

# Assessing 6PPD-quinone in the Environment

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# Ecology's 3-Part Approach



AND



AND



Reducing sources of  
6PPD & evaluating  
alternatives

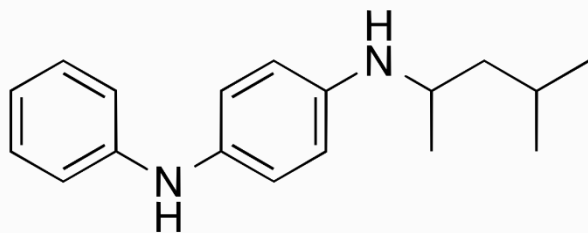
Assessing  
6PPD-quinone  
in the environment

Stormwater Best  
Management  
Practices (BMPs)

# How 6PPD-quinone forms

## 6PPD

*N*-(1,3-dimethylbutyl)-*N'*-phenyl-*p*-phenylenediamine



- Highly reactive
- Difficult to measure

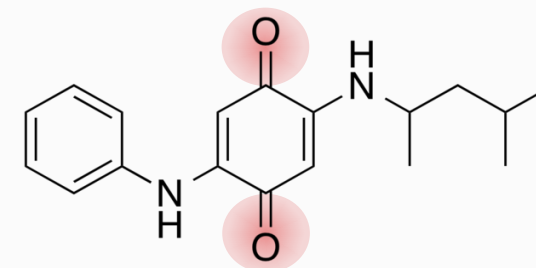


ozone and  
tire wear  
particles



## 6PPD-quinone

*N*-(1,3-dimethylbutyl)-*N'*-phenyl-*p*-phenylenediamine-*quinone*



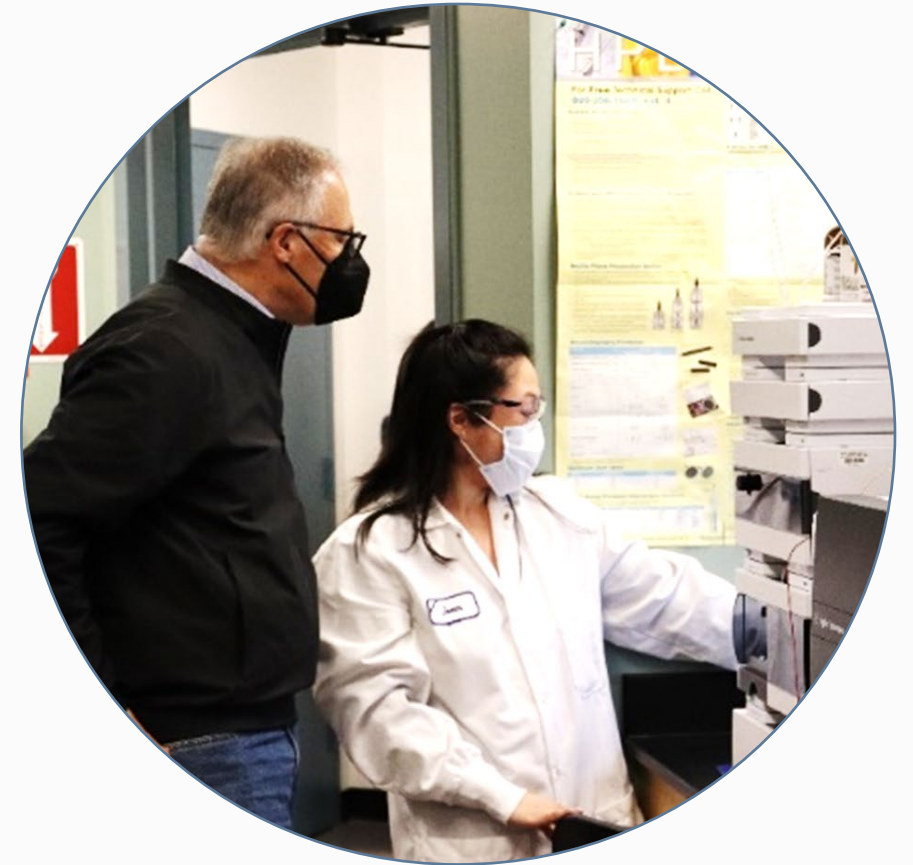
- More stable
- Easier to measure

# Status of laboratory accreditation

- 6PPD-q Chemical Quantitation Accreditation
  - Led by Ecology's Laboratory Accreditation Unit
  - 4 labs submitted Standard Operating Procedures
  - 2 labs submitted chemistry data packages
  - As of May 2023, no lab is accredited

# Method development

- Developed a laboratory method for measuring the concentration of 6PPD-q in water
- Reporting limit is much lower than the reported LC50
- Liquid Chromatography Tandem Mass Spectrometry (LCMSMS)





