

Exposure Through Cultural Activities and Practices

- Traditional Practices

- Recreation- fishing, boating, swimming
- Gathering material
- Preparing harvest
- Crafts and material manipulation

- Ceremonial Practices

- Medicinal Practices



Cultural Sites



- Resource Gathering Sites
- Ceremonial Grounds
- Archeological Sites
- Wetlands
- Entire Ecosystems



Cultural Risk- Link to Understanding Tribal EJ Concerns

- Increase need for technical assistance
- Increase desire to be involved in decisions
- Creates sensitivity issues- feelings of loss
- Contributes to need to gain a sense of understanding and control over contaminant issues

Collaborative Outreach Effort

"Lake County Pomo Tribal Environmental Justice, Mercury and Fish Consumption Forum," Oct. 17, 2003, Robinson Rancheria, with California Bay Delta Authority

- California Bay Delta Authority, Environmental Justice Subcommittee
- California Department of Health Services, Environmental Health Investigation Branch
- EPA Region 9, Environmental Justice Program
- TOSNAC Services
 - Dr. Jeffery Hall, Associate Professor of Toxicology, Utah State University

First EJ Forum Agenda

- Part I.
 - Welcome and Introductions
 - Enrollment of community members
 - Introduction to Environmental Justice
- Part II.
 - Enrollment Activity
 - Tribal Environmental Justice Overview
 - Cultural Risk Assessment and Management
 - Mercury- Contaminant Transport in the Environment
 - Mercury Contaminants and Ecological Systems
 - Tribal Exposure to Mercury Contaminants
- Part III.
 - Enrollment Activity
 - Tribal Community Involvement Plans
 - Tribal Collaborative Problem-Solving Strategies
 - Interactive Discussion- Meeting Lake County Tribal EJ Needs

Addressing Environmental Justice

- Explain EJ Legal Considerations- statutes, regulations, executive order, tribal law aspects
- Use graphic representations to help explain difficult concepts (i.e. "Realm of EJ Case Study")
- Include overview of community involvement and collaborative problem-solving to stress benefits
- Use evaluation techniques to measure outreach success and make modifications based on needs
- Promote discussion of EJ concerns through enrollment activities

Elem Case

EJ

Superfund

Water Rights

NEPA

?

