

Effects of Low, Subchronic Exposure of Commercial 2,4-D formulation on early life Stages of Native Wisconsin Game Fish Species

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Invasive plants disturb lake recreation and ecosystems



2,4-D containing herbicides: a solution to invasive weed growth





Are 2,4-D containing herbicides a risk to non-target organisms?









Spring 2,4-D application poses risk to young fish









EPA guidelines on 2,4-D application





- Spot treatment up to 4 ppm
- Whole lake treatment up to 2 ppm
- Follow up treatment 21 days after application

USEPA, 2005

2,4-D exposure reduces survival of larval fathead minnows



* Indicates a significant decease in larval survival at p < 0.05

Dehnert et al. 2018

1. Does 2,4-D commercial herbicide formulation DMA4 have similar impacts on other game species?

Is the larval stage the only sensitive stage for game species?

 Do 2,4-D commercial herbicide formulations have similar impacts on other game species?

2. Is their a critical window of exposure or are the observed survival impacts due to chronic exposure over multiple life stages

Game Species

- Muskellunge (Esox masquinongy)
- Northern Pike (Esox lucius)
- Yellow Perch (Perca flavescens)
- Largemouth Bass (Micropterus salmoide)
- White Crappie (Pomoxis annularis)
- White Sucker (Catostomus commersonii)
- Walleye (Sander vitreus)
- Lake Sturgeon (Acipenser fulvescens)











Target Concentration 0.00 (control), 0.05, 0.50, 2.00 ppm









DMA4 Decreases Walleye Embryo Survival





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Four native game species were impacted at the embryo life stage









DMA4 Decreases Walleye Larval Survival



DMA4 Decreases Larval Survival



DMA4 Decreases Larval Survival

Four native game species were impacted at the larval life stage









DMA4 does not impact Juvenile Survival





DMA4 does not impact Juvenile Survival

Zero native game species were impacted at the juvenile life stage



Summary

- 7/9 species tested had one life stage sensitive to environmentally relevant concentrations
- 1 species tested had two life stage sensitive to environmentally relevant concentrations sensitive
- Both embryo and larval stage is sensitive to environmentally relevant concentrations





Week 1

Week 2

Week 3

Week 4

Future Direct



- Water Parameters
- Non-lethal impacts
 - Essential Behaviors





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