## Next steps

- Method for sediment
- Field sampling methods
- Field study designs
- Add additional tire contaminants

# Mapping and monitoring



1. Map existing data



2. Conduct initial screening studies



3. Collect baseline data



4. Identify contamination hotspots



5. Monitor changes in watersheds.

# Assessing vulnerable areas

- Evaluating 6PPD-quinone in the environment
- Occurrence
- Exposure pathways
- Fate and transport
- Persistence





# Initial monitoring in vulnerable areas

Vulnerable fish species	LC-50 ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ )
Coho salmon	< 0.10
White-spotted char	0.51
Steelhead/rainbow trout	0.60
Brook trout	0.59 – 1.00
Chinook salmon	> 10.00
Sockeye and chum salmon	> 10.00
Zebrafish	> 10.00
Arctic char and white sturgeon	No mortality even at 14.20 $\mu\text{g/L}$

Focus on the habitats that support the most sensitive species.

Data: McIntyre et al., 2022 Memo for 6PPD Proviso, Tian et al. 2022, French et al. 2023, Brinkmann et al., 2022.

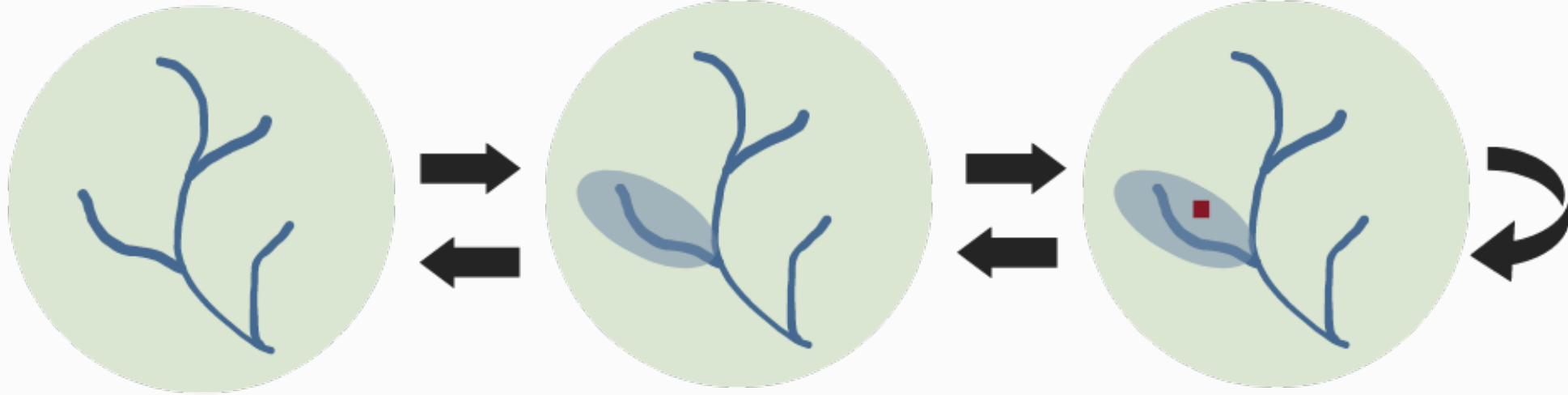
**GIS layers  
help identify  
areas of  
concern**



- Salmon Distribution
- Transportation
- Watershed Characteristics

# Next Steps (continued)

## Multi-scale integration and planning



Broad-scale  
100s of sq. miles

Mid-scale  
1 to 100 sq. miles

Fine-scale  
Less than 1 sq. mile

# Concentrations of 6PPD-q in streams vary widely

- Level of traffic (source)
- Impervious surfaces (land cover)
- Precipitation (transport)
- How 6PPD-q binds to other particles (TSS transport)
- Dilution factor (big river vs. small river)
- Conveyance and flow rates

Photo by NOAA Fisheries



# Monitoring vulnerable areas

- Funding research to fill in the many data gaps
- Conducting field studies to further develop methods for evaluating 6PPD-q exposure in salmon-bearing streams
  - Stream reconnaissance
  - Device study to compare active and passive sampling methods

Photo by Rhea Smith, Ecology



# Next steps

- Exploratory research to fill in data gaps
- Opportunistic studies
- Watershed bioassay pilot studies
- Focused studies



# ITRC Tire Anti-Degradants (6PPD) Team Assessment Subgroup



<https://itrc.org/home>

- Federal, State, and Tribal Governments, industry, academia, nonprofit, and consultants
- Synthesizing and communicating what we know and what we don't know
- Assessment Subgroup ultimate questions:
  - How do we measure 6PPD-quinone in the environment?
  - Where and when is 6PPD-quinone impacting aquatic life?
  - Where should we focus our solutions?

## For more information:

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