CWA

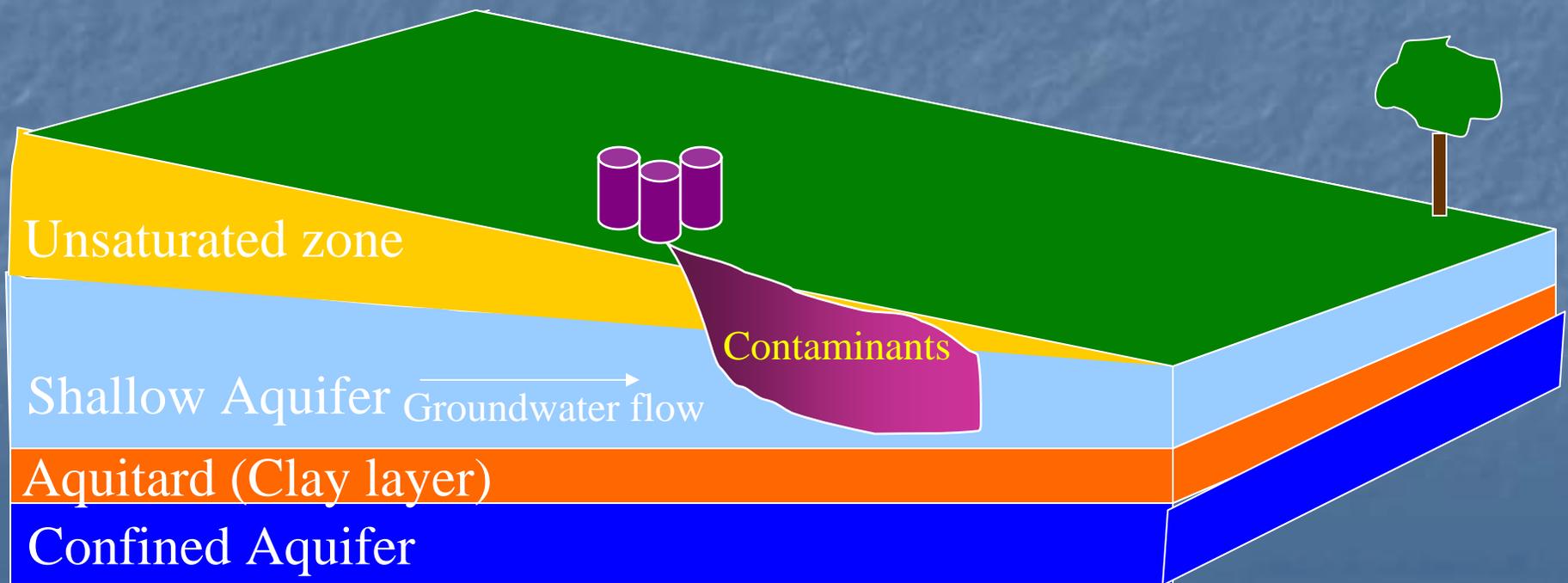


Representation of Technical Issues

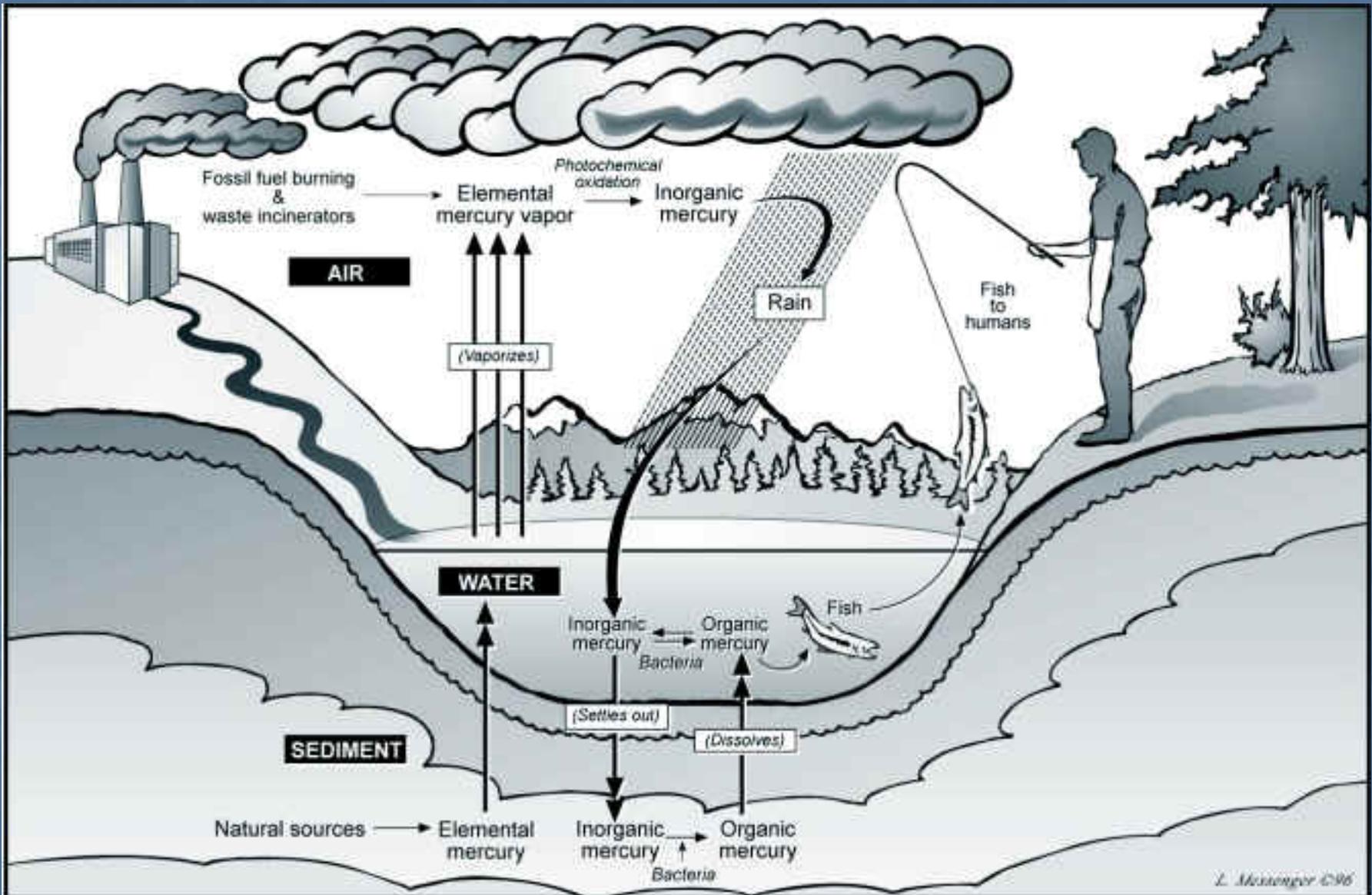
- Trainers- Adequate Background
 - Knowledge of cultural values and beliefs
 - Sensitive to Tribal EJ Issues and trust concerns
 - Familiar with cultural risk concerns
- Training Material- Culturally Relevant
 - Presented in understandable language
 - Graphic representations of challenging concepts
 - Use of indigenous knowledge-based tools
 - Presentation handouts, brochures, citizen briefs

