90	1.32
	2010	23	1.56	1.50	0.57	0.12	1.46	1.71	1.24
	2011	19	1.10	1.20	0.47	0.11	1.01	1.23	0.83
Pools 3+4	2008	15	1.14	1.30	0.67	0.17	0.72	1.42	0.36
	2009	12	1.36	1.30	0.35	0.10	1.32	1.51	1.16
	2010	4	1.65	1.45	0.51	0.25	1.60	2.10	1.22
	2011	2	0.93	0.93	0.02	0.02	0.93	0.96	0.90

Table SI3 Continued.

PBDE-153:

APIS	1998	1	0.48	0.48			0.48		
	2000	1	0.56	0.56			0.56		
	2001	1	0.60	0.60			0.60		
	2002	2	1.06	1.06	0.63	0.45	0.96	2.31	0.40
	2006	8	1.91	0.93	1.86	0.66	1.24	2.53	0.60
	2007	6	0.57	0.49	0.29	0.12	0.50	0.77	0.33
	2008	5	0.42	0.41	0.16	0.07	0.39	0.56	0.27
	2010	9	0.39	0.20	0.27	0.09	0.33	0.49	0.22
	2011	9	0.65	0.49	0.27	0.09	0.61	0.77	0.48
LSSS	1995	3	0.54	0.48	0.11	0.06	0.54	0.67	0.43
	1996	5	0.61	0.63	0.11	0.05	0.60	0.71	0.51
	1997	1	0.55	0.55			0.55		
	1998	1	0.47	0.47			0.47		
	2000	2	0.48	0.48	0.18	0.13	0.46	0.80	0.27
	2001	1	0.41	0.41			0.41		
	2007	6	2.15	0.69	3.61	1.47	1.01	2.53	0.41
	2008	4	0.27	0.25	0.13	0.06	0.25	0.39	0.16
	2011	1	0.59	0.59			0.59		
U-SACN	2006	11	0.084	0.06	0.10	0.029	0.07	0.09	0.05
	2007	8	0.11	0.06	0.08	0.03	0.09	0.14	0.06
	2010	11	0.32	0.20	0.17	0.05	0.28	0.38	0.21
	2011	12	0.23	0.20	0.09	0.03	0.22	0.25	0.19
L-SACN	2006	3	0.63	0.75	0.32	0.19	0.55	1.17	0.26
	2007	4	0.25	0.12	0.31	0.16	0.15	0.45	0.05
	2008	7	0.27	0.27	0.07	0.03	0.26	0.32	0.21
	2009	9	0.50	0.51	0.20	0.07	0.47	0.60	0.37
	2010	13	0.36	0.41	0.16	0.04	0.33	0.42	0.25
	2011	12	0.57	0.57	0.06	0.02	0.57	0.60	0.54
MISS	2006	10	0.85	0.70	0.49	0.16	0.75	1.02	0.56
	2007	11	0.98	0.75	0.66	0.20	0.85	1.16	0.62
	2008	15	0.55	0.60	0.19	0.05	0.52	0.63	0.42
	2009	18	0.65	0.60	0.26	0.06	0.61	0.73	0.51
	2010	23	0.72	0.69	0.24	0.05	0.69	0.77	0.62
	2011	19	0.73	0.63	0.30	0.07	0.69	0.80	0.60
Pools 3+4	2008	15	0.43	0.40	0.23	0.06	0.37	0.52	0.26
	2009	12	0.58	0.50	0.28	0.08	0.54	0.66	0.44
	2010	4	0.83	0.80	0.21	0.10	0.81	1.03	0.63
	2011	2	0.58	0.58	0.01	0.01	0.58	0.60	0.56

Table SI3 Continued.

PBDE-154:

APIS	1998	1	0.54	0.54			0.54		
	2000	1	0.71	0.71			0.71		
	2001	1	0.45	0.45			0.45		
	2002	2	1.30	1.30	0.42	0.30	1.26	2.0	0.8
	2006	8	1.36	0.97	0.87	0.31	1.11	1.83	0.67
	2007	6	0.69	0.60	0.36	0.15	0.63	0.93	0.42
	2008	5	0.54	0.50	0.14	0.06	0.53	0.66	0.42
	2010	9	0.88	0.76	0.45	0.15	0.77	1.14	0.52
	2011	9	0.84	0.71	0.37	0.12	0.78	1.02	0.60
LSSS	1995	3	0.88	0.77	0.38	0.22	0.83	1.33	0.52
	1996	5	1.03	1.10	0.39	0.18	0.97	1.39	0.67
	1997	1	0.74	0.74			0.74		
	1998	1	0.58	0.58			0.58		
	2000	2	0.42	0.42	0.01	0.01	0.42	0.44	0.40
	2001	1	0.70	0.70			0.70		
	2007	6	1.20	1.11	0.60	0.25	1.08	1.62	0.72
	2008	4	0.39	0.41	0.11	0.05	0.38	0.51	0.28
	2011	1	0.73	0.73			0.70		
U-SACN	2006	11	0.09	0.09			0.09	0.09	0.09
	2007	8	0.11	0.09	0.05	0.02	0.10	0.13	0.08
	2010	11	0.27	0.20	0.13	0.04	0.25	0.32	0.20
L-SACN	2011	12	0.22	0.20	0.06	0.02	0.21	0.24	0.19
	2006	3	0.55	0.53	0.29	0.17	0.49	0.94	0.26
	2007	4	0.34	0.31	0.22	0.11	0.27	0.60	0.12
	2008	7	0.33	0.35	0.12	0.05	0.30	0.45	0.20
	2009	9	0.51	0.44	0.16	0.05	0.49	0.60	0.40
	2010	13	0.38	0.44	0.15	0.04	0.35	0.44	0.27
	2011	12	0.57	0.54	0.12	0.03	0.56	0.62	0.50
	2006	10	0.63	0.57	0.29	0.09	0.58	0.76	0.44
MISS	2007	11	0.91	0.61	0.64	0.19	0.77	1.08	0.55
	2008	15	0.57	0.57	0.18	0.05	0.54	0.64	0.46
	2009	18	0.66	0.59	0.28	0.07	0.61	0.74	0.50
	2010	23	0.78	0.73	0.25	0.05	0.74	0.84	0.65
	2011	19	0.65	0.64	0.18	0.04	0.63	0.71	0.55
	2006	10	0.63	0.57	0.29	0.09	0.58	0.76	0.44
Pools 3+4	2007	11	0.91	0.61	0.64	0.19	0.77	1.08	0.55
	2008	15	0.57	0.57	0.18	0.05	0.54	0.64	0.46
	2009	18	0.66	0.59	0.28	0.07	0.61	0.74	0.50
	2010	23	0.78	0.73	0.25	0.05	0.74	0.84	0.65
	2011	19	0.65	0.64	0.18	0.04	0.63	0.71	0.55
Pools 3+4	2008	15	0.43	0.40	0.16	0.04	0.41	0.48	0.34
	2009	12	0.51	0.47	0.18	0.05	0.49	0.58	0.41
	2010	4	0.83	0.75	0.18	0.09	0.81	0.99	0.67
	2011	2	0.56	0.56	0.021	0.02	0.56	0.59	0.53

Table SI3 Continued.

ΣPBDE:

APIS	1998	1	4.53	4.53			4.53		
	2000	1	6.33	6.33			6.33		
	2001	1	8.00	8.00			8.00		
	2002	2	13.0	13.0	6.60	4.60	12.1	25.2	5.80
	2006	8	16.5	12.5	9.20	3.30	14.1	22.0	9.00
	2007	6	8.94	8.44	3.52	1.44	8.39	11.8	6.14
	2008	5	6.91	7.54	1.45	0.65	6.78	8.24	5.58
	2010	9	7.43	6.60	2.90	0.97	7.01	8.83	5.56
	2011	9	6.41	5.33	2.73	0.91	5.95	7.72	4.58
LSSS	1995	3	7.49	6.40	3.47	2.00	6.99	11.6	4.21
	1996	5	8.98	11.1	3.45	1.54	8.35	12.4	5.63
	1997	1	6.14	6.14			6.14		
	1998	1	5.42	5.42			5.42		
	2000	2	6.90	6.90	0.44	0.31	6.89	7.53	6.31
	2001	1	8.26	8.26			8.26		
	2007	6	18.0	14.2	13.6	5.60	15.1	24.5	9.40
	2008	4	6.47	6.18	2.32	1.16	6.17	8.78	4.33
	2011	1	6.09	6.09			6.09		
U-SACN	2006	11	1.42	1.29	0.29	0.09	1.39	1.57	1.23
	2007	8	1.69	1.22	1.09	0.39	1.49	2.08	1.07
	2010	11	2.57	1.96	1.08	0.33	2.40	2.99	1.92
	2011	12	1.91	1.90	0.33	0.10	1.89	2.07	1.72
L-SACN	2006	3	14.1	12.8	7.70	4.40	12.6	24.2	6.60
	2007	4	6.53	6.29	2.76	1.38	6.09	9.40	3.94
	2008	7	6.13	6.81	2.16	0.82	5.76	7.72	4.30
	2009	9	12.4	9.68	5.17	1.72	11.6	15.0	8.90
	2010	13	6.43	6.90	1.62	0.45	6.23	7.19	5.40
MISS	2011	12	7.57	7.31	2.68	0.77	7.19	8.66	5.98
	2006	10	16.0	13.5	7.20	2.30	14.7	19.3	11.1
	2007	11	18.7	13.3	10.1	3.00	16.8	22.1	12.7
	2008	15	14.4	14.7	4.10	1.10	13.8	16.3	11.8
	2009	18	13.6	12.1	6.10	1.40	12.5	15.1	10.3
	2010	23	13.0	12.5	4.80	1.00	12.2	14.3	10.4
Pools 3+4	2011	19	9.33	9.34	3.53	0.81	8.73	10.3	7.38
	2008	15	9.74	9.57	3.24	0.84	9.27	10.9	7.86
	2009	12	10.4	10.3	2.70	0.80	10.1	11.6	8.90
	2010	4	13.4	11.9	4.30	2.10	13.0	17.2	9.80
	2011	2	7.77	7.77	0.49	0.35	7.76	8.46	7.11