Groundwater Contamination

- Chemicals may move through the soil and dissolve in groundwater
- People using groundwater for drinking may be at risk



Mercury Circulation in the Environment



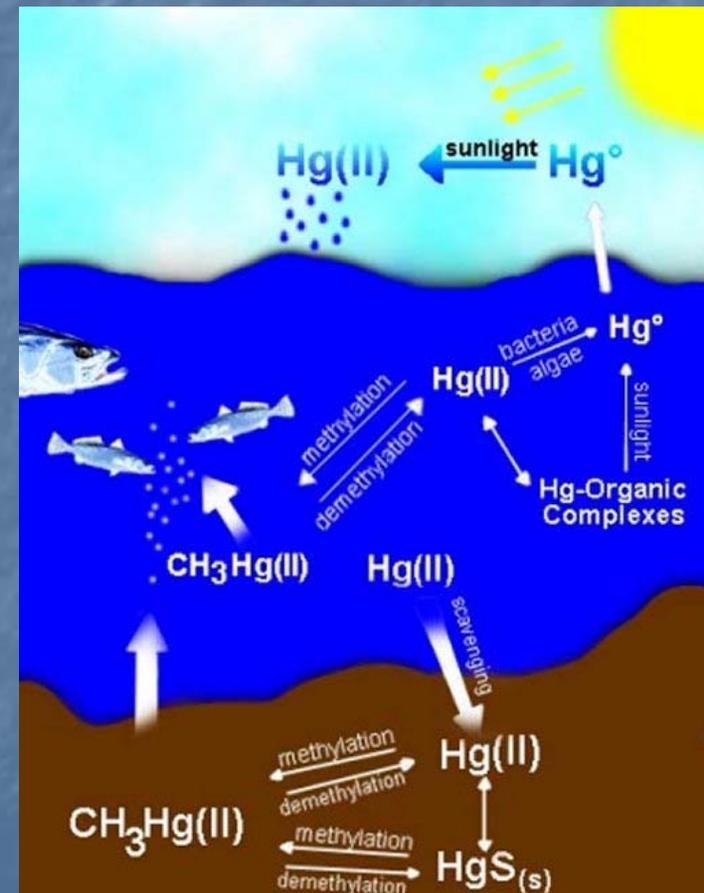
Dr. Jeffery Hall- Ecological and Toxicological Expertise

- One-on-one interaction and site tours
- Able to effectively communicate relationship of ecological contamination issues using Tribal exposure scenarios
- Helped initiate plan for investigation of risk concerns related to mercury exposure through specific plant use



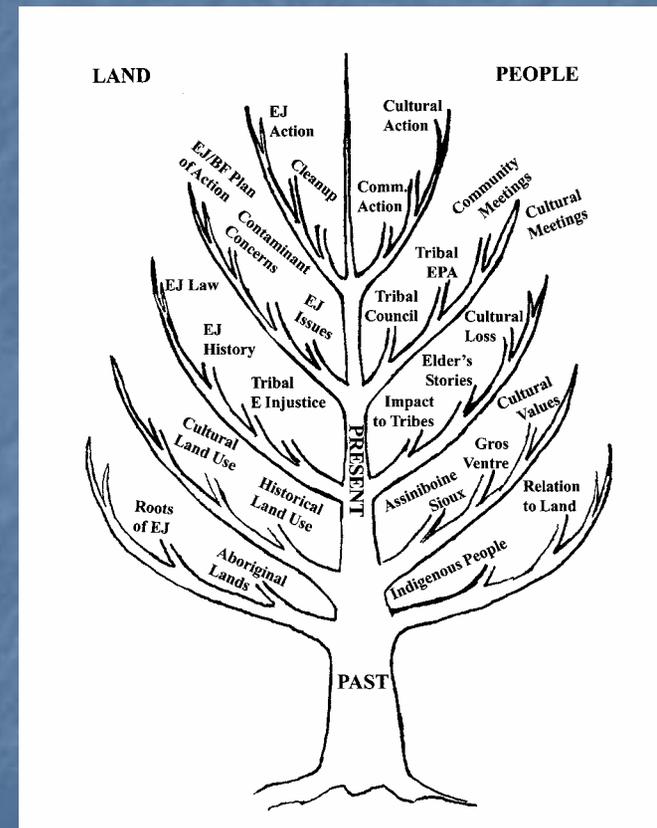
Next Steps- Technical Outreach

- Technical Presentations
 - Aquatic mercury cycle
 - Mercury uptake in plants
 - Remedial technologies
 - Community-based risk management
- Opportunity to discuss ways to address EJ needs and concerns with State Agency representatives



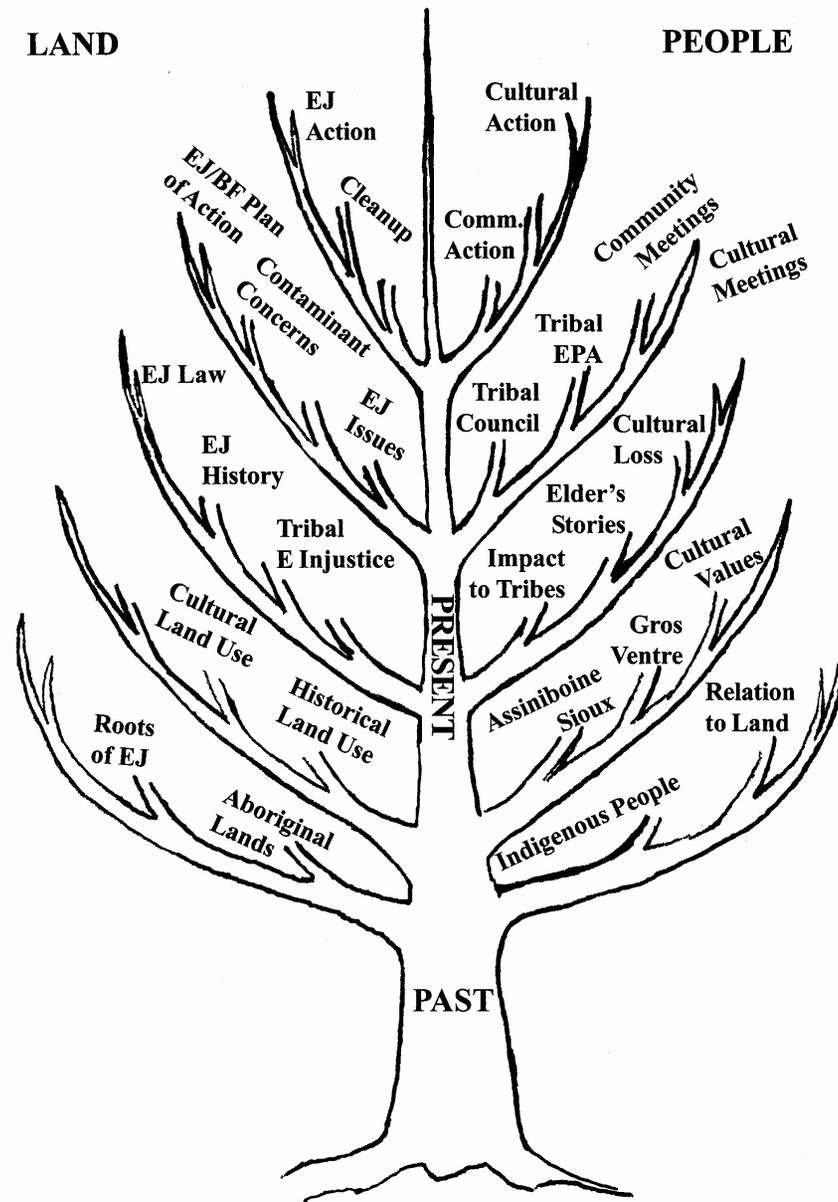
Tribal EJ Timeline Model

- Community visioning tool
- Use- develop cultural risk management strategies and plans
- Easily modified for Tribal-specific or regional-based use
- Shows organization of communication processes used in developing strategies and plans
- Helps identify strengths, areas of need, and opportunities for collaboration



LAND

PEOPLE



Application of Effective Outreach Strategies and Techniques

- Work to understand and remain sensitive to cultural value and belief systems
- Identify predominate communication styles- work with them
- Recognize preferred learning styles- work with them
- Incorporate use of indigenous knowledge-based tools and models into outreach plan
- Validate EJ concerns- work to help address them



www.tosnac.